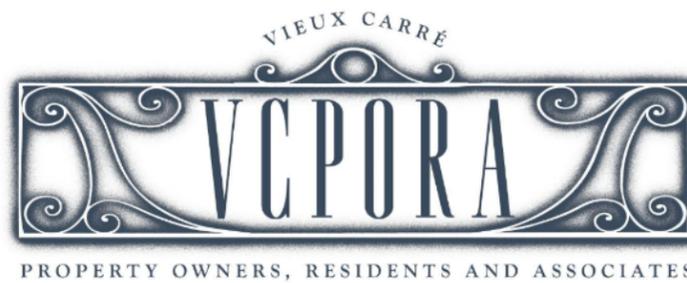


VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Monday, March 30, 2020

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Coronavirus Update

Text COVIDNOLA to 888-777 for NOLAReady Updates

Please comply with Mayor LaToya Cantrell's issued mandate to stay home unless you are going out for critical needs, which include visits to the grocery store, pharmacy, and doctor appointments. Health Department guidelines and directives can be found [here](#).

Drive-through testing for any symptomatic individual over the age of 18 will continue, but the sites have been consolidated to only the UNO Lakefront Arena parking lot. The Mahalia Jackson parking lot site in Armstrong Park has been closed in response to a slow-down in traffic and to consolidate resources. The UNO Lakefront drive-through site will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be capped at 500 tests per day. To date, nearly 7000 tests have been completed at these drive-through sites. More information on drive-through testing can be [found here](#).

Updates around New Orleans

The City of New Orleans has launched [a drive for Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#) for first responders. Donors with unopened and unused masks (surgical, P100, N95), gloves (latex or nitrile), disposable medical gowns, goggles, and face shields are encouraged to drop off supplies in designated boxes at 2000 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, [3940 Paris Avenue](#), or [2118 Elysian Fields Avenue](#). For donations larger than what could fit in a drop box, please contact ppedonations@nola.gov.

Governor John Bel Edwards and Mayor LaToya Cantrell announced this week a field hospital buildout at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Over 1,000 beds will be used for recovering COVID-19 patients transferred directly from hospitals, freeing up ICU space. Read more about this initiative at [The Lens](#).

[The RTA](#) has further reduced bus and streetcar service and eliminated fares until further notice. They encourage essential travel only.

[Blues Bikes](#) have indefinitely suspended services.

Meanwhile, [the White House](#) has called for social distancing practices to extend until April 30.

Food

Councilmember [Kristin Palmer](#) will continue to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank, Evacuteer, & Culture Aid NOLA this week to offer free non-perishables to hospitality workers impacted by the coronavirus. The food pantry will be open tomorrow, March 31 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Connect Church of Algiers, [1110 Kabel Drive](#), and again on Thursday, April 2 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Holy Angels, [3500 St. Claude Avenue](#).

Councilmember Palmer has also partnered with NOLA Tree Project to deliver hot meals to seniors and homebound residents Mondays through Fridays from 3 - 5 p.m. Additionally, the NOLA Tree Project will be distributing free hot meals for pickup at [1509 Filmore Ave](#). If you are elderly or know someone in need of delivery, please contact Connie Udo at connie@nolatreeproject.org or call (504) 415-8434. [Palm & Pine](#) restaurant is providing free meals until 7:00 p.m. today, Monday, March 30 to service industry workers that have been laid off or lost wages.

[Manolito Bar](#) is giving out a limited number of free meals to impacted service industry workers Tuesday, March 31 through Sunday, April 5. Call (504) 603-2740 or email info@manolitonola.com to schedule a pickup time.

[Homer A. Plessy Community School](#) is giving away meals from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. this Wednesday, April 1 to schoolchildren.

Resources

NOLA Ready has compiled a list of opportunities for those wishing to donate their [time](#) or [resources](#). There are also resources for residents to help with [food and supplies](#), [housing & legal assistance](#), [workers](#), [utilities](#), and [mental health support](#). Businesses can also find resources for [financial support](#), [unemployment insurance](#), [technical assistance](#), and [industry supports](#). Finally, the [Mutual Aid Facebook group](#) offers a chance for residents to share resources with each other.

Open Businesses

In addition to [take-out and delivery-only restaurants](#), many essential services in the Quarter are still open, including Lost Sock Laundromat, the Postal Emporium, Mary's Ace Hardware, Matassa's Market, Rouses, Quarter Grocery, Verti Marte, and Quarter Master, to name a few. Several even feature free delivery. Be sure to contact the establishments beforehand, as COVID-19 may have affected hours.

Just for Fun

The Historic New Orleans Collection has launched its [History from Home](#) portal so that residents can enjoy learning about New Orleans' rich cultural heritage without having to leave the house.

Are there more resources that you are looking for or do you have some additional ideas?

Share them with us at info@vcpora.org and erinholmes@vcpora.org.



#FQThenandNow

This past week, VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) launched our first #FQThenAndNow post. This weekly series showcases historic pictures, current pictures, and fun facts about our favorite French Quarter buildings. Head over to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to check out the inaugural post on the LaLaurie Mansion. Follow #FQThenAndNow the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) so you don't miss any upcoming pics from this series.



One Stop Shop Portal Back Up

The City's [One Stop Shop Online](#) - the portal which allows citizens to apply, track, and search for permits, licenses, planning projects, and violations throughout the City of New Orleans - is back up for the first time since the cyberattack. Use it to monitor development around the city.



New Orleans' Women Preservationists

The Preservation Resource Center recently featured a piece on New Orleans' women preservationists - including Elizebeth Werlein, who helped establish the Vieux Carré Commission in 1936 and served as founding president of the Vieux Carré Property Owners Association in 1938. The organization later incorporated residents and associates into the organization's title, becoming VCPORA as we know it today. Read more about Werlein and the women who helped protect the French Quarter on the [Preservation Resource Center website](#).



St. Ann Construction

Starting last Wednesday, March 25, full reconstruction work on the 800 block of St. Ann Street between Bourbon and Dauphine streets shut down indefinitely due to high water levels in the Mississippi River. The project will resume once the water levels drop below 15 feet at the Carrollton Gauge. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in late June, early July 2020, weather permitting. The fencing around the block will remain in place during this shut down and the roadway closed to vehicular traffic. Sidewalks will remain open to pedestrian traffic. More information on the project can be found in [this City of New Orleans press release](#).

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