

THE VOICE OF CHOICE

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

FALL 2013

Volume 2013
Issue 4

HUD SECRETARY DONOVAN VISITS ENCORE

On November 8th the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made his first visit to the Encore District. During his visit he held a press conference to discuss the Affordable Care Act and how it helps further affordable housing initiatives. Secretary Donovan also toured the Ella and visited with some of the residents. Secretary Donovan remarked on the link between housing and healthcare, stating that, "Getting folks insured, it's not just good for their healthcare, it is good for their housing".



TRIO NOW LEASING

The crane has come down and construction crews are putting the final touches on the beautiful new units inside the Trio multi-family residential building at the Encore. The official website for the Trio building was launched this fall and will give you details on the units and leasing, <http://trioatencore.com/>



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CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

The Reed Building is now under construction and the Trio building is nearing completion. The construction crews are putting the final touches on the beautiful new units inside the Trio multi-family residential building at the Encore. The Reed will be a 7 story, 158 unit, senior residential building built to at least LEED Silver green construction certification standards. The Reed is scheduled to open in early 2015.



Progress on the Trio building next to the St. James Church which is about to get a much needed renovation (left). The Reed building is now going vertical (top).



BYRNE CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRANT

The Tampa Housing Authority recently won a \$596,616 Byrne Criminal Justice Initiative Enhancement Grant to further safety initiatives within the Choice Neighborhood area. The BCJI Enhancement will expand the reach of the current Central Park / Ybor Choice Neighborhood to incorporate a focus on crimes and nuisances committed by homeless persons. This grant was developed with the help of our partners; the City of Tampa Police Department, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County, CDC of Tampa, Ybor City Development Corporation, Beverly G. Ward PhD, and Ruth Dewberry. Through this grant the Housing Authority and its partners will work to make sure that residents and business owners feel safe in the neighborhood, that a comprehensive continuum of care which is responsive to the unique ness of the homeless is established and that the Choice Neighborhood is a fully revitalized community with a supportive network of stakeholders. The last Byrne Grant public meeting was held on December 10, 2013 at the Ella Community Room, 1210 Ray Charles Blvd. Please visit the Tampa Housing Authority Choice Neighborhood websites for more information on the grant and dates and times for upcoming public meetings.

www.thafl.com/Choice-Neighborhoods



Byrne Criminal Justice Grant partners meeting at the Tampa Housing Authority to kick-off the grant.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to **TAMPA FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS** for winning a Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance Grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. They are one of 44 centers throughout the state to receive such an award. The money will go towards hiring new doctors and nurses, purchase new equipment and lease new clinic space.

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

RESIDENT NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

SHERISSE MCCRAY (*right*) was awarded the Geraldine Barnes Resident Achievement Award for the month of November 2013, for Success Without Boundaries. When relocation started at Central Park Village, Ms. McCray had been unemployed for a year. But this mother of six kept searching and finally found a position as a housekeeper at the Tampa Bay Times Forum in 2007. She



has been employed at the Forum for almost seven years and has been promoted twice. She is now a Lead Supervisor, overseeing 42 employees! Ms. McCray was nominated by her case worker, Virginia Padgett.



EUGENE NEAL (*left*) celebrated her 80th birthday in style! Her birthday was September 24, 2013 and her children gave her a surprise birthday party at the Letter Carriers on Cypress.

RESIDENT COMMITTEES

The following Choice Neighborhoods Resident Committees have been formed and the following former Central Park Village residents have agreed to be on the following committees:

YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE: Trenidra Cobb, Florida Simpson, Daphne Narcisse, Daniel Narcisse, Darculia Smith and Ricknyan Parks

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE: Tacoma Smith, Janice Pope, Winifred Crecy, Andrena Anderson, Gwendolyn Johnson

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE: Brenda Donald, Florida Simpson and Cindy Campbell

BUILDING DESIGN COMMITTEE: Ruth Dewberry, Tyrone House, Vickie Thompson and Ronel Joseph

GTE FINANCIAL TRAINING CENTER COMMITTEE: Lashunda Foster, Sharonde Warren, Florida Simpson

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Florida Simpson

URBAN FARM COMMITTEE: Doris Harris

If you would like to join a committee please contact your case manager for more information.

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

Happy Holidays! As we close out 2013 we have a lot to be thankful for and much to look forward to in 2014. Last month we had a visit from the Secretary of HUD Shaun Donovan who visited the Encore District. He toured the Ella and was very impressed and he also had an opportunity to speak with many residents of the Ella. Much progress has been made on the Encore site with the completion of the Trio and beginning construction of the Reed. Please note that we are having public meetings regarding the Byrne Criminal Justice Grant which provides safety initiatives to the Choice Neighborhood area. Please feel free to attend these meetings as your support is always welcome. I would like to give a special thank you to all of our Choice Neighborhood Resident Committee Members. We appreciate your service and look forward to your input. I wish you all a great holiday and a prosperous start to 2014



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