

NEW ORLEANS

300

1718 - 2018

TRICENTENNIAL

From *Bienville* to *Bourbon Street* to *bounce*. 300 moments that make New Orleans unique.



WHAT HAPPENED
Four African-American children integrated the New Orleans schools on Nov. 14, 1960.



School desegregation in New Orleans led many white families to leave the city’s schools, and the city, altogether.

Ruby Bridges’ bravery inspired Norman Rockwell to paint ‘The Problem We All Live With.’



Desegregation was ordered by a federal judge in 1960, six years after the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, found it was unconstitutional to have separate schools for blacks and whites. Four African-American students were escorted by armed U.S. marshals into two elementary schools in the Lower 9th Ward on Nov. 14, 1960, through crowds of protesting whites, some who spat at the children. Ruby Bridges attended William Frantz Elementary, and Leona Tate, Tessie Prevost, and Gail Etienne went to McDonogh No. 19. By the end of the day, most of the white children had left the school, and by the end of the month, fewer than 10 white children attended the two schools com-

bined. From January until May 1961, Bridges was the only student at Frantz Elementary. Bridges’ bravery inspired Norman Rockwell to paint “The Problem We All Live With.” Protests died off, and the city’s Catholic school system integrated with little protest in 1962. But over the next decade, the white population in the Lower 9th Ward fell by 77 percent as most moved into neighboring St. Bernard Parish. The desegregation of the schools also caused whites throughout the city to move into Jefferson Parish. “Research suggests that the reasons for this are many, and unfortunately, they are mostly based in racism,” according to The Data Center.

NEW ORLEANS

300

1718 - 2018

TRICENTENNIAL

From *Bienville* to *Bourbon Street* to *bounce*. 300 moments that make New Orleans unique.



WHAT HAPPENED
Hansen’s SnoBliz machine received a federal patent in 1950.



Ice has long been crucial to surviving New Orleans’ summers, and **sno-balls** make summers almost enjoyable.



A sno-ball stand in front of a home, sometime between 1920 and 1929. Sno-balls from roadside stands and carts became popular during the Great Depression.

CHARLES L. FRANK STUDIO COLLECTION AT THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

Shaved ice appeared in New Orleans in the 1920s. Vendors would hand-shave ice from blocks into cones and add a sugary-flavored syrup before selling the treats for a penny or two. In the 1930s, two men separately had the idea that a machine could do a better job at shaving the ice: Ernest Hansen and George Ortolano. Both developed machines that shaved the ice so finely that it was more like snow than the crunchy ice carved by hand. Hansen developed the first ice-shaving machine for his family because he wanted to give his children ice that wasn’t dirty. But after developing the machine, for which he obtained a patent, it wasn’t until 1939 years later when his wife, Mary, set up shop and started selling the sno-balls. Hansen’s Sno Bliz on Tchoupitoulas still uses a machine Hansen made and makes its syrups fresh every day. Ortolano, a grocery store owner, built his machine and began selling them to others, who opened sno-ball stands throughout the city. Stands like Sal’s in Old Metairie and Williams Plum Street in the Riverbend have their own secret recipes for their flavors.