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## **LOOKING BACK: AUGUST 29, 2005**

By Richard Schulte

On Saturday, August 27, 2005, Mayor Ray Nagin ordered the evacuation of New Orleans after it became clear that a monster hurricane, Hurricane Katrina, was going to slam into the Gulf Coast somewhere near New Orleans. Around 6:30 A.M. on Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the coastline of Mississippi destroying everything directly in its path.

As the storm moved inland, calm returned to the coast and a sense of relief that New Orleans still existed and had sustained relatively minor damage descended on the nation. It was party time once again in New Orleans.

A few hours later, it was reported that the backyards of homes located along the levees which protect New Orleans from flooding were filling up with water. The storm surge had damaged the levees and a sense of foreboding descended as the city slowly began to fill up with water that afternoon.

The damage caused along the East Coast by Hurricane Irene over the weekend overshadows the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina today, but the havoc caused by Katrina six years ago is still fresh in the minds of the people who lived along the Mississippi and Louisiana Gulf Coast in 2005.

Thankfully, the historical district in New Orleans, the French Quarter (and St. Charles Avenue), survived both the winds of Katrina and the flooding of New Orleans.

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