

NOELA *Magazine*

Information for New Orleans East and Beyond

Volume II, No 3 - Fall 2014

Celebrating the East!

RC Blakes: Father-Daughter Talk, page 2

Brewmaster Jon Renthrope, page 3

Michael Levasseur: Phone Spoofing, page 4

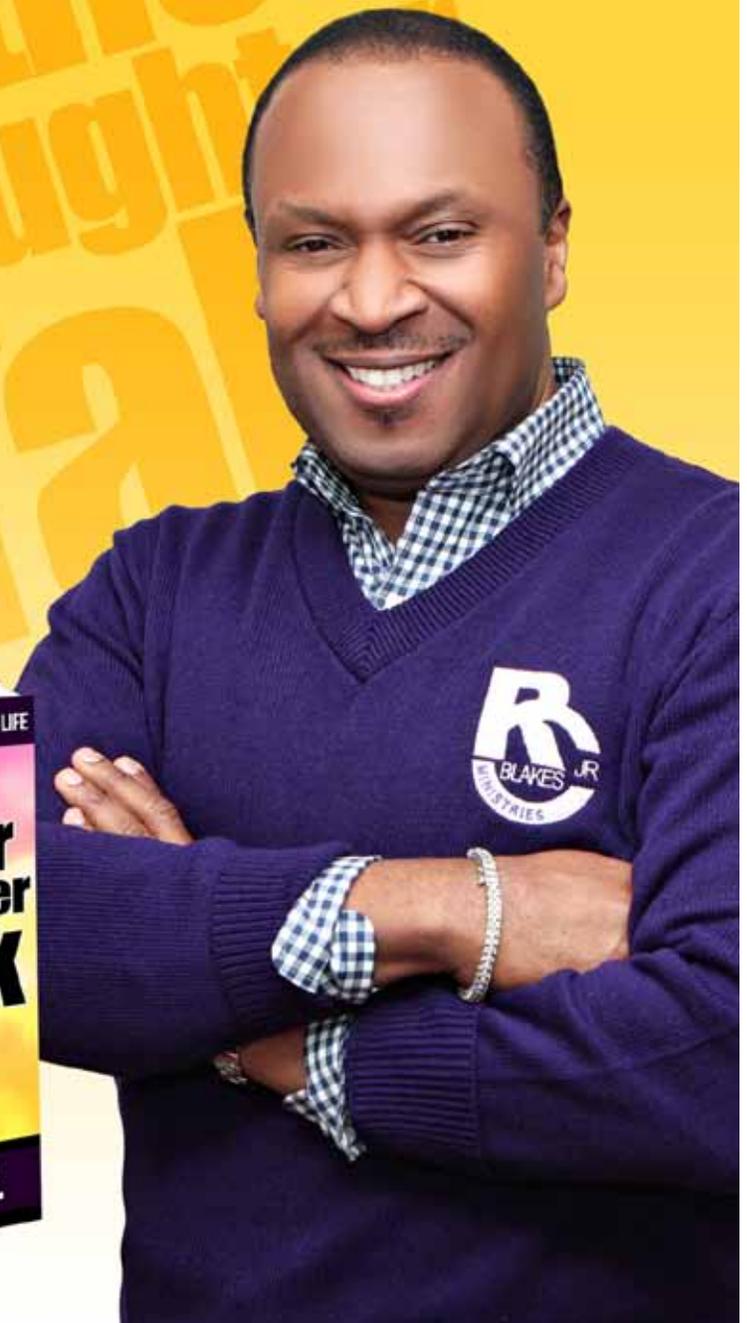
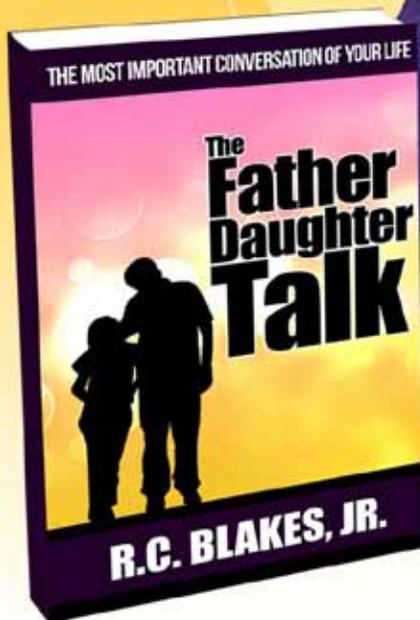
Pastor Henry Bolden, page 5

Dentist K. Richard DuBois, page 6

Athletic Director Kiki Baker Barnes, page 7

Business Directory, page 13

NOLA City Council President Promotes Eco-Tourism in New Orleans East, page 15



FROM THE EDITOR

This Fall marked the One Year Anniversary of *NOELA Magazine*. During the past year, the magazine, in keeping with the mission of NOELA Services, has featured many positive stories in eastern New Orleans, from the area's natural resources, to the talented individuals who reside, work or have a major impact in the area.

As we move into another year, that commitment to highlight the assets of eastern New Orleans, and their impact on the rest of the City, remains. The magazine will also showcase positive stories from throughout the City of New Orleans.

This season's issue provides an overview of a book by local **Pastor R C Blakes, Jr.** called the *Father-Daughter Talk* (page 2). There's also another eye-opening crime and safety article from retired NOPD officer **Michael A. LeVasseur** on phone spoofing (page 4). You can read several of his past articles by selecting Safety and Crime Prevention under Categories on the right side of the page at www.NoelaNews.com.

Other stories this month are about a group of young entrepreneurs who run **Cajun Fire**

Brewing Company (page 3); **Pastor Henry Bolden's** calling to spread good news and train pastors (page 5); **Dr. Dick DuBois'** advice on maintaining dental health (page 6); and **Kiki Baker Barnes**, a true role model and example of what can happen when you work hard (page 7).

Continuing the magazine has been a challenge, but I feel that it serves a very special and necessary purpose.

I also want to give a heartfelt thank you to those who have supported the newsletter and magazine by contributing information, articles or words of encouragement; or by advertising, which in addition to spreading the word about your business or organization, also provides crucial funding to continue publication of the magazine.

Always **Support Local Businesses!** Please share your comments and suggestions. Visit NOELA News on Facebook at www.facebook.com/noelanews or follow @NOELANews on Twitter. **-Lisa G. Stafford**

*Thanks to the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (www.enonac.org)
for this economic development update*

New Businesses Coming to the East

Wendy's is coming on Bullard across from Walmart in Spring of 2015

Pizza Hut is coming in two locations:
Crowder Blvd. near Lake Forest Blvd. (January 2015) and
Bullard Ave. (date to be announced later)

FATHER-DAUGHTER TALK

Words of Wisdom from R C Blakes, Jr.

As the father of three daughters, RC Blakes, Jr., has written a no-holds-barred book, *The Father-Daughter Talk*. It is a guide to one of the most important conversations a dad will ever have.

Says the author, "I became extremely concerned about the rapid and constant erosion of female dignity in our society—video vixens, sex tapes, multiple sex partners, etc. I want to help women navigate and avoid the pitfalls many fall victim to because they are ill-prepared for 'the game.'"

"I became extremely concerned about the rapid and constant erosion of female dignity in our society—video vixens, sex tapes, multiple sex partners, etc. I want to help women navigate and avoid the pitfalls many fall victim to because they are ill-prepared for 'the game.'"

The book addresses the psychological and emotional issues that so often compromise and cripple many young women.

The statistics are sobering: In the United States, a woman is assaulted or beaten every nine seconds, and domestic

violence is the leading cause of injury to women. Research shows that girls with an unstable father figure are more likely to have an unplanned pregnancy, low self-esteem, be a school dropout, and become involved in drugs and alcohol.

Author Blakes adds, "In addition to being read by fathers, the book should be placed in the hands of every young woman – even if there is no father present in her life. This candid advice will help her become assertive, proactive, productive, and creative as she grows into adulthood."

The *Father-Daughter Talk*, was the theme of a major conference recently held in New Orleans, where the author was the featured speaker.

R. C. Blakes, Jr., is a popular author, speaker, and senior pastor of churches in Houston, Texas, and New Orleans, Louisiana. He co-hosts a national television program and his family owns and operates radio station KKNO in New Orleans.

The *Father-Daughter Talk* is published by LifeBridge Books (ISBN 978-1-039779-19-9) and is available in paperback and ebook formats. To schedule the author for media interviews or order the book, phone: (504) 569-8205. -NN-

The PATIO Restaurant

Home of the Seafood Stuffed Potato!

5540 Crowder Blvd.

Behind Laundromat

New Orleans, LA 70127

504 240 6744

Food that will Fill Your Soul

Come in and Check out our specials...

Hot Plates * Seafood * Soul Food

We appreciate your business!

No Politics, Just Beer

New Orleans East Residents brew culturally inspired craft beers

by Lisa Stafford



Brewmaster Jon Renthrope

One of the latest businesses to be birthed out of New Orleans is **Cajun Fire Brewing Company**, a micro-brewery founded by young Louisiana-born Brewmaster Jon Renthrope. Renthrope got the idea for brewing beer while attending school at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He developed a taste for specialty beers

and wines, but such preferences can be difficult to indulge on a college budget. His resourcefulness guided him to YouTube, where he found directions for making beer. His first batch came out so well, he later shared the results of his newfound skill with friends and family. They felt, as Renthrope did, that he was on to something special.

Initially, Renthrope, who has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, planned to work within his field of study, but after moving back to New Orleans, Renthrope joined forces with fellow St. Augustine High School graduates Adam Dawson and Jomarque Renthrope (who is also his brother) to grow the brewing concept. The team, whose members were all raised in New Orleans East, was later rounded out by Paul Taylor, another St. Augustine graduate, and Courtney Wilson, who is now Jon Renthrope's fiancée.

The company's official slogan is "No Politics, Just Beer", a phrase that plays well into their company culture and what they are attempting to accomplish. Though not his primary occupation, his field of study has proved to be useful in the brewing business. As Renthrope plans his operations, his goals are to ensure that products come from grains and materials that are sustainable, and that operations are environmentally friendly, by lowering the carbon footprint, and utilizing landscaping that favors the environment.

See Cajun Fire Brewing Company on page 8



The partners of Cajun Fire Brewing Company. Left to right: Courtney Wilson, founder Jon Renthrope, Paul Taylor, Jomarque Renthrope and Adam Dawson

Beware of Phone Spoofing

By Michael A. LeVasseur



Michael A. LeVasseur

I'm sure you're wondering what exactly is phone spoofing and how could that be a threat to anyone. Spoofing is an app commonly downloaded to cell phones and was originally created as a tool to prank or conduct practical jokes. But with light hearted creations like this meant to entertain, bad guys somehow figured a way to use it in their continuing criminal enterprise.

The spoofing app allows a person to substitute or change their cellular number to another number. This fools the person receiving the call and the caller ID. The app allows me to call your cell or home phone and your caller ID would indicate a business, law enforcement, hospital, bank or your own number. There are spoofing apps that allow me to alter my voice and add background noises to appear to be a business.

The intention of the spoofing app was to trick a friend or family member by pretending to be someone other than who you really are.

Here's where it became criminal. If your cell phone's answering service goes straight to your voice messages without entering a security code you're going to have a problem. Remember the spoofing app tricks your caller ID. If I employ the spoofing app and use 'your number', I'll have the ability to steal your phone messages. This might not seem like a threat but consider a small business owner losing sensitive information to a competitor or criminal specializing in fraud.

Let's take it a step further. You registered your phone with the National Do Not Call Registry to prevent telemarketers from calling. Nationally some telemarketers are using the spoofing app to trick the registry and contact potential clients.

Maybe I'll call using the financial institution you bank with. I inform you that you've been a victim of identity theft and I need you to confirm your credit card/bank card or checking account numbers

See Phone Spoofing on page 11



Support Tutti Frutti NOLA East!

Stop by and bring a friend!

High Quality, Great Tasting, Healthy Frozen Yogurt

People's Pastor, Henry Bolden Perfecting Life Church

By Lisa Stafford



Pastor Henry Bolden

Texas; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; and Hammond, Louisiana. He tries to visit each church at least once per month.

A native New Orleanian, Pastor Bolden portrays very distinct images of ministry. On one hand he is the quintessential servant in the trenches, sacrificing both time and money to care for his growing multicultural and multi-generational flock; while he is also a polished and accomplished leader offering guidance, prayer, counseling and acceptance to others who aspire to lead their own congregations. According to Pastor Bolden, there is a backlog of pastors to meet with. During mandatory meetings with these aspiring leaders, he addresses their doctrine, vision, goals and plans. "I'm called to people who need development," he says. His goal is to develop people. "People are the church," he says, and emphasizes how Jesus poured into his disciples and they poured into others, leading to a multiplication of the church.

Pastor Bolden is every bit a modern day evangelist, reaching out to followers and potential followers via social media, including Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.

Servant

On any day, Pastor Bolden, with his informal and accommodating manner, can be found personally meeting the needs of his members – from tending to the homeless, assisting with cancelled utilities,

feeding the hungry, counseling and providing refuge to those in abusive relationships, providing transportation to church, and visiting the sick. "Presence makes a difference. Encouragement is necessary. Care of sheep goes beyond the pulpit. Everybody should be loved and respected. No one should be lost; they should feel connected," he says, and adds "People will know God's disciples by the love they show."

Membership is not required for attention from the pastor; however, oftentimes, visitors who call for a ride to church become members. Pastor Bolden fondly describes his church, and emphasizes the work of the youth ministry, which includes mime and dance as part of the worship experience. "One kid wrote a screenplay. Ministry should be relevant and connect with people," said Bolden. "For lots of members, I am their first pastor and this is their first church experience."

*"Keep believing until what
you believe comes into
being."*

Pastor Henry Bolden

The ministry places great emphasis on community, witnessing and evangelizing up to three times per week. Flyers and push cards are delivered to neighborhoods on a daily basis. Pastor Bolden also leads by example, personally inviting people he meets to attend church services.

Although his church is non-denominational, Pastor Bolden's roots lie in the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), where he answered his call to preach as a teenager. A fourth-generation pastor and preacher, Bolden's grandfather and father were both COGIC Bishops, and revivals and traveling are commonplace in his ministry.

See Pastor Bolden on page 9

“A stitch in time will save nine”

By K. Richard DuBois, DDS

This phrase was first recorded by Thomas Fuller in 1732. What does this phrase mean to you? Perhaps it means mending a small tear in your clothing is better than waiting for the tear to get larger. A little effort expended to fix a small problem prevents a larger problem.



Dr. Dick DuBois

This saying can be applied to your dental health. Preventive dentistry is the best dentistry! A dental problem caught while it is small is much easier to repair. Here are examples of preventive dentistry.

Small cavities are easier to repair than large cavities. As the cavity gets larger it destroys more of your tooth. Eventually the cavity gets into the pulp of the tooth. The germs travel down the root canal and

spread out into the bone that surrounds the tooth. This infection, now called an abscess, causes more pain and swelling and can become very serious. If you think you might have a cavity it is much better to have it fixed before bigger problems develop.

Did you know that most teeth are lost from gum disease -- not cavities? It is normal to get a build-up on your teeth. The soft build-up is composed of germs that infect the gums. Some build-up hardens over time and can't be removed with the toothbrush and floss. These hard deposits on your teeth worsen the gum infection and lead to bone loss. As the bone that holds your teeth in is destroyed, the teeth loosen up. Swollen and infected gums make your teeth look bad when you smile and cause bad breath. There is evidence that gum disease can make heart disease worse. Also keeping your gums healthy helps keep your blood sugar under control.

There is nothing better than your natural teeth. Dentures, even implants are not as good as your
See Dental Health on page 8

Mrs. Dora

Psychic Reader, Clairvoyant, Medium, Relationship Coach

Are you feeling sad, lost, depressed? Experiencing sleepless nights, lonely days?

Confused, lost? Need assistance dealing with broken heart?

Has your life been full of upsetting changes?

Do you have setbacks in your personal and financial life?

Are you having trouble dealing and getting control back into your daily life?



**Call 504.439.3540
for an appointment**



I stand and take pride in helping and guiding my clients. I assist them when needed, helping them to clear the blockage, negativity, confusion and fear that may be surrounding them. Using my extensive intuitive training, clairvoyant skills, meditation, prayer, tarot cards, voice vibrations, and spirit guides, I assist you to bring clarity, meaning and understanding to your situation. I know the heart wants what the heart wants, even if it's not for us. Call me and let me know about your break up if you're on the verge of separating or divorcing. Call if you suddenly feel a lack of connection and communication with your significant other.

10238 Chef Mentour Hwy. New Orleans, LA 70127

Kiki Baker Barnes

Turning Negatives into Positives

by Lisa Stafford



Kiki Baker Barnes

Life is a series of experiences, each one of which makes us bigger, even though sometimes it is hard to realize this. For the world was built to develop character, and we must learn that the setbacks and grieves which we endure help us in our marching onward.
Henry Ford

When you meet Kiki Baker Barnes, it is not surprising to learn that she has achieved so much. A force of positive energy with a big personality, she was recently named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Conduct and Ethics Committee, and she was named the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC) Athletic Director of the Year in 2013-2014 for the 2nd time in five years. Added to that, she was selected to *Gambit's* Top 40 under 40 New Orleanians making a positive impact on their community, the *New Orleans Magazine* People to Watch list, the Inaugural Board of Directors for the Athletic Directors Association of the NAIA, and she is one of four honorees in the Girl Scouts' *Women of Distinction*.

Seeing herself as a mentor, Barnes easily takes on the role of a leader, whether she is interacting with her staff, student athletes, friends or family, and she's always been this way. "I believe that everyone has gifts," she says. "I believe that I was put in the world to bring light...to give people

hope. If you're in my presence, I'm mentoring you. That's my responsibility." Barnes has been doing this since she was in college. "I always verified the information I received. I was always the one that gave straight advice, regardless of whether people wanted to hear it."

Setbacks

Life hasn't always been easy for Barnes. Her path to success was paved with setbacks and unexpected events. Like so many others, she faced major hurdles after Hurricane Katrina. While living out of a hotel room and attending school full time, she took a job at Dillard University. Determined to continue her studies but take the job she desperately needed, she reduced her course load to only one class per semester. That tenacity paid off. This year, she will graduate with the doctoral degree that she began in 2004, and included a year off due to the demands of her job.

When she started in the Dillard Athletic Department, she and a basketball coach were the only two full time staff members. "It was the largest undertaking of my life," she says. "You never know what you're made of until you're put in certain situations."

Rejection

Barnes' coaching career began immediately after graduating from UNO with a Bachelor's degree, in 1997. Three years later, in 2000, Southern University at Shreveport offered Barnes her first head coaching job at the age of 25; however, the athletic director who hired her left the program one month later. Of the four athletic programs at the university, she headed up three, but university officials felt that Barnes was too young to take over the entire athletic program. "I felt disrespected," she confessed. This was the first time she realized that

See Kiki Baker Barnes on page 10

Visit
NoelaNews.com/Calendar
for daily updates

Cajun Fire Brewing Company, from page 3

The partners are currently seeking a place to house their operations, and though they are considering locations all over the city, they will most likely settle downtown or in Mid-City. A spot near the Superdome would be their dream location.

Renthrope admits that there is still a lot to learn about the brewing business. There are also challenges that are unique to the industry. Hops, which are one of the main ingredients in beer, can be difficult to obtain. Large companies have priority in obtaining available supplies. There can also be a wide variance in the available supply from year to year, depending on growing conditions.

Cajun Fire Brewing Company is currently the only African-American owned and operated brewery in the United States. The company currently offers brews such as Acadiana Honey Ale, Praline Ale, and Ol' Yella Pale Ale, but the combinations of future flavors are endless. Feedback on the company's sample offerings have been positive in annual festivals such as NOLA On Tap and WYES Beer Festival, the longest running annual beer fest in Louisiana.

Renthrope and company have made valuable use of resources available for startup businesses. In March, the company won the \$50,000 grand prize in Idea Village's New Orleans Entrepreneur Week Big Idea Pitch Contest to help with startup capital.

Also in March, the company won the Chaffe McCall and Idea Village Entrepreneur Challenge!, receiving free legal guidance from the Chaffe McCall attorneys covering several areas of law.

Still ahead, the partners plan to manage the myriad challenges of entrepreneurs, including obtaining the required operating permits, and landing a distribution contract. To help them navigate the uncertain terrain, Renthrope has turned to groups like the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce and the American Brewer's Association for valuable connections and networking.

Recognizing the importance of community involvement, Renthrope is a NOLA for Life mentor, and a participant in InNolavation, a site for chronicling the evolution of startups, events and entrepreneurs in New Orleans. Renthrope is also active in the St. Augustine alumni association.

While preparing for future growth of the company, Renthrope is also preparing for another big event – marriage, which he admits is also a lot of work. The future is very bright for Renthrope and crew and we should see a lot more from this talented group in the future.

DrinkCajunFire.com
DrinkCajunFireShop.com

- NN -

Dental Health, from page 6

natural teeth. A healthy tooth is a thousand times better than an implant! Here are some tips to preserve your natural teeth.

Brush and Floss your teeth every day. Brush in the morning and at night. Brush and floss well before you go to bed because while you are sleeping the germs build up and produce acid. If you clean most of the germs off your teeth before you go to sleep it will take longer for new germs to grow and cause damage to your teeth and gums.

A diet low in sugar will help prevent cavities. It seems that we are drinking too many soft drinks. One 12 oz soda has the equivalent of 12 teaspoons of sugar. Would you put that much sugar on your cereal in the morning? That is a lot of sugar.

Your drinking water should be fluoridated. If you live in New Orleans and drink the city water you are

probably getting enough fluoride. However, many people drink bottled water or filter their water. Most bottled water does not have fluoride. Also, water filters with charcoal take the fluoride out of the water you filter. Fluoride makes your teeth stronger and more resistant to decay. Look for fluoridated water the next time you go to the grocery store.

Lastly, Visit Your Dentist and Dental Hygienist. The plaque and tarter can be cleaned off your teeth and you can be checked for cavities and gum disease. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"!

- NN -

Dr. K. Richard DuBois
5760 Hayne Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70126
(504) 241.8457
www.duboisdentistry.com

Pastor Bolden, from page 5

Teacher

Pastor Bolden believes that you should “Keep believing until what you believe comes into being.” He added that most people stop believing because of frustration. He also understands the pressures put on pastors and leaders and as a result, he established a Leadership Summit called *Systems, Structures and Strategies for Ministry Success*, which he started about one month ago. The program is geared not only towards evangelists, preachers and pastors, but it also targets business owners. “This is a system from the Word of God for secular industry,” he says. “It is a formula for success.” The program is taught every Tuesday but alternates each week for in-house leadership and the general public. It addresses specific issues such as growth, funding sources, and maintaining and sustaining momentum. Each session ends with a Q&A period. As important as following a defined plan is, he finds that covering what not to do is equally as important. “Some don’t have guidance. I want to see pastors succeed. Pastors carry a lot of weight (related to the burdens of their flocks), and most people have no clue. Pastors lack financial resources and support.” Pastor Bolden believes the stress of running a ministry can be attributed to the increasing numbers of suicides among pastors. “People don’t leave you at the benediction,” he says. “There are always needs to fulfill.”

Although Pastor Bolden doesn’t acknowledge challenges in his ministry, he does admit that there is so much to do, that it seems that he needs more time. “I have a zeal to bless others and see their potential maximized,” he says. Through the Leadership Summit, Pastor Bolden wants to alleviate unnecessary processes and help new

leaders avoid the pitfalls that he faced early in ministry, noting that he wants to provide what he didn’t get early in life.

Achiever

Pastor Bolden counts the growing list of churches under his covering among his greatest accomplishments, but he also looking forward to reaching others via mass communication channels, including a multi-book deal, international television and radio broadcasts, establishing more churches, and nurturing more leaders.

In closing, Pastor Bolden leaves the following: “If you remain diligent and faithful in what you’re doing, God will fulfill everything He promised. You have to get up every day, no matter how hard you got knocked down the day before, and say ‘Today, here I come.’ It’s your attitude that moves you forward.” -NN-

Service Times at Perfecting Life Church

Sunday Worship Service:

11:30 a.m.

Tuesday Bible Study:

12 Noon – 12:30 and 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday Leadership Summit:

7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Advertise
your business or
organization. Email
info@NoelaNews.com
or call (504) 259-3927**

**Check the calendar at
www.NOELANews.com
throughout the week
for recent updates**

Kiki Baker Barnes, from page 7

she wanted to be an Athletic Director, and although she knew no other female Athletic Directors, she set about charting a career path. “I needed a Ph.D.,” she surmised. “I will work my way up with a big school, then become an Athletic Director after 50.” She moved to New Orleans in 2004, then enrolled at the University of New Orleans (UNO) and became a Residence Hall Manager. In a surprising turn of events, Robin Martin, a friend of Barnes’ from UNO was hired as Athletic Director at Dillard University in 2004. Martin was Dillard’s first female Athletic Director, and was featured in *Jet Magazine*. “Since we were both UNO basketball alumni, I called her to congratulate her,” says Barnes. Although she didn’t realize it at the time, that conversation would lead to big things. Martin asked Barnes if she had ever done cheer work, as someone was needed to work with the Dillard cheerleaders.

“We fuss about the struggle, but the struggle is what builds the character and strength for the journey.”

- Kiki Baker Barnes

Barnes, now a full time graduate student, felt that her other responsibilities would not allow her to take on this new task, but after about a week, the university’s assistant coach moved on, so Martin instead offered the job to Barnes.

By this time, Barnes’ life was taking off, not only professionally, but personally as well. Barnes met her future husband, Marc, at Dillard. After their engagement, Katrina roared through the city. “Everybody was laid off. My dream was dashed,” she said. Initially, she wondered why God would take everything away that was going so well, but she later accepted the circumstances, dire though they were, and concentrated on her Ph.D. again.

About a month or so before school started, Martin accepted a job in California. Dillard again contacted Barnes and offered her a coaching job. Barnes jumped at the chance, but only if she could be Athletic Director. “I haven’t been an Athletic Director,” she reasoned, “but I’ve been over three out of four sports. If you give me the opportunity, I’ll do everything I can to get the program back on track.”

Dillard University gave her that opportunity. Finding herself a newlywed, after a November 2005 wedding, and an instant mom to Caitlin and Marc, Jr., Barnes faced the “job of a lifetime” with limited resources, and no place for her team to practice (Dillard athletes practiced at Delgado until their own facilities were rebuilt). Barnes rebuilt the program from scratch, and recruiting was made more difficult because of the way the media portrayed New Orleans. Potential students and faculty turned down the opportunity to come to New Orleans due to fear of hurricanes, and negative perceptions about the state of the city.

As of today, Barnes has made a tremendous impact in her field. During her tenure at Dillard, Barnes successfully reestablished the men’s and women’s basketball programs and the women’s volleyball team. She also established several new sports, including men’s and women’s track and field, and men’s and women’s cross country.

In addition, Barnes established a comprehensive strategic plan for the athletics program, the university’s first athletics website, and the university’s first endowed athletic scholarship, the Billy Ray Hogley Scholarship Fund.

Barnes has also rebuilt the GCAC. As the GCAC’s first African-American and female president, Barnes was charged with revamping the conference after half of its members departed, threatening the conference’s existence in 2009. Barnes has

See Kiki Baker Barnes on page 12

Phone Spoofing, from page 4

and passwords. As you're panicking and providing me with the vital information, I'll be passing the information on to my co-conspirator who'll simultaneously be spoofing your bank pretending to be you.

There's the emergency spoof. You're contacted by phone and your caller ID indicates it's the hospital. The caller informs you a family member or loved one had a terrible accident and needs medical attention immediately. The hospital can't verify the insurance and they need you to wire money to cover the cost.

Seniors are commonly targeted for these type scams and are less likely to report being taken advantage of because of embarrassment or shame.

The possibilities of phone spoofing are endless.

Seniors are commonly targeted for these type scams and are less likely to report being taken advantage of because of embarrassment or shame.

But we can take some steps to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of this scam.

First, don't assume the caller ID information is always accurate. Take your time when responding to callers requesting personal information. Before you do anything make sure you get the caller's name and the business or company they're calling from. If you don't feel comfortable, hang up and call the company back to verify.

Never give out personal or financial information over the phone unless you know who you're talking to AND you initiated the call.

If you become a victim of fraud, notify the police immediately! Notify your bank and credit card companies if your banking or credit card information has been compromised.

And as always please share this with as many family and friends as you possibly can.

About Michael A. LeVasseur

Michael A. LeVasseur is a retired NOPD Sergeant and former commander of Crime Prevention, and a Crime Prevention & Safety Specialist. He holds a Level II certification from the National Crime Prevention Association, and provides instruction on visual deterrence (showing burglars a home is protected), minimizing loss, avoiding confrontations with criminals, fire protection, life safety tools, managing door openings, and internal/external video surveillance. He can be reached via email at mlevasseur2@att.net or on Twitter at [@M_A_LeVasseur](https://twitter.com/M_A_LeVasseur). - NN -

Got a Story Idea?

Do you know an individual or organization that is doing great things?

Email info@noelanews.com or call (504) 259-3927 and tell your story.

Kiki Baker Barnes, from page 10

successfully guided the effort to add four new members over the past two years to fully restoring the conference. Barnes' efforts were recognized by her peers when they voted her Athletic Director of the Year in 2011.

Quoting a popular statement repeated in church circles, Barnes believes that a *setback is a setup for a comeback*. "By God's grace, I got the job," she says. "I could never have planned this. We've got to trust in God, and we've got to work. I have grown in so many ways from this opportunity." One of the most important lessons Barnes learned from her experiences was that *not* having resources caused her to gain the skills she needed. "We fuss about the struggle, but the struggle is what builds the character and strength for the journey. I didn't have anything when I started, but I now have a skill set I can take anywhere." Barnes realizes that Dillard didn't have to take a chance on her. She believes that the administration could have brought in an experienced person, but at 32, she believed she could do the job. That confidence exists because of what she's done under challenging circumstances. Her outlook can be summed up as follows: "Make the most of it, and work your butt off. It took 10 years for a Ph.D., but it was worth it. Somebody has to give you a chance."

On the Personal Side

Barnes' personality makes her unique. For fun, she enjoys several activities, including line dancing, singing in the choir at St. Peter Claver church, talking to her kids, enjoying family time and working. Something she wants to learn to do? "I want to become a bass guitar player." Barnes enjoys spending time alone also. "I'm very happy alone in my room on the computer," she says. "I enjoying learning and creating. I need alone time to figure out where I'm going." She loves to dance, and frequently is seen as the life of party. "If you want to get a party started, invite me."

When asked what she would do with \$1 million, she replied, "My husband and I would start a foundation in the East for kids. There are two things that are precious to our hearts: education and Jesus. I'd buy my mama a house, I'd take care of my mama and daddy, and I'd buy something for my siblings." Education and Christian initiatives would be the driving force.

One of her favorite movies is *Déjà Vu*, starring Denzel Washington. "I was a featured extra in it," she said. "I'm the one raising tickets on the boat at the beginning and end of the movie," she laughs. The most fun thing to do in New Orleans East, for Barnes and her family is going to the snoball shop next to Castnet Seafood on Hayne Blvd. "We love snoballs. We go every Sunday and some days after work."

When asked what she would like to see in New Orleans East that isn't already here, she emphatically declared what so many other New Orleans East residents have echoed, "Shopping! Burlington, TJ Maxx, Applebee's, TGI Fridays, ... We should have that. Everybody has these things! We have money to spend. We want to stay in our neighborhood to shop."

Barnes is definitely one of the shining stars of the East, and of the entire city of New Orleans. - **NN** -

"If you so choose, even the unexpected setbacks can bring new and positive possibilities. If you so choose, you can find value and fulfillment in every circumstance."
Ralph Marston

NOELA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

BAKERIES

Sweets & Eats(504) 241-8899
5951 Bullard Avenue, 70128

BEAUTY

Mary Kay Cosmetics.....(504) 430-1141
5710 Eastover Drive, 70128
Email: j_deruise@yahoo.com

CHURCHES

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
5276 Bullard Avenue, 70128 (504) 248-7998
www.cornerstone-nola.org

New Home Family Worship Center.....504-248-1302
13800 Hayne Blvd, 70128

Suburban Baptist Church.....(504) 242-0980
10501 Chef Menteur Highway, 70127
www.suburbanbaptistchurch.org

CONSTRUCTION

Mackie One Construction.....(504) 821-1530
P.O. Box 850585, 70185
www.mackieoneconstruction.com
E-mail: info@mackieoneconstruction.com

COUNSELING

Mrs. Dora, Psychic Reader..... (504) 439-3540
10238 Chef Menteur Highway, 70127

DANCE STUDIOS

Studio G Dance & Gymnastics..... (504) 994-8857
9637 Chef Menteur Highway, 70127
www.studiogdanceandgymnastics.com
Email: studiog_dance@hotmail.com

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

HYPE Academy.....(504) 240-4973
5951 Bullard Avenue, 70128
www.hypeacademy.com
Email: hypeacademy@yahoo.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Fun Frenzy Laser Tag
6003 Bullard Ave, 70128
www.FunFrenzyLaserTag.com
Email: Funfrenzylasertag@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Cojoe's Tax and Financial Services.....(504) 245-3890
5703 Read Blvd., Suite H, 70127

FURNITURE

T. Lynn's Furniture.....(504) 248-2828
5741 Crowder Blvd., Suite B10, 70127
www.tlynnsfurniture.com

GIFTS & NOVELTIES

1st Lady Lingerie & Novelties.....(504) 242-2010
10800 Morrison Rd ., #110, 70127
www.1stladystore.com
Email: 1stladystore@gmail.com

HEALTHCARE

A World of Smiles Pediatric & Family Dentistry
7240 Crowder Blvd., Suite 100, 70127 ..(504) 264-5481
www.AWorldofSmilesNewOrleans.com
Email: info@aworldofsmilesneworleans.com

Dimitri Dermatology.....(504) 200-9901
9930 Lake Forest Blvd., 70127

DuBois Dentistry.....(504) 241-8457
5670 Hayne Blvd., 70126
www.duboisdentistry.com

Heart Center of New Orleans East.....(504) 523-9691
8030 Crowder Blvd., Suite B, 70127

Medical Center of Gentilly.....(504) 244-1991
7901 Downman Road, 70126

Xtreme Physical Therapy.....(504) 245-2483
5555 Bullard Ave., Suite 102, 70128

NOELA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

INSURANCE SERVICES

Noah W. Lewis & Associates.....(504) 754-1138
4640 S. Carrollton Ave., Suite 200A-1, 70119
www.noahlewisinsurance.com
Email: jason@noahlewisinsurance.com

Noah W. Lewis & Associates.....(504) 309-2992
10001 Lake Forest Blvd., Suite 512
www.noahlewisinsurance.com
Email: noah@noahlewisinsurance.com

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

East New Orleans Neighborhood Adv Commission
www.enonac.org.....(504) 218-5949
Email: info@enonac.org

NON-PROFITS

Friends of Joe Brown Park.....(504) 427-2596
www.friendsofjoebrownpark.org
Email: tangeyon@yahoo.com

PERSONALIZED PRODUCTS

Dee Jae Stitch4Me.....(504) 430-3389
www.deejaestitch4me.com
Email: dianne@deejaestitch4me.com

PET SERVICES

NOLA Animal Clinic.....(504) 241-6462
4554 Downman Rd., 70126
www.nolaanimalclinic.com
Email: NOLAAnimalClinic@aol.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Sinatra J. Photography.....(504) 416-3083
www.sjones.photorelect.com
Email: jonessinatra@yahoo.com

PRINTING SERVICES

Universal Printing.....(504) 244-1177
9900 Lake Forest Blvd Suite K, 70127
www.uvprintcenter.com
Email: print@uvprintcenter.com

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Destiny's Closet.....(504) 373-1885

REAL ESTATE

STK Realty, LLC.....(504) 244-7146
7048 E Tamaron Blvd., 70128
www.stkrealty.net
Email: poundsdebra@bellsouth.net

RECEPTION HALLS

Crystal Magnolia Country Club.....(504) 251-9788
7221 Curran Blvd., 70126
www.CrystalMagnoliaCountryClub.com
Email: nekithajohnson@yahoo.com

RESTAURANTS

Ma Momma's House of Cornbread, Chicken, and Waffles
5741 Crowder Blvd, Ste 3, 70127.....(504) 244-0021
www.mamommashouse.com

Orleans Quisine.....(504) 214-5203
5731 Bullard Ave., Suite 11, 70128

Papa John's Pizza.....(504) 244-7272
6003 Bullard Ave., 70128
www.papajohns.com
Email: knyttf@aol.com

Patio Restaurant.....(504) 240-6744
5540 Crowder Blvd., 70127

Salads Galore & More.....(504) 240-6552
7011 Read Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70127
www.saladsgalorenola.com

Tutti Frutti Frozen Yogurt.....(504) 234-4896
9954 Lake Forest Blvd., 70127

SUMMER CAMPS

Excite AllStars.....(504) 218-2607
www.exciteallstars.org

To Advertise in the NOELA Business Directory, call (504) 259-3927 or email info@NOELANews.com

City Council President Stacy Head and New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation Collaborate to Promote Eco- Tourism in New Orleans East

New Orleans, LA - A series of community meetings hosted by New Orleans City Councilmember-at-Large Stacy Head has resulted in a dynamic marketing campaign led by the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation (NOTMC) highlighting nature's bounty just 15 minutes outside of downtown. After hearing from New Orleans East residents that fishing, bird-watching, hiking, boating, and other outdoor leisure tourism has lagged since Hurricane Katrina, Councilmember Head called upon NOTMC leaders, web content developers, convention planners and others to develop a campaign centered on the abundance of eco-tourism activities available to New Orleans residents and visitors.

The centerpiece of the NOTMC campaign is a short video featuring local celebrity Lauren Thom, aka Fleurty Girl, showcasing Bayou Sauvage, the largest urban National Wildlife Refuge in the United States. The video is featured on NOTMC's YouTube channel, GoNOLA TV, and already has more than 600 views. The video can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUVz3NwxFTY>.

In addition to the promotional video, NOTMC has created a library of content that features the rich assets that New Orleans East has to offer. This content has led to national media interest, including a recent Huffington Post article entitled, "The Ultimate Guide to Getting Out of the French Quarter and appears on NOTMC's websites, which also features New Orleans East businesses and attractions like [Fort Pike](#), [Ba Mien Restaurant](#), [Captain Sal's Seafood & Chicken](#), [Deanie's on Hayne](#), [Dish on Hayne](#), [Pho Bang](#) and [Walker's Barbecue](#).

"I meet regularly with community leaders in New Orleans East, and the overwhelming takeaway from our conversations is that New Orleans East is ripe for tourism, for business and for retail," said Council President Stacy Head. "And although New Orleans' tourism is booming and visitor numbers are breaking records, New Orleans East has yet to reap the benefits. I am thrilled that the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation, led by Mark Romig, has made it a priority to share with the world the wonderful natural resources and tourism opportunities that exist just a short drive from the French Quarter in New Orleans East. It is our collective hope that tourists and locals alike will visit the area, explore nature's bounty, and patronize the great restaurants and businesses in New Orleans East."

NOELA Magazine is a quarterly publication by
NOELA Services, LLC.

Lisa G. Stafford is Publisher / Editor. Since 2006, Lisa has provided information on Business, Education, Healthcare, Real Estate, Neighborhoods, People, and Jobs in New Orleans East through various publications. Email info@NoelaNews.com or call (504) 259-3927 for more information.

Submissions: Submit articles (up to 300 words), news, events (up to 50 words), pictures (.jpg format) and comments to the email address above. Submissions may be edited or shortened to fit available space.

Subscribe: For a free email subscription, send an email with 'SUBSCRIBE' in the subject line, or click [here](#). Was this e-mail forwarded to you? [Join the NOELA e-mail list](#) to receive newsletters and important information from NOELA Services. **NOTE:** Add info@noelanews.com to your address book to insure delivery. For home delivery, click [here](#), send an email with 'HOME DELIVERY' in the subject line or mail the request to the postal address below.

Cancel: If you no longer wish to receive e-mails from NOELA Services, send an email with 'UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject line to info@NoelaNews.com, mail the request to the postal address below, or click [here](#).

Advertise: To advertise in *NOELA News* or inquire about rates, email 'Advertise' in the subject line, or click [here](#). Please note that there is no charge to publish Calendar Events.

Privacy: Your privacy is important NOELA Services will not share your personal information, opinions or comments with others without your permission.

Disclaimer of Endorsement: References to any specific persons, commercial products or services in NOELA publications do not necessarily constitute or imply their endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by NOELA Services. The views and opinions of authors expressed in NOELA Services publications do not necessarily state or reflect those of NOELA Services.

© 2014 NOELA Services, LLC.

11274 Midpoint Drive

New Orleans, LA 70128

(504) 259-3927 - Info@NoelaNews.com

All rights reserved. NOELA News and all other NOELA brands, product names and codes are trademarks of NOELA Services, LLC.