

# Main Street News

The Newsletter of the Old Algiers Main Street Corporation



## New State Cultural District Boundaries Extend Tax Credits; Workshop Set for Aug. 18

**State Cultural District Tax Credits & More**  
**Tues., Aug. 18**  
**6 p.m.**  
**Love Outreach Center**  
**501 Opelousas Avenue**

Effective July 1, the Old Algiers Culture District was expanded exponentially, meaning there are many more opportunities for historic tax credits for rehabilitating eligible properties. For those interested in finding out more, there will be an open public meeting with representatives from the State Office of Cultural, Recreation and Tourism at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, at Love Outreach Center, 501 Opelousas Avenue.

The latest expansion includes all of the interior streets of the Old Algiers Main Street program area and takes in the block from Behrman to Numa on the north side of Newton Street.

The presentation will explain the tax credits for eligible redevelopment projects. Visit [www.aldalgiersmainstreet.org](http://www.aldalgiersmainstreet.org) for more information.

## 'Building Blocks' Scheduled for Sept. 19 on Newton Street

"Building Blocks: Opportunity in Old Algiers" is the culmination of several months of re-imagining two blocks of Newton Street as a springboard to the revitalization of the Old Algiers neighborhood. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 19.

Local businesses will line the 300-400 blocks of Newton Street, a once-thriving commercial corridor, to create a pop-up version of what the area could be.

Small business organizations will be onsite to provide information about available commercial property, tax credits, the expanded cultural district, and technical assistance to support small businesses.

The major sponsor for the event is Entergy. Other sponsors include Sen. David Heitmeier, Harrah's through Councilmember Nadine Ramsey, Mrs. J. Thomas Lewis, Home Depot, Ed & Hilery Moise, and those who contributed to a Go Fund Me online fund-raising campaign.

Musical entertainment is scheduled throughout the day, and the Mini-Art Center will provide children's activities.

The following pop-up businesses will be featured: Poppy & Mint Floral Company, Gifts from the Heart, Mail & Parcel USA, Restore/Habitat for Humanity, Royal Trans Beauty and Voodough Bakery. ARTinA (Art in Algiers) will also be onsite with a number of arts and crafts vendors.

*Continued on page 3*

**Building Blocks: Opportunity in Old Algiers**  
**Sat., Sept. 19**  
**11 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**300-400 blocks of Newton Street**



## Wanna See the Saints Play? Join the Team!

Old Algiers Main Street Corporation volunteers will be working in the Superdome and Arena in 2015-2016 during Saints and Pelicans games to raise funds for the organization, and there is a need for other energetic people to join the team!



While you will work during the game selling concessions, you will be able to watch it on the TV monitors and still feel the excitement. A percentage of product sales from the booth for each game worked will be donated to OAMSC by Centerplate, the Superdome and Arena food service contractor.

Participants do not have to commit to every game/event, but we need a pool of people to cover our stand during the coming season. A four-hour training is required, and training fees will be covered by OAMSC.

Contact OAMSC at 504-362-0708 or [info@aldalgiersmainstreet.org](mailto:info@aldalgiersmainstreet.org) and get your cheer on!

## President's Corner

By Valerie Robinson

As always, there is a lot going on in the community. There are no summer doldrums in this world!

First, on behalf of Old Algiers Main Street Corporation, I want to thank Councilmember-at-Large Stacy Head and District C Councilmember Nadine Ramsey for contributions from their Harrah's fund to sustain our work. OAMSC applied for funds to market the commercial corridors for potential development.

### Riverfront Zoning

A storm has been brewing on the shore of the Mississippi River. Some people want to see development; others don't want anything but open space. Some people think the Maritime/Industrial zoning is too intense even if they favor development.

The City Planning Commission has announced that the Algiers Point riverfront from Bermuda Street to Whitney Avenue was incorrectly labeled in the CZO maps as recreational/open space, because the map label does not comply with the Master Plan that designated the land use as Maritime/Industrial. By law, the two must match.

What will be done to satisfy the needs/desires of a variety of groups with differing opinions is yet to be seen. Councilmember Nadine Ramsey and the City Council have twice deferred the touchy issue. It's on the Council agenda for August 20, at least for now.

### Resiliency Initiative

Old Algiers Main Street is one of five New Orleans urban Main Street programs that is working with City consultants to help businesses and property owners develop resiliency plans in case of a natural or man-made disaster. There have been two workshop sessions and a business survey that will provide information to the team so they can provide resources to the community in case of weather-related or economic disasters.

The final presentation will be in September, and we hope businesses and property owners will come out to hear about the consultant recommendations and what resources may be available to protect businesses and property in times of disaster.

### Election Time

The coming statewide election is going to be interesting. We have a governor who is running for President of the United States, some term-limited legislators who are leaving vacancies and some challengers to non-vacant seats. As always, it will be interesting, and there will be opportunities to attend forums and meet-and-greets with the candidates.

It's up to us, the voters, as to how we are represented, so take some time to become familiar with the issues and get to know the candidates. You'll be happier with your choice in the end!

### Speaking of Elections...

OAMSC is looking for potential new board members for 2016. If you are interested in improving the commercial corridors of Old Algiers, or know someone who is, please let us know. We will present the ballot in November, so selections will be made in September and October.



Common Ground Health Clinic is a nationally recognized patient-centered medical home, located in a historic Old Algiers.

1400 Teche Street, New Orleans, LA 70114 | 504-361-9800  
[www.commongroundclinic.org](http://www.commongroundclinic.org)

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## Adventist Community Services Center, Inc.

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CPR training, literacy program and creative play classes*

*Sponsored by*

**Westbank United Seventh-day Adventist Church**

**Pastor David Hinds, Ph.D.**

**2401 General Meyer Avenue**

**(504) 366-7700**

# Business Spotlight

## Mini-Art Center Offers Maxi-Art Opportunities for Families

**Mini Art Center**  
341 Seguin Street  
504-510-4747  
[www.Miniartcenter.com](http://www.Miniartcenter.com)  
[miniartcenter@gmail.com](mailto:miniartcenter@gmail.com)

Molly and Prescott Trudeau opened the Mini Art Center (MAC) as a place where children and families can engage in visual arts. In only four months of operation, they have definitely engaged many in the Old Algiers community.

The Trudeaus come to their arts-based business with laudable accomplishments in their fields.

Molly is the K-4th grade Visual Arts Teacher at KIPP McDonogh 15 School for the Creative Arts. Before that, she was the School and Community Programs Manager at the Children’s Museum of the Arts in New York City. Molly holds a MFA in Museum & Visual Arts Education from Indiana University.

Prescott, who holds a BFA in Film, Animation and Video from the Rhode Island School of Design, is a curator



and exhibition designer with experience in both the museum and gallery fields. He consults for the Great American Alligator Museum, Southern Food and Beverage Museum and the St. Bernard Office of Tourism. Previously, Prescott was the Senior Curator at the Children’s Museum of the Arts.

MAC started as a pop-up at *Propeller: A Force for Social Innovation* in the Broadmoor neighborhood in October 2014, but soon outgrew its shared space. They found a permanent home in Old Algiers just a few blocks from the ferry landing.

Children and families have been able to take advantage of summer camps, workshops and classes that cover a variety of media and techniques. Everything from Drawing and Painting to Stop-Motion Animation and Graphic

Design are part of the offerings, not to mention Electronics, Embroidery, and other fun media.

MAC offers early childhood programs, open studio hours, homeschooler activities and birthday party/event rentals. In addition to studio space, they professionally mount exhibitions by child, folk, and contemporary artists in their gallery.

The owners said they are in it for the long haul. “Mini Art Center hopes to continue programming for many years to come at its current location as well as work more with the surrounding schools and community projects,” Molly said. “Maybe one day MAC will grow into a second space or have residencies in schools, but for now we are pretty happy just making art in our little, mini, if you will, studio.”



### Building Blocks continued from page 1

Food vendors, who will sell varied fare, include Your Sweet Cakes, World Fame Cooking, Southern Food Chef, Shucks! (Nick Detrich of Cure), King Creole Food Truck, Petite Rouge Café Camionette and the Pride of Algiers Masonic Lodge.

Planning for this event is in its final stages, but volunteers and funds are still needed. If you would like to be part of this event, contact project chair, Karri Maggio, at [kmaggio@gmail.com](mailto:kmaggio@gmail.com).

For updated information in the coming weeks, visit [www.oldalgiersmainstreet.org](http://www.oldalgiersmainstreet.org) or follow on Facebook @ Old Algiers Main Street.



### Hamp's Construction, LLC

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*Old Algiers Main Street Corporation is dedicated to the revitalization of the historically commercial corridors of Old Algiers.*

**2015 Board of Directors**

Valerie Robinson  
*President*

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Karri Maggio  
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Kristin Lekki

Valerie Miller

Jo Ann Minor

Lourdes Moran



P.O. Box 740181  
New Orleans, LA 70174  
504-362-0708  
www.aldalgiersmainstreet.org



## What's Happening

**First Fridays on the Point** – Each first Friday of the month, local bars and restaurants offer specials to entice visitors to ride the ferry from the East Bank to enjoy an evening of food and entertainment. An art market and other activities are part of the programming. Follow on Facebook/First Fridays in the Point.

**Cultural District Meeting** – On Tuesday, August 18, a presentation about tax credits for rehabilitating properties in the Old Algiers Cultural District will be held at Love Outreach Center, 501 Opelousas Ave. at 6 p.m. The public is invited. (See front page story)

**Building Blocks** – Enjoy the temporary transformation on three blocks of Newton Street on September 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (See front page story)

**Algiers Historical Society** – The topic for the August meeting is Cajun Culture & Cuisine Shaped by Louisiana Fisheries, Saturday, August 15, 10 a.m. at Algiers Regional Library, 3014 Holiday Drive. Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month.

**Hubbell Library Author Night** – Local and regional authors visit the Algiers Point landmark at 725 Pelican Avenue on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Follow on Facebook/Hubbell Library.

## Join the OAMSC Team!

With your support, OAMSC can continue to offer programs that benefit the businesses and communities of Old Algiers. For as little as \$25 a year become a member today and join us as we revitalize Old Algiers!

*Member Benefits:*

- Programs and services to enhance business and the community
- Quarterly newsletter with info and articles of interest to the community
- Access to resources that help you enhance the business climate in your neighborhood
- Invitations to special events and annual membership meeting
- A voice in the decisions that affect all of Old Algiers
- An opportunity to serve on committees and task forces

**Send this form with your check to:**

**OAMSC, P.O. Box 740181, NOLA 70174**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Enclosed:  \$25 individual     \$35 family     \$50 business  
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*Old Algiers Main Street is a 501c3 organization. Membership donations are tax-deductible to the extent the law provides.*