

THE VOICE OF CHOICE

for the former Central Park Village residents and the Central Park / Ybor Choice Neighborhood

SUMMER 2013

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TRIO BUILDING TOPPED OFF!

On August 9, 2013 the Trio building at the Encore reached a major milestone, what contractors call the “Topping Off”. A topping out ceremony is an event held when the last beam is placed at the top of a building. During the ceremony several of the workers and contractors who have worked on the project were given awards for safety. Work will soon begin on the interior portion of the buildings and the parking deck. The project is now approximately 45% complete and progressing on schedule. The anticipated completion date is February 2014. Look for leasing information to be available at the end of this year!



Core Construction handed out Safety Awards to several workers and contractors who made a great effort to keep the worksite safe (top).

Progress on the Trio building as of mid-August 2013 is shown in the picture to the left.

CONTENTS



On The Drawing Board..... 2
Upcoming Events..... 3

Resident & Student Highlights..... 3
President's Message 4

ON THE DRAWING BOARD

Two buildings to be constructed with the help of Choice Neighborhood funds are currently in the design phase, The Tempo and a community job training center. The designs for Perry Harvey Park are being revealed by the City of Tampa. Also, the renovations to the historic St. James Church are currently being designed.

The Tempo at Encore is the second family housing development to be constructed. It is scheduled to go vertical by December 2013. The team has selected the A/E firm of Bessolo Design Group, for the development of The Tempo. The Tempo will be designed as a seven story structure with 203 units of mixed income and mixed use development. A public meeting for a design update of The Tempo was held July 29, 2013 at The Ella at Encore community room.

The GTE Job Training facility is a Choice Neighborhood grant initiative and the team has engaged the firm of Cooper, Johnson, Smith Architects & Town Planners to design this facility. Land for the facility has been donated by GTE Financial, it is a 2 acre parcel located on the northside of their headquarters on 7th Avenue. Hillsborough Community College will provide the training curriculum and staff for the state of the art facility.

A contract for architectural and engineering services for the historic St. James Episcopal Church was awarded to IVY Group Consultants, Inc. IVY Group will be responsible for evaluating and designing the renovations for the St. James Church. A request for bid for historic preservation contractors will go out at the end of the fall.

The City of Tampa will share its preliminary designs for the Perry Harvey Park redevelopment at a meeting on Monday, September 16, 2013 from 6:30- 8:00 P.m. at the Greater Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Oscar Johnson, Jr. Building, 1207 North Jefferson Street, Tampa, FL 33602.



Aerial map showing the job training center site on the Northside of the GTE Financial headquarters property.



Kevin Bessolo discusses the Tempo designs.



Preliminary designs for the gateway entrance to Perry Harvey Park



Say Hello to the Tempo! The schematic designs for the Tempo were unveiled to former Central Park Residents and area neighbors at the Tempo Community Design Meeting held July 29th.



Architectural rendering of the proposed renovation of the St. James Episcopal Church.

CLASSES & EVENTS

PARENTING CLASSES - every Thursday 10 a.m. at 1390 W. Green Street

ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASSES - every Thursday 11 a.m. at 1390 W. Green Street

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND YOU - 1 hour workshop to answer questions regarding Health Care Reform - **Thursday, September 19th @ 6:00 P.M.** at **Tampa Park Plaza**, Scott Street and Nebraska Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602

RESIDENT NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

MARIE JUSTINVIL was awarded the Geraldine Barnes Resident Achievement award by the Tampa Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for July 2013. Marie was recognized for her determination and hard work in overcoming economic and employment barriers. After moving from Haiti in 2001, Ms. Justinvil could barely speak English. But she has worked hard to learn English and she became a U.S. citizen in 2008! She also worked very hard to gain steady employment, filling out applications wherever she went. Her persistence paid off and she has been working at the Tampa Convention Center for three years! Ms. Justinvil joined the FSS program in 2008 and will be graduating from the program next year! We congratulate Marie on all of her personal achievements, she is truly an inspiration!



Many of our former Central Park Village neighbors have volunteered to serve on planning and design committees for upcoming projects funded by the Choice Neighborhoods grant. There are committees for the design of the Tempo building, St. James Church historic renovation and the GTE Financial Job Training Center. **TYRONE HOUSE** and **VICKI THOMPSON** are on one of the design committees. Other Choice Neighborhood committees are being formed if you would like to participate please contact your case manager or Stephanie Brown-Gilmore for more information.

Congratulations to **ANTWANIA CRITTON** for entering the workforce again. Ms. Critton was unemployed for about two years constantly looking for employment. On August 12, 2013 she was able to secure employment as a hotel housekeeper and is one step closer to completing her goal of self-sufficiency.

RONALD BATES secured employment in his field of choice at Rubens Cuban Café as a cook, after being unemployed for over 2 years. Mr. Bates enjoys cooking and his goal is to open and operate his own restaurant.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



JAHRVIS JAMES DEAN DAVENPORT (son of Ms. Deborah Davenport) attends Robinson HS, was on the honor roll the entire school year of 2012 through 2013. Jahrvs is very athletic, he plays football and runs track. Jahrvs's future goal is to become an attorney.

QUINNESHA ANDERSON (daughter of Andrena Anderson) graduated from Middleton High School and is now enrolled in the Hillsborough Community College medical program studying to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). Quinnesha successfully completed Tampa Housing Authority's COMPASS program and her ultimate goal is to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).

DREAMS DON'T WORK UNLESS YOU DO!!!

Dear former Central Park Village residents and Central Park / Ybor neighbors:



Hope you all enjoyed a wonderful and safe summer this year and the kids have all adjusted to being back at school. This Fall we have lots of exciting news and opportunities coming by way of Encore and the Central Park/Ybor Choice Neighborhood. We are gearing up to kick off many of our initiatives under the CNI Grant such as the Job Training Center in partnership with GTE Financial, the Urban Farm in partnership with the School District, Perry Harvey Park renovations and Scott Street Streetscaping with the City of Tampa, and many more impactful community improvements which together will contribute to making this neighborhood a Community of Choice. If you are on the web please be sure to check in our or website, facebook page and twitter feed regularly for updates and opportunities. If you prefer the more traditional method of receiving information please pick up the phone and call your case manager for the latest happenings. Great things are on the horizon so don't just sit by and read about it, join one of our many planning and implementation committees and stay engaged in the exciting and rewarding job of community building.

Sincerely,

*Jerome D. Ryans
President / CEO*

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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NEWSLETTER

**let us know if you would like to receive this newsletter by email, contact Amanda Brown at 813-341-9101 ext. 2620 or amanda.brown@thafl.com*