

Ozarks gas prices approaching inflation-adjusted all-time high / 5A

# SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

FRIDAY  
September 2, 2005

News-Leader.com

Springfield, Missouri 500

**4 PAGES INSIDE:** Filth, anger fill New Orleans / 4A  
Springfield swings into action / 5A  
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**ONLINE UPDATES:** Interactive graphics and photo galleries from the Gulf Coast region. Click on this story at [News-Leader.com](http://News-Leader.com)

# 'Desperate SOS'

## Mayor's plea heralds New Orleans' descent into anarchy; scenes from Gulf illustrate misery's depth.

**Violence:** Medical helicopters, law officers come under fire.

**Promises:** 1,400 Guardsmen a day, \$10 billion from Congress.

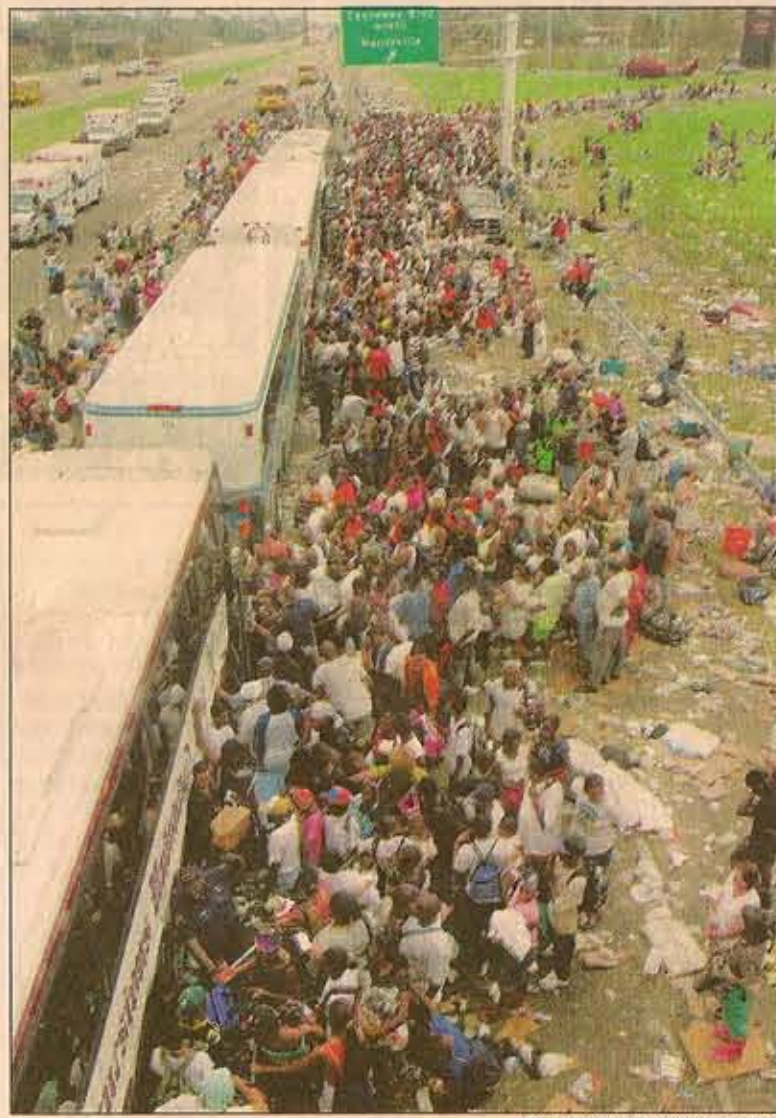
**Outrage:** City official calls U.S. effort a "national disgrace."

**Frustration:** Crowds waiting to leave city grow hostile.



M. SCOTT MAHASKEY / ARMY TIMES

**Superdome:** A woman is carried away after fainting while waiting with 30,000 other people to be evacuated.



DAVE MARTIN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Bus crush:** Thousands of New Orleans residents gather at an evacuation staging area along Interstate 10 in Metairie, La.



ERIC GAY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Some help arrives:** A military helicopter drops food and water to flood victims near the New Orleans Convention Center.



DAVID J. PHILLIP / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Survivors rescued:** Responders continued search-and-rescue operations, pulling people from floodwaters in New Orleans.



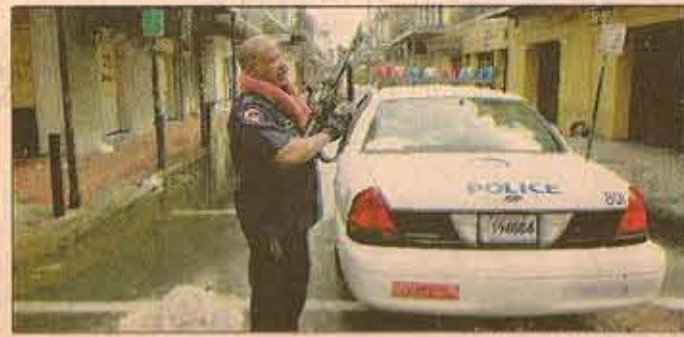
ERIC GAY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Death on the streets:** In a graphic testament to the city's helplessness, the body of a dead man rests on a lawn chair at the New Orleans Convention Center. The body was later covered with a blanket.



ERIC GAY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Convention center:** A SWAT team arrives to quell a hostile crowd waiting to be evacuated from New Orleans.



ERIC GAY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Restoring order:** An armed New Orleans police officer keeps watch over a section of the French Quarter.



ERICH SCHLEGEL / DALLAS MORNING NEWS

**Astrodome:** Evacuee David Reed and family arrive at their new temporary home Thursday in Houston.



DENIS PAQUIN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Salvage:** Freddy Gutierrez (left) and Francisco Ordoniz sift through the rubble of one of the scores of Biloxi, Miss., homes destroyed by Katrina.

### How to help in the Ozarks

You can help refugees both locally and on the Gulf Coast by donating to these agencies:

American Red Cross, 832-9500; Salvation Army, 862-5509; Victory Mission, 831-6387; Crosslines, 869-0563; Convoy of Hope, 823-8998; Healing Quilt Project, 865-4358.

#### WHAT THEY NEED

All the agencies will accept money. Donate clothing, new personal items and nonperishable food to Salvation Army, Crosslines and Victory Mission. If time is what you can offer, answer phones at the Red Cross,

sort clothing at the Victory Mission or stack food at Crosslines. For other ideas on how to help, see pages 5A and 9A.

Other national organizations include Catholic Charities USA, (703) 549-1390; Church World Service, 1-800-297-1516; Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief, 1-800-462-8657, Ext. 6440; and United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1-800-554-8583.

#### Only online

• **Links** to aid organizations and discussion boards for contacting friends and family. Click on this story at [News-Leader.com](http://News-Leader.com)

## Branson extends offers of help

### From food for people and dogs to housing, the community works to aid refugees from Katrina.

By Kathryn Buckstaff  
KBUCKSTAFF@NEWS-LEADER.COM

BRANSON — More than 200 Branson business owners spent two hours Thursday coordinating myriad efforts to help victims of Hurricane Katrina, dozens of whom have already arrived here.

Jemille Twedt, leader of Branson Girl Scout Troop 313, said her girls are begging to help.

"We really know how to col-

lect money," she offered. And she challenged other Girl Scout troops to follow suit.

Entertainers announced a benefit concert. Hotel and restaurant owners offered free lodging and meals. Church pastors are creating a directory of volunteers willing to adopt families into their own homes. And the city of Branson is compiling a list of available jobs.

In an amazing moment of syn-

ergy, dog trainer Angela Walker stood up in the meeting at Presleys' Country Jubilee Theater and said she has room in her kennel to house 10 more dogs. Next, Realtor Bob Huels stood and said he'd planned to open a pet shop and has, literally, a ton of dog food he would donate to Walker. Then, someone in the center of the theater pointed to Benny Levy who arrived in Branson on Sunday from New Orleans. "He has four dogs that need shelter."

Levy came to Branson with his mother, Jeanne Levy. Levy's

sister, Linn O'Leary, who used to live in Branson, also is here.

Levy had to leave his wife, Kathy, behind when they fled the hurricane because she is an administrator in a small hospital in St. Bernard Parish and had to stay to help patients, he said.

"This morning was the first time I heard she was alive," Levy said. "Right now, she's standing on a levee waiting to be picked up, but she's OK."

Later in the afternoon, he got a call saying his wife and the

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### Weather

**90°** A brief shower or afternoon thunderstorm is possible. **2A**  
**64°** Precipitation: 20%

Sapphires in every color of the rainbow... except red\*

\*The red ones are called rubies.

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A GANNETT NEWSPAPER  
VOL. 115, NO. 245  
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