

SPRING 2019

# HANO news



*The Grand Opening of the Sacred Heart at St. Bernard Apartments*

## Housing Development & Community Engagement Forefront of Agency's Forward Movement

### IN THIS ISSUE:

New Affordable Housing in the 7th Ward

Mayor Cantrell Joins HANO in Recognizing 2018 Resident Honorees

Providence Cuts Ribbon on TrainingGrounds' New Indoor Play Space

# CONTENTS



- 3 Letter from the Executive Director
- 4 New Affordable Housing in 7th Ward
- 5 Pictorial: The Transformation of Sacred Heart at St. Bernard
- 6 HANO's Resident Success Story: Jocquelyn Marshall
- 6 HANO Bids Farewell to HUD New Orleans Field Office Director Earl Randall
- 7 Pictorial: HANO's 2018 Breast Cancer Awareness March
- 8 Mayor Cantrell Joins HANO in Recognizing 2018 Resident Honorees
- 9 Pictorial: Bienville Basin Hosts 2018 Back to School Spirit Week
- 10 Bell Artspace Campus Wins Best Historic Rehab
- 10 A Tricentennial Celebration: Bienville Basin Through History
- 12 Fischer Opens Food Bank for its Residents
- 12 HANO Hosts Inaugural Section 3 Business Mixer
- 12 New Orleans Saints, YMCA Host Turkey Day Giveaway
- 13 Pictorial: 2018 Night Out Against Crime at HANO Communities
- 14 Providence Cuts Ribbon on TrainingGrounds' New Indoor Play Space
- 14 NeighborWorks Selects Providence Staff Member for Achieving Excellence Program
- 15 Pictorial: HANO Communities Celebrate the 2018 Holiday Season
- 16 HANO Communities Host After School Enrichment Programs
- 17 2019 Day of Service: Dillard University Kicks Off 150th Anniversary
- 18 Crime Prevention Corner: Mardi Gras Safety Guide
- 19 HANO in the News

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**T**hank you for picking up the winter 2019 edition of **HANO news**, a newsletter featuring updates on our programs and development activity.

We have been extremely busy celebrating new construction and spearheading enhanced community supportive services for our clients and their families.

During a very productive 2018, HANO celebrated the completion of housing units at the Sacred Heart at St. Bernard community and the Bell Artspace Campus where both host project-based vouchers for low income citizens. The agency is also preparing to break ground on off-site units located directly adjacent to the Bienville Basin community, and will soon kick-off construction on several scattered site properties throughout the City.

HANO recently partnered with the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development, Historic Preservation Division, the City of New Orleans and HRI Properties to unveil historic banners touting the history and transformation of the former Iberville Public Housing Development and the Tremé neighborhood. The project offers a timeline of this historic community in honor of the City's 300th Anniversary, with banners that provide visitors with context on its past as Storyville, and now as an urban mixed-income community.

We are very proud of our administrative and management successes over the last year. The Agency received its first clean financial audit since going into federal receivership, and continues to maintain its standard performer designation under the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) since returning to local control. In addition, after restructuring the entire HCVP Department to ensure more enhanced customer service, HANO was subsequently rated as a high performer by HUD's Section 8 Management Assessment Program.

HANO continues to maintain its commitment in building healthy families. Within this issue, we highlight several programs that residents of all ages utilize daily. Branching from resident entrepreneurial initiatives to growing small businesses, we continue to connect minority business owners with major developers and management companies. We also collaborate with our partners in offering ongoing supportive services that link non-working clients with the tools necessary for job readiness and that encourage long-term resident self-sufficiency.

Although we boast a successful 2018, our steadfast commitment to enhancing programs and providing supportive services while engaging the community remains at the forefront of our forward movement. Stay tuned!

*- Gregg Fortner*



**Gregg Fortner**  
Executive Director

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*The new Sacred Heart at St. Bernard Apartment Homes*

## NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN 7TH WARD

The transformation of the former Sacred Heart Church adds 53 units to the city’s affordable housing stock in St. Bernard neighborhood

In the midst of an affordable housing crisis across the country, 53 low income families have a new mixed-income community to call home in New Orleans. Providence Community Housing recently partnered with Columbia Residential to rehabilitate the former Sacred Heart Church, located at 1720 St. Bernard.

Mayor LaToya Cantrell joined Councilmember Jared Brossett, community leaders, residents, and housing advocates to celebrate the grand opening of Sacred Heart at St. Bernard with a ribbon cutting ceremony last October. The multi-family community is located in the Seventh Ward neighborhood near the Faubourg Lafitte community and within the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) footprint.

“Housing affordability is at a crisis point in New Orleans, making projects like this one vitally important,” said Mayor LaToya

Cantrell. “I am proud of the partnership Providence Community Housing and Columbia Residential provided to the City, and glad to see the grand opening of Sacred Heart at St. Bernard. We want to seize every opportunity to improve the quality of life for our people—and a big part of that is access to quality housing.”

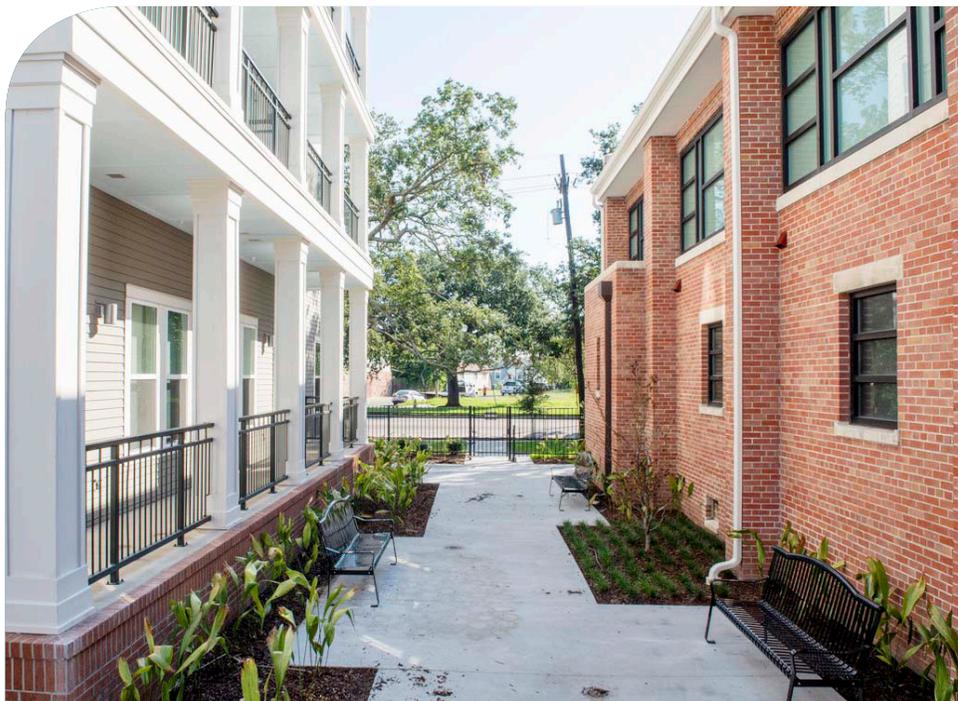
Built in 1955 and long vacant, the church has been renovated, and now includes a community living room, mail room and six rental units. The design team, JHP Architecture and Gulf Engineers & Consultants, preserved much of the church’s architectural elements, such as the 25-foot arched ceiling, exposed brick, stone carvings with religious iconography, and brass pendant lighting. In two units, confessionals were converted to nooks for studying or dining, while the church tower and choir loft were each transformed into apartments with creative floor plans.

Adjacent to the church, a new four-story

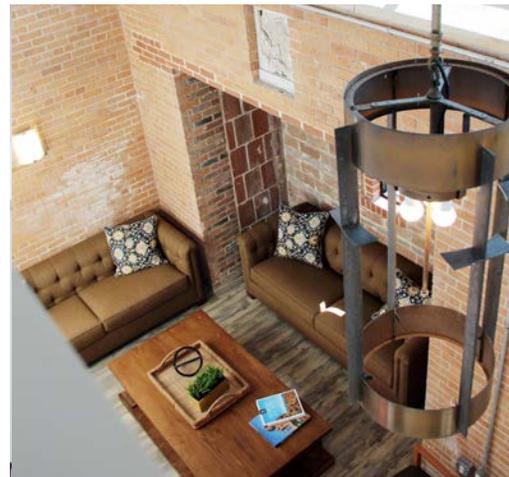
building was constructed with additional residential units, bringing the community total to 53 one and two bedroom apartments and more than 65,000 square feet. Residents also enjoy amenities such as Energy-Star appliances, on-site laundry facilities, a fitness center, business center, and off-street parking. The new community is located along the 51 and 52 St. Bernard-St. Anthony/St. Bernard-Paris Avenue bus lines.

Forty-four units are designated for residents who make below 60 percent of the area median income while the remaining nine units are market rate. The first floor of the new building houses approximately 4,200 square feet of retail space, and serves as the hub for 826 New Orleans, a non-profit youth creative writing organization.

For more information on the Sacred Heart at St. Bernard Apartments, visit [www.providencecommunityhousing.org](http://www.providencecommunityhousing.org).



The new Sacred Heart community features a courtyard lined with benches for its residents



Select units at Sacred Heart feature 25-foot arched ceilings and exposed brick walls



Councilmember Jared Brossett makes brief remarks during the grand opening celebration



Mayor Cantrell speaks about the need for quality, affordable housing during the ceremony



Artwork from local artists is showcased throughout the hallways of the new facility (Photo Credit: Providence)



Each unit at the Sacred Heart Apartments includes Energy Star Appliances



Residents can take advantage of a number of amenities, including a gym facility



Guests view a map of the Sacred Heart Apartments and its surrounding neighborhood (Photo Credit: Providence Community Housing)

**PICTORIAL:**

**THE TRANSFORMATION OF SACRED HEART AT ST. BERNARD**

# HANO'S RESIDENT SUCCESS STORY: JOCQUELYN MARSHALL



*Former public housing resident Jocquelyn Marshall*

In recognition of the resilience and determination of former public housing residents, the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) proudly shares the story of former C.J. Peete resident, Jocquelyn Marshall.

Jocquelyn Marshall became a resident of the former C.J. Peete Public Housing Development at a very early age. "Growing up in public housing exposed me to the real world, the good and the bad. However, I am very thankful for my upbringing because I attribute much of my success to growing up in public housing," said Marshall.

After living in public housing for most of her life, Marshall was no longer in need of housing assistance, and eventually rented her own apartment with her son as a market rate tenant within the Harmony Oaks community. Marshall remained active in the community by serving as the President of the Harmony Oaks Neighborhood Association and HANO's Resident Advisory Board after Hurricane Katrina.

"Transitioning from public housing to a market rate tenant was one of my best achievements. Through case management services offered through Urban Strategies, I developed a five-year Individual Development Plan to reach my goals," said Marshall.

In 2008, Marshall also took on another role at Harmony Oaks as the Manager of their community center in partnership with Urban Strategies, Inc. She was eventually promoted to the Associate Project Manager position, which allowed her to travel extensively on behalf of the organization. Marshall currently serves as a Community Liaison for Urban Strategies, where she provides resident services and advocacy while also utilizing

her consulting skills.

Throughout her career, Marshall has created a number of small businesses, including a special event planning business through HANO's RETI Program and a maintenance company. However, to follow her true passion, she launched Transforming Minds and Communities (TMC) Global Consulting Network, LLC. in 2012, where she serves as a national community redevelopment consultant providing technical assistance to HUD's CNI grantees. Utilizing her leadership training curriculum, she also assists resident leadership groups and partners as they transition to mixed-income housing communities.

"There's one thing constant in life, and that's change - some we can prepare for and others may hit us by surprise," said Marshall. "As for me, I will continue to deal with change through constant learning, educating others, and assisting residents in recognizing their potential and following their dreams. I look forward to sharing my personal experience living in public housing and my role in sustaining communities in my upcoming book, *21st Century Community Leader*."

# HANO BIDS FAREWELL TO HUD NEW ORLEANS FIELD OFFICE DIRECTOR EARL RANDALL



*Former HUD New Orleans Field Office Director Earl Randall*

Recently, HANO officials joined HUD Regional Staff, City of New Orleans staff and other housing professionals to wish Earl Randall well as he transitions into a new position outside of the agency. Late last year, Randall announced his departure to join IEM Leadership as their Director of Community Development

Attendees congratulated Randall on his extraordinary 18 years of service with HUD. Prior to joining IEM's leadership team, Randall held the position of Field Office Director for Louisiana. He also coordinated housing recovery functions, and led disaster recovery efforts throughout Louisiana. Randall also held the position of senior disaster specialist.

IEM Leadership is a minority, woman-owned business focused exclusively on emergency management while providing expanded disaster preparedness, response, and recovery solutions. Their range of services and solutions are formulated to strengthen homeland security defense, counterterrorism, and enhance public agency performance.

Block Grants – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Compliance and Monitoring Department.



HANO employees join the Zulu Tramps for a second line to recognize cancer survivors and fighters last October



A HANO employee proudly dons pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month



HCVP employees wear pink tutus in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Breast Cancer survivors and fighters shared their stories of faith and triumph in the HANO Board Room



A HANO employee leads the second line parade with the Zulu Tramps in tow



HANO team members recognized cancer survivors with NOLA-themed t-shirts



HCVP employees recognize cancer survivors and fighters by decorating pink pumpkins



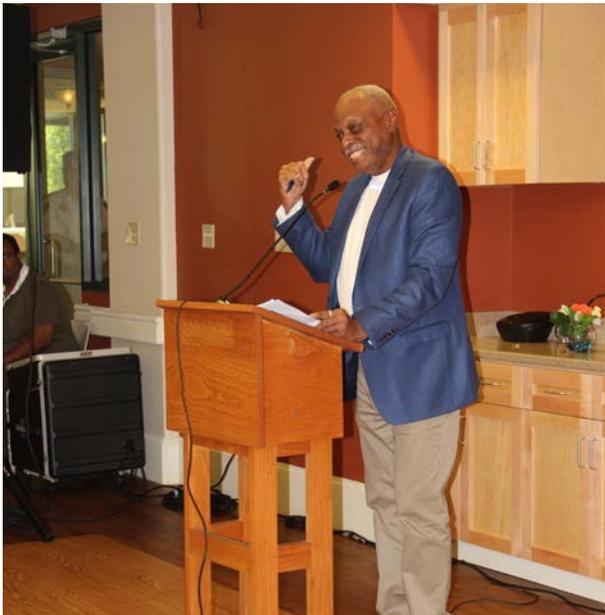
HANO employees pictured with the Zulu Tramps after the second line parade

**PICTORIAL:**

**HANO'S 2018 BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MARCH**



Mayor LaToya Cantrell greets resident honorees and their parents prior to the award ceremony at the Lafitte Senior community



HANO Executive Director Gregg Fortner provided brief remarks during the resident recognition ceremony

# MAYOR CANTRELL JOINS HANO IN RECOGNIZING 2018 RESIDENT HONOREES

Resident empowerment and economic sustainability remains a priority of the Housing Authority of New Orleans. To continue this mission, the Agency recently celebrated the academic and career achievements of housing program participants during a resident recognition event.

Mayor LaToya Cantrell joined the honorees, along with their families and HANO staff, as they were recognized for their accomplishments. Twenty-five students with a final grade point average of 3.0 during the 2017-2018 school year were honored as a part of the agency's scholastic program.

HANO began the scholastic honors program in 2015 to encourage youth to achieve high academic marks. HANO selected the honorees from participants in last

year's College Tour Program and/or the Agency's Summer Employment Program.

The agency also presented six recipients a HUD Choice Neighborhoods Initiative Scholarship. Recipients plan to attend an accredited two- or four-year college or university, or trade or technical school.

Finally, HANO honored four new, small business owners for their completion of the Inaugural Resident Entrepreneur Training Initiative (RETI) 10-week program, in partnership with Start Smart LLC. This program offered an intensive entrepreneur training curriculum providing guidance on how to enhance individual strategies for the innovative new, business owner.



Mayor Cantrell and the CEO of Start Smart LLC, Norman D. Roussell pictured with 2018 graduates of HANO's Resident Entrepreneur Training (RETI) Program



Shine Time performed a dance routine during Bienville Basin's Back to School Spirit Week



Bienville Basin residents and neighbors showcased the latest uniform fashions during a runway show



Bienville Basin hosted a school supply giveaway and resource fair during the 2018 Spirit Week



Kids enjoyed a seminar on leadership and goal setting in preparation for the 2018-19 school year



Residents enjoyed food and music during the final day of Spirit Week



Students received free haircuts during the Back to School event



Students painted canvases for the Bienville Basin Library



NOPD officers spoke during the last day of spirit week

**PICTORIAL:**

**BIENVILLE BASIN HOSTS 2018 BACK TO SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK**

## BELL ARTSPACE CAMPUS WINS BEST HISTORIC REHAB



The Bell ArtSpace Apartments, the former campus of Andrew J. Bell School, recently won Affordable Housing Finance Magazine’s 2018 Readers’ Choice Award for best historic rehab project.

“We are honored to accept the 2018 Readers’ Choice Award for best historic rehab project from Affordable Housing Finance Magazine alongside our friends and partners, Artspace,” said Terri North, president and CEO of Providence Community Housing. “Bell School Apartments is the realization of hard work, creativity, and a commitment to high-quality work.”

Construction of the affordable live/work building for artists began in April 2016, and was completed two years later at a cost of \$37.4 million. The new Bell Artspace facility consists of 60 affordable units for artists, 19 units for HANO residents, and 2,000 square feet of commercial/community space. Cost of rent ranges from \$260 to \$727 a month.

Funding partners include The Kresge Foundation; The Ford Foundation; Stavros Niarchos Foundation; Gibbs Construction; ArtPlace America; The Greater New Orleans Foundation; and J.P. Morgan Chase Bank.



## A TRICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: BIENVILLE BASIN THROUGH HISTORY

Last year marked the City’s 300th anniversary, and a time full of celebrations recognizing the rich history, unique traditions, and diverse culture of New Orleans. Mayor LaToya Cantrell and HANO Executive Director Gregg Fortner joined officials from the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, HRI Properties and HUD to unveil a series of banners depicting the history of Basin Street at the Bienville Basin Community.

Installed on steel posts along the 300 block of Basin Street, the banners provide a history lesson on the Tremé

neighborhood - highlighting the site’s original Storyville neighborhood in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s; the development and demolition of the former Iberville Housing Development; and the current \$600 million Bienville Basin Community. The banners are displayed in both English and French.

“The banners being unveiled on Basin Street are a fitting addition to our City’s Tricentennial celebration,” said Mayor Cantrell. “The history of Storyville is a crucial part of the story of New Orleans, and this project is a beautiful and unique way of telling that story.”



Mayor Cantrell, former HUD New Orleans Field Office Director Earl Randall, and HANO Executive Director Gregg Fortner pictured with officials from the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development and Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office.



Originally the site of the Storyville neighborhood from 1897 until its closure in 1917, the city demolished several of its buildings in the 1930s to make way for the Iberville Development. Only three buildings remain in the neighborhood, including Lulu White's Saloon on Basin Street, Frank Early's My Place Saloon on Bienville Street, and Joe Victor's Saloon on St. Louis Street. The former Iberville Housing Development was constructed in the 1940s and included 75 residential buildings with 858

units. In 2011, HANO received a \$30.5 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to rehabilitate the former Iberville Development into mixed-income neighborhoods with access to schools, transportation, and jobs. Demolition of the Iberville buildings began in 2013, and led to the development of the Bienville Basin community. Building remains and

artifacts discovered during construction of the area gave more insight into the lives of neighborhood residents. Items, such as smoking pipes, ginger beer bottles, and porcelain jars, capture the daily lives of its residents and visitors.

"These banners will serve as a history lesson on the storied past of New Orleans and bring that past to the present," said Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser. "As we celebrate 300 years of New Orleans history, this is an opportunity

to honor one of the city's oldest neighborhoods, an area where so much culture has been derived from the inception of jazz music to the lifestyle of the working-class neighborhood."

Funding for the Basin Street banners was provided by the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development's Divisions of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, HANO, and HRI Properties. The banners are located at 393 Basin Street.

## FISCHER OPENS FOOD BANK FOR ITS RESIDENTS

One of the top priorities at the Fischer community is to provide a healthy, nutritious meal for its residents. Last December, the Fischer community partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank to host a food bank for its residents. The food bank is located at the Fischer Senior Community Center.



The Fischer Food Bank, located at 1400 Semmes St.

Fischer's Food Bank offers healthy, nutritious food options, such as milk, cheese, canned vegetables, cereal, fruit juices, and much more. The food bank will be open to Fischer seniors only every Wednesday of the month. Non-

senior families and the surrounding Fischer community can visit the pantry every Friday of the month. Participating families and residents can receive food bank assistance once a month only.

If you are interested in donating to the Fischer Food Bank, contact the community center at (504) 362-6830.

## HANO HOSTS INAUGURAL SECTION 3 BUSINESS MIXER

In an effort to expand HANO's Section 3 business database, and connect small business owners with developers, the Agency hosted its first Business Mixer and Seminar last November.

HANO utilized this opportunity to introduce non-construction and professional service providers to its major developers, some of whom have expressed difficulty in connecting with small, local businesses. The event was hosted at Columbia Parc's Club House and featured the Yisrael Jazz Band. Representatives from HANO's Development and Modernization, and Procurement Departments were on hand to provide details on



Participants network with other non-construction and professional service providers during the Section 3 Mixer

upcoming contracting opportunities. The City of New Orleans and Regional Transit Authority also participated.

For more information on how to register your Section 3 business, visit [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org).



New Orleans Saints Player Jermon Bushrod pictured with a Saints fan at the Turkey Day Giveaway

## NEW ORLEANS SAINTS, YMCA HOST TURKEY DAY GIVEAWAY

The New Orleans Saints and the Dryades YMCA recently kicked off the season of giving with the 2018 Holiday Food Program Giveaway for underserved families in New Orleans. Organizers of the annual holiday event provided a holiday meal to those in need while also uniting the community and embracing the spirit of Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Jay Banks, New Orleans Saints players, and YMCA volunteers distributed Thanksgiving dinners to over 1,000 families at the Dryades YMCA. Participating families received a full holiday meal, including a turkey, cornbread dressing, dirty rice, jambalaya, and much more. This year's Holiday Food Program Giveaway was sponsored by Rouses Market and Zatarain's.

Thirty families from the Marrero Commons and Guste communities received assistance during the holiday giveaway. Families also had the opportunity to take pictures and receive autographs from the Saints players during the event.

For more information on community supportive programs at the Dryades YMCA, visit [www.dryadesymca.org](http://www.dryadesymca.org).



Columbia Parc residents enjoyed live music by Hyperphly at the Night Out festivities



The New Orleans Public Library participated in the 2018 Night Out at Marrero Commons



Bienville Basin hosted a Halloween-themed event for the 2018 Night Out Against Crime



Youth enjoyed taking pictures with the New Orleans Saints' mascot at Harmony Oaks



Residents participated in the trunk or treat activities during Bienville Basin's Night Out Against Crime event



Guste senior residents played bingo during the community's Night Out Against Crime event



Residents at Bienville Basin registered for community supportive services



Youth in The Estates community held a march to stop the violence within their community during the 2018 Night Out event

**PICTORIAL:**

**2018 NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME AT HANO COMMUNITIES**

# PROVIDENCE CUTS RIBBON ON TRAINING GROUNDS' NEW INDOOR PLAY SPACE

Residents of the Faubourg Lafitte community can now enjoy a free play and learn space at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center. In partnership with TrainingGrounds, Inc., Providence Community Housing recently cut the ribbon on an indoor play space that offers an enriching and safe environment for children ages 0 to three.

“Providence is excited to celebrate with our friends at TrainingGrounds, Inc. on the grand opening of their We PLAY Center at the Sojourner Truth Neighbourhood Center and welcome them to Faubourg Lafitte. This is a high-impact organization that brings much-needed resources and parenting support in a welcoming space to our families. Community-based partnerships such as these are what bring residents together and help neighbourhoods thrive,” said Terri North, president & CEO of Providence Community Housing.



The free play and learn space provides low to middle income families and children with a nurturing environment and the skills necessary to enhance their cognitive, social, and emotional development skills. The relocation for the We PLAY Center is supported by a partnership between the New Orleans Early Education Network and Agenda for Children with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Institute for Mental Hygiene and the GPOA Foundation. This move allows

service providers to broaden their reach to families who do not currently have access to quality early childhood learning centers and/or experiences, thus closing the school readiness gap.

The center is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9 am to 11:15 am at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center.

## NEIGHBORWORKS SELECTS PROVIDENCE STAFF MEMBER FOR ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Ryan Herringshaw, director of Real Estate Development for Providence Community Housing, was one of 45 leaders selected as part of NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program in collaboration with Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Herringshaw joined Providence in April 2017 as Senior Project Manager, and was recently promoted to the Director of Real Estate Development.

The NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program, made possible in part by support from the J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation, is an 18-month program that provides executives with the skills to advance their organization’s performance. Each participant identifies and addresses a specific challenge critical to their organization’s success.

The only comprehensive training of its kind, Achieving Excellence, includes three formal sessions, as well as one-on-one executive coaching and intensive peer learning. The program

kicked off at Harvard University in September, and three additional meetings are planned across the country. Between academic sessions, participants will actively address a clearly-defined goal critical to their organization’s success and will work closely with their executive coach and peer group.



Ryan Herringshaw, Providence’s Director of Real Estate Development (Photo Credit: Providence Community Housing)

In an impact evaluation of a recent class of the NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program, 72 percent created positive change in their communities; 77 percent raised staff performance and morale; and 100 percent improved organizational strength and results.



The Estates community distributed toys to HANO families in celebration of the 2018 holiday season (Photo Credit: The Estates)



Raffle winners received festive wreaths made and donated by staff and residents (Photo Credit: Bienville Basin)



The Estates hosted a toy giveaway to spread holiday cheer to its residents (Photo Credit: The Estates)



Youth at Lafitte took pictures with Santa during the Cookies with Santa event (Photo Credit: Faubourg Lafitte)



An Estates family received special gifts from Santa at the community's holiday event (Photo Credit: The Estates)



Santa greeted HANO families in the Bienville Basin community during the Christmas celebration (Photo Credit: Bienville Basin)



Lafitte families enjoyed arts and crafts during the Cookies with Santa event (Photo Credit: Faubourg Lafitte)



Santa pictured with resident volunteers at Bienville Basin's Winter Wonderland event (Photo Credit: Bienville Basin)

**PICTORIAL:**

**HANO COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE THE 2018 HOLIDAY SEASON**

# HANO COMMUNITIES HOST AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

The provision of community supportive services, such as after school enrichment programs, is essential in supporting the growth and development of youth across HANO communities. Last August, Faubourg Lafitte and Bienville Basin kicked off after school enrichment programs for youth ages three to 12 years old during the 2018-19 school year.

In partnership with Young Audiences of Louisiana, Faubourg Lafitte hosts a weekly after school program focused on structured, curriculum-based assistance for children ages five to 12 at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center. The first hour of the program is dedicated to general homework assistance, followed by reading comprehension lessons to help students excel in their studies. Participating students also receive a healthy dinner thanks to Volunteers of America's Fresh Food Factor, an organization that provides a local, healthy and affordable meal service solution for



*A student receives homework assistance during Lafitte's After School program*

educational programs.

In the Tremé neighborhood, Bienville Basin hosts the Magic Clubhouse After School Program for elementary students ages three to 12. Led by the community's early learning focus staff, the program provides one-on-one tutoring in reading comprehension, general homework assistance, and social development for

participating scholars.

More than 60 percent of the participating scholars attend the community's partnering school, Homer Plessy. Other students attend Craig Elementary, KIPP Believe Primary, Phillis Wheatley, KIPP Central City Charter, and Bethune Elementary School. (Cont'd on page 17)

## 2018-19 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS



*Participating scholars at Bienville Basin's After School Program enjoy fun activities, such as puzzles and games, after completing their homework.*



*Bienville Basin hosts over 16 students throughout the program with the goal of improving attendance, academic performance, and social skills with their peers.*



*For the sixth year, Faubourg Lafitte continues to host a two-hour program for over 30 students at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center.*

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“I like coming to the program because it’s so fun. We get to do different activities often, which makes me so happy,” said participating scholar Rayne King.

Throughout the program, the staff set achievable goals for the scholars. In October, the social-emotional

goal was to show respect to peers and adults. As a result, 85 percent of the scholars had positive social interactions with the staff.

Visit [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org) for more information on agency programs.



Students at the Lafitte After School program prepare for their one-on-one tutoring and homework assistance.



Dillard University's 2019 Day of Service  
 (Photo Credit: Dillard University)

## 2019 DAY OF SERVICE: DILLARD UNIVERSITY KICKS OFF 150TH ANNIVERSARY

In January, Dillard University kicked off its 150th founding anniversary with its Day of Service across communities in the Greater New Orleans area. Inspired by Mayor LaToya Cantrell’s “Clean Up NOLA” campaign, Dillard’s Day of Service engaged students, faculty, and staff in service learning activities with various local community partners.

Volunteers completed a number of service projects throughout the day, such as cleaning catch basins in communities; working with small pets at Louisiana SPCA Animal Shelter; and distributing food to families in need at Second Harvest Food Bank. Other participating community partners included Volunteers of America, Recharge NOLA, Water Wise 7th Ward, and Bunny Friends Neighborhood Association.

Dillard’s Office of Church and Community Relations also hosted a free HUD-ROSS community outreach workshop for prospective and current Section 3 business owners. During the workshop, attendees had the opportunity to register as a Section 3 business, and learn about upcoming Section 3 opportunities at HUD-funded construction projects.

For more information on upcoming activities at Dillard, visit [www.Dillard.edu](http://www.Dillard.edu).

# MARDI GRAS SAFETY GUIDE

*The 2019 Carnival Season is in full swing across New Orleans! Whether you choose to attend parades on St. Charles Avenue or enjoy the festivities in the French Quarter, keep these safety tips in mind to have a fun and safe Mardi Gras:*

## TRAVELING TO THE PARADE:

- Be very careful driving or walking near parades and/or parade routes. Make sure to arrive at the parade early, and find a legal parking spot.

## WHILE YOU'RE AT THE PARADE:

Unoccupied homes and parked cars are tempting targets for burglars during Mardi Gras, especially during parades.

- Take measures to secure personal property, specifically locking doors and windows to the house and garage.
- Inform your neighbors of your absence and request they report to the police any suspicious person(s) or activities.
- Don't leave valuables visible in the interior of your vehicle. Always make sure to place all valuables in your trunk.

## BEADS AND THROWS SAFETY:

- Be alert for beads and trinkets thrown during the parade.
- Wear sunglasses during the day to protect your eyes from sun and throws.
- Keep all beads, small trinkets, and plastic bags out of reach of small children.



## PARADE FLOAT SAFETY:

- Do not hang from floats or vehicles in the parade.
- Do not encourage the crowd to run alongside floats for throws.
- Never reach under a float for a throw.
- Do not approach the horses in the parade unless the rider indicates it's okay.
- Do not approach a float or other vehicle until it comes to a complete stop.
- Respect the directions of bands and marching unit chaperones, as well as NOPD.
- Piggybacking for throws is dangerous.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS AT PARADE:

- Open containers of glass or metal are not permitted.
- Public laws prohibit spraying silly string or throwing objects at or near parades.
- Animals are prohibited within 150 feet of parade route.
- No open flame heating or cooking devices on parade route.
- It is unlawful to ride on or use skates, skateboards, roller blades, or bikes within fifty (50) feet of parade routes (Jefferson Parish).



# CRIME PREVENTION CORNER

HANOPD Hotline: (504) 670-3372

Spring 2019 Edition

# HANO IN THE NEWS

## CASIUS PEALER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE HANO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Casius Pealer, who was appointed to the HANO Board of Commissioners last summer by Mayor LaToya Cantrell, has been elected to serve as its President. Pealer will also preside as the Chairman of the Board's Personnel Committee, and will serve as a member of the Finance and Audit Committee.

President Pealer is currently the Director of Tulane University's Master of Sustainable Real Estate Development program, and is a Shane Professor of Practice in the School of Architecture. Trained as an architect and a real estate attorney, Casius has over 20 years of community and economic development experience, including private practice, local government, and the nonprofit sector. He is a regular speaker at national professional conferences and has been published in the ABA Journal of Affordable Housing and



HANO Board of  
Commissioner  
Casius Pealer

Community Development Law, the AIA Journal of Architecture, and Affordable Housing Finance Magazine.

The Board also elected Commissioner Lisha Wheeler of Wheeler Coaching and Consulting as its Vice President during January's Board of Commissioners meeting.

For more information on HANO's Board of Commissioners, visit [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org).

### RESIDENT OPPORTUNITIES

## URBAN STRATEGIES AWARDED CONTRACT TO ADMINISTER JOBS PLUS INITIATIVE

In December, the HANO Board of Commissioners awarded a contract to Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) that includes funding through the Jobs Plus Initiative grant, to administer supportive services with a focus on removing barriers to employment opportunities for residents of the Bienville Basin and Faubourg Lafitte communities.

HANO received the Jobs Plus Initiative grant from HUD to develop strategies that will provide more enhanced services to increase earnings and advance employment outcomes for public housing residents at the targeted communities. Case management, work

readiness, employer linkages, job placement and financial literacy are some of the supportive services that will be incorporated within the program. The initiative also includes a component known as Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (JPEID), that will offset any rent increase due to rising earned income for participants, removing a major disincentive to employment.

In partnership, HANO and USI began implementing the program in January 2019. To date, approximately 50 residents have enrolled in the program.

## HANO CLOSE TO KICK-STARTING SCATTERED SITES REDEVELOPMENT IN BYWATER & MARIGNY COMMUNITIES

Members of the Bywater and Marigny neighborhoods met with HANO officials to review draft construction plans and provide input on the Agency's new affordable and market rate units. HANO, in partnership with developer The ITEX Group, kicked off community engagement in the fall of 2018 by meeting with the leadership of two of the largest neighborhood associations from the targeted area. Officials then expanded their outreach to include group meetings with members of all eight associations in the community, to gather extensive input from the residents that will be affected by the construction of the housing units.

Construction of the new homes is expected to begin in the summer of 2019.

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS COMING TO A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR YOU!

This upcoming Spring, HANO officials will visit several neighborhoods throughout the City to meet with HCVP participants. The purpose of the meeting is to educate Section 8 voucher holders on the program guidelines and tenant responsibilities, provide updates on policies and procedures, and to offer an opportunity for on-site inquiries. Program participants will be notified of meetings scheduled within their community in advance of each meeting.



Create an account & receive 24-hour access to your information!

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Main Office (504) 670-3300
- Harmony Oaks (504) 894-8828
- The Estates (504) 940-3060
- Faubourg Lafitte 1-855-523-4883
- Guste Homes (504) 529-3392
- Marrero Commons (504) 524-9011
- Fischer Homes (504) 266-2507
- River Garden (504) 412-8216
- Columbia Parc (504) 284-4769
- Bienville Basin (504) 522-9078
- Florida (504) 821-8861
- Scattered Sites (504) 821-8861
- HANO PD Hotline (504) 670-3372
- Public Housing Hotline (504) 670-3446
- HCVP Hotline (504) 708-2800

STAY CONNECTED WITH

## HANO ON FACEBOOK!

Stay updated on HANO news, events, housing communities, programs, and community supportive services today!



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