

IT TAKES A PILLAGE Break out your eye patch
and join the pirates LAGNIAPPE



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SPORTS
**JULIAN
WRIGHT
COMING
INTO HIS
OWN**

**CHRIS ROSE'S 60-SECOND INTERVIEW
WITH WRIGHT IN LAGNIAPPE**

The Times-Picayune



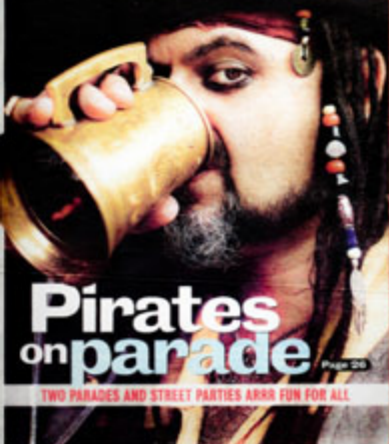
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BREAKING NEWS AT **NOLA.COM**

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AMY ADAMS AND
EMILY BLUNT
SHINE IN QUIET
'SUNSHINE
CLEANING'

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CHRIS ROSE:
HORNETS'
JULIAN WRIGHT
IS ON THE BAR



*Pirates invade New Orleans
for a parade, fun and fundraising*

STEWARDSHIP AHOY

By Maria Montoya
Staff writer

It's hard out there for a pirate. Across the briny deep — that's ocean in pirate-speak — pirates have made headlines recently by attacking ships at sea, earning them the rep of 21st-century gangsters of the waterways.

But, New Orleanians who see pirates roaming the French Quarter this weekend have nothing to fear.

NOLA Pyrate Week kicked off last week, but the nine-day event moves into high gear tonight with hundreds of pirates expected to parade from the R Bar on Royal Street in Faubourg Marigny, starting at 7 p.m., to a ball at the Skull Club. Down on Bourbon Street, the international members of Pyrate Con 2009 will host their annual weekend of workshops, re-enactments and a benefit auction for the Greater New Orleans First Responders Fund.

"We're so fortunate to have a deep pirate history and a love for costuming here in New Orleans," said Seika Groves, one of three locals who helped shipshape the local Pyrate Week. "We thought what a perfect place to bring together folks from around the world who love pirates while at the same time encouraging an awareness of our city and the progress we have yet to make."

The Pyrate Week parade's grand marshal is musician and artist Amzie Adams, and, in addition to costumed walking groups, the Noisician Coalition and the New Orleans Police Department Honor Guard will make an appearance in memory of narcotics detective Tommie Felix, who was killed when he drove off the Judge Seeber Bridge after a safety system failed.

Pyrate Con's parade will be



PHOTOS BY CHRIS GRANGER / THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

Local pirates who will be on parade include: top row, from left, Amzie Adams, J.D. Hill, Kathy 'Katy 9 Tales' Connolly and 'Lord David' Percival; bottom row, from left, Matt Vaughan Black, Susan 'Spooky LeStrange,' 'The Mysterious Capt. Sir Henry Martyn' aka Jonathan Weise, and Selka 'Hell Bound' Groves. On the cover: Edd 'Capt. John Swallow' Scorpio.

held Saturday at 6 p.m., making its way east from the corner of Bourbon and St. Ann streets to Decatur Street, then right on Decatur to Bienville Street and then returning to the main stage at Bourbon and Orleans streets.

Groves, whose pirate name is "HellBound," said that along with parties and parades, she and her fellow organizers, Claudia Gehrke ("Miz Mardi Claw") and Edd Scorpio ("Capt. John Swallow"), organized community service projects, including working with teams of volunteers at The Green Project in the Lower 9th Ward.

The pirates' motto is "Take what ye can... Give something back!" On Saturday, the group will do exactly that. They have gathered artists, musicians and merchants for a block party to benefit Felix's wife, Elise Felix, and their four children. DJ Captain Charles, NooMoon Tribe and The Ladies of Fleur de Tease — along with magi-

cians, face-painters, and trapeze artists — are scheduled to appear at a block party from 1 to 8 p.m. at The Avenue Pub on St. Charles Avenue.

"Tommie served for 17 years, sacrificing at times his home life to dedicate himself to narcotics cases that lasted from late-night into the morning hours," said Sgt. Richard Welch, who along with his wife and business owner, Cindy Welch, teamed up with the pirates to organize the benefit.

"It's nice when people come out and show their support for fallen officers who have served the city with their life," he said.

Elise Felix said she and the children plan to be among the pirates.

"The boys are so excited about it, and Tony, my 13-year-old son, plans to perform a couple of songs," she said. "To us, it's a real honor to know that the city that my husband so loved and cared about is returning the favor in his memory."

PIRATE FUN



NOLA PYRATE WEEK HOSTS FELIX FEST

What: As a part of Pyrate Week, organizers and friends of NOPD Detective Tommie Felix will host a memorial block party to benefit the Felix family.

When: Saturday from 1 to 8 p.m.

Where: The Avenue Pub, 1732 St. Charles Ave. at Polymnia Street.