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Highlights from Jazz Fest Weekend One

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May 4 - May 10, 2019 54th Year Volume 1 www.ladatanews.com

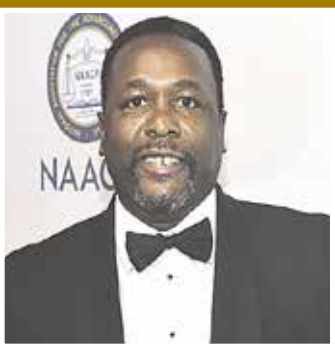
A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Louisiana Lemonade Day 2019 Empowers Lives one Young Entrepreneur at a Time

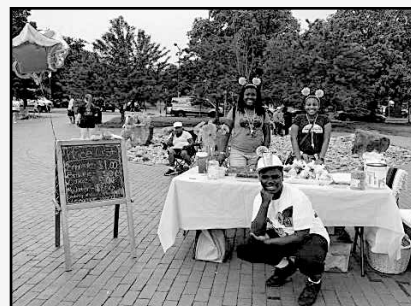
Louisiana Lemonade Day is Saturday, May 4th



Renetta Perry
Data News Editor

There's nothing perhaps more refreshing than riding around New Orleans on a sunny Saturday afternoon in May, seeing brightly decorated lemonade stands with young, smiling faces serving up glasses of sweetness and success. Louisiana Lemonade Day, now in its ninth year, has successfully created a template from which our youth can develop their advanced entrepreneurial skills, backed and supported by the expertise of two of Louisiana's most successful businessmen, John Georges (CEO of Georges Enterprises) and Todd Graves (Founder, CEO, Fry Cook & Cashier of Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers). John and Todd both respectively operated lemonade stands as kids, giving them their first taste of business operation.

Far beyond making a glass of delicious lemonade, Lemonade Day empowers youth and their families to take ownership of their dreams and encourages them to become productive members of society - the business leaders, social advocates, volunteers and forward-thinking citizens of tomorrow.



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Giving Youth the Tools for Success

Though Lemonade Day may seem trivial in its presentation, prior to taking the stage on their stands, young entrepreneurs are given an Entrepreneur Workbook that teaches them the 15 lessons of Lemonade Day including creating budgets, setting profit-making goals, serving customers, repaying investors, and giving back to the community. Along the way, they acquire skills in goal-setting, problem solving, and gaining self-esteem, all which are critical components for future success. They keep all the money they make and are encouraged to spend some, save some and share some.

In addition, young entrepreneurs become versed in financial literacy, economics, college and career readiness, life skills and personal development. There is also the reassurance that comes with the support of the community. Lemonade

Day is as much about community and engagement as it is about supporting young entrepreneurs. On Lemonade Day, the community is encouraged to get out there and buy glasses of lemonade and get to know the young entrepreneurs in their communities. There's also plenty to do in the months and weeks leading up to Lemonade Day. Mentoring youth, serving as a guest speaker in schools, donating funds, sponsoring stands in front of businesses, helping stuff backpacks or any number of volunteer activities.

National Lemonade Day

With the ethic in mind that America was built on the back of small businesses and entrepreneurs taking risks and believing they could realize their dreams if they worked hard, took responsibility and acted as good stewards of their resources, entrepreneur Michael Holthouse created National Lem-

onade Day. Today's youth shared the optimism of the American business ethic, but lacked the life skills, mentorship and real-world experience necessary to be successful. In 2007, Holthouse had a vision to empower today's youth to become tomorrow's entrepreneurs through helping them start, own and operate their very own business...a lemonade stand. Lemonade Day is a Strategic Lesson-Based Program that walks youth from a dream to a business plan while teaching them the same principles required to start any company. Since its launch in 2007 in Houston, Texas, Lemonade Day has grown from serving 2,700 kids in one city to 1 million children across North America. Lemonade Day sparks the spirit of entrepreneurship and empowers youth to set goals, work hard, and achieve their dreams.

Holthouse, is best known in the business world as the founder and President of Paranet, Inc., a Com-

puter Network Services Company. As an Inc. Magazine Entrepreneur of the Year and a two-time Inc. 500's list of fastest growing companies' winner, Michael grew Paranet in 6 years to 27 offices, 1600 employees and revenues in excess of \$100 million and ultimately sold the company to Sprint in 1997. Since then, he has focused on philanthropy, investments and a variety of business interests. Community involvement is an enormous part of Michael's life, and he has served on a variety of children's and civic boards.

His family foundation Holthouse Foundation for Kids, focuses proactively on at-risk youth. His philanthropic venture is called Prepared 4 Life (P4L) which prepares middle school youth for life through fun, proactive and experiential after-school programs infused with life skills, character education and entrepreneurship. The most treasured part of Michael's life is spending time with his wife Lisa and their

four children.

Sweet Success

Louisiana Lemonade Day has grown to become a highly anticipated event each year and continues to impact the lives of countless families in our community. Whatever career paths participants choose, they will be left with indelible impressions of success, derived from the success of their self-operated businesses. "Not every kid wants to be or will be an entrepreneur, but we need to help kids achieve something, no matter how big or small," Charlie Hamilton, Lemonade Day National Board Chairman.

To support Louisiana Lemonade Day or to register your child to participate in upcoming events, visit their website: www.lemonadeday.org. Until then, see you at the stands!

New Orleans Native, Actor Wendell Pierce and Businessmen Troy Henry, Cleveland Spears, and Jeff Thomas Purchase WBOK Talk Radio

Data Staff Writers In a groundbreaking business move that will likely shape the landscape of local radio for several years to come, famed actor and New Orleans native, Wendell Pierce, along with business consultant and former mayoral candidate Troy Henry; owner of Spears Group Communications Firm, Cleveland Spears; and Think504 owner Jeff Thomas have purchased WBOK Talk Radio. The investment group placed a bid to owners, Los Angeles-based Bakewell Media earlier this year and have now confirmed that the deal has been sealed.

In an exclusive interview with Data News Weekly's Publisher, Terry Jones, Henry said, "I am looking forward. This will be a good project, working through FCC stuff. It's exciting. (We) don't have a specific timeline because we can't close and transfer ownership without FCC Approval, so right now we are continuing our due diligence. We have reached an agreement and are just waiting for final FCC Approval."

Henry further noted, "we will stay with news, talk and add a



Wendell Pierce



Troy Henry

sports component, which is so important to the New Orleans community. We will reflect on what the station has already done, and we hope to take WBOK to the next level. The Bakewell's did a great job with the station, but because of them being so far away they decided to sell, and we were fortunate

enough to make the purchase. This is a business profit-making opportunity. Our first focus will be to hire a new general manager or retain the current general manager and hire a program director; then have them craft the vision we have for the station and give them the latitude to be creative. Until

ownership changes, the format is the same and will stay on the air. We may change the studio location; that is a possibility."

Henry further explained, giving Data News exclusive information on one of their prospective partnerships, "our relationship with Xavier University will be a

critical element for the new station. We will heavily utilize students, internships, and Xavier will have its own time slots. With our new format everyone will be fed news, sports, and talk. We want listeners to stay on WBOK because they will get everything they need. I don't know that it is our role as a radio station to opionate, but to provide diversity of thought and prospective, and the audience makes its own decisions."

Speaking of the financial and historic details surrounding the deal, Henry firmly communicated that the group's position was to keep the station African-American owned and operated. "We went into this project with no preconceived notions other than we want complete Black ownership. Liberty Bank is providing partial financing. We wanted a 100 percent African-American owned station, so both ownership and debt are Black owned. The Bakewell's have been helpful and forthcoming and very good in all respects. I can't understate how big Wendell's vision is and his thought process is for this station," he said.

Endorsement

Data News Weekly Says "Vote Yes" on May 4th for the Future of Our City



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Terry B. Jones
Publisher,
Data News Weekly

We at Data News Weekly, in our continued mission as "The People's Paper" encourage all of our people if you have not already voted to go out and "Vote Yes" on May 4, 2019 on the Park Millage Renewal. We

are supporting this because we must support programming that help the youth of our city.

This millage is something that is truly done in the spirit of all coming together for the common good of our citizens and most importantly our young people. By "Voting Yes" this is an investment in our future and continuing to move us in the right direction.

In this election we have a chance to make history by creating a more equitable distribution of funding of all four of New Orleans' Parks and Recreation Agencies; Audubon, NORDC, Parks and Parkways and this includes adding funding for

the City's biggest green space, City Park.

Data News Weekly would like to see this Millage pass so that all our citizens can spend more time enjoying our thousands of acres of green space across the city. This, in addition to the dozens of fitness, swimming, and recreation centers that offer free programming and activities for all ages for all our citizens to enjoy and is something that can enrich us all as we move forward together.

We are at a turning point in our history and Voting Yes would create a giant leap forward that would have an immediate and sustainable

impact. We are encouraging you to Vote Yes. And we understand that we are in the throes of spring and the summer and we understand that we are the land of many festivals, but we ask you to please go out and take the time to Vote Yes on the Parks and Recreation Millage.

Join with leaders, civic organizations and citizens who have already come out in support of this Millage. We at Data News Weekly want to add our voice to this chorus and encourage the citizens of New Orleans to in a singular voice "Vote Yes" on the Parks and Parkway Millage Renewal. It is an investment for the future of our great City.

Cool Zoo and Lazy River Open Saturday, May 4th for 2019 Season

Data Edited Press Release

Cool Zoo and the Gator Run Lazy River, Audubon Zoo's popular water attractions, will open for the 2019 Season on a weekends-only schedule beginning Saturday, May 4th. The water park will be open daily for the 2019 Summer Season beginning Saturday, May 25th.

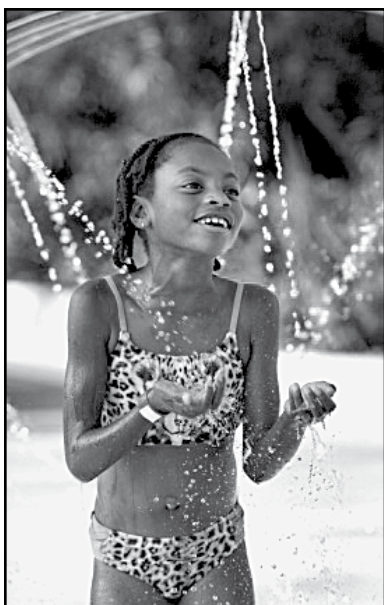
Starting August 10th, the water park will return to weekends-only through Labor Day, September 2nd, when the water park will close for the 2019 Season.

Cool Zoo returns with all its visitor-favorite features: the alligator water slide, the spider monkey soaker, water-spitting snakes, and shady spots for grownups. Back for its fifth year, the Gator Run lazy river offers Zoo visitors the option to cool down by floating atop an inner tube along a course that measures 750 feet in length. Three-foot-deep and 10-foot-wide, the Lazy River features two sand beaches and water cannons that can be used to shower visitors as they float by.

Gator Run includes showers, restrooms, lockers, outdoor seating, a private area for nursing mothers, and the "Gator Bites" concession stand, serving a menu of pizza and other food and beverage items.

Rafts are included in the admission price for Gator Run. Anyone under 48 inches will need a life jacket supplied by Audubon Zoo.

Outside food and drinks are welcomed in Cool Zoo and Gator Run, but the size of coolers and ice chests cannot exceed 28 quarts. Glass containers and disposable straws and



lids are not permitted for the safety of our animals. Audubon reserves the right to search coolers.

Regular admission to Cool Zoo, including Gator Run, is \$10 for Audubon Nature Institute Members and \$12 for non-Members, plus Audubon Zoo admission. Non-Members can take advantage of a discount. The Zoo + Cool Zoo Combo ticket is \$29.95 for adults (13-64), \$24.95 for children (2-12), and \$26.95 for seniors (65+). Visitors can bring their own towels or purchase them at the Cool Shop.

2019 Cool Zoo/Gator Run Operating Schedule:

May 4th – May 19th (Open weekends only); May 25th – August 4th (Open daily); August 10th – September 2nd (Open weekends only).



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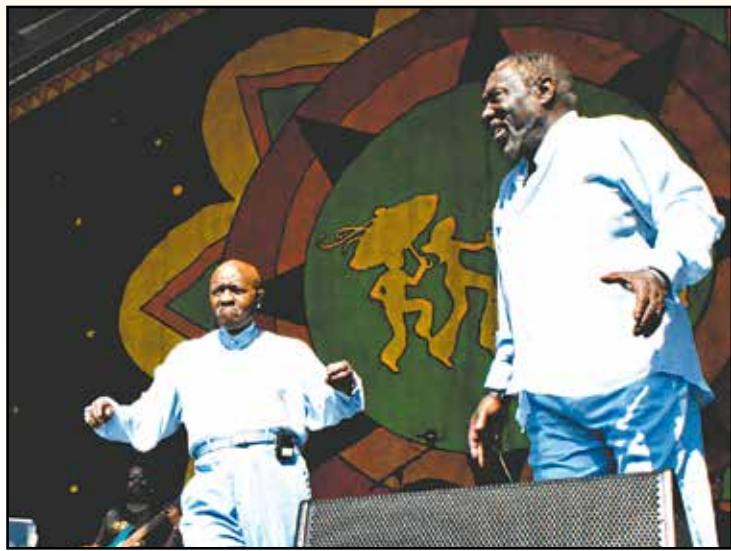


Highlights from Jazz Fest 2019 Weekend One

Photos by Kichea S. Burt

On its opening day last Thursday, inclement weather threatened to wash out the start of Jazz Fest 2019, but sunny skies prevailed, setting the tone for an exciting weekend filled with music, people and fun! Here are some highlights and Data News was there!!!





Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events

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OPSB Owes America -- and Our Children -- Smarter Stewardship of School Buildings



Andreanecia Morris
Executive Director,
HousingNOLA

Here at HousingNOLA we believe that housing is the foundation for an equitable New Orleans. We say #PutHousingFirst but we do not mean “housing only.” With the legislative session recently beginning, we wanted to shift to another pressing issue, Education. Thankfully, we were able to reach out to longtime partner and friend, Lona Edwards Hankins and feature her perspective on this critical issue. Lona has been a public-school parent for the last 21 years and for the last 11 of those years she managed the team of professionals and construction contractors who rebuilt our public-school buildings for the

Recovery School District (RSD).

With this background, I am deeply concerned by the direction the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) is headed when it comes to the facilities maintenance, equity, and their obligation to be good stewards of federal tax dollars. Its current plan would take tax revenue from the maintenance of buildings and reallocate it to School Administrative Functions. This strikes me as extremely ill-advised.

Post-Katrina improvements to schools were funded by a disaster-related Community Development Block Grants and a Historic \$2 billion Settlement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). When the disaster related funding is completely expended, we will have 46 new or renovated buildings. At a comparatively minor cost of \$75 million, another 34 buildings will have been refurbished — meaning, their exterior envelope (windows, doors and roofs) will have an extended life until funds can be raised for more complete renovations and their return to service.

The refurbished buildings are not yet compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a Federal Law enacted in 1990. Essentially, we have a building portfolio where 58 percent of the buildings were completely rebuilt after 2007 and the remaining 42 percent are in need of major work to bring them on par with the rest.

Nonetheless, on March 21st OPSB voted unanimously to request legislation — embodied in House Bill 393 — to shift \$10 million from facilities maintenance to other school expenses. The move is premature until OPSB can place a true value on the physical condition of our school buildings. They constitute this city’s costliest capital investment; moreover, they house our precious children.

OPSB also plans to revise the formula for how the funds are distributed for non-renovated buildings by increasing the amount from \$650 to \$800 per student. How is this equitable? It is a problem across all 34 of the refurbished buildings that await reno-

vation. The schools with fewer students will face a deficit.

I don’t dispute the need for more operating funds, but that should not be at the expense of facilities. The quality of a school building contributes to teaching and learning. Children need a building free of toxins such as lead and asbestos. Teachers should not have to yell over noisy air-conditioning systems. A child should not be absent from school due to an asthma attack triggered by poor indoor air quality resulting from faulty building systems. And, of course, deferred maintenance almost always leads to more costly repairs later on.

Prior to the approval of HB 393 legislators should require OPSB to perform two tasks:

OPSB should produce a 10-year spending plan that identifies the needs of each building at the system level. And they should convene another blue-ribbon committee to identify and eliminate unintended inefficiencies in school buildings. They are a byproduct of what has been properly called, not a school

system, but a system of schools, an innovative administrative model that New Orleans is justly proud of. The money saved by eliminating waste and overlap can be rededicated to other needs.

OPSB and the City of New Orleans have an obligation to the rest of the country — as well as to ourselves — to maintain these buildings carefully. The Federal Disaster Grants that we received were America’s investment in the children of New Orleans, our future. We need to show our gratitude to taxpayers across this nation by properly maintaining our facilities.

One of my most memorable experiences at the RSD was a 2010 ribbon cutting when a child stood up to address the crowd: “This building yearns for my success,” the child said. We need to make sure that all our school children have a learning environment that yearns for their success.

We cannot say that’s true today, and it definitely won’t be true if facilities funds are reallocated and reduced.

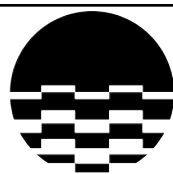
State & Local News

Customers Realize Big Benefits after Five Years in MISO

Entergy New Orleans Customers Have Saved An Estimated \$118 Million

Entergy New Orleans customers have saved approximately \$118 million in the five years since the company joined MISO, a regional transmission organization. MISO — formally known as the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

— manages the flow of power on the transmission grid, facilitates the planning of new transmission facilities, and operates markets for the purchase and sale of wholesale energy and other products. Its market footprint stretches from



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Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

The estimated \$118 million in savings realized between 2014 and 2018 is largely because power plants are dispatched more efficiently on the transmission grid, resulting in a lower delivered cost of energy. Significant savings also arise from MISO members sharing generation reserves across the organization’s footprint, producing long-term benefits for customers. “Our first priority is to provide safe, reliable electric service to our customers at a reasonable rate,” said Seth Cureington, director of resource planning and market operations for Entergy New Orleans. “When

we proposed joining MISO, we told our customers that this would be a good business decision that would benefit their bills each month and we believe we have made good on that promise.”

Entergy New Orleans’ residential rates are 4.8 percent below the regional and 18.7 percent below the national average, according to data compiled by the U.S. Energy Information Administration for the 12-month rolling average of February 2018-January 2019. “Our membership in MISO has been a highly effective tool in helping us control costs and keep our rates among the lowest in the nation,”

said Cureington. “Our customers have saved on average about \$24 million per year since we joined.” Entergy New Orleans, LLC is an electric and gas utility that serves Louisiana’s Orleans Parish. The company provides electricity to more than 200,000 customers and natural gas to more than 106,000 customers. The company is a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation.

Entergy Corporation is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, including nearly 9,000 megawatts of nuclear power. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.9 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Entergy has annual revenues of approximately \$11 billion and more than 13,000 employees.



Blue Cross Encourages Vaccination against Preventable Diseases during National Infant Immunization Week

Getting children vaccinated against preventable, potentially deadly diseases like measles, mumps and whooping cough not only protects our family's health, it protects public health.

"Vaccinating children doesn't just protect the child getting that vaccine, it helps prevent the spread of serious and deadly illnesses in the community," said Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vindell Washington. "There are people who have immune system-suppressing conditions that limit their ability to fight off diseases, and children who are too young to be vaccinated. But, if the people around them have been vaccinated against diseases,



it develops what's called 'herd immunity,' which lowers everyone's risks of getting sick."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) holds National Infant Immunization Week as an annual observance to raise awareness of the importance and effectiveness of childhood vaccinations. This year, National Infant Immunization Week is April 27-May 4.

Dr. Washington wrote an op-ed for The Advocate in January, outlining how small but increasing numbers of children are not getting any or all of the recommended childhood vaccines, which is leading to outbreaks of diseases that have not been common for decades.

Currently, the United States has more cases of measles, a disease that is largely preventable through childhood immunizations, than have occurred in nearly 20 years. Measles outbreaks have been reported in multiple states since the beginning of 2019.

"Vaccines are safe, effective and have been given in this country for many years with great success in protecting children against diseases that, years ago, prevented many from growing into adulthood," Washington said.

Washington encourages parents who have questions or concerns about vaccination to speak with their children's doctors for medical guidance and more information.

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On May 11th the City of New Orleans Joins Local Partners on Inaugural Storm Sweep of Area Catch Basins

Data News Staff Edited Report

Storm Sweep Aimed at Cleaning Catch Basins that Drain into Lake Pontchartrain

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, in conjunction with the City of New Orleans and Jefferson Parish, will hold its first Storm Sweep on Saturday, May 11, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will spread out over to work in designated clean-up zones throughout the area. A picnic for volunteers will follow, at the New Canal Lighthouse, 8001 Lakeshore Drive. (See map here.) The event provides volunteers with an opportunity to help clean out catch basins that eventually drain into Lake Pontchartrain.

Groups can register for Storm Sweep at www.saveourlake.org/stormsweep.



Catch basins collect surface runoff and debris and are the first point of contact with area drainage systems. Any debris that makes it inside catch basins will eventually drain into Lake Pontchartrain, endangering wildlife and polluting the water. Excessive debris inside catch basins also clogs drainage lines, resulting in street flooding.

Clean Up NOLA

Since 2017, the City of New Orleans has worked with local partners and residents on its Adopt-A-Catch Basin Initiative to clean out and maintain catch basins throughout the city. The work is part of Mayor LaToya Cantrell's CleanUp-NOLA, which works to keep public spaces free of litter, buildings up to code, roads and neutral grounds well kept, and encourage residents to do their part to keep the city clean.

Unified Effort to Help Promote A Cleaner City

Several City Departments will be joining in this effort, including the Neighborhood Engagement Of-

ice, NOLA Ready, the New Orleans Health Department, Department of Sanitation, Department of Public Works, and the Office of Resilience and Sustainability. This event is also

the same day as the Department of Sanitation's Hazardous Waste Day, and so the City will include this event as an opportunity for volunteers to participate in.

National News

Dr. Ceeon Quiett Smith Selected for National Program that Prepares Leaders

Benedict College Chief-of-Staff Is One of 20 Administrators Selected by the Council of Independent College

Data News Staff Edited Report

COLUMBIA, SC – April 25, 2019 – Benedict College is pleased to announce that Ceeon Quiett Smith, PhD (left) is one of 20 Senior College Administrators selected by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) to participate in the year-long Presidential Vocation and Institutional Mission Program for Prospective College and University Presidents. The seminar-based program is designed to help individuals with the potential to serve as college and university presidents to clarify the alignment between their personal and professional values and goals and the missions of institutions that they might lead in the future. With a wave of retirements of university presidents on the horizon, it is especially important that individuals who become new presi-

dents are well suited to the culture of the institution. The program aims to produce presidencies that are highly effective, long lasting, and satisfying to both the individual and the institution.

Participants, including Quiett Smith, will engage in two seminars, participate in consultations with experienced facilitators, and undertake a series of readings about the vocation of college presidents and the role of vision and mission in institutional leadership.

"The alignment of personal vocation and institutional mission emphasized in this program addresses a common pitfall of presidencies," said CIC President Richard Ekman. "The program aims to help participants achieve great things for their institutions and to avoid being 'the right person in the wrong place.'"

Smith has a unique combination of private and public executive expe-



rience coupled with academic leadership experience. Her research area involves a mixed method approach to investigating federal policies and new technology applications in crisis and risk matters. She

has juried papers and conference presentations in Crisis Communication and Framing Narratives. Smith has taught courses in Homeland Security, Emergency Management and Crisis Communication. Smith is the first African-American to earn a PhD from the Walter Cronkite School of Mass Communication at Arizona State University in Phoenix, Arizona. She has served in executive leadership experience in the City of Detroit and City of New Orleans (response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita); liaison for the U.S. State Department during the U.S. Donor Infrastructure Conference (Haiti earthquakes); and consultant to BP during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. As Chief of Staff for Benedict College, her portfolio includes Facilities Management, HR, IT, Communications and the Business Development Center.

"Dr. Smith is an integral part

of Benedict's Executive Leadership Team. Her knowledge, skill and experience make her an ideal candidate for this development opportunity, and I am confident that when the time is right, a higher education institution will be very fortunate to have her as its President or Chancellor." said Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis, President and CEO, Benedict College.

The CIC Program's approach to the preparation of new presidents has proven highly successful in the period that the program has been operating. Since 2005, 60 program participants (33 percent) have been named to college presidencies—a very high rate of advancement among Leadership Development Programs.

The program is directed by Frederik Ohles, Nebraska Wesleyan University President and CIC Senior Advisor.

Opinion: The Interlopers Better Recognize - Howard University isn't Going Anywhere

Gentrification is Now at the Center of Debate for Students and Neighbors On and Off HU's Campus.

By Kyra E. Azore
Writer, Howard University

For more than 150 years, Howard University has been located on sacred land. This great institution has been the training ground for so many global change agents such as activist Kwame Ture, writer Zora Neale Hurston, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Congressman Elijah Cummings, and Tony award winning actress, Phylicia Rashad. Yet, despite its historical significance, our beloved HU is being treated like a common public park. In the last few weeks, as spring has sprung and the first buds are making themselves known, the campus has received an influx of visitors. Some of them travel in large groups and stop students on their way to class to ask for help with trivia questions from the Admission Center's scavenger hunt.

Clearly, these are prospective students and their parents who likely already understand what Howard means to the Black community. Others trek across "the Yard," the open clearing carved by pathways that connect the main buildings on campus, with their picnic baskets, small children, yoga mats, pure-bred dogs and a palpable sense of entitlement.

Howard University is my home and has been ever since I first visited the campus in 2013, I remember that day like it was yesterday. I was a sophomore in high school visiting colleges during my spring break. Unlike all the other places I visited, this felt most like home. When I finally climbed the hill to the Yard, I marveled in the sight of young, Black students in suits and the latest fashions, treating the pathways like their own personal runway.

The Yard is the heartbeat of the University. It's the host to Yardfest during Howard's infamous homecoming and the backdrop for the annual commencement activities. To see it now littered with jog-



ging pedestrians and nonchalant dog walkers infuriates me. I am also aware that these are the same people who have driven up the surrounding property value to the point where most students who live off campus have no choice, like myself, but to find apartments in neighboring states because we cannot afford to live adjacent to where we take classes.

The frustration that students experience is rooted in the fact that these are the same people who call the police to complain about our house parties and campus events, but then go ahead and picnic under the trees that are dedicated to our historic Greek letter organizations. Excuse me? There's a free, public park across the street where you can knock yourself out with all your healthy-living activities.

Black students see Howard as a safe space, where we can seek refuge from trials of the outside world of our campus. These interlopers, on the other hand, seem to be treating Howard's campus like a community park, where those new to the area have felt free to lounge, enjoy a Spring day, and "deal" with the inconveniences that come with the patch of land that also happens to double as an institution of higher learning when they are not using it.

of chief university administrators in the wake of a misappropriation of financial aid funds scandal.

To be clear, this issue is not solely about race because it's also about respect. Respect the sacred ground that is Howard University. You do not get to complain about our unique HBCU experiences (Homecoming, etc.) and then use our campus for your leisure activities. That is not how this works.

The amount of entitlement displayed by community members like Sean Grubbs-Robishaw, who has since been dubbed #Gentrifying-George by Black Twitter and lives in the Shaw-Howard neighborhood where Howard resides. In a television interview with the local Fox affiliate, Grubbs-Robishaw famously suggested all of Howard "just move the campus" if we do not want people walking their dogs across the Yard.

Rather than educate themselves about these historic grounds, they disgrace us and our home. The blatant disrespect, unmitigated gall is baffling. How dare you?

It begs repeating, for more than 150 years, Howard has sat proudly on the Hilltop high overlooking most of D.C., but now that we are in the way of community expansion, we're expected to just move? That is not how this works.

Regardless of what you decide, Howard will remain unphased, a prideful symbol of tradition, and unmoved.

Kyra E. Azore is a senior at Howard University where she works as the News Director for WHBC 96.3 and the Editor-in-Chief of 101 Magazine. Kyra is also the Student Representative for the National Association of Black Journalists. After graduation she hopes to become a television news producer. Find her on Twitter @KyraAzore.

RTA—Job Posting for Chief Executive Officer

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