

THE VOICE OF CHOICE



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

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ENCORE DEVELOPMENTS

Get ready to feel the rush. The Reed grand opening was held in October. The Tampa Housing Authority's fourth residential development building, The Tempo at Encore, has topped out and is slated to open in the fall of 2016. The Tempo will be a multi-family affordable residential building. It will contain a pool, fitness center, community room, and a small black box theater. The City of Tampa is also opening the redeveloped Perry Harvey, Sr. Park, which you can read more about on the next page.

Left: The beautiful pool and courtyard at the Reed Senior Residences at Encore. Right: The Reed at Encore. Bottom: Construction progress on the Tempo at Encore.



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CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

ROBERT SAUNDERS LIBRARY RIBBON CUTTING

A ribbon cutting celebration on August 12, 2015 marked the grand opening of the beautiful new Robert Saunders Library on Nebraska Avenue. The new 2-story, 26,244 square-foot library is filled with interactive displays (pictured below) recounting the rich history of the African American experience within Hillsborough County, it is a sight to behold. There is a children's library on the first floor. The new community room is one of the best in the county and has capacity for 350 people.



PERRY HARVEY, SR. PARK OPENING

On July 21, 2015 the City of Tampa held a groundbreaking to commemorate the start of construction on the redeveloped Perry Harvey Sr. Park next to the Encore District. Mayor Bob Buckhorn, Legislative Aide Chloe Coney, THA Commision Chair Dr. Hazel Harvey, and several descendants of Perry Harvey, Sr. were on hand for the occassion. After almost a year of construction the park is almost finished. The park is beautiful, filled with art and installations that teach about the history of the old Central Avenue business district. The official park Grand Opening is set for **Sunday, April 3, 2016 from 2 to 5 pm!** Please come out and join us at the park if you can.

RESCHEDULED TO SUNDAY, APRIL 3!

Join Mayor Bob Buckhorn
& Community Leaders
for the

*Grand Opening of
Perry Harvey, Sr. Park*
900 East Scott Street

Sunday, April 3, 2016
2 to 5 p.m.

Free food • Games
Live entertainment
Kid's bounce house
Bring your chairs
& blankets!

**Ride HART free
with your family**

Families ride free all day on April 3, 2016.
Families must be two or more people
boarding HART together.
Excludes HARTPlus, HARTFlex
and Streetcar services.

City of Tampa
Florida

BUDGETING CLASS - every Tuesday, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at 1390 W. Green Street
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS CLASS - every Tuesday, call your case manager for details
FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM - enrollment is now open for all Public Housing and Section 8 residents - contact your case manager for more details.

ONGOING CLASSES



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Tampa Housing Authority sent 10 students from five Hillsborough County high schools to Washington DC to attend the 2015 Congressional Black Caucus. These students won an essay contest held by the Housing Authority by writing about how education prepares them for the future. Four of the students were raised in Central Park Village, **Aldashia Daymon**, **Jovaria Bailey**, **Ricquan Moore**, and **Reniya Battles**. While in Washington, the students met their congresswoman, Representative Cathy Castor (see group picture to the right), and they toured the White House and U.S. Capitol Building. We know these students learned a lot and we know they will achieve great things.



Several of the children involved in THA's Choice Neighborhood Youth Case Management attended the **USF S.T.E.M. Expo**. This Expo was dedicated to introducing, inspiring students to get involved in S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) related studies. The expo provided a safe and entertaining environment for K-12 students to gain hands on experience, by connecting them with USF Student Organizations and industry professionals. During the Expo, **Michael Jones** (above left) decided he wants to study medicine and become a doctor and **Rasharda Tolbert** (above right) chose to become a civil engineer!

Congratulations to **TERRICK SMITH** (pictured far right). He graduated from Middleton High School in June 2015!



EVENTS AT ENCORE

Now that there are hundreds of families living at the Encore, the Tampa Housing Authority is looking to liven up the development and is working with a wonderful array of performers, entertainers and vendors to provide exciting events to our residents at the Encore and events that we can share with the surrounding communities. Several events are taking place at the Encore this Spring. There is a new monthly seasonal farmer's market that has been set up to provide local produce, food and craft vendors the opportunity to set up shop on Ray Charles Blvd. Recently, a Food Truck rally was held at the Encore on **March 26**. The next market is **April 16, 2016 from 11 am - 3pm**. We hope to see you at one of these exciting events!

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

Happy Spring! We have sprung into some exciting things taking place! Our Encore District is stepping up to be a great community. Construction is completed on the Reed and the Tempo is well on its way to a fall completion. Wit new families moving in, the community is shaping up to be a staple in the downtown Tampa area. Another construction landmark is the Perry Harvey Park located next to the Encore. The Grand Opening is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 3rd from 2 - 5 pm. We have many exciting events at the Encore that you may be intersted in attending. We recntly held a food truck rally and have had several urban markets on site. The next Encore urban market will be held April 16th. Please see the inside of this newsletter for event details and be sure to come out and support the great events and see first-hand what a great community this is.



Finally, I would like to give special congratulations to our 10 students from local area high schools that went to Washington, D.C. through our Program and Property Services department to tour the White House and the Capitol Building and attend the 2015 Congressional Black Caucus. Your essays were compelling and you made the Tampa Housing Authority proud. We wish you many blessings in your educational pursuits.

I wish you all an exciting and safe spring!

*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