



THIS MONTH IN ST. PAUL'S

SEPTEMBER
2024

PEOPLE FIRST PLAY BALL!

Norfolk Tides vs. Worcester Red Sox – and former Tidewater Gardens residents, along with People First, USI staff were in the stands cheering on the home team! It was Family Night at Harbor Park, where 114 residents and staff enjoyed food, fun and fellowship. For some, it was the first time they had ever attended a ball game, or been to Harbor Park. Family Night, hosted by People First, USI, was a chance for residents and staff to connect and experience community in a new and exciting way.



Thanks to the Norfolk Tides, a leverage partner with the Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) grant, for providing free tickets for residents to enjoy the game. Norfolk received the \$30M CNI grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the construction of the Kindred neighborhood.

Even though the Tides lost 8-5 against Worcester, they gained new fans in the process. Go Tides!



ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Next month's meeting will be held in person on October 15th, 2024 from 6-7:30pm at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk. You can find the presentations and meeting minutes of previous meetings [here](#).

Questions?

Please email us at stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov.

PEOPLE FIRST BY THE NUMBERS:

During the month of August, the Education Specialists and Family Support Specialists (FSS) worked together to assist families with enrolling youth ages 3–5 in Pre-K. As a result of the People First teams' collaborative efforts, 53 toddlers are now enrolled in early learning programs.

GETTING TO SCHOOL SAFELY



Getting Ruffner Academy students to and from campus safely is now easier thanks to a new bus stop in the Kindred neighborhood. Every school morning at 7:36AM, bus #272 arrives at the corner of Posey Lane and Bute Street to transport students from Origin Circle, The Rotunda, St. Paul's



Apartments and neighboring buildings to school, and returns them at the end of the school day.

This new stop is the result of a collaboration between Norfolk Public Schools and the Norfolk Department of Housing and Community Development, based on the community's request to prioritize safety for students while construction still continues in the area.

For questions about the new stop, contact NPS Transportation Office at 757-892-3320.



**THIS MONTH
IN ST. PAUL'S**

**SEPTEMBER
2024**

DEVELOPMENT

CONNECTING NEIGHBORHOODS

Congressman Bobby Scott presented a \$1.6M check to the City of Norfolk to support the construction of the Freemason Street Bridge in St. Paul's Kindred neighborhood. The federal funding comes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The bridge will create a much-needed east-west connection between two previously disconnected parts of Norfolk.



The Freemason St. Bridge will feature two lanes, pedestrian sidewalks with lighting and landscaping, and will span the soon to be constructed 22-acre Blue/Greenway Park.

This \$7M bridge project will be a game-changer, according to Norfolk Mayor Kenneth Alexander. "If we can continue to take down barriers, structures that prevented people from connecting and from living out their full potential..., and this is another chance to do that, to connect the community, connect the city, with a bridge," said Mayor Alexander.

KINDRED RIBBON CUTTING

The pouring rain did not dampen the spirits of those in attendance at the September 17th ribbon cutting ceremony for Reunion and Origin Circle in Kindred!

Several dozen people gathered under a tent, complete with chandelier, and celebrated the grand opening of the first two apartment home buildings. Norfolk Mayor Kenneth Alexander, Councilwoman Danica Royster and representatives from Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Brinshore Developers, and the Franklin Group, were on hand to bring congratulations to all involved with the transformation project.



RESIDENTS SPEAK ABOUT LIVING IN KINDRED

Two former Tidewater Gardens residents who have returned to Kindred spoke movingly about what the transformed community means to them.

Wilma Gray said, "It's been awesome. I like being out here. It's safer, it's quiet. The kids can enjoy themselves.

There's plenty of stuff for them to do. We have a

fitness center. We have a game room and a playground". Tasheda Kahill agreed. "I feel 100% more secure here. I can actually let my 10-year-old son play in the courtyard. It's not accessible for people who have nothing but negative things to do because they see kids having fun."



Reunion Senior Living and Origin Circle, are now fully leased, including 44 former Tidewater Gardens residents who have chosen to return to Kindred.

Get Certified!

Schedule of Free SWaM and DBE Workshops



SWaM/DBE Certification Workshop
1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
[REGISTER HERE](#)



SWaM/DBE Certification Workshop
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
[REGISTER HERE](#)



SWaM Certification Workshop
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
[REGISTER HERE](#)



SWaM/DBE Application Assistance One-on-One Sessions

SWaM Certification: Angela Barber - angela.barber@sbsd.virginia.gov
DBE Certification: Nina Britton - Nina.Britton@sbsd.virginia.gov