

Media Advisory

July 17, 2009



**Councilmember Willard-Lewis
Announces Community Tour of
UNO Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Studies
Tomorrow in Lake Catherine Neighborhood**

What: District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis, along with the nonprofit Foundation for Coastal and Habitat Enhancement Studies, announces a community tour of the University of New Orleans (UNO) Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Science (PIES) to be held tomorrow. The facility, formerly the triplex boathouse, is located in the Lake Catherine neighborhood in District "E" and all community members and citizens are invited to attend.

The PIES will serve as a research facility for scientists and educators to study the marine life and aspects of the Pontchartrain estuary, all the way from Pass Manchac to the Chandeleur Islands. The facility will also provide classrooms for a program that will bring middle and high school students to the facility to introduce them to wetlands and marine biology.

The PIES facility features approximately 4,300 square feet of air conditioned labs and classrooms, along with a kitchen and dining space. The facility is also American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and equipped with an elevator.

Councilmember Willard-Lewis said, "This event is a great opportunity for the community to come in and view this great new facility before UNO moves in and begins operating. This is a true sign of the ongoing recovery and reinvestment in District E."

Who: District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis

Community members and residents

When: Saturday, July 18th
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Where: 21000 Chef Menteur Highway
(Click [here](#) for map)

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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 Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; 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.