

CENTRAL PARK'S HISTORY



CPV late 1950s



CPV Present



In The Scrubs 1932

Central Park Village opened in the 1950s with 482 units. It was built in an area of Tampa known as "The Scrubs". The Scrubs was a predominantly African American community, settled by former slaves shortly after the Civil War. By the early 1950s the neighborhood was run down and mostly comprised of tin-roof shacks, apartment houses and cottages. Many houses still lacked modern amenities like plumbing and electricity. I-4 and I-275 were built and completed during the 1960s. These projects erased any remaining traces of the original "Scrubs" community. The past 50 years have taken their toll on Central Park and the community is now slated for demolition. A new mixed-income / mixed-use development is to be built in its place. The layout of the new development will help to link the surrounding neighborhoods and Central Park with one another. There are a few historic sites still remaining within and around Central Park; Meacham Alternative School, St. James Episcopal Church, St. Peter Claver Catholic School and the Allen Temple AME Church, now known as the Paradise Missionary Baptist Church.



Historic St. James Episcopal Church

The church was built in 1921. The church is now owned by THA and will become an African-American History Museum when Central Park is redeveloped.

RESIDENT RELOCATION MEETINGS Every Tuesday @ 6:00 P.M.

The Resident Relocation meetings have been providing a forum for open discussions and updates on the ongoing relocation process. Recently, CPV relocation counselor, **Mary Williams**, brought by her collection of historic photos of the Central Avenue area to share with Central Park residents. It was great to see what the area use to look like. A few residents even recognized some of the people in the photos. Thank you, Mary!



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Wilitha Ashley

Graduated with a drafting degree from Irwin Technical Institute

CONGRATULATIONS



Meacham Alternative School

The school was built in 1926, and was originally named "the India Street School". Major renovations were made to the school in 1954, much of the original structure was altered at that time. The school was later renamed for Christina Meacham the first African-American principal of a Tampa school. The school is still in use by the school board and is slated to be rebuilt as a modern school onsite.

"farewell for now to these CPV residents.... but we hope to see them back someday...."



Nametha Anderson



Tomasa Quiles



Annie Lane



Wade Williams



Andrew Carnegie



Johnnie Mae Williams



Faye Pope



King Henderson



Katie Patrick



Kurtrice Lofton



Shondra Williams



Bobbie Kendrick



Carol Matthews



Teome Perry



Melissa Bates



Charlene Powell



Valeria Boyd



Lorraine Davis



Melissa Burwell



Miracle Everett

ON THE MOVE

Caridad C. Adams
Mildred Allen-Hayes
Edna Anderson
Chanelle Andrews
Angerloe V. Bellamy
Latisha L. Bivens
Janet D. Brown
Cindy T. Campbell

Verdell Collins
Winifred J. Crecy
Victoria Denson
Brenda J. Donald
Elaine L. Forbes
Lashunda L. Foster
Izema Francois
Carlos Gotay
Lakenya K. Hardy
Ronda Holder
Tyrone House
Daniel Ine
Barbara L. Ingram
Joseph H. Johnson
Trisha A. Labauch
Francois Louis

Mary J. McGruder
Jennie L. McLoyd
Janis C. Muse
Frank L. Oliphant
Carrie B. Oliver
Marie E. Osier
Charlene Perkins
Hattie Pratt
Gregory Reeves
Bethany C. Robinson
Odessa Robinson
Vickie Roush
Gwendolyn E. Taylor
Hattie Taylor
Shirley C. Terry
Antoinette D. Turner



Sabrina L. Wells



Jyneatrice F. Moore

Misna L. Vazquez
Monica L. Walden
Justin Williams
Linda Williams
Mary F. Williams
Shakeela Williams



Shareca Barnes

from the president/CEO



As the relocation process moves into high gear I feel it is appropriate that this issue of the CPV Review Newsletter reflect on the past. Central Park Village and Central Avenue has made an indelible mark on the landscape of Tampa and beyond. With its rich cultural heritage, powerful musical contributions which have literally spanned the world, and popular dance craze known as the Twist, the Central Avenue legacy deserves not only a respectful remembrance but an encore performance. As we progress with the redevelopment plans for this community we intend to keep in mind the need to restore much of the qualities which made Central Avenue unique. One thing which is so amazing and fortunate is that in Tampa, unlike many other Cities, that history is still very much a part of the community and we have a really excellent opportunity to ensure that it is preserved and promoted in a respectful and correct manner and where possible take advantage of the opportunity to recreate that ambiance of uniqueness. Thanks to the efforts of our Mayor, Pam Iorio, and others in the community who are working hard to decide on historical figures to represent that heritage in the redevelopment of Perry Harvey Sr. Park; THA's planned restoration of St. James Episcopal Church and use as an African American History Museum; and the School Board's commitment to the rebuilding of Meacham School, that history will be represented back on-site in many forms.

Stay tuned for more updates in future issues of the newsletter.

Sincerely,
Jerome D. Ryans
President/CEO

CLASSES & SERVICES

GED Classes
M - Th 8 am - 11:30 am
and 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
1800 N. Rome

Job and Career Services
offered daily 8 am-5 pm
1000 India Street
contact: James Martin 223-6524

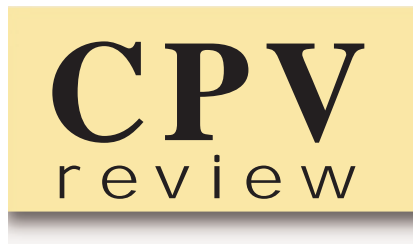
Budget and Credit Classes
(Through Genesis Financial)
Weds 12 pm - 2 pm
Transportation provided

IMPORTANT DATES

Apr. 6 - THA Offices CLOSED
Apr. 19 - Health Fair @ 10 am
Central Park Village

JOBS

www.thajobs.com



central park village

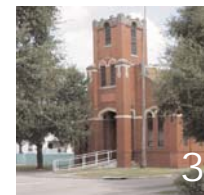
for the residents and surrounding community of central park

HEALTH FAIR - April 19th

HEALTH FAIR - April 19th

volume 7, issue 1

PAST PRESENT FUTURE



(top left) St. James Episcopal Church, present day; (top right and middle) Rendering of proposed Central Park redevelopment including St. James; (bottom) Aerial of Central Park looking South, present day.

CONTENTS

CPV Past, Present & Future.....	2 - 3
Relocation Meetings	2
Former CPV residents.....	3
Kids's Corner.....	3
From the President/CEO...	4
Calendar/Jobs.....	4

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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review

