

# THE COMMUNITY INFORMER

Town of Eatonville



The town that Freedom Built 1887

## SPRING REFRESH !

Spring Edition 2021

### Straight Request open new facility



### CRA New Housing Weatherization Partnership is here!

<p><b>MECHANICAL MEASURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean, tune, repair or replace heating systems.</li> <li>• Install duct and heating pipe insulation.</li> <li>• Install programmable thermostats and other HVAC controls.</li> <li>• Repair/replace water heaters.</li> <li>• Install water heater tank insulation.</li> <li>• Insulate water heating pipes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>HEALTH &amp; SAFETY MEASURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete combustion appliance safety testing.</li> <li>• Inspect/replace vent systems to ensure combustion gas draft safety outside.</li> <li>• Install mechanical ventilation to ensure adequate indoor air quality.</li> <li>• Assess fire hazards. Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when needed.</li> <li>• Perform incipient safety repairs when needed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>BUILDING SHELL MEASURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install wall, floor ceiling, attic, and/or foundation insulation.</li> <li>• Complete Storm Door Testing.</li> <li>• Perform air sealing.</li> <li>• Install storm windows.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ELECTRIC BASELOAD MEASURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install efficient light sources.</li> <li>• Replace refrigerators with energy efficient models.</li> </ul>
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Congratulations to Mr. Tony Grant for the opening of his 15,000 square foot corporate warehouse facility. This project coming to the Town of Eatonville brings jobs, increased commercial tax revenue, a corporate responsible partner and approximately \$7500 in affordable housing trust fund dollars. The CRA is excited about the economic development accomplishments project and what projects like this bring to our community and CRA District. Mr. Tony Grant was a committed developer to CRA District and the Town and we share joy in including the Straight Request family to Historic Town of Eatonville business community.

Residents within the CRA District and Town of Eatonville may now apply for Weatherization Assistance. The CRA has partnered with the Osceola Council on Aging to assist the qualifying home owners with home weatherization assistance. Applications can be picked up at 370 East Kennedy Blvd. (CRA Building). Don't miss out on this great opportunity.





## BREAKS GROUND



**Orlando Sentinel May 19th 2021** - After five years of delays, technology company HostDime Inc., broke ground Wednesday on a \$35 million data center and headquarters, which will rise on the former grounds of a historic Eatonville school site, east of Interstate 4.

A son of immigrants, HostDime founder and CEO Manny Vivar said the five-acre site on Wymore Road fits the company’s mission: lift community. “We want to make everybody proud,” he said, thanking the company’s banking, business and civic partners. This investment is a catalyst for jobs, tax revenue and community partnerships long term. The Town of Eatonville with a corporate asset like this will attract even more high intensity development within the CRA District and along Wymore and I-4. Special acknowledgement to the Town Council for making this project happen.



# JUNETENTH CELEBRATION 2021



## Positive Flow Inc. Celebrates our Culture

After a long hiatus due to COVID 19, Positive Flow is ready to celebrate our culture. Join the celebration June 18th thru June 20th, 2021 for a three (3) day celebration in the Town of Eatonville. This event will bring food, dance, spoken word poetry and live entertainment which all can celebrate. Social distancing and mask wearing is encouraged as a safety precaution.

### What is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops’ arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. Confederate General Robert E. Lee had surrendered at Appomattox Court House two months earlier in Virginia, but slavery had remained relatively unaffected in Texas—until U.S. General Gordon Granger stood on Texas soil and read General Orders No. 3: “The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free.”





Featured Town Official

## Town Councilman Tarus Mack Corner

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Town Councilman Tarus Mack will be co-hosting along with Janay's Treasurers the Town of Eatonville 1st "Pop-Up" Shop on August 8th, 2021 at the Denton Johnson Center and Pavilion. This event will provide the community an opportunity to come out and support small businesses, enjoy old school music and delicious food provided by vendors. The event is from 12 p.m. until 6 p.m. (Kids friendly!)

### CODE ENFORCEMENT JOINS COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP INITIATIVE



It's that time again. Town Councilman Tarus Mack Community Clean Up Day will be kicking off over the summer (Saturday) June 26, 2021. Each quadrant will have an opportunity to get rid of yard waste and debris, old appliances, junk cars and unwanted items which contribute to slum and blight within the CRA District and the Town of Eatonville. Code Enforcement will be assisting in this years efforts. *Let's help clean-up our community.*

Contact us 321-444-6207.



For Stephanie, disaster struck her twice. In 2018, Stephanie and her two children, ages 7 and 8, received furniture and clothing assistance from The Mustard Seed of Central Florida after leaving an unsafe relationship and ending up homeless. Stephanie again found herself needing help after her apartment was among several homes in Jernigan Gardens damaged by a fire in December of last ye



“To receive furniture from The Mustard Seed fills my heart with warmth and joy,” Stephanie said. “To have a place to come to after such an ordeal is a blessing all itself. But to have furniture to place into the apartment for my girls to have a bed of their own to lay in is what will make that place special, will make that place home.”

There are three components to The Mustard Seed’s program: furniture, clothing and mattress recycling. The Mustard Seed Boutique and Community Shop is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and helps those in our clothing program who are struggling financially.

To learn more about **The Mustard Seed of Central Florida** and how to get involved, please contact us at **(407) 875-2040** or visit our website at **www.mustardseedfla.org**. Please follow us on **Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn** to keep up with the important work we do in the community.



## Executive Director Corner

I would like to welcome the agencies new staff, Jonita Robinson (Executive Office Assistant), to the Town of Eatonville CRA and Historic Town of Eatonville family. Ms. Robinson comes to the community with a wealth of experience which provides the CRA with a professional who can wear many of hats. Ms. Robinson has over 20 years (retired) experience in Human Resources, Accounting and management. She has her Master Degree in Business Administration. She will be taking on many rolls to assist our residents and business within the community. The agency is proud to welcome her to the team.

The CRA Board of Directors and Town Council are working diligently to address many economic development concerns within the community. The agency has been task with Development Services oversight which includes Planning, Building, Code Enforcement and Engineering. We are excited to provide these services to our community in a professional, responsible and transparent manner.

*Michael Johnson*  
CRA Executive Director

## Follow Us:

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**Eatonville Main Street**



**Town of Eatonville CRA**  
@eatonvillecra · Public & government service



**Eatonville Main Street**  
@EatonvilleMainStreet · Community organisation

## Contact Us:

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**370 East Kennedy Blvd.**  
**Eatonville, Florida 32751**

**Phone: 407-960-1361**  
**Website: [www.eatonvillecra.org](http://www.eatonvillecra.org)**  
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# SPRING 2021 SPOTLIGHT GOES TO.....

# Eatonville *Business* Spotlight



LET US KNOW WHAT YOUR BUSINESS IS DOING IN THE CRA DISTRICT



**What is the ONE thing that you think can be done to close the ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL gap of disparities that exists between White and Black America?**

Forbes magazine publishes periodic data on the wealth divide in America, specifically data concerning the median African-American household net worth and the median White household net worth. The last publication put the African-American median household net worth at \$8,880 and the White median household net worth at around \$142,000, which represents a 16 fold difference in wealth!

**The next question Is why is the gap so wide?**

Real estate, education and labor markets are the immediate reasons.

**Ken Bradshaw of LPL Financial** states "The other element of this process is "financial wellness and literacy." Every African American family should be teaching their children about budgets, life insurance, credit scores, investments, taxes and tax-efficiency, retirement planning and ultimately - wealth planning and generational wealth building. At a minimum, our families should have at least 2-3 wealth building classes or seminars that we attend each year as a family. Wealth Accumulation, Income planning in retirement and tax-efficient legacy building is a phrase that we must understand and become laser focused on.



**How Your CRA Dollars Are Being Spent?**

**TOWN OF EATONVILLE CRA REVENUE**

Ad Valorem Taxes Town	186,566
Ad Valorem Taxes County	113,434
Interest Earnings	7,382
Beginning Fund Balance	<u>1,009,000</u>

**Total Revenues \$1,316,382**

**EXPENDITURES**

Personnel Services	152,299
Operating Expenses	276,075
Capital Outlay	771,951
Grants	<u>0</u>

**Total Expenditures \$1,200,325**

**BALANCE FORWARD COMMITTED**

Trust Beginning Balance 2021	501,635
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