

What do you call your neighborhood?

STAKE YOUR CLAIM AND JOIN THE DEBATE

Beginning today at noon at nola.com/neighborhoods and Sunday in The Times-Picayune



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DAILY & BREAKING NEWS AT

Letten staffers guessed at online activity

But attorneys didn't report Perricone

By Andy Grimm
Staff writer

In the end, it might have been an oddly passive culture inside his office that misled former U.S. Attorney Jim Letten.

A scathing 167-page report — completed in 2013 but released this week by the Justice Department in response to a public records request — outlines the lengthy investigation into vitriolic online comments made by federal prosecutors.

The comments beneath stories on NOLA.com violated Justice Department policy and state rules for attorneys, the report found.

See **REPORT, A-9**

► Read the report at nola.com

Mid-City manhunt in state hands

Accused murderer escapes from van

By Jonathan Bullington and Helen Freund
Staff writers

Ten hours after a Mid-City manhunt began Tuesday for an accused murderer who broke out of a transport van, the Louisiana State Police has taken the lead in the search for Lorenzo Conner.

Conner, 24, was in the custody of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals at the time of his escape, department officials acknowledged Tuesday afternoon. He was on his way from an Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System in East

See **MANHUNT, A-8**

HOPING FOR CHANGE

With backing from a high-profile resident, Quarter police take a different strategy with transients



JULIA KUMAR DRAPKIN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A group hangs out Monday on Decatur Street near the Walgreens in the French Quarter. On Friday, a sweep of Decatur, Royal, St. Louis and Frenchmen streets netted 22 people arrested on 28 misdemeanor charges, the New Orleans Police Department said. Fifteen of the charges involved obstructing a sidewalk.

By Jonathan Bullington
Staff writer

In New Orleans' French Quarter, they are called many names: "Gutter punks," "dirty kids," "freight hoppers."

To some, they're an aggressive nuisance — one targeted by a recent police sweep fanned by businessman Sidney Torres' pocketbook and his task force.

To others, these men and women are just harmless transients, fixtures of city living.



Sidney Torres
Donated \$4,000 for targeted enforcement efforts

Sitting outside Walgreens on Decatur Street on Monday afternoon, they were David Anthony Marsh, "Michael Moore" and Frederick Dehn — and they were thirsty.

"Why didn't you get whiskey?" Marsh asked the other two, reaching out his hand to pass back a tall can of malt liquor.

See **ARRESTS, A-9**



Delino Alvarado counts out crumpled dollar bills on Monday. Police often get complaints of aggressive panhandling.

Reign ends at Quarter institution

Impastato sell Napoleon House to restaurateur Brennan



Sal Impastato
"It's tough" for family to leave, but it's time



Ralph Brennan
"Spectacular place" needs no renovation



KATHY ANDERSON / STAFF ARCHIVE

Built in 1814, the beloved Napoleon House figures in many a tale of New Orleansians and visitors.

By Todd A. Price
Staff writer

In 1920, Joseph Impastato paid \$14,000 for 500 Chartres St., a building constructed in 1814 as a home for New Orleans Mayor Nicholas Girod. It was, he would later say, the smartest decision he ever made.

Six years before, Impastato had opened a grocery at that address. That grocery became a bar. And that bar became the city fixture called the Napoleon House.

On April 30, the Impastato family will sell both the business and the building to New Orleans restaurateur Ralph Brennan — ending an ownership run of more than 100 years.

Joseph Impastato, who emigrated from the Sicilian town of Cinisi in 1900, ran the Napoleon House until he retired in 1945 at age 68.

See **NAPOLEON, A-8**

Loving Cup recipient: 'I'll keep earning this award'

Solomon given honor for his service

By John Pope
Staff writer

To the cheers of hundreds of his friends and family members who filled the Student Center at St. Michael Special School, Gary Solomon Sr. received The Times-Picayune Loving Cup for 2014 on Tuesday afternoon.

Calling the cup "the greatest honor of my life," the exuberant

Solomon beamed as he held it above his head like a golf trophy. "I'll keep earning this award."

The Loving Cup has been awarded since 1991 to recognize unselfish work by people who had no expectation of recognition or material award.

Solomon, 58, is a venture capitalist with a long list of organizations in which he has been active and to which he has contributed heavily. He said he chose St. Michael's for the ceremony because it was where he learned the importance of unending service.

The program began with songs by the school's bell and

voiced choir and a statement from Susan Munster, the school's principal, in which she described Solomon's willingness to lead a second fundraising campaign for the school: "When presented with the project and the tremendous commitment that accompanies it, Gary just smiled that smile and agreed to do whatever it took to see the endeavor through."

Solomon, the son of the movie-theater magnate and philanthropist Theodore "Teddy" Solomon, said he grew up feeling that community service is imperative.

See **LOVING CUP, A-10**



STAFF PHOTO

Gary Solomon Sr., left, receives the 2014 Loving Cup from Ricky Mathews, publisher of NOLA.com and The Times-Picayune, on Tuesday during a ceremony at St. Michael Special School.

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