

FESTIVAL FORECAST

SUNDAY HIGH **69**°

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DAILY & BREAKING NEWS AT

Did former health chief lie at hearing?

By Laura Maggi Staff writer

After Bruce Greenstein took the helm of the state Department of Health and Hospitals in September 2010, he made

"hundreds of phone calls" and exchanged thousands of

text messages" with a former



employer seek-**Bruce Greenstein** Resigned from DHH amid

ing a lucrative agency contract, Gov. Bobby Jindal's administracontroversy tion said last over contract month.

In a letter to Client Network Services Inc., a state official explained that the state took away the contract almost two years after awarding it because these interactions "created an unfair advantage."

That finding sharply contrasts with earlier assertions by Greenstein — some made under oath in a state Senate confirmation hearing - that he had limited involvement with the contract and the companies vying to win it.

With both federal and state investigators now looking at the contract, the administration's new assertions raise questions

See GREENSTEIN, A-6

Cops called to defuse Brennan's squabble

Fight erupts among famed eatery's owners

By Susan Langenhennig

A family power struggle for control of the beleaguered Brennan's restaurant in the French Quarter erupted recently, and police had to be called in to diffuse the situation, according to a lawsuit filed in Orleans Parish Civil District Court.

The argument, described in court papers as a "stand-off" in which some parties refused to leave the premises "absent

See BRENNAN'S, A-17

Under sunny skies, Fleetwood Mac and Frank Ocean helped close out a cool, bright muddy Saturday

but muddy Saturďay



REPORTS POSTED THROUGHOUT THE DAY > notateom

COMPLETE ELECTION RESULTS A-16 NOLA.COM/ELECTIONS

Voters decide to put an end to tolls on river bridge

The second time is the charm for energetic anti-toll effort

By Andrea Shaw

Drivers traversing the Crescent City Connection will continue to have a toll-free commute, after voters overwhelmingly rejected a 20-year toll extension Saturday in the second referendum on the issue.

It was a major victory for the fledgling anti-tolls effort unsuccessfully fought a \$250,000 pro-tolls campaign last November, then sued over that vote that led to Saturday's election.

Although turnout was light in Orleans, Jefferson and Plaquemines parishes for the low-profile election, the margin opposed to the measure was clear. Voters rejected the toll extension by a huge margin, 78 percent to 22 percent. Mike Teachworth, the Harvey civic activist

who filed the legal challenge that set the course for Saturday's second vote on the issue, said the West Bank came together and stood up for itself. "All of these people came together, the citizens

who stood up and fought. It's a great day for the West Bank," he said. "It feels good, all of these people here because they are standing up for the place where they live.' In the initial ballot in November, the referendum passed by just 18 votes out of more than

308,000 ballots. Bridging Progress, a political action committee of business, civic and elected leaders, raised \$250,000 to tout the need for the tolls in radio, television and direct-mail ads. Teachworth challenged the outcome of the November election, seeking a recount and nul-

lification. He questioned the razor-thin outcome, arguing that hundreds of legally registered voters were not allowed to vote on the referendum when they were given provisional ballots restricting their participation to federal elections. Judge William Morvant of the 19th Judicial

District in Baton Rouge ordered a recount in

See TOLLS, A-17

Pro bono champion garners Loving Cup



MICHAEL DEMOCKER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The Times-Picayune Loving Cup recipient for 2012, Mark Surprenant, was chosen for his volunteerism and pro bono legal work.

Lawyer initiates charitable activities

By Mary Kilpatrick

Staff writer Attorney Mark Surprenant sat in his kitchen, surrounded by flowers and dishes

of lasagna, overwhelmed by generosity. His wife, Monica, had suffered a life-threatening brain aneurysm that weekend in late

2002, and doctors predicted

that she might not live.

His friends' support touched him deeply. Though Surprenant, a partner in the Adams and Reese law firm since 1982, couldn't imagine eating all of those casseroles — he didn't even like lasagna — he felt both grateful and stunned by the comfort his family received. With neighbors rallying around them, his wife made an almost

complete recovery. Surprenant realized then how much well-wishers wanted to help and began thinking of ways to channel that kindhearted concern into more organized avenues.

A-5

That year, Surprenant established SOLACE, a statewide network that now has more than 8,000 members lending support to people in the legal community during life-chang-

ing situations. SOLACE - for "support of lawyers and legal personnel, all concern encouraged" - has helped hundreds of Louisiana lawyers, judges, paralegals and

secretaries through difficult The program is just one of Surprenant's service-driven initiatives - he is also the founder

See LOVING CUP, A-14

To read profiles of past Loving Cup winners, go to nota.com (nota)



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