

Nagin

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leans," a mayoral campaign platform, to Nagin and Landrieu.

"This platform comes from the demands articulated by survivors at three national gatherings since September 2005, and by coalition groups working for 'Reconstruction with Justice in New Orleans,'" PHRF announced at the press conference.

Survivors are demanding access to housing, the reuniting of families, public safety and health, community based economic development and global competitiveness, restoration of public education, the rights of all workers and survivors' right to reconstruction jobs, environmental justice, and levee and waterway safety.

Leading the Houston affiliate is Malcolm Suber, a Katrina survivor, community activist and educator.

"Eight thousand families in Houston have been asked to pay their own freight, utilities, and many are not prepared. There is a looming crisis of homelessness. A number of lawsuits have been filed against independent landlords on behalf of tenants," Suber said.

"By October, over 300,000 will be cut off from FEMA assistance. FEMA has not set up housing except temporarily," he added, alluding to the law as outlined in the Stafford Act, which says government may provide housing up to 18 months.

"The June 1 deadline threatens to make about 50,000 homeless, while more than 300,000 are expected to be evicted on the anniversary of Katrina. FEMA announced this week that trailer residents may also be evicted if they fail to perform unspecified re-certification tasks every 60-90 days. And New Orleans' Housing Authority, under direct federal control, refuses to reopen public housing to over 36,000 displaced residents who lived there," an earlier release affirmed.

"FEMA-contracted job placement programs send people to unstable low-wage work, often regardless of skill. They've threatened survivors with eviction every few months," said Suber. "Where's the progress that makes it OK to end disaster housing? FEMA is on a schedule that has nothing to do with recovery."

The six-page campaign platform demands full justice for "Internally Displaced

Persons," as provided for in the U.S. government's "USAID Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons Policy."

The policy was designed to protect the human rights of people who are displaced as a result of a natural or man-made disaster.

"This U.S. policy, based on the United Nation's 'Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,' is intended for people in foreign countries. However, human rights are universal, and this policy should be applied to protect the human rights of U.S. residents who are displaced from their Gulf Coast communities," said PHRF organizers.

PHRF is seeking to assist other evacuees to form Hurricane Evacuee Councils and unite with the coalition to get justice for Katrina victims. Visit the website www.peopleshurricane.org or call (504) 931-7614.

"We are going door to door to help our neighbors from New Orleans navigate the broken system FEMA has implemented. Some of us are getting letters of ineligibility from FEMA even though our houses are destroyed back home. Others are worried that with this sudden cutoff we will be evicted or lose our apartments," says Dorothy Stukes, president of the ACORN Katrina Survivors Association.

"This is driving tenants and landlords into a panic. All we want is a stable place to live."

The Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now or ACORN is calling for FEMA to continue stable housing assistance, the non-profit announced in "Promises Made, Promises Broken," a reply which contained a list of demands around the upcoming evictions or, as social service practitioners say, "The end of FEMA's Temporary Housing Program."

ACORN demands that FEMA work with tenants and landlords in Houston so that there is a smooth transition to secure safe and stable housing for Katrina evacuees; that a clear and speedy appeal process be created and housing support continued during the appeal; that a process be established to prevent landlords from gouging Katrina evacuees with high rent prices and discriminating against them by requiring extensive credit and background checks.

ACORN is working with

allies in Washington, D.C., to change FEMA's policy on housing assistance.

"We cannot move forward from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina if FEMA chooses to leave behind those who need the most help. I am saddened to see that FEMA has neglected its duty, but I am more outraged that the American people are forced to bear the brunt of its poor decision making," said U.S. Rep. Al Green (D-Houston), who also sat on a House committee that investigated the feds' handling of the disaster.

"Our lives have already been shaken upside down, and we can't afford to be destabilized again," says Kemberly Samuels, leader of the ACORN Katrina Survivors Association.

"A bipartisan senate committee report called FEMA's response to Katrina totally dysfunctional and pointed out that New Orleans and other Gulf Coast residents

have paid the price in suffering and even loss of life. FEMA cannot be allowed to make another set of mistakes that threaten us with homelessness yet again. This is an outrage, and with ACORN we're taking action to resolve this problem," Samuels concluded.

The organization is encouraging all evacuees who want to appeal FEMA housing ineligibility letters or are having trouble with their landlords to call ACORN at (713) 868-7015.

Meanwhile, the job of African-American voters in New Orleans is not close to being finished, says Sylvain.

"The Black community must continue to remind the mayor that they were the base of his victory and not just an asset or component," he says. "But, they were the base, the key, the main"

Sylvain says only the future will determine whether Nagin will now distinguish himself from the mayoral

Bono: Africa must get rid of malaria

ARUSHA, Tanzania (AP) - Bono said Saturday that Africa must keep working to stop malaria, which kills more than 1 million people a year — many of them young children on the continent.

"In the 21st century, we have Africans using modern technology to find its own solutions to deadly malaria," the U2 frontman said during a visit to A to Z Textile Mills, which makes insecticide-treated bed nets to keep mosquitoes away.

He also urged more wealthy corporations to help "save lives of the poor people."

The 46-year-old Irish rocker, who has long complained that Africa's problems get little attention in the news, is on a 10-day tour of Africa that's already taken him to South Africa, Rwanda and Lesotho. He also planned stops in Nigeria, Mali and Ghana.

Malaria is spread by mosquitoes and causes racking pain, fever and, if left untreated, death. It is one of the leading communicable diseases in this East African country.

candidate who played to the White Republican vote four years ago.

"This will be determined by the policies he enacts, the staffing he puts in place; it will be determined by the neighborhoods that get de-

veloped," Sylvain says.

"One could argue that since the African-American community gave him 80 percent of their vote, that they should be first in line for the redevelopment efforts across the city."

Your Horoscope Says... May 25-31

ARIES

Guard your words this week, and let peace and harmony rule where they may. It's not the time to point out the character flaws of a higher-up. You can make this a very productive week if you apply your industrious spirit to your work.

Soul Affirmation: Facing down challenges makes me feel good about myself.

Lucky Numbers: 15, 23, 37

TAURUS

Make a move towards that someone that you've had your eye on! The timing couldn't be more perfect! Go slow and be subtly sweet. Your ability to charm and attract always works in your favor. Don't abuse it. Show off a new attitude.

Soul Affirmation: I let myself be the cheerful me.

Lucky Numbers: 34, 39, 46

GEMINI

Good deeds are in order this week. Perform all the random acts of kindness that you can. Everything you do this week is going to come back to you in triplicate, so enjoy storing up some future blessings.

Soul Affirmation: Another week in which to rejoice is upon me. ah-h-h-h!

Lucky Numbers: 2, 32, 45

CANCER

You can help out a friend this week if you plan your schedule so that you've got time for kindness built in! Embrace your generous side while getting your own work finished. You are excellent at multi-tasking.

Soul Affirmation: Old love? New love? The most important thing is true love!

Lucky Numbers: 26, 38, 41

LEO

You may want to make this week a schmooze-fest! Whether you go out to a party or stay in with a friend, you'll have a good time if you remember that charm is the only weapon that'll work for you this week.

Soul Affirmation: I work hard to combat envy this week.

Lucky Numbers: 11, 29, 33

VIRGO

Your vibrations could cause you to pause. That's good, because a pause is just what you need to remember to think of the positive. Reject the negative and you'll have a wonderful week.

Soul Affirmation: I give my mind a holiday again this week.

Lucky Numbers: 10, 17, 32

LIBRA

Rev up your engines. This is a fine week for making progress with projects that you've got in the works. Your energy is high and your mind is clear.

Use every advantage this week to finish up your work.

Soul Affirmation: What life has given me is sufficient to any task.

Lucky Numbers: 45, 47, 54

SCORPIO

A spirit of competition may be troubling you. Let it go. Celebrate differences and get on with the work of creating new hope in the world! Your tendency to speak without considering the full impact on others should be checked this week.

Soul Affirmation: I graciously anticipate joy and this gives me the ability to give

Lucky Numbers: 18, 19, 31

SAGITTARIUS

Confusion exists over some question, and every time you think you've

got the answer, circumstances will change and new information will come to your attention. Don't worry, things are going to clear up and work out. Take it easy.

Soul Affirmation: My smile is a radiant light to those I encounter.

Lucky Numbers: 30, 31, 52

CAPRICORN

Communications flow smoothly this week and your word is golden. A wild idea for moneymaking could come to you, but you should let the strictly material walk on by. Stick to your current plan and use your imagination for ways to streamline your work.

Soul Affirmation: Confusion gives me an opportunity to show my love.

Lucky Numbers: 13, 46, 48

AQUARIUS

Creative mental energy makes this a banner week. An ambition that you thought you had left behind years ago suddenly resurfaces, and you'll see similarities between what you are doing now and what you dreamed of back then.

Soul Affirmation: I give my brain full power this week.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 30, 47

PISCES

Understand that not everyone is as gifted as you are in communication, so be patient with others. Some may feel they are unable to approach you because they feel intimidated. Don't make others feel standoffish by the way you respond to their questions.

Soul Affirmation: He who asks might seem foolish for a while. He who doesn't ask may remain a fool forever.

Lucky Numbers: 22, 25, 29