

More photos from Sojourner Truth (continued from previous page)



Clockwise from top left: Truth Youth discusses bullying; juice boxes & smiles; Truth Youth playtime; young artists in training; Senior Citizen Day activities; December MoneyWi\$e graduation party; "Walk-N-Roll" helmet giveaway; striking a "safety first" pose in their new helmets.

### Hike the Lafitte Corridor!



The Friends of Lafitte Corridor (FOLC) and Urban Conservancy are teaming up for their annual free **Hike the Lafitte Corridor** event this Saturday, April 16th. The 3-mile hike begins at 10AM at Armstrong Park and finishes around 1PM at Canal Blvd. Free parking is available in the Mahalia Jackson Parking lot (off Basin St.), and there will be a shuttle to take you back to your vehicle at the end of the hike.

A number of new activities are planned this year, including a po'boy lunch from Parkway Bakery. Please register in advance at <http://www.folc.eventbrite.com>. It is also possible to register the day of the hike, but advance registration is appreciated. For more information, e-mail [lafittegreenway@gmail.com](mailto:lafittegreenway@gmail.com).

### HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan visits Faubourg Lafitte



On February 4th, 2011, Providence, Enterprise, L&M Development, and our partners welcomed HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, Mayor Mitch Landrieu, and many other dignitaries for a celebration to christen the first 134 apartments on the new Faubourg Lafitte site. Addressing the large gathering of residents, community members, and government officials in attendance, the Secretary thanked "every single one of you who stuck with us" through the long and challenging redevelopment process.

Earlier that day, Leslie Johnson, 29, gave Secretary Donovan a tour of her brand new apartment. The Secretary presented Johnson with a "welcome home" basket including cleaning supplies and other home essentials. Over five years after she and her family evacuated through waste-high floodwaters (followed by an extended stays in Houston and the nearby Iberville development), Johnson was among the first residents selected to move into the new Faubourg Lafitte. The end product, she said, was well worth the wait: "Maybe if they had rushed it, it wouldn't have been done right."



Please keep in touch!

Rebekah Simon  
Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center  
2200 Laffite Street, NOLA 70119  
Email: [rsimon@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:rsimon@archdiocese-no.org)  
Phone: (504) 827-9734

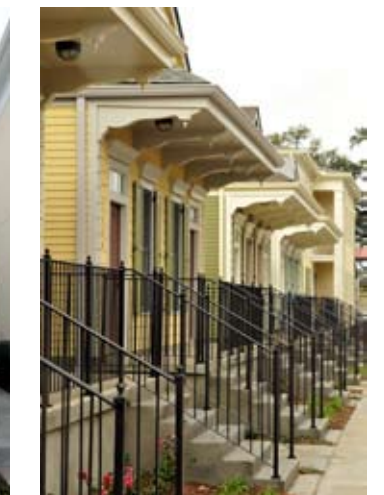


### Update on progress at Faubourg Lafitte Many of the first onsite homes are now complete!

The new Faubourg Lafitte is looking more like a healthy and vibrant community every day! This February, residents began excitedly moving into the first 134 affordable apartments to be built on the footprint of the old complex. Another 142 homes are currently under construction, and work is set to begin very soon on 100 affordable senior apartments as well. Check out our facebook page for more!

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Photos of construction at the new Faubourg Lafitte (Continued from page 1)



**How to apply to live at Faubourg Lafitte**

Interstate Realty Management has opened a temporary leasing office at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, located at 2200 Lafitte St. The office is open Mondays-Fridays 9am-5pm & Saturdays 10am-2pm.

More information is available through their toll-free hotline at (504) 821-6687 and through their temporary website at <http://www.lafitte.irmmanagement.com>.

New homes will be available for purchase on and around the Faubourg Lafitte site this summer! If you are interested in becoming a homeowner, please contact Juana Andry (506) 821-7226..

**What's happening at Sojourner Truth?**



Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center (STNC), a hub for community building, offers family stabilization and family strengthening services and provides a welcoming space for residents and communities to gather. Here are some highlights of what we've been up to recently (please come out and join us!)

- The new and improved *STNC Community Technology Learning Lab* has officially opened! Weekday and Saturday Computer classes for seniors and adults have already begun. The Lab is used for classes, multimedia, and - as always - free space for community members to work on education, job searching, school work, and small business projects.
- *MoneyWi\$e* financial education classes continue to have quarterly graduations. All graduates are eligible to receive assistance with opening their first checking and/or savings accounts upon graduation.
- Our *Senior Citizen Day Program*, led by the Lafitte Resident Council and our Senior Coordinator, is a big hit! 40 seniors (ages 55+) enjoy regular fellowship, exercise, lunch, jewelry making, sewing and needlepoint, crafts, weekly BINGO, regular field trips, and more.
- *The Truth Youth*, a Saturday morning program providing recreational, cultural, and educational activities for kids ages 7-14, is going strong! As a part of this program, the *Sojourner Truth Youth Theatre Ensemble Theatre Camp* was recently launched for kids in grades 1-12, led by teaching artist Ed Bishop. Tuition is free and enrollment is open & ongoing.
- Our *Family Wealth Development Specialist* continues provides employment, education, and financial education services.
- Our monthly year-round *Health & Wellness Series* (through a partnership with the Tulane Community Health Center at Covenant House & the Mary Amelia Center) featured a number of popular seminars over the last few months, including "Eating Right for the New Year"; "Love Your Heart"; and "Screening Saves Lives: Cancer Q&A." Our new formal diabetes education program will begin soon, free for all residents.
- In February, the Tulane Community Health Center brought its mobile health unit to STNC as a "*Welcome Home Health Fair*" to benefit the Tremé community. The fair provided free health screenings, information, and other resources.
- *Section 3* is going strong; monthly Faubourg Lafitte Redevelopment pre-employment Orientations are ongoing.
- The dedicated and hard-working *Case Management Team* at STNC continues to provide quality family stabilization services for our families. Our team works with residents to navigate the resources needed to meet their families' most basic necessities and to achieve their goals.
- STNC has partnered with *Wireless for Hope* to distribute free cell phones to low-income community residents. Over 700 cell phones with monthly minutes have been distributed with more applications received every week. STNC will continue to be a distribution site for Wireless for Hope throughout the year.
- STNC has partnered with Entergy New Orleans to inform and enroll residents in *SmartView*, a pilot program providing tools and training to help residents lower their utility bills and reduce wasted energy.
- STNC is open Mon-Fri 9am-6:30pm and Saturdays 10am-4pm. For more information, please call (504) 827-9963.

**STNC Staff — We're here to serve you!**

- Ext. 212 Carol Carter (Executive Director)
- Ext. 213 D'Ana Smith (Director of Social & Human Services)
- Ext. 210 Sombra Davis Williams (Section 3 Coordinator)
- Ext. 211 Jessica Kennington Olivier (Program Coordinator)
- Ext. 218 Claudette Austin (Family Wealth Development Specialist)
- Ext. 220 Rebekah Simon (Office Manager)
- Ext. 227 Kedra Green (Service Coordinator)
- Ext. 219 Kyra Watson (Service Coordinator)
- Ext. 200 Linda King (Receptionist)
- Ext. 200 Jacqueline Griffin (Receptionist)
- Ext. 200 Gary Gabriel (Maintenance)
- Ext. 221 Emelda Paul (Lafitte Residents Council)
- Ext. 224 Dulcie Scott (Senior Services Coordinator)



*Our latest MoneyWi\$e graduates show off their hard-earned diplomas!*