

April 9, 2009

## Around the Industry: Real estate

by CityBusiness staff reports

A look at recent news, projects, hires, promotions and upcoming events involving the New Orleans metro area real estate industry.

### The week in review

- Top federal and state officials Monday announced a broad crackdown on mortgage modification scams, accusing "criminal actors" of preying on desperate borrowers caught up in the nation's housing crisis. To read more, click [here](#).

- A New Orleans woman and her son will be the first to get a trial for claims that government-issued trailers exposed many Hurricane Katrina victims to potentially hazardous fumes. rs" of preying on desperate borrowers caught up in the nation's housing crisis. To read more, click [here](#).

- Marc Cooper, a former director of the Vieux Carre Commission, died Sunday after a battle with a brain disease, the VCC said. To read more, click [here](#).

- A second business is opening with the aid of the Women's Business Resource Center. To read more, click [here](#).

- Oak Street is teeming with activity, but not of the sort that is of much immediate benefit to the merchants operating along the Riverbend corridor. To read more, click [here](#).

- Flood insurance is expected to get cheaper for Kenner residents, now that the city has been moved into a higher classification in the National Flood Insurance Program's community rating system, Kenner city officials said. To read more, click [here](#).

- The state is increasing the maximum size of elevation grants funded by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program from \$30,000 apiece to \$100,000. To read more, click [here](#).

- President Barack Obama's hurricane recovery chief, in just her first week on the job, said she sees her office playing a role in major issues that need coordination among agencies, such as affordable rental housing. To read more, click [here](#).

- Thanh Nguyen will soon give up the cramped travel trailer that's been her home for more than four years, pack her belongings into an old Toyota Corolla and rely on the kindness of others for a place to live. To read more, click [here](#).

- Louisiana doesn't yet have enough shelter space lined up for people who may be fleeing storms in the hurricane season that begins June 1, Social Services Secretary Kristy Nichols said Tuesday. To read more, click [here](#).

### Projects, deals

- The city said it has completed a \$4.5 million, 8-mile reconstruction of Patterson Drive in Algiers. To read more, click [here](#).

- Camellia Grill, a culinary landmark in New Orleans, will have a presence outside of New Orleans for the first time when it opens a location in Destin next week. To read more, click [here](#).

- A \$4.5 million, 34-unit apartment complex for senior citizens opened Thursday at 1420 Charbonnet

St., Mayor C. Ray Nagin's press office said. To read more, click [here](#).

- Covington-based Stirling Properties has been named the management and leasing firm for two Target-anchored centers in Louisiana as of April 1. The centers are the University Shopping Center in Shreveport and the River Marketplace in Lafayette.

## Events

- With environmental conditions prompting the green movement in the construction industry, the American Bar Association will hold a forum in New Orleans to address the growing popularity of sustainable building and alternative energy use in construction. To read more, click [here](#).

- The city is inviting the public to attend an open house to view designs for an upcoming \$370,000 streetscape enhancement project on General Meyer Avenue from Hendee Street to Odeon Avenue. To read more, click [here](#).

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