

Katrina Continues to Hug Headlines - MabuhayRadio

Written by Bobby Reyes

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Hurricane Katrina continues to hug headlines, both on the Internet and on the hardcover editions of the country's major newspapers. The twin articles about Katrina in the www.mabuhayradio.com are very timely. Here is the latest controversial report from the Associated Press headlined "Katrina Still Killing?"

NEW ORLEANS - (Associated Press, June 3, 2007) The bodies are no longer being dragged from houses and buildings toppled by Hurricane Katrina, but nearly two years later many in the medical community think the storm is still killing. Storm survivors are dying from the effects of both psychological and physical stress, from the dust and mold still in dwellings to financial problems to fear of crime, health experts and officials say.

"There is no doubt in my mind that Katrina is still killing our residents," Orleans Parish coroner Dr. Frank Minyard said this week. "People with pre-existing conditions that are made worse by the stress of living here after the storm. Old people who are just giving up. People who are killing themselves because they feel they can't go on," Minyard said.

Calls for more study of storm's impact

Some say an in-depth federal analysis is needed, despite a new state report that found no

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significant increase in deaths in the New Orleans area from January 2006 through June 2006. The state Department of Health and Hospitals is still compiling figures for the last six months of 2006.

Dr. Raoult Ratard, the state epidemiologist, said "the only slight increase" in deaths was in the first three months of 2006 in Orleans Parish.

To read the Associated Press story in its entirety, please go to: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19002895/?GT1=10056>

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