



Claiborne to the Mississippi River, Carrollton to the Parish Line

## Mapping: Important Resource for Our Neighborhood

Do you love maps? Maps convey a lot of information quickly and clearly and can be a great resource for telling the story of a neighborhood.

The Beacon of Hope Resource Center, a nonprofit created after Katrina, has developed a sophisticated mapping system that they've kindly offered to assist CRNA in adapting to our neighborhood.

Teams survey the property and infrastructure conditions in a neighborhood. The survey data collected by the teams is entered into a master database and Geographic Information System (GIS). This web-based mapping system integrates the survey data with other public data layers to produce an interactive, comprehensive conditions map.

These mapping results provide a simple way for residents to identify blight, Louisiana Land Trust properties, occupancy rates, etc. City and state agencies have also used these results to establish priority areas of infrastructure repair and blight mitigation. The data can also be useful in attracting appropriate re-development.

Mapping is also the first step in Beacon's M.O.D.E.L. program, in which the letters stand for Mapping, Outreach, Development, Empowerment, and Leadership.

We will be talking about this mapping project at our **May 25 General Meeting**. The project requires volunteers from the neighborhood who are willing to walk a prescribed path through a small part of the neighborhood twice a year, collecting data. Come join us and help make this project happen.

## General Meeting – **TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.**

If you live in the area between Carrollton Ave. & the parish line, and between Claiborne Ave. & the river, you are a member of the Carrollton/Riverbend Neighborhood Association--no dues required. And we'd be delighted to see you at our next general meeting.

Our new councilwoman, Susan Guidry will join us, as will a representative of the N.O. Police Department.

We'll also be discussing a new mapping project for the neighborhood (discussed

above) that will be very important to our future activities.

We'll need your help with that, and with everything else we do. The neighborhood association is all of us, and we only get things done by individuals taking on tasks. For example, member Rick Wilkof, recently took on the issue of potholes, and achieved at least modest success with getting repairs.

And as you will read in the reports from our various committees, several of our

neighbors are working in concert to address blight problems, zoning issues, crime issues and to provide services to the neighborhood on education and sustainability issues. You'd be welcome in any of these efforts, or we'd be happy to help you start new ones.

Please join us on May 25th.

**Place:** Parish Hall of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, (enter at 8017 Zimpel)

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – light refreshments and socializing  
**6:30 p.m. – meeting begins**

CRNA is seeking people who know how to make a great party to help us plan our Fall General Meeting in October.

Can you help us make a community-wide social event that is fun for everyone?

Please contact CRNA President Jerry Speir if you can, at [jerryspeir@gmail.com](mailto:jerryspeir@gmail.com) or 504-232-1809.

# Blight Eradication Committee News

## A Letter to Give to Neighbors on the Brink of Trouble...

Carrollton-Riverbend Neighborhood Association (CRNA)  
New Orleans 70118

### CRNA Blight Eradication Committee

Chair: Byron Johnson  
[bjohnso2@bellsouth.net](mailto:bjohnso2@bellsouth.net)

Mission:  
Our committee shall  
be responsive to  
blight issues within  
CRNA boundaries,  
whether commercial  
or residential.

Our primary goal  
must include  
communicating what  
we know to others,  
using web sites,  
committee members  
and plan to publish  
schedules of pending  
blight hearings.

City of N.O. Blight  
Adjudication Docket:

<http://bit.ly/adjudicdocket>

Concerned citizens  
can now report  
unoccupied, blighted  
properties via the  
internet:  
[www.reportnoblighlight.com](http://www.reportnoblighlight.com)

Dear Unoccupied Property Owner:

At the outset, we apologize for this form letter; however, our message is important and time is of the essence.

I serve on the CRNA Blight Eradication Committee, a voluntary position, and we are contacting all unoccupied property owners to educate them about the City Code (Chapter 28) dealing with unoccupied homes. Citations can be issued by the City with fines of up to \$500 per day, with a maximum fine of \$15,000 per year, to those property owners deemed non-compliant.

**We do not want to see any West Carrollton property owner cited.**

Everyone recognizes that unoccupied, uninhabited property poses a serious, mounting threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood. This type of property also has a substantial adverse affect on neighboring properties; including but not limited to, contributing to depreciating property values, contributing to the potential for criminal activity, interfering with the lawful use and enjoyment of other premises in the neighborhood, and reducing the economic stability of the area.

A property can be considered blight if:

- ❖ It is chronically vacant.
- ❖ There are unresolved code violations for unsafe, unsanitary, and unhealthy conditions.
- ❖ It has been declared a fire hazard.
- ❖ It is lacking in facilities or equipment required by the Housing Code of the City of New Orleans.
- ❖ It has been deemed "demolition by neglect" pursuant to section 84-108 or 84-208 of the City Code.
- ❖ It has a substantial negative impact on the health, safety, or economic vitality of a neighborhood.
- ❖ It is a vacant lot that is abandoned, does not meet the requirements of the City Code, or has been adjudicated.
- ❖ There is vermin infestation.

Measures you can take to reach compliance include:

- 1) Obtain a permit and renovate to the point of habitability or
- 2) Demolition

You are compliant if you have a valid permit and construction is underway. Please bear with us if you are compliant. We sent you this letter because we wanted to make sure you know it is important to follow through with renovations to the point where the property no longer lacks "facilities or equipment required by the Housing Code of the City of New Orleans".

CRNA is working with the City to make our neighborhood "blight free" through voluntary action, not through citations which will be costly for our property owners.

Sincerely,

Byron Johnson  
CRNA - Blight Eradication Committee

## Zoning & Land Use Committee News

### Always Thinking 5 – 10 Years Ahead

Recently, there was a proposal to build a 120' cell phone tower on the defunct Entergy power station property between the streetcar barn and the Chevron station.

Though we recognize that cell phone service in the neighborhood needs improvement, this was another project that "came out of nowhere" and that we learned about only a few days before it was on the agenda of the City Planning Commission.

As usual, it was up to a few committed, immediate neighbors to tell the Planning Commission "Hey, wait a minute. Nobody's talked to us."

With a bit more advance notice of such proposals, we might come to an understanding with such developers about what we need and what is appropriate to the neighborhood. We are working to change the system by which we receive such notices, so that more dialogue would be possible. The cell tower proposal has been withdrawn for now. We also hope to engage Entergy on the future of that defunct substation.

Through our Zoning and Land Use Committee, we also hope to foster a discussion about the future of Oak Street, especially as it relates to the density of

alcohol beverage outlets (ABOs) on the street, and the committee seeks to provide information generally to the neighborhood on issues relating to zoning, code enforcement, and the like.

Tommy Milliner, a local attorney, will speak at our June 10 meeting on the law of ABOs. Meetings are at 7:00, usually at Squeal Bar-B-Q. Check [wcnola.com](http://wcnola.com) to confirm the location or call Jerry Speir at 232-1809.

To get involved with the committee, contact one of the co-chairs:

Marilyn Barbera  
[malynbarbera@msn.com](mailto:malynbarbera@msn.com) or  
Betsy Weymann  
[eweymann@cox.net](mailto:eweymann@cox.net)

Contact Marilyn Barbera:  
504-866-3888  
and/or email  
[malynbarbera@msn.com](mailto:malynbarbera@msn.com)

*If you're not already getting regular communications from CRNA, please be sure to complete the enclosed membership form so that we can keep in touch.*

*If you've filled one out before but haven't heard from us lately, please complete it again--and our apologies.*

### Call for Trees!

Beautification project continues: During the month of March, Hike for KaTREEna and CRNA

members planted trees around the neighborhood. There will be another tree planting in the fall.



1426 S. CARROLLTON AVE.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118 (504) 861-0023  
[www.gnocyclery.com](http://www.gnocyclery.com)

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HATTIESBURG (601)-261-6961

METAIRIE (504)-889-8436  
SLIDELL (985)-649-7262  
HAMMOND (985)-902-8380

## Education Committee News

### Gathering Our Neighborhood Talent

#### CRNA Education Committee

Chair:  
Ariel Wallick Dorfman

[Ariel@oakcircleschool.com](mailto:Ariel@oakcircleschool.com)  
504-228-7892

Mission:  
To build community and improve quality of life for all Carrollton-Riverbend residents by supporting and providing neighborhood-based educational programming, events, skill sharing, and other enriching learning opportunities for all neighborhood residents.

The CRNA Education Committee continues to work with the wonderful staff and faculty at our neighborhood public school, James Weldon Johnson Elementary School, but we are now looking to a future in which all the venues for education in our neighborhood are helped by our energy and good work.

To that end, we have made a commitment to gather available educational talent and resources in our neighborhood, for the creation of educational programs that can be used by neighborhood community centers, schools, churches, etc.

We will then make available our educational program resources to community members and neighborhood based entities, in the form of program development, curriculum development, capacity building, etc.

For the past few months we have been gathering names, contact information, and skills that community members feel they could teach, and putting it all together as a database of talent that any of our neighborhood education centers could call upon to find a local person to teach a class or offer some expertise.

If you would like to add your name and information to that database, please contact the Education Committee Chair, Ariel Wallick Dorfman.

Our goal is to organize, develop, and promote neighborhood based educational events, programming, and skill sharing, to benefit all residents.

Come join us in our work. Contact Ariel to find out when our next monthly meeting will be held.

Ariel Wallick Dorfman:  
[Ariel@oakcircleschool.com](mailto:Ariel@oakcircleschool.com)  
504-228-7892

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### Clay Constructions

Jan Saunders Hutchison  
7805 Spruce St

#### Summer 2010 Ceramic Classes for Kids

Hand-building, Potter's Wheel, Glazing & Firing  
Four 1.5 hour classes per session

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Call Jan Hutchison  
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# Safety & Crime Prevention News

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Police District E-Blasts

The New Orleans Police Department, 2nd District offers immediate email notification when crimes happen in the area. To sign up to this notification group, go to

[http://bit.ly/2nd\\_district\\_eblast](http://bit.ly/2nd_district_eblast) and over on the right hand near the top is a line that says, "Join this Group." Just click on there, give them an email address, et voila!

You will now receive a detailed email any time the police have a report on crime in the 2nd District.

## Porch Parties for Community, against Crime

The monthly "porch party" is an event where the Carrollton neighborhood associations support a block in coming together on a Saturday evening from 6pm-8pm to enjoy the company of your neighbors and create a network of safety at your doorstep. Sometimes people host it

because a crime took place nearby or to be proactive about a problem. Others are new to the neighborhood. Some just want to make good use of their porch. Whatever your reason, we welcome you as a host or guest. Host responsibilities: Provide some light refreshments, invite your

immediate neighbors and provide a porch and a few folding chairs. We join with more chairs, refreshments and good spirits.

Please join us! For more info, email: [tarpsnola@yahoo.com](mailto:tarpsnola@yahoo.com) or call 504-617-2572.

## What Are Block Captains And Why Do We Need Them?

Block captains are in charge of quickly getting important information to every person on their single block. They are also the person to go to if you need to report something to the Neighborhood Association or need help with a community issue. We have been struggling to share information with every person in the neighborhood quickly and accurately. Just distributing this newsletter takes an enormous effort.

If every 2-3 blocks had one person who could get the

word out about important meetings, community action issues, fun events to attend, reporting on recent crime or whatever, then we would go a long way to having a healthier community here.

Also, if every few blocks had one person who people could go to when they have a problem that's bigger than what they can handle alone, then that information would go straight to the CRNA board and we can go to work helping right away.

Too often we hear things

through a long grapevine, and that just isn't effective.

So, if you have a phone or email through which we can regularly reach you; if you would be able to distribute the occasional flier or newsletter to the houses on your block; if you want to help us stay connected to you and your neighbors' needs, then volunteer to be a block captain!

Contact Pax Bobrow at 504-383-5729 or [paxbobrow@yahoo.com](mailto:paxbobrow@yahoo.com) to say what blocks you could cover.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> District Police Department

Main Line:  
504-821-2222

Major Bruce Little  
[blittle@cityofno.com](mailto:blittle@cityofno.com)

Quality of Life  
Officer:  
Wilford Eddington  
[weddington@cityofno.com](mailto:weddington@cityofno.com)  
504-658-6029

Curfew Center:  
658-0369

Homeless Assistance:  
B.B. St. Roman  
259-9336

N.O. Crime Maps  
[http://bit.ly/NOLA\\_crime\\_maps](http://bit.ly/NOLA_crime_maps)

## 3-1-1 System Is Gone; Use 658-4000

The 311 phone reporting system handling city issues and problems has been discontinued. Effective immediately, to report Quality of Life issues, call 658-4000 and follow the prompts:

*Call  
658-4000  
and follow  
the prompts*

**Press 1 for Public Works** (potholes, clogged drains, missing street signs & traffic signal outages)

**Press 2 for Housing / Code Enforcement** (status of a hearing, report a blighted structure)

**Press 3 for Environmental Health** (vacant lot with high grass)

**Press 4 for Department of Revenue** (property tax, sales tax, occupational license, sanitation fee removal)

**Press 5 for Parks & Parkways** (City tree trim request or downed trees)

**Press 6 for Emergency Preparedness** (house elevation, hazardous mitigation, city assisted evacuation plan, Dept of Homeland Security)

**Press 0 for all other Department / Agencies**

To report **streetlight outages**, call 658-4000 and press 1, then follow the prompts for streetlights, pressing 1 again. You will be directly connected with Robinson Industries, the City's contracted streetlight repair vendor.

To report **water emergencies** to Sewerage & Water Board, call 529-2837 and Press 1.

To report an **abandoned car**, call the Public Works Parking Division at 658-8200, Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. To report a **blocked driveway or intersection**, call them at 658-8100 instead.

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June 27 - "Cold Mountain" Charles Frazier  
July 25 - "The Haunting of Hill House"  
Shirley Jackson  
August 29 "On The Road" Jack Kerouac  
September 26 - The Awakening" Kate Chopin  
October 25 - "Survivor" Chuck Palahniuk  
November 21 - "Girl of Dreams" Donna Leon

  
**BLUE CYPRESS BOOKS**

Giving used books a second story on historic Oak Street



## Safety & Crime Prevention News – Hollygrove/AARP

### The Safe Drop Hot Sheet

The Safe Drop Hot Sheet was developed by the Public Safety-Resident Engagement Project team in the Hollygrove Neighborhood as a tool that residents all over the city could use to identify and anonymously report crime hot spots in their neighborhoods.

The Public Safety Project Team identified crime reduction as a priority for their team and set a goal to reduce crime in the Hollygrove neighborhood. Their work can now help reduce crime in our neighborhood too.

Working with national crime reduction experts, Rana Sampson and Greg Saville, the Project Team members attended trainings to learn effective measures residents could use to reduce crime in their own neighborhood.

Using POP Guides from the Center for Problem Oriented Policing (POP) [www.popcenter.org](http://www.popcenter.org) the Project Team developed the Safe Drop Hot Sheet as a tool to identify crime hot spots in a neighborhood.

The Safe Drop Hot Sheets are part of a POP technique

that uses “new responses that are preventive in nature, that are not dependent on the use of the criminal justice system, and that engage other public agencies, the community and the private sector when their involvement has the potential for significantly contributing to the reduction of the problem,” (Herman Goldstein, Founder of Problem Oriented Policing).

Problem Oriented Policing teaches that a “high crime” neighborhood is not a bad neighborhood, but one that has locations or persons with a high frequency of crime.

The Hot Sheets allow residents to identify those problem areas and most importantly keep track of their concerns.

Working with the AARP/Hollygrove Partnership, residents all over the city now have the opportunity to anonymously identify problem street corners, houses, businesses or people in their neighborhood.

AARP picks up the hot sheets from any of the four

Safe Drop locations once a month and sends them to Major Bruce Little at the NOPD 2nd District.

If the person submitting the hot sheet leaves contact information, the AARP/Hollygrove Partnership Project Manager will follow up with that person for an update on the problem identified by their hot sheet. The Hot Sheets are only shared with Major Bruce Little.

Crime or the perception of crime in one’s neighborhood is a real fear that we New Orleanians live with daily.

The Safe Drop Hot Sheets allow for an anonymous and safe way for residents to move from being passive eyes on the streets to action oriented citizen engagement that has defined our city’s recovery.

Please contact **Jason Tudor**, Hollygrove Livable Communities Project Manager, at [jtudor@aarp.org](mailto:jtudor@aarp.org) or 504-827-9830 if you have any questions or would like additional copies of the Safe Drop Hot Sheet.

*A Safe Drop Hot Sheet is included in the center of this newsletter for your use.*

#### Safe Drop Locations:

1. Oak Street Association- 8118 Oak St., New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
2. Trinity Christian Community- 3908 Joliet Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
3. AARP Information Center- 2475 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70119
4. Adams Street Cultural Development Center- 1801 Adams Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

## Great Stuff Going On in Our Area

### WCNOLA.com (a mini-facebook just for West Carrollton)

There is a new social networking site for people in West Carrollton, and anyone can join—it's like Facebook but for a small community.

The West Carrollton site can be found at [www.WCNOLA.com](http://www.WCNOLA.com) (short for West-Carrollton-New-Orleans-LA.com). At [wcnola.com](http://wcnola.com), members can use a continuously updated community calendar, find out how to officially file a complaint with the city,

join groups with neighbors they didn't know shared their interests, blog about issues and events that are going on in the area, find out about important meetings before they've already ended, recommend or find a tradesperson that a neighbor has reliably recommended for work, create opinion polls to find out what neighbors think about an issue, start petitions, upload photos, report lost pets, and much more.

You have to sign up to access all the features, but there is no fee, and no spam. The requirement to sign up was made to create accountability for behavior on the network. Post at [http://bit.ly/WCNOLA\\_post](http://bit.ly/WCNOLA_post)

WCNOLA.com is a site for distant neighbors to get to know each other better, and THE place to stay current on community news.

So come join today!  
[www.WCNOLA.com](http://www.WCNOLA.com)

*CRNA does not require payment of dues to be a member, but it is our member dues that help us fund community projects.*

*If you can, please pay your yearly dues.*

*Recommended:  
\$10 – individual;  
\$25 – family;  
\$50 – supporting;  
\$100 – sustaining.*

*You can send a check made out to the Carrollton-Riverbend Neighborhood Association to our Treasurer,  
Cindy Morse, at  
8601 Zimpel St,  
New Orleans, LA  
70118*

*Thank you.*

### School Supply Drive by Reverend Stanford Williams

It is in the "Spirit of Unity" that we are writing. We are seeking to empower the young people of the Carrollton community and the City of New Orleans at large.

As our kids prepare to return to school in the fall, we cannot afford to trivialize the need to properly equip them.

With this in mind, we are asking for donations of school supplies, i.e.

backpacks, paper, pens, pencils, rulers, notebooks, folders, crayons, etc.

Please make your donations no later than Thursday, July 29, 2010 for disbursement on Saturday, July 31, 2010 at New Covenant Faith Church, 1240 General Ogden Street.

Anyone can call us at 504-393-6910 and we will pick-up or you can mail your supplies to us at:  
P. O. Box 51515  
New Orleans, LA 70151.

Alternatively, you can drop off your supplies at 8221 Birch Street.

An African Proverb states that, "A child is raised by a village." We must reshape and develop the minds of the African American Youth of New Orleans.

Thank you in advance,

Stanford

### White Pillars Now a Pillar of the Art Community

The fabulous space at 8312 Oak Street on the corner of Oak & Dante, previously known as White Pillars, has been purchased and will be become an art co-operative under the management of Café au Clay.

This move could not be possible if not for the property owner, Min Yang, who focuses his interests in building on the quaint,

eccentric and delightful aspects of the community he lives and invests in.

The space will be known as Carousel Art and is offering to eight artists working production space, major display areas, workshop and training areas, advertising and utilities, a web site collective, NOCVB membership and a presence that capitalizes on

the evening trade of the Maple Leaf and Jacques-Imo's.

Clay sculptors, stain glass artists, unique fabric artists, jewelers, woodworkers or any other artistic expression will be considered for this fantastic working environment.

Call Kate at 504-884-0271 for more details.



## New Community Center on Leonidas

The City Council recently gave its final approval to the new Community Center on Leonidas (between Green and Hickory), and we expect it to start construction within the next several months and to be open sometime in the year after.

That will be a great day for our community and we look forward to working with other organizations and everyone in the community to make it a great addition to the neighborhood. Already over forty neighbors have

indicated that they would be able to either teach a class or volunteer at the community center.

The project is being led by Trinity Christian Community (TCC) and its director, Kevin Brown, who is also a CRNA board member.

Kevin recently received the U.S. Marshals Service Director's Citizen of the Year Award at a ceremony in Washington where Attorney General Eric Holden made the presentation. The

Marshals Service conducted a weeklong Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program as part of TCC's six week summer camp in 2009. They were sufficiently impressed by Kevin and TCC's work rebuilding houses and running a variety of community programs after the storm to nominate him for the award. Congratulations, Kevin!

We look forward to the grand opening.

*Can we give  
up fear and  
exchange it  
for  
generosity?*

## Are We All in this Together? by Betty DiMarco

I recently read an article by Margaret Wheatley, co-founder and President emerita of The Berkana Institute, a charitable global leadership foundation, entitled *Are We All In This Together?* I wanted to share with you. According to Ms. Wheatley, one of the most common phrases today from high-level leaders to local school board members to teen-agers offering service is "We're all in this together."

We have seen this first hand with all the local and out-of-town volunteers coming to help rebuild our community after Katrina and in the work neighborhoods and organizations are doing to create better places to live. Margaret Wheatley believes these types of efforts are the first signs of a major turning in the U.S. - "turning toward one another to discover what we might create together, how we might help each other, how we might console and strengthen one another."

Yet, Ms. Wheatley, says "there's a long journey ahead, and to make it through, we must give up our love of self and individualism and truly embrace community." In her article, Ms. Wheatley lists a few questions about the behaviors that need to change:

- "Can we get over ourselves? Can we stop focusing on our private needs and open to the greater good, to what will benefit many?"
- Can we realize that in this intertwined world, if the least among us benefit, we all benefit? If they suffer, we suffer.
- Can we let go of our need to blame, to judge, to scapegoat - all the thoughtless and hasty ways we separate from each other?
- Can we shift away from self-interest and self-protection? And do this everywhere - at work, at home, in public meetings?
- Can we give up fear and exchange it for generosity?"

Margaret Wheatley thinks this "is the experiment going on in America" for which "nobody knows the outcome." She says "we each need to make a choice, and it's our choices that will determine the outcome. Will we choose to engage wholeheartedly with one another, working together to create healthier communities, persevering through the difficulties and frustrations of working together? Or will we withdraw and hunker down in self-protection? Or will we give up, overwhelmed and exhausted."

Like Margaret Wheatley, I hope "we realize that we too have a choice to make every day. We can choose to be in this together. Or not."

For more articles and writings by Margaret Wheatley go to <http://www.margaretwheatley.com/writing.html>

## J.W. Johnson Community-Schoolyard Garden Project

### J.W. Johnson Elementary School

1800 Monroe St. (btwn  
Hickory & Cohn)

504-373-6212

Principal:  
Wanda Brooks

Secretary:  
Avis Haynes

Right now there is a Community-Schoolyard Garden being created at J.W. Johnson School. At a Carrollton United meeting in September the idea of a joint project between the community, J.W. Johnson School and the Priestley School of Architecture & Design, to create a garden for the use of the community in conjunction with the children at J.W. Johnson School was born.

Shortly after, a group of seven people, including the two school principals got together to flesh the idea out and see if it was viable.

In the intervening months, many sites were considered within the West Carrollton area, but the group finally realized that the ideal spot would be a very large, unused, south-facing, fenced-in yard on the Johnson School grounds. It really is just perfect. In the month of January, the Priestley Design Team, which is made up of their top architecture students,

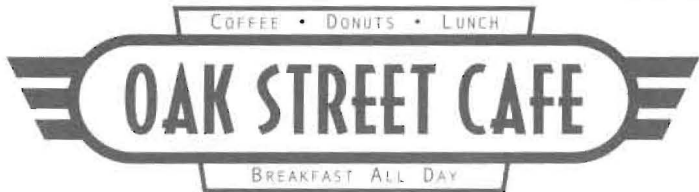
worked on sketches and presented them to the group. They look great!

The group will be working with professional Rain Garden designers from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy to create a water catchment system to collect rain water via gutters on the roof of the school into cisterns along one side of the yard, to make the garden more environmentally sound, and reduce the toll on the school's resources for the watering of the plants. There will also be funding from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy to build the water catchment system, as well as educational materials for teaching the children and community how to make a smaller version at home.

The basic plan for the garden is to have raised vegetable beds, two large work benches, seating, a divided

shed (for community and school use), a three-bin compost system for use by the school cafeteria and community gardeners, and a teaching area. One of the project leaders, Ariel Wallick-Dorfman, who is a trained Montessori educator and gardener for the Food & Farm Network, will work with the Johnson School faculty to create curricula for each grade. Mary Dewitt-Dukes, who has been actively gardening with the school children for the past year and a half will be organizing the community gardeners to work with the children at regular times. She plans to focus on senior citizen involvement in the project. We're all pretty excited about the project.

Anyone interested in joining the project is encouraged to contact Pax Bobrow at 504-383-5729 or [paxbobrow@yahoo.com](mailto:paxbobrow@yahoo.com).



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# Sustainability Committee News

## Green Light New Orleans – Free Light and Energy Savings

**Who is Green Light New Orleans?** They're your friendly, Carrollton-Riverbend neighborhood environmental non-profit! This group, founded by CRNA Sustainability Committee Chair and local musician Andreas Hoffmann, is dedicated to educating our community on the links between energy efficiency and climate change. Some of you may know them as "the light bulb people," and that's exactly right.

At Green Light New Orleans (GLNO), the mission is to use energy efficient light bulbs to empower New Orleans residents to fight climate change as we rebuild our community. The methodology is simple: volunteers help low- and middle-income families change their household lighting from incandescent light bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) for Free.

While in the home, volunteers have the opportunity to speak with participants on issues such as energy efficiency, climate change, and the proper recycling of CFLs at all local Home Depots. In this way, the whole process becomes a catalyst for social change by forging links between energy efficiency, electricity savings, volunteerism, and community connection.

Most importantly, by changing a light bulb, participants will see that simple actions really can have a large collective impact.

To no one's surprise, a lot has changed at GLNO since its inception in late 2006.

**The Free Program** has been so popular that it has now reached almost 8,000 homes, which has meant the installation of nearly 212,000 energy efficient light bulbs! With such amazing success, GLNO has been able to expand its list of programs.

This year the organization is proud to introduce its brand new **BuyGreenGiveGreen** program. This one is for all you green-conscious folks who'd like to pay it forward. When you participate in the program, you simply donate the cost of the light bulbs that you'd like to have installed. Your donation will allow Green Light to change your light bulbs immediately- *no waiting list*. Better yet, a portion of your donation will be used to sponsor a low-income family participating in the Free Program.

You get GLNO's expertise on the latest energy efficient lighting technologies, an immediate installation of regular or specialty lights (including chandelier and LED bulbs), and the fabulous feeling that comes from knowing you've done something great for your community.

In addition to BuyGreenGiveGreen, Green Light has begun a new program for all you green-conscious **small business owners**. The Entergy Commercial & Industrial Solutions is the perfect way to take a small step towards a green business! Contact Green Light to find out more.

With such great programs, it's easy to see why green New Orleanians are talking about Green Light New Orleans. Live green and give green, friends! You can start by finding out more about Green Light New Orleans! Here's how:

504.324.2429  
[green@greenlightneworleans.org](mailto:green@greenlightneworleans.org)  
[www.greenlightneworleans.org](http://www.greenlightneworleans.org)

### CRNA Sustainability Committee

Chair: Andreas Hoffmann  
[andreas.hoffmann@greenlightneworleans.org](mailto:andreas.hoffmann@greenlightneworleans.org)  
 504-342-4966

Mission:  
 To help residents, business owners, organizations, and institutions within our community live and work in harmony with nature, here in our urban neighborhood, to support a sustainable life style and to establish procedures so that all activities and events by the CRNA are carried out in a sustainable fashion.

# Z'otz Cafe

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658-1010 S. Guidry

**CRNA meetings are held every second Thursday, 7 pm usually at Squeal Bar-B-Q at 8400 Oak St. Call 232-1809 to confirm the meeting place. Each and every neighbor is invited to attend. We want you there!**

### Websites of Interest

<http://crna-nola.org>  
CRNA website

<http://carrolltonriverbend.blogspot.com/>  
CRNA blog

<http://www.WCNOLA.com>  
West Carrollton website

<http://www.onlyonoak.com/>  
Oak Street – Main Street Program

<http://ppnanola.org/>  
Palmer Park Neighborhood Association

<http://carrolltonareanetwork.blogspot.com/>  
Carrollton Area Network

<http://senate.legis.state.la.us/Peterson/>  
Contact Louisiana State Senator Karen Carter Peterson

<http://www.walkerhines.com/contact/index.html>  
Contact Louisiana State Representative Walker Hines

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or at 504-383-5729.

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