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From top left, clockwise, everyone was enjoying the food served at the 27th annual Grandparents Day at Washington Manor; grandchildren hold school supplies they received as part of their grandparents' generosity; Mrs. Mason and great-grandson Gabriel Mason take part in some of the fun activities; and grandparents play a game with a grandchild, an activity in which many participated.



Orange Housing Authority's Grandparents Day celebrates bond with grandchildren

They often say the best thing about being a grandparent is having the chance to be a child again. That joy and enthusiasm was on display on Thursday, Sept. 3, as the Orange Housing Authority marked the 37th annual Grandparents Day with plenty of fun at Washington Manor.

Grandparents and great-grandparents engaged in an endless number of crafts and games with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as moms and dads watched from the wings.

"The memories made today were a delightful reminder as to why Grandpar-

ents Day is such a cherished tradition in our community and why we enjoy celebrating it so much," said OHA Executive Director Walter D. McNeil Jr.

All were welcomed to a visit from "Olaf," a snowman character from the 2013 animated film "Frozen." There was also face-painting, balloon animals, souvenir photos with Olaf, free raffle tickets, gift giveaways and plenty of food. Meanwhile, there was lots of music, dancing and toe-tapping.

"I am extremely excited to witness the turnout of all the grandchildren here today," said Orange Mayor Dwayne War-

ren, who stopped by to partake in the fun. "Grandparents are important; they have taught their children to be leaders and educators. We now instill those same characteristics into our children, who are the future."

National Grandparents Day was founded by Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade to "persuade grandchildren to tap the wisdom and heritage their grandparents could provide." In 1978, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed that National Grandparents Day be celebrated the first Sunday after Labor Day every year.

