

Councilmember Fielkow
Chairs the 2009 'March for Babies' Fundraising Walk

Event Supports March of Dimes Programs throughout Greater New Orleans

News Release

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Contact:
Kate Schneiderman
Office of
Councilmember-at-Large
Arnie Fielkow
Ph: 504-658-1063
Cell: 504-905-9893
krschneiderman@cityofno.com

Pam Cooper
Greater New Orleans
March of Dimes
Director
Ph: 504-836-2087
pcooper@marchofdimes.com

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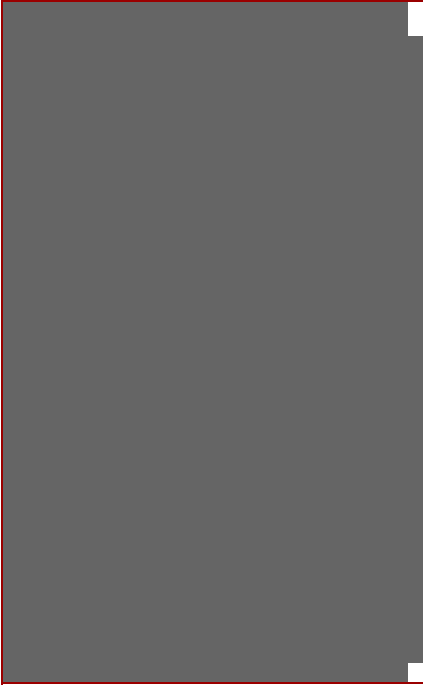


New Orleans, LA - April 17, 2009 - New Orleans City Council Vice President Arnie Fielkow, along with his wife Dr. Susan Fielkow, are the 2009 Chairs of 'March for Babies' to be held in LaSalle Park in Metairie on Saturday, April 25th.

Funds raised by 'March for Babies' in Greater New Orleans supports the March of Dimes NICU (newborn intensive care unit) Family Support Program at Ochsner Hospital and various prenatal education programs for women. LaSalle Park is located at 6600 Airline Drive in Metairie, Louisiana. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the march begins at 9:00 a.m.

"The most urgent infant health problem in the U.S. today is premature birth. It affects more than half a million babies each year, with the number growing every day," said Councilman Fielkow. "One day, all babies will be born healthy, but to achieve this, please join me and my wife at the 'March for Babies' walk to raise funds and awareness."

The March of Dimes issued a Report Card on Premature Birth, giving the nation a D and Louisiana an F. Babies born too soon are more likely to die or have disabilities. The March of Dimes is committed to reducing this toll by funding research to find the answers to premature birth and providing comfort and information to families who are affected. Roop Raj, News Anchor from WDSU TV will emcee the walk, which also includes a Second Line, music, great food and a children's activity tent for the whole family.



"This walk is an opportunity to teach our children the value of volunteering - how their gifts of time, energy and money, no matter the size, can have a big impact when they're supporting a worthy cause," added Dr. Susan Fielkow, 'March for Babies' Co-Chair. "And for families of all sizes and ages, supporting the cause of healthy babies is a perfect match!"

2009 'March for Babies' national sponsors include Kmart, CIGNA, Continental Airlines, Famous Footwear, Farmers Insurance Group of Companies, FedEx, First Response, Liberty Tax Services, Mead Johnson Nutrition and Ther-Rx.

To join in, visit www.marchforbabies.org, or call toll-free (800) 460-0865 to sign up as an individual, or to start a corporate, family or friends team, or to make a donation. Participants can also pick up sponsor forms at their local Kmart.

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.