

Algiers Picayune

F1

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2006

KEEPING THE FAITH

Food drive plans prayer breakfast for Saturday

The Benefit Holiday Food Drive's eighth annual prayer breakfast will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at Gretna Middle School, 910 Gretna Blvd., Gretna.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$120 per table.

For tickets, or information, call **Clara Byes**, event co-chairwoman, at (504) 376-2130; **Jerry Dean Meyers**, president of Benefit Holiday Food Drive, at (504) 361-5618; **Chris Roberts**, vice president of Benefit Holiday Food Drive and Jefferson Parish District I councilman, at (504) 364-2607; or **Mark Morgan**, Jefferson Parish School Board member, at (504) 349-7803.

Proceeds from the breakfast are used to purchase turkeys for the group's annual Thanksgiving basket giveaway held in November. District I public schools collect nonperishable food items that also are included in the baskets.

Last year, Benefit Holiday Food Drive Inc. gave about 300 baskets to needy residents on the West Bank of Jefferson Parish.

Greater King Solomon

The Greater King Solomon Family Worship Center will host a birthday celebration for its pastor, Elder **Ennis Antoine Sr.**, Friday at 7 p.m. at the Greater King Solomon Multi-Purpose Building, 6739 Carver Drive, Marrero.

Pastor **Raney Antoine Sr.** of Mount Airy Baptist Church in Boutte will speak.

A celebration in honor of the 15-year anniversary of Elder **Ennis Antoine Sr.** will be held Sunday at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Greater King Solomon Family Worship Center, 6751 Carver Drive, Marrero.

Pastor **Kenneth Antoine** of New Creations Ministries New Orleans will speak at the 9 a.m. service and Pastor **Preston Clark** of Restoration Fellowship, Harvey, will speak at 4 p.m.

For information, call the church at (504) 348-9312.

Sunday school workshop at Oak Park

Oak Park Baptist Church, 1110 Kabel Drive, will hold a workshop on Saturday for Sunday school teachers/workers to learn a new curriculum.

The workshop will be led by members of Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, which adopted Oak Park after Hurricane Katrina.

Sunday school class is at 9:15 a.m. for all ages, with worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m., led by **Jerry Barlow**, interim pastor.

Beautiful Zion Baptist homecoming

Beautiful Zion Baptist Church, 1017 Elmira Ave, Algiers, will celebrate its annual homecoming program Sunday at the 7:30 a.m. worship service.

The Rev. **James Williams**, pastor of Beautiful Zion, will deliver the Lord's message. Sister **Octavia Robinson** is the event chairperson.

Lunch at Mount Olivet

Mount Olivet Episcopal Church in Algiers Point will hold its next "Second Sunday Luncheon" on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church hall, 530 Pelican Ave. The menus will include spaghetti with meat sauce, bread, salad, dessert and drink for \$6. Take-out orders also will be available.

Senior choir day at Second Salvation

Second Salvation Baptist Church, 212 Marrero St., Bridge City, will hold its senior choir annual day Sunday at the 11 a.m. worship service.

See **FAITH**, Page 5

Algiers residents offer their rebuilding ideas

Better police patrols among suggestions

By Rob Nelson
West Bank bureau

The ideas spanned from the predictable — better police patrols and more shopping options — to the far-reaching and

downright odd: creating a community-based credit union to pay for projects and changing Algiers' name to New Orleans West.

More than 200 residents gathered last week at the second meeting to create an "Algiers Towne Plan," an effort that is part of a post-Hurricane Katrina citywide initiative to create development plans for New Orleans neighborhoods.

Under that endeavor, the city is divided into 13 planning districts, which are further split into "super neighborhoods." Nine such neighborhoods have been identified in Algiers.

Residents in those areas are asked for input on what their community needs as part of a process to ultimately yield a citywide and regional plan for recovery.

Algiers residents tossed out a

laundry list of ideas at an Aug. 2 meeting at Our Lady of Holy Cross College. Among the most popular suggestions: attracting more businesses, protecting green space, building or reopening a hospital and tackling blight.

Representing the neighborhood near the Naval Support Activity, resident Don Costello

See **REBUILD**, Page 11



ALL ABOUT ALGIERS

Fay Faron

'Pete from Algiers' is Santa in July

Kiwanis provide toys at Children's Hospital

It was a hot July morning, and **Christine Taylor** sat all alone in a room at Children's Hospital, her newborn son, **J'ymer**, in her lap. The door opened and in came Santa.

OK, not Santa, but "Pete from Algiers," as listeners from the SPUD Show on WWL-Radio have come to know the longtime caller. Pete isn't really Santa, of course, but then he really isn't Pete either.

(For all you kids out there, there really is a Santa Claus, Pete just isn't him. Santa is at the North Pole working on your X Box 360 for Christmas.)

"Pete" Schmitt's real name is **Joseph Schmitt**. "Little Pete," as he was once called, was named after his father, "Big Pete," whose real name also is Joseph. Dad had once been called "Little Pete" as well, when his own dad

See **ALGIERS**, Page 11

DAY CAMP CELEBRATION



STAFF PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DeMOCKER

At the Lower Algiers Cutoff Community Center, Jada Baxter, 7, smiles Friday as she performs a dance with her fellow campers during the end-of-camp celebration.

Operation Reach's day camp for children included dances, a camper photo exhibit, a book bag giveaway and cake. An end-of-camp celebration was held Friday.



Glenn Hall laughs as he dons a blond wig for a skit.

Legislators address flood control, health

West Bank lawmakers brief HCIA on session

By Dennis Persica
West Bank bureau

Health care, insurance, flood control and coastal restoration

dominated the conversation last week at the Harvey Canal Industrial Association's Legislative Wrap-up Breakfast.

State Sens. Francis Heitmeier and Derrick Shepherd and Reps. John Alario, Joe Toomy and Ernest Wooten briefed the West Bank business group on the recent legislative session at

a meeting Aug. 3 at the Four Columns in Harvey.

"We're having a health care crisis in our state," Heitmeier, D-Algiers, said. Not only has much of the Charity Hospital system in New Orleans been destroyed, but many Louisiana doctors are being lured out of state, he said.

Even hospitals in northern Louisiana are feeling the impact and seeing many of their doctors lured away.

The health-care crisis in Louisiana stretches "from Shreveport to Boothville-Venice and all points in between," Heitmeier

See **LEGISLATORS**, Page 5

West Jeff is host for anti-terror training

Medical responders from south La. attend

By Brian Friedman
Contributing writer

War in the Middle East, coupled with the approaching five-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, underscored the importance of a recent terrorism awareness and response training session at West Jefferson Medical Center in Harvey.

More than 50 nurses and other medical personnel from

See **TERROR**, Page 13

WHAT'S GOING ON

News from your neighborhood

INSIDE

- ▶ Animal Adviser 2
- ▶ Sports & Leisure 2
- ▶ Births 2
- ▶ Community Report 10

IT'S YOUR CALL

Should the one-year anniversary of Katrina be a celebration or commemoration? Call 826-3778.

Celebration: Press 1;
Commemoration: Press 2.

LAST WEEK: Do you think crime-prevention activities, such as Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out Against Crime, actually make communities safer? Yes: 15; No: 42.

BEST BETS THIS WEEKEND

WEST JEFF'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

West Jefferson High School graduates will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school on Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Boomers of Boomtown Casino in Harvey. The cost for the event, which will be hosted by the Class of 1962, is \$20 per person. For information, call 340-3231, 347-6120 or 341-5745.

FISHING RODEO

Young Men's Business Club, Saturday and Sunday, 101 Holly St., Westwego. Entertainment by Aaron Foret's Swamp Pop Band on Sunday. Children ages 6 to 12 can compete in the junior division. Participation fee is \$12. Call Joe Rivere at 349-3314 or James Camardelle at 347-0962.

VOLUNTEER SALUTE



PATTI WADDELL Activity: Waddell serves as leader of Brownie Girl Scout Troop 441 and a co-leader of Junior Girl Scout Troop 971. Waddell is principal at Catherine Strehle Elementary

School. The Girl Scouts program at Strehle is part of the school's 21st Century Afterschool Program.

Motivation: "I was a Girl Scout when I was young. I think the girls need an opportunity to experience Scouting. It's important to teach them values and expose them to different things that they might not otherwise get an opportunity to do."