

**VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, October 9, 2020**

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Fri, Oct 9, 2020 at 5:05 PM



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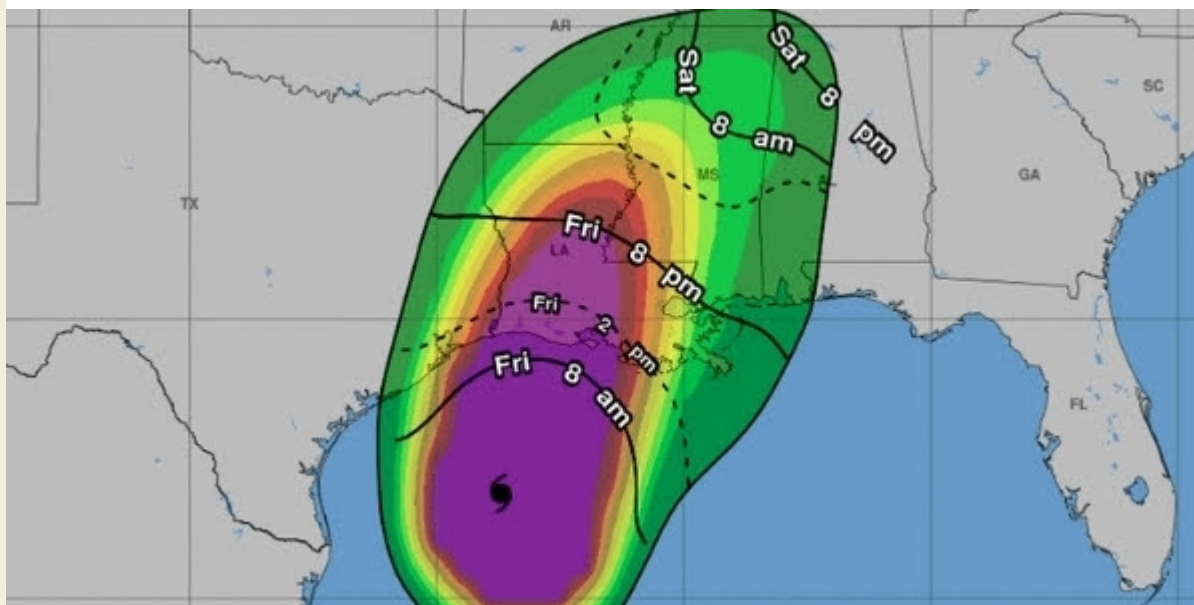
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## Hurricane Delta

Orleans Parish is under a [Tropical Storm warning](#) as Hurricane Delta makes landfall across southwest Louisiana today. New Orleans residents and visitors should be prepared to stay indoors, as strong winds and tornadoes are possible as a result of Delta's bands. Text DELTA to 888-777 to receive severe weather updates from the City.

Delta is expected to severely impact the Lake Charles area, which is still recovering from the impact of Hurricane Laura just over one month ago. Over the next few days, please consider donating time or money to the rebuilding efforts. NOLA Ready has compiled a [list of organizations](#) that are responding directly to the damage on the ground. Councilmember Moreno has also put together a list of [resources, places to donate, and volunteer opportunities](#) for those interested in helping relief efforts.



## Nungesser's Proposal

On Wednesday, Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser announced during a [KPEL Radio interview](#) a potential proposal that would allow the State to take over some control of the French Quarter, including sanitation and security services. His remarks sound very similar to [previous ideas to turn the Vieux Carré into a State Park](#), which was rejected by Mayor Cantrell in 2018.

"For the past few years New Orleans has been trending down," Nungesser said. "Now, with the shutdown, we believe that if we don't clean up the Quarter and bring it back with a bang, it will have a negative impact on tourism as we open up the doors nationally and internationally. So goes New Orleans, so goes tourism around the state... We're working on a plan to present to [Mayor Latoya Cantrell] to do what they did in San Diego where they took the Gaslamp District away from the city, had their own police force, cleaned the street and really make it the shining star it ought to be."

Clarifying details of what this shift would look like have not been revealed yet. We have many questions about the implications this maneuver could have on economic recovery in the area. Particularly, what impacts would this have on the upcoming French Quarter Economic Development District "Quarter for the Quarter" tax and the Mayor's plans to Reimagine the French Quarter? We will be certain to share information as we receive it and welcome your comments.



## Bill Norris, 1933 – 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we share news of the [recent passing](#) of William C. "Bill" Norris. He and his surviving wife Betty moved to the French Quarter in 1990, where they live and worked with bodies like VCPORA, the Vieux Carré Commission, and Patio Planters of the Vieux Carré to preserve the neighborhood's historic fabric for nearly 30 years. And avid tour guide, Bill even taught tour guiding at Delgado Community College and published a book of local history titled '[Down in New Orleans: True Stories of a Fabled City](#)'.

Memorials may be sent to Friends of the Cabildo, 701 Chartres, New Orleans LA 70116, or your favorite charity. A party in Bill's honor will be held at an unspecified date in the future when crowds will be able to gather. Please send the family a request to be included on the guest list and/or any stories or photos to [downinneworleans7@gmail.com](mailto:downinneworleans7@gmail.com).



## Crescent Park Survey

The French Market Corporation is investigating the further development of Crescent Bark, the off-leash dog park in Crescent Park. The goal is to create an area where dogs can run and play in a safe environment. Any and all Crescent Park users, whether they own a dog or not, are encouraged to take [this survey](#) before 5:00 p.m. on October 21 in order to inform potential changes.



## Restaurant Week

[Restaurant Week](#) concludes this Sunday. This annual culinary celebration features specially-priced prix-fixe menus for both dine-in and take-out at participating restaurants in the greater New Orleans area. Deals include 2-course lunches for \$25 or less, and 3-course dinners and brunches for \$45 or less. As the food & beverage industry struggles with the economic impact of COVID-19, consider supporting [your favorite French Quarter restaurant](#) by ordering today.



## RTA Rider Appreciation Day

Tomorrow, October 10, is the Regional Transit Authority's [Rider Appreciation Day](#). RTA will celebrate with the maiden voyage of RTA 2 ferry from the Algiers Ferry Terminal at 9:00 a.m. Golden tickets and RTA goodies will be given throughout the day, while supplies last.



## SMALL LANDLORD EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM

### Small Landlord Grant

The City of New Orleans will provide \$1.5 million in mortgage assistance to small landlords in New Orleans owning eight or fewer rental units and whose rental income has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants for the [Small Landlord Emergency Grant Program](#) will be required to provide documentation of their hardship and inability to make mortgage payments. Additional terms and condition apply. Interested landlords should call the Mayor's Office of Community Development at (504) 658-4200.



### #FQThenandNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on 631 Dauphine. Head over to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to check it out. This weekly series showcases historic pictures, current pictures, and fun facts about our favorite French Quarter locales. Follow #FQThenAndNow the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) so you don't miss any upcoming posts from this series.

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