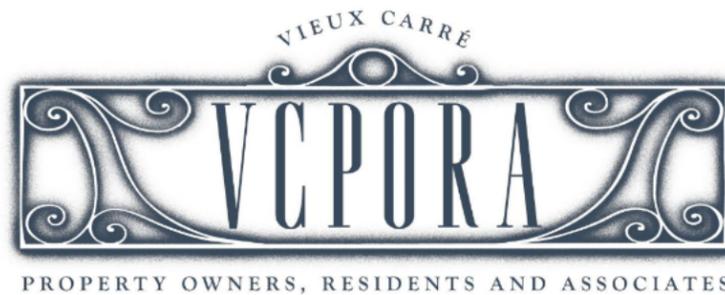


VCPORA's Weekly Vieux - December 6, 2019

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Fri, Dec 6, 2019 at 4:26 PM



VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, December 6, 2019

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Willie's Chicken Shack

Monday, December 9, 2019
Board of Zoning Adjustments
Council Chambers, City Hall, [1300 Perdido St.](#)
The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m., but this item will likely not be heard before 11:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars for this meeting - we need you to ATTEND and defend the unique character of the Vieux Carré!

You may recall that we filed a formal appeal to the Board of Zoning Adjustments asserting that the newest **Willie's Chicken Shack at 601 Chartres Street** meets the criteria for a fast food restaurant, therefore is not allowed at its current location. Fast Food restaurants are not a permitted use anywhere in the Vieux Carré. [The Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance \(CZO\)](#) is a product of thousands of hours by the City and its residents to regulate and guide development in our communities. Fast Food was determined to be inappropriate for the authenticity, integrity, and desirability of the French Quarter.

The Vieux Carré is known, and protected by State Constitution, for the distinctive quality of its architecture, culture, and community, and the CZO is the means by which an influx of similarly styled commercial offerings can be prevented to avoid the homogenization of this National Historic Landmark. Please plan to attend this

BZA meeting to speak up and speak out against the proliferation of fast food in the French Quarter. Read more about the appeal [here](#).



New Short Term Rental Regulations

New Short Term Rental (STR) regulations went into effect December 1, 2019. The new regulations require platforms like Airbnb to obtain a permit, which obliges them to remove listings that the City has identified as illegal within seven days of the notification. The regulations also establish just four STR categories: Residential Partial-Unit, Residential Small, Residential Large, and Commercial. All Residential STRs permits now require a Homestead Exemption. As a reminder, virtually all STRs are illegal in the French Quarter, with the exception of parcels facing the 200-700 blocks of Bourbon Street.

Violations can be reported [using this online form](#). Documents or photos related to the alleged violation can be attached. Violations can also be reported by phone at (504) 658-7144, by email at str@nola.gov, or in person, at the OneStop on the 7th floor of City Hall, between 8:00 am and 5:00 p.m. Mondays - Thursdays and 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Fridays. Additional information on STR categories, Homestead Exemptions, can found in the [Safety & Permits STR Handbook](#).



French Quarter IZD

The current height limit of 50' in the Vieux Carré was established to protect the lower-scale developmental patterns in the City's oldest neighborhood. However, we all know that development in the French Quarter differs depending on which section you are in. Many homes built in the lower, or downriver, sections are single and two-story structures, while taller, multi-story buildings are more commonplace in the commercial areas closer to Canal Street. In many residential areas, which are closer to an average of 35' in height, a standard of 50' is inadequate to protect the unique character of these blocks.

The City Council established a Height Interim Zoning District to study possible changes to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to address this preservation challenge. For the next year, the 50' height limit of all buildings within the Vieux Carré will be limited to the current height of the existing structure, unless a waiver is reviewed and approved by the Vieux Carré Commission (VCC). If the property is currently undeveloped or vacant, the maximum allowable height will be determined by either the height of the previous structure, as indicated on the most recent survey or Sanborn maps, or as the average of the height of its adjacent principal structures. Buildings are still not allowed to exceed 50'. During this time, the CPC and VCC will work to determine which areas of the district should have this modification applied permanently in the CZO.

We support this effort to adequately preserve the low-scale historic development of the residential areas and thank the Vieux Carré Commission and City Council for their commitment to maintaining the historic integrity of the Vieux Carré.



Sobering Center

Earlier this week, VCPORA staff joined Kristin G. Palmer, French Quarter Business Association, FMIA, Neighbors First for Bywater, and Faubourg St. Roch Improvement Association on a tour of the new Sobering Center, a 25-bed facility that provides intoxicated individuals a safe alternative to jail or the emergency room. The Sobering Center will welcome and care for anyone publicly intoxicated, including people with substance use disorders who live on the streets. Clients will be monitored for specific cues, recover from immediate acute alcohol impairment, and have access to medically supported detox or additional services if appropriate. More information can be [on The Sobering Center website](#).



At Home in the Vieux Carré - tonight! 🎄

Friday, December 6

[1026 Esplanade Avenue](#)

5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

The [final 2019 At Home in the Vieux Carré](#) is tonight, December 6. Longtime residents René Fransen and Eddie Bonin will be closing out the season with an ugly sweater happy hour at their beautiful Queen Anne home. Specialty cocktails, wine, and nibbles will be provided. This happy hour is not to be missed! Admission is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members, and free to those who renew their memberships tonight. Check our website or [follow our Facebook](#) for updates. And don't forget to wear your ugly holiday sweater!



History in a Glass: A Cocktail Lecture for the Holidays

Tuesday, December 17

[1113 Chartres Street](#)

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

We're throwing a cocktail lecture and tasting to close out 2019 season of our lecture series with the Beauregard-Keyes House, "New Perspectives, Old Neighborhood: The Vieux Carré at 300 & Beyond." Please note that this event is \$10 / person and include the lecture & cocktail reception. Tickets may be purchased through Eventbrite. Members of BK House and VCPORA get in free with

a suggested donation of \$5, but please reserve your seats in advance by emailing lily@bkhouse.org.

Join author and historian Elizabeth Pearce for a look into the history of alcoholic beverages in the Crescent City and how early recipes like the Sazerac and Cafe Brulot helped shape the development of how and what people drink today, both in New Orleans and well beyond. Guests will be treated to a light reception following the lecture featuring tastes of quintessential local cocktail recipes including the Sazerac and Cafe Brulot. The latter will be prepared with a demonstration by Christoph Dornemann of Arnaud's Restaurant's James Beard Award winning French 75 bar.



NOCCJ 62nd Annual Weiss Awards

Friday, December 13
601 Loyal Avenue
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The New Orleans Council for Community and Justice (NOCCJ) will host their 62nd Annual Weiss Awards next Friday in honor of members of the Greater New Orleans community whose civic and humanitarian contributions to the furtherance of human dignity were outstanding and an example to be followed. NOCCJ is a nonprofit human relations organization dedicated to promoting understanding and respect among all races, religions, and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution and education. More information NOCCJ and the 62nd Annual Weiss Awards can be found on [the NOCCJ website](#).



Krewe of Jingle Parade

Saturday, December 7
Canal Street
1:00 p.m.

The annual Krewe of Jingle parade will roll through downtown this weekend. Starting at Lee Circle, the parade will proceed down St. Charles, loop along Canal, and head back toward Howard along Baronne. Please expect parking restrictions, street closures, reindeer, elves, and snowmen.



LLS 2019 Martha Robinson Lecture

Wednesday, December 11
938 Lafayette Street, Suite 300
6:00 p.m.

Louisiana Landmarks Society's 2019 Martha Robinson Lecture presents a panel titled *Expanding the Industrial Canal Lock - Paving the French Quarter: Is History Repeating Itself?* Featuring Jed Horne, John Koeferl, Amy Stelly, and Jeffrey Treffinger, and moderated by Sandra Stokes, the event will also celebrate the new release of *The Second Battle of New Orleans: The History of the Riverfront Expressway Controversy* on the 50th anniversary of the defeat. Copies will be available for purchase. This event is free and open to the public. More information can be found on [the Louisiana Landmarks Society's website](#).



Chalmette High School Voices Choir

Thursday, December 12
French Quarter
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Chalmette High School Voices Choir will be performing classic Christmas carols in period costumes throughout the French Quarter next Thursday. First, the singers will host a small 1:00 p.m. show at St Louis Cathedral, [615 Pere Antoine Alley](#). Next, they will have a special 1:30 p.m. lunch performance in the Annex Room at Antoine's Restaurant, [713 St. Louis Street](#). Finally, the choir will sing at 4:00 p.m. in the courtyard of the Historic New Orleans Collection's Seignouret-Brulatour Building and Tricentennial Wing, [520 Royal Street](#).

The performances are open to the public, although the lunch at Antoine's must be paid for by individuals who dine. For more information, contact Jim Delery at j_delery@hotmail.com or (504) 606-7436.

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