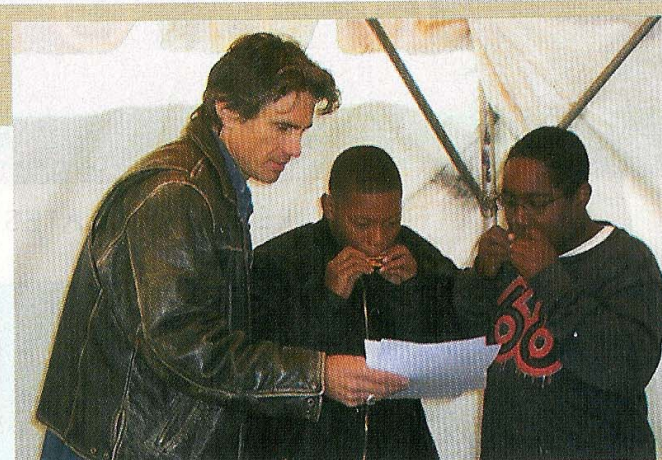


HARMONIKIDS Katrina Relief Project

Gary Allegretto's Harmonikids is a non-profit organization that provides music therapy to special needs children by giving them new harmonicas and music lessons. In early 2005 Allegretto took 1000 harmonicas to children in orphanages and refugee camps in the most devastated areas of the Tsunami in North Sumatra. On December 11, 2005, he took another 1000, donated by Hohner, to Renaissance Village, a former cow pasture on the outskirts of Baker, Louisiana, where 573 trailers are spread across 62 acres.



Gary Allegretto works to teach hurricane victim children living in Renaissance Village how to play the harmonica.

UPDATE Chicago City Council Passes Non-Smoking Ordinance

The Chicago City Council committee passed an amended non-smoking ordinance before Christmas that will affect all public indoor places in the city. It includes a compromise that forces all indoor facilities and restaurants to be smoke-free by February 1, 2006. Restaurant-bars and taverns were given two and a half years to

THE DOZENS

By Jim DeKoster

While more commonly dealing with love gone wrong or right, the blues has always taken note of disasters like the hurricanes of 2005. The list that follows presents a dozen of those songs spanning more than three-quarters of a century, with topics ranging from natural disasters like floods, droughts and insects to such man-made tragedies as riots and terrorist attacks:

1. *Back Water Blues*—Bessie Smith, Columbia 14195 (1926)
2. *High Water Everywhere*—Charley Patton, Paramount 12909 (1929)
3. *Dry Spell Blues*—Son House, Paramount 12990 (1930)
4. *Ice And Snow Blues*—Peetie Wheatstraw, Bluebird 5626 (1931)
5. *The Natchez Fire*—Gene Gilmore, Decca 7763 (1940)
6. *Boll Weevil*—Baby Face Leroy, Parkway (1950)
7. *Texas Flood*—Larry Davis, Duke 192 (1958)
8. *Hurricanes Carla And Esther*—Lightning Hopkins, Arhoolie LP 1017 (1961)
9. *The Motor City Is Burning*—John Lee Hooker, Blues Way LP 6012 (1967)
10. *St. Louis Cyclone*—Joe & Ethel McCoy, Swingmaster LP 2106(1981)
11. *Ice Storm Blues*—Big Jack Johnson, Rooster Blues R60 (1994)
12. *Something In The Sky*—Michael Hill, Ruf CD 1088(2003)

ems were given two and a half years to install an air filtration system that could maintain the same air quality indoors while patrons are smoking as the outdoor air quality surrounding the establishment. While the compromise pleased many, not everyone was happy.

“We’re pleased with the City Council is recognizing the dangers of second-hand smoke, but we’re disappointed that for some classes of workers that it’s going to take them up to two and a half years to be protected,” said Joel Africk of the American Lung Association.

LB contributing writer Deitra Farr was at the council meeting in support of her friend Pat “Soul” Scaggs (see **LB** #180 *Artist To Artist*), who had just died from lung cancer as a result of second-hand smoke. Farr passed out copies of **LB** to all of the council members before the vote.

CORRECTION:

The pictures of Floyd Dixon in **LB** #181 should have been credited to photographer Astor Morgan, not Astor Martin.