

Happy

Halidays

and a

JOYFULL NEW YEAR







# **NEXT MEETING: THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time you read this, we are already deep into the Christmas season. The season actually started the day after Halloween. We put away all the pumpkins and ghosts and started bringing out Christmas decorations. This was interrupted briefly by Thanksgiving with some turkey and pumpkin pie. At Disney they change from Halloween to Christmas decorations overnight. Some guests come and stay on the property just so they can experience the transformation.

As we get closer to Christmas Day many of us approach it with mixed emotions. For some people it is not the happiest time as we see displayed in the Publix ads. It can be an emotional holiday. Christmas is much more than all the decorations, gatherings, special foods, presents, and good wishes. In our very divided and troublesome country, Christmas brings us together and helps us unite. There is a spirit of hope, anticipation, and goodwill that is bigger than all of us.

As we remember the story of Hanukkah and the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, there was light that penetrated the darkness in the world. We are living in a dark and angry world. The power of this light brings love, truth, generosity, and healing to all who embrace it. This is in the very nature of the Christmas spirit. On a local level opportunities exist to donate bikes to needy kids, Shop with a Cop with the Winter Springs Police, donations to a food pantry, visiting a nursing home or just bringing a plate of Christmas cookies to your neighbor. Christmas can light up our lives as we try to light up the lives around us. We can be a united community and nation even if it is for only a short time.

The Christmas story as told in the Gospel of Luke was meant for everyone. I once visited the site of Jesus birth in

Do you or someone you know in Tuscawilla have a special hobby, unique profession or insightful travel experience that would be interesting for our readers? Has your community completed notable improvements or planned an important event? Let me know and we will be glad to include these news items in a future issue of Tuscawilla Today. Thank you, Kathy McCann. I can be contacted at: EditorKathyMccann@gmail.com.

Bethlehem. As we looked at the site of Jesus' birth, one of our tour group just started singing, "The hopes and fears of all the years were born in thee tonight". Whether you embrace this account or not, there is still a unifying spirit that invades all of us at this time of year.



In a few days it will be January. This coming year is an election year, and you know what that means. If it is like any of the past it will be a rough and tumble time. Wouldn't it be nice if we could carry some of that Christmas spirit over into the new year? Let's try.

Blessings to you all and Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah

## **Dr. Kurt Miericke**

THOA President
Publisher, *Tuscawilla Today*Email: THOAws20@gmail.com

# Season's Greetings!

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# **HOW OUR LOCAL WILDLIFE CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS**

While Winter Springs residents are hanging stockings, lighting trees, and welcoming visiting relatives, our local wildlife is busy celebrating the season in its own unique and often humorous ways. While they might not exchange gifts at the mall or roast marshmallows over the fire, if you look closely there is a whole lot of holiday spirit happening just beyond our backyards.

The Sandhill Cranes, for instance, hold their own version of a family reunion. Every winter, extended crane families gather in open fields and wetlands, trumpeting loudly as if they are catching up with cousins they only see once a year. Their synchronized strolling across golf courses is less migration strategy and more holiday parade.

Squirrels, meanwhile, host the season's most competitive gift exchange. Throughout December, you will see them racing through trees and across lawns, burying acorns like treasure. What looks like frantic food storage is actually a spirited game of Secret Santa. The challenge, of course, is remembering where they hid the presents. Many are forgotten, which is how the squirrels unknowingly plant next year's forests. A gift that keeps on giving.

Our owls take a more traditional approach to the holidays: candlelight services. On crisp winter nights, you may hear their solemn calls echoing through the trees like a choir singing from the shadows. For many owls, this season is also about starting new families, making them perhaps the only locals preparing holiday bundles of joy quite literally.

Raccoons host the evening festivities. When humans go to sleep, raccoons indulge in a midnight buffet, sampling garbage bins like a holiday potluck spread. They arrive uninvited, leave without cleaning up, and behave exactly like that one relative we all pretend not to notice.

Down by the water, turtles and alligators celebrate a more relaxed holiday season. Picture them sunbathing along the shoreline, soaking up warmth like retirees vacationing in Boca. They do not exchange gifts, but they do share the universal holiday goal: conserving energy until spring.

Even butterflies get in on the festivities. Those that stay through winter glide through parks and gardens like floating ornaments, visiting late blooming flowers for seasonal treats.

So this holiday season, take a quiet walk through Central Winds Park or your own neighborhood trail. Our wildlife may not sing carols or deck the halls, but they are certainly celebrating in a way that only nature can.

# W.S.P.D. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 Calls for service: 5,294

### **RESPONSE TIMES IN MINUTES**

Emergency: 3:25 Non-Emergency: 6:09

#### **TRAFFIC**

Citations: 537 Written Warnings: 500 Accidents: 34 Injuries: 4 Fatalities: 1

## **ARRESTS**

Domestic: 7 Adults: 21
Juvenile: 3 Capias Filed: 5

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Cases: 282 Code Board Cases: 4 Signs removed from right of way: 66

# **EDITOR'S NOTES**

As we turn the page into December, I hope each of you enjoyed a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving surrounded by family, friends and the traditions that make this season meaningful. Here in Tuscawilla, the holidays always seem to arrive with an extra sense of warmth. Our neighborhood has a way of slowing things down just enough for us to appreciate the cooler evenings, the glow of decorations and the feeling that our community truly comes alive this time of year.

Last month's Central Winds Music Festival was another great success and continues to grow each year. The incredible turnout, beautiful weather and strong support from our residents made it one of the most memorable community events of the season. Just days before this issue reaches your mailbox, the Winter Springs Holiday Parade should have taken place, bringing together families, schools, clubs and local organizations for one of the most treasured traditions in our city. It is always a highlight of the holidays in Winter Springs and a wonderful reminder of the joy that comes from gathering as a community.

This issue is filled with updates and events that reflect the spirit of the season. Many of our neighbors look forward to the gatherings hosted by our local clubs and organizations, including the Sunshine Garden Club's Christmas Lunch on December 9. These moments give us the chance to reconnect,

support meaningful causes and celebrate the generosity that is woven so deeply into the culture of Tuscawilla. Beyond our neighborhood, several exciting regional events continue through late December and into mid January, such as the Asian Lantern Festival at the Central Florida Zoo, the holiday lights at Cranes Roost Park and the final nights of Winter Wonderland at Wekiva Island.



We are also highlighting an important new resource for Seminole County residents. Inside this issue you will find detailed information about the county's new SCOUT transportation system. SCOUT offers convenient, inexpensive door to door service throughout most of Seminole County and is designed to make local travel easier for everyone. With holiday errands and busy schedules filling our days, this new service arrives at the perfect time. As we enjoy the last few weeks of the year, I hope you find moments of peace, gratitude and community. From our

family to yours, I wish you a joyful holiday season and a

Katherine McCann
Editor, *Tuscawilla Today*editorkathymccann@gmail.com

bright start to the new year.

# A LOOK BACK: PRESERVING TUSCAWILLA'S EARLIEST HISTORY

This December, as our community gathers for the holidays and reflects on another year together, Tuscawilla Today is excited to share some remarkable news. A treasure trove of Tuscawilla's earliest historical documents has recently been acquired, offering a rare and intimate window into the beginnings of our beloved community. These materials will be featured in upcoming issues, allowing residents to step back in time and see just how far we've come.

Among the documents is the **very first Tuscawilla newsletter**, dated **1971**, printed at a time when our neighborhoods were only beginning to take shape. Its pages include early announcements, community updates, and the tone of optimism that defined those formative years. Also included is the **original 1976 community directory**, listing the names and addresses of the **90 families** who called the Tuscawilla Country Club community home. These families were the trailblazers—the first to walk our winding

streets, establish traditions, and build the sense of pride and belonging that continues to define Tuscawilla today.

As we compare that modest list of 90 households to today's thriving community of **more than 4,600 homes**, the story of Tuscawilla becomes even more extraordinary. What started as a quiet development surrounded by pine forests and rolling fairways has grown into one of Central Florida's most vibrant, welcoming, and enduring neighborhoods.

Over the next several months, we will publish selections from these historic documents—snippets of articles, early community events, vintage photos, and reflections from the earliest residents. We invite you to enjoy these glimpses into our past and share in the pride of a community that continues to honor its roots while embracing the future.

Stay tuned for this special series, beginning in the January issue of **Tuscawilla Today**.

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"The earth has music for those who listen"

- William Shakespeare

# "SECRET SANTA PROGRAM" IN HONOR OF ARNIE NUSSBAUM CONTINUES FOR 2025

Mayor Kevin McCann will, once again, be conducting the "Secret Santa Program" charity drive this year in memory of Tuscawilla resident, Arnie Nussbaum. Mr. Nussbaum was a Guardian Ad Litem volunteer for many years and supported this organization by collecting holiday gifts for the children in

the system. This child advocacy group works with the court system to assign volunteers to speak on behalf of children who have experienced abandonment and neglect. In honor of Arnold Nussbaum's devotion to the GAL program, Mayor McCann, with the support of the THOA, will be seeking donations of NEW unwrapped toys again this year.

Examples of new unwrapped toys needed are high-quality stuffed animals, educational gifts, cars, dolls, musical toys, the season's hottest toys, Gift Cards for tweens and teens and, of course, larger gifts are also welcome. Toys are needed for children ranging from infants to teens. Remember, these toys are for children who have been abused/neglected and are impoverished.

The deadline for donating toys is **Monday, December 12th** (?). Toys can be dropped off at 1109 Pheasant Circle (just place the donations on the front porch bench or in the donation box located at the front door from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call or text Mayor Kevin McCann at 407-534-0675. Thanks, from a kid in need and have a happy holiday while continuing this Tuscawilla and Winter Springs tradition of caring.

# **EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT "SANTA"**

**BACKGROUND:** Few folklore figures fly higher in the global consciousness than Santa, the beloved bearded fellow delivering presents to the whole world on Christmas. His red suit, snowy beard, and magical reindeer are perennial features every December. Santa's evolution from a living saint to a civilian do-gooder stems from a blend of Christian hagiography, general folklore, literary adaptations, and savvy marketing.

SANTA'S EVOLUTION: The Santa Claus we know today developed first out of Saint Nicholas, a fourth-century Christian bishop known for his generosity and love of children, whose feast Catholics celebrated Dec. 6 in the Middle Ages by giving children gifts. Variations of a winter gift-giver spread across Europe. During the Victorian era in England, the Protestant figure of Father Christmas adopted the idea of giving presents to children, after previously serving as an adult-centric character focused on revelry. In the Netherlands and Germany, folk figures Sinterklaas and the Belsnickel, respectively, brought gifts but also punished misbehaving children. Immigrants introduced the traditions to North America, anglicizing the name from Sinterklaas to Santa Claus. In the Middle Ages, the figure was depicted as a thin, elderly man; in England, he often wore green, fur-trimmed robes; and in some parts of Europe, he was pictured alongside the Krampus, a horned Christmas devil. Modern depictions of Santa Claus were cemented in the 19th century. The 1823 poem "A Visit From St. Nicholas" (now known as "'Twas the Night Before Christmas") included iconic details like Santa being large and jolly, descending down the chimney, and riding a sleigh pulled by reindeer. Cartoonist Thomas Nast's depictions of Santa in Harper's Weekly in the 1860s through the 1880s, with his red-and-white suit and his North Pole workshop, completed the transformation from a Catholic saint to a symbol of secular holiday merriment.

**CULTURAL QUIRKS:** Santa's place in holiday culture is almost unparalleled, showing up in films, music, commercials, gatherings, and more, year after year.

Letters to Santa. Millions of children write to Santa with a wish list. The United States Postal Service founded Operation Santa to make some of those Christmas wishes come true, matching letters from children in need to donors who send presents. In 2021, more than 21,000 requests were fulfilled. Milk and Cookies. Leaving out a snack for Santa (and his reindeer) began as a way for children to show gratitude. Snacks vary by country: In the US, it's milk and cookies; in Sweden, a bowl of rice porridge; and in Ireland, a Guinness. It's estimated Santa eats more than 300 million cookies on Christmas Eve.

Mall Santas. After Thanksgiving, visits from Santa to stores are common, giving children (and even pets) the chance to let Santa know in person what they want most. The 34th Street Macy's in New York City has been hosting Santa Claus since 1861.

DEBATES: Like many very popular things, the idea of Santa has its critics. More orthodox Christians often take issue with the way Santa appears to displace focus from the story of Jesus' birth, while others argue telling children the story of Santa Claus is deceitful. Conversely, because of its roots in Christianity, some atheists and atheist governments have condemned the holiday and its main characters. In Soviet Russia, the League of Militant Atheists went so far as to attempt to ban all religious celebrations. Some child psychologists warn that encouraging children to believe in Santa Claus can damage their trust in their parents, while others highlight the importance of magical thinking in childhood, including Santa. Santa also takes the heat as a symbol of the holiday's alleged materialism and overconsumption—and admittedly, there are always a few who take it too far.



# Welcome to Tuscawilla

If you are not already a member, we invite you to join the Tuscawilla Homeowners Association. Tuscawilla HOA is a separate voluntary HOA that is the umbrella over the entire Tuscawilla Community.

We provide a variety of important services, events, and a strong representation to the city of Winter Springs to protect the value of your home and our community. The small annual \$40 membership provides you with:

- A voice to the city and Seminole County
  - Representation at government meetings
- Tuscawilla Community Improvements and Enhancements
  - Common Areas and Parks
  - Entrance and median beautification
- Community Activities
  - Family Fun Day Charitable Events April 12, 2026
  - Guest Speakers to keep our members informed
- Shared communication to all community HOA's
  - Tuscawilla Directory
  - Tuscawilla Today Magazine

# Tuscawilla is not just a neighborhood. It is A Way of Life.

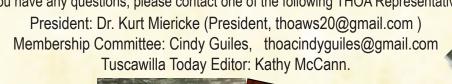
We hope you are enjoying our parks and hiking trails, our safe streets to ride, run, and walk with family and pets and most of all a place you call home.

## **CONVENIENT WAYS TO PAY YOUR \$40 ANNUAL DUES**

- Send your annual membership check/contact into to: Tuscawilla HOA, PO Box 195666, Winter Springs, FL 32719
- Go to www.Tuscawilla.org and find re-enrollment for and PayPal directions
- Scan the QR code



If you have any questions, please contact one of the following THOA Representatives: President: Dr. Kurt Miericke (President, thoaws20@gmail.com)





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A holiday gift of kindness: THOA President Kurt Miericke presents a \$1,000 check to benefit the Winter Springs Police Department's "Shop With A Cop" program, made possible by the continued membership of THOA members.

# of the month

Drive by 1582 Eagles Nest Cir in Glen Eagle and take a look at this month's Yard of the Month! Andy and Laura Owens have lived in Glen Eagle for 28 years and take pride in keeping their garden beautiful. They have a daughter who grew up here and attended UCF. Andy graduated from Rollins College, and Laura attended Rollins but graduated from the University of FL.

Pictured from L to R: Laura Leigh Wood, Vice-President Garden Club; Homeowners: Andy & Laura Owens, Mary Joyce Fisher, Member; Connie Nadowski, Co-President, Garden Club.



# INTRODUCING SCOUT: A NEW WAY TO GET AROUND SEMINOLE COUNTY



A new transportation option has arrived in Seminole County, and it could make getting around easier for residents right here in Tuscawilla. The new on demand service, Scout, offers flexible point to point rides across the county without the need for personal vehicles, fixed bus routes, or traditional schedules. Whether you are heading to the golf course, the grocery store, Winter Springs Town Center, or even connecting to SunRail for the morning commute, Scout brings public transit directly to your doorstep.

Unlike traditional bus service, Scout works more like an Uber style rideshare system operated by the County. Riders request a trip in an app, choose their destination, and a Scout vehicle picks them up within their service zone. It is especially useful for residents who want to avoid short car trips, minimize parking challenges, or simply enjoy another way to reach schools, parks, medical appointments, or local businesses.

For Tuscawilla residents, this service could be particularly helpful for students and families traveling to nearby schools, seniors who prefer not to drive at night, and commuters looking for a simple way to connect to SunRail stations in Longwood, Altamonte

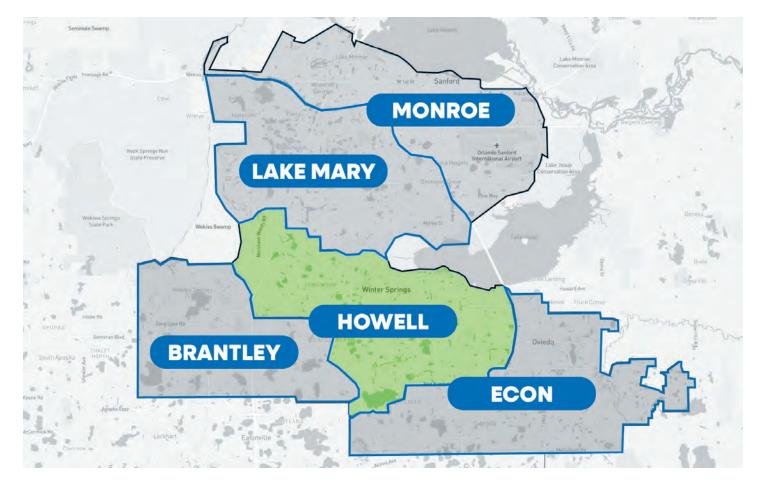
Springs or Lake Mary. Zones were drawn around lakes and natural features rather than city limits, so communities like ours remain grouped together for easy local travel.

Although Scout does not operate in Seminole County's rural boundary areas, most of our neighborhoods are included within the designated service zones. Trips are priced based on how many zones you cross, making shorter rides affordable and longer regional trips predictable and convenient.

This program reflects a growing push toward accessible mobility options, sustainability, and reduced congestion. And for a community like Tuscawilla, where walkability and convenience are already part of our lifestyle, Scout could become a valuable addition to how we move around town.

For more information, visit the SCOUT website at scoutseminolefl.com

To the right are the key details to get you started, including how to download the app, hours of operation, pricing, and zone maps.



# **YOUR RIDE, ON YOUR SCHEDULE**

Scout is Seminole County's on-demand, rideshare service. No fixed routes, no bus stops, no complicated schedules. You choose when and where to go, and a Scout vehicle comes to you.

## STEP-BY-STEP

- Download the Ride Freebee ap on iOS or Android, then create your account/profile (email, phone, basic info).
- 2. Select "Scout Seminole County."
- 3. **Add a payment method** in the app (you can add it on the "Confirm your ride" screen or from the app menu under Payments).
- 4. **Set your pickup location and destination** in the app.
- 5. Review your fare and estimated wait time, then request your ride. You can track the vehicle in real time and meet your driver when it arrives.

## WHEN YOU CAN RIDE

Scout is available seven days a week:

- Monday Friday: 5 a.m. 9 p.m.
- Saturday: 6 a.m. 10 p.m.
- Sunday: 6 a.m. 8 p.m.

## FIVE ZONES, ONE COUNTYWIDE SERVICE

Scout operates in five neighborhood-based zones that make it easier to get around Seminole County without relying on a personal car. Zones were drawn around major waterbodies to avoid confusion with city boundaries and to keep communities together. Each zone connects people to schools, parks, hospitals, government offices, and shopping areas.

Four of the five zones also include a SunRail station, making it easier than ever to connect locally and regionally.

Where Scout does not operate: Scout service does not extend into the rural boundary area of Seminole County. Riders in all other areas of the County will be covered within the five service zones.

## **HOW FARES WORK**

Scout fares are zone-based. The price depends on how many zones your trip crosses:

- \$4 trips within a single zone
- \$7 trips crossing into one additional zone
- \$10 trips crossing two zones
- \$14 trips crossing three zones

A **\$1 surcharge** may apply during peak travel times (6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.) or when bringing extra passengers or large items.



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# LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE THOA

Dr. Miericke, I just read your president's message in the October Tuscawilla Today issue regarding the support you and the THOA Board of Directors had for the Tuscawilla Light and Beautification increased tax assessment, and wanted to tell you my wife and I are 100% behind your decision. We are so happy the City Commissioners passed it!

We've lived in San Jose, California for many years but our daughter and her family have lived in Oviedo for the last 18-20 years and we've made multiple visits each year to visit her. Our daughter has tried to get us to move here for years and we've looked at some houses for sale, but never thought seriously about moving here until about a year ago when she showed us a house that was for sale in Winter Springs. We loved Winter Springs primarily because of the beautiful open areas, established trees and wonderful planned communities within the city. And we were impressed with how beautiful the area is, which of course has to do with having enough tax revenue to maintain it. So we made an offer and purchased a house in the Tuscawilla Reserve and moved here last September.

We continually marvel at how beautiful this area is and are so glad we live here now.

Thanks to you and the Board of Directors for all that you do!

Rick Watson DVM, PhD

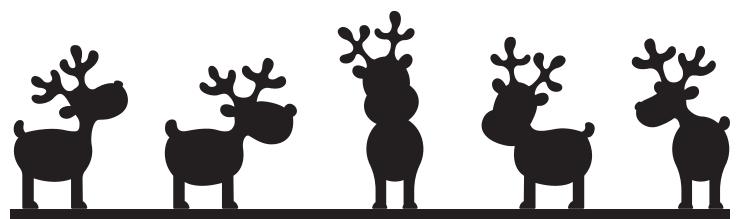


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# WHERE DID RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER ORIGINATE?

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer is famous for his eponymous Christmas tune and for using his luminous nose to heroically guide Santa Claus through the dense snow and fog on Christmas Eve. But originally, Rudolph was created as part of an ad campaign to guide Chicago area customers into department stores. Montgomery Ward was a retailer known for releasing Christmas-themed promotional coloring books in the 1930s to attract shoppers. After years of buying and distributing books made elsewhere, it opted to cut costs by designing a book of its own in 1939. The retailer enlisted the help of copywriter Robert L. May to conceive a new story, and thus, Rudolph was born.

According to the fact-checking site Snopes, May was inspired by the story of the "Ugly Duckling" and decided to create a character that was similarly ostracized for his

physical appearance. He was also influenced by the fact that reindeer had been associated with Christmas as far back as the early 19th century. May settled on a reindeer with a glowing red nose, and at first considered names such as Rollo (which he later said in a 1963 interview was "too happy") and Reginald ("too sophisticated"); Rudolph, however, "rolled off the tongue nicely."

May's story was a hit with both his young daughter and his employer, which distributed 2.4 million copies of the book in 1939 and another 3.6 million in 1946. Rudolph became a national sensation in 1949, when May's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, composed a song about the character. That tune was recorded by Gene Autry and went on to sell 1.75 million copies in its first year, becoming the first No. 1 song of the 1950s.

# EGGNOG IS A DESCENDANT OF THE MEDIEVAL BRITISH DRINK POSSET

The next time you take a sip of eggnog, you should know you're indulging in a centuries-old tradition that traces back to medieval Britain. This sweet concoction — made from milk, cream, sugar, spices, and eggs — is the modern descendent of posset, a fixture of festive gatherings in the Middle Ages. Posset recipes vary, but most combine wine or beer with cream, sugar, and eggs, and are topped with a

thick gruel made from bread, biscuits, oatmeal, or almond paste. To separate the drink from its rich topping, it was served in specialized "posset pots," teapot-like vessels with two handles and a spout. These unique pots were passed around at English celebrations, particularly weddings, to toast prosperity and good health.



Several centuries later, the drink made its way to the American colonies, where it became a hallmark of holiday festivities. Colonists added rum, making it more potent, which paved the way for the modern recipe as we know it. By 1775, the term "eggnog" was part of the American English vernacular. Etymologists pose two theories about its origin. The first suggests that "nog" comes from "noggin,"

meaning a wooden cup, while others speculate it comes from "grog," a strong beer. The origin of the word "posset" is more mysterious, possibly from the Latin word posca for a drink made of vinegar and water. The term endures to this day in the world of British baking, although it now refers to a cold cream-based dessert.

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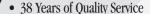
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# Tuscawilla Today

is **THE** Tuscawilla Homeowners' Association's monthly newsletter for the community.

Deadline is Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> for the Jan. issue. Don't delay, save your spot today!

 $\hbox{E-mail $L$ is a@cpponline.com} \ \hbox{for the current Rate/Spec sheet}.$ 

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# News At A Glance

Scottish Highland Games Preparation & Closures at Central Winds Park: Although the Games are January 17–18, 2026, park entrances, fields, dog park, and surrounding areas begin closing or restricting access the evening of Thursday, January 15, 2026.

**Asian Lantern Festival: Into the Wild – Central Florida Zoo (Sanford):** Runs select nights from November 14, 2025 through January 18, 2026, 6–10 p.m. at the Central Florida Zoo.

Holiday Light Displays at Cranes Roost Park – Altamonte Springs: Displays run nightly at dusk from November 28, 2025 through January 2, 2026.

Winter Wonderland at Wekiva Island – Longwood: Runs November 30 through December 25, 2025, featuring snow flurries, a Christmas tree forest, themed nights, and Santa visits.

# **NEWCOMERS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.** January 15 Luncheon

Newcomers of Central Florida's January 15, 2026, luncheon will feature a trivia competition hosted by Quiz Master Simon from Simon Time Trivia. Simon, who appears regularly on Florida radio and TV programs, has emceed trivia competitions at restaurants, social gatherings, and corporate team building events for over 15 years. Club members will have an opportunity to "put their useless knowledge to use" in several trivia games--with prizes given to the top scorers.

The luncheon will be held at Carrabba's Italian Grill, 5820 Red Bug Lake Road, Winter Springs. Tickets are priced at \$30. Non-members are welcome but must submit prepayment by January 8. Advance reservations are required. No walk-ins are allowed. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact VP-Membership Ann White at (407) 687-4902, email: auntesther27@yahoo.com, or visit newcomerscfl.org

## **TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB**

"Where you are among friends"

The Tuscawilla Women's Club enjoyed a busy November meeting and was delighted to welcome new members. Plans are now underway for the club's Christmas Party, which promises to be a fun and festive gathering. All are welcome to attend on Thursday, December 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wedgewood Tennis Villas Clubhouse. The party will begin immediately after the meeting and will feature festive food and beverages, fun games and plenty of holiday cheer. Members and guests are encouraged to wear their Christmas best and bring their Christmas spirit.

Please note that the Lunch Bunch will not meet in December, but the Book Club continues and all are invited to join in.

The club extends its thanks to members for their passion, insight and commitment to one another throughout the year. For more information, please contact Anne Combs at (407)

# THE SUNSHINE GARDEN CLUB OF TUSCAWILLA

761-5779.

The Sunshine Garden Club of Tuscawilla invites members to a festive Christmas Lunch on December 9, 2025, hosted by Ann Wightman at 3344 Lukas Cove, Orlando, 32820. This annual gathering is a wonderful chance to celebrate the season together and enjoy the warmth of our garden club community. For more information, please contact Connie G. Nadrowski at CNadrowski@finfreedom.com.

As part of the festivities, members are encouraged to participate in our Secret Santa gift exchange and to bring an unwrapped gift in support of the Guardian Ad Litem program, helping brighten the holidays for a local foster child. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference during this special time of year.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Monday Dec 8th: City Commission Meeting: 6:30 PM, City Hall

Sunday Dec 14th: Hanukkah

Tuesday Dec 16th: Underdog Day

Sunsay Dec 21st: Winter Solstice

Tuesday Dec 23rd: Code Enforcement Board: 5:30 PM, City Hall

Thurs - Fri Dec 25th & 26th: City Hall closed

Friday Dec 26th - Thursday Jan 1st: Kwanzaa

Weds \_ Thurs Dec 31st & Jan 1st: City Hall closed

# SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Dec 16–18, 2025 — Early Dismissal for Students (district-wide; times vary by school)

Dec 18, 2025 — End of 2nd Quarter / End of 1st Semester

Dec 19, 2025 — Schools Closed for Students (Teacher Workday / Make-Up Day #3 if needed)

Dec 22, 2025 – Jan 2, 2026 — Schools Closed (Winter Break)

Jan 5, 2026 — Schools Closed for Students (District PD Day / Make-Up Day #1 if needed)

Jan 6, 2026 — Classes Resume (Start of 3rd Quarter / 2nd Semester)

Jan 7–15, 2026 — Regular Instruction Days

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#### COMMITTEES

#### Membership Chairman/Committee

Cindy Guiles ...... 407-462-6061

#### **LIAISONS**

Kurt Miericke with SR 417 issues.

Boards and committees are comprised of both Board Members and volunteers from the Community. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Kurt Miericke at 407-359-4077.

### **CLUB PRESIDENTS**

**Sunshine Garden Club:** 

Connie Nadrowski ...... 407-310-7316

#### Tuscawilla Women's Club:

Ronnie Balmat..... jebalmat@gmail.com

## ADDITIONS OR UPDATES TO **PRIVATE HOAS AND CLUBS**

You are responsible for providing updates/additions to your listing by the 15th of the month for the following months issue. E-mail them to **Lisa@cpponline.com**. Please mark in the subject "THOA NL". We cannot take changes over the phone.

"Tuscawilla Today" is the official publication of the Tuscawilla Homeowners' Association, P.O. Box 195666, Winter Springs, FL 32719-5666. Publisher is the Association President.

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announcements need to be approved by the THOA President before publishing. **Deadline** is the **12th** of the month for the following months issue.

Deadline for ads and payment is the 15th of the month for the following months issue. Ad rates are subject to change without notice.

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