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JUNE 2026



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NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2026. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING AT 7 P.M. AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. WITH GUEST SPEAKER METEOROLOGIST MAUREEN MCCANN OF SPECTRUM NEWS 13. THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE WEDGEWOOD TENNIS VILLAS CLUBHOUSE ON FORREST HILLS DRIVE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Watching television one day I saw that Florida has come up with a new license plate commemorating the upcoming 250th birthday of the United States. It has the regular numbers and letters like the other license plates, but this one is red, white, and blue with a colorful America 250 emblem in the middle with the words, In God we Trust. They said the plate was available at our local DMV offices. So, I went over to our local DMV office and exchanged my current plate for this new one. It is now proudly affixed to my car. I want people to know that I am proud to be an American.

The late 1700's and early 1800's was a time of revolution. There were global democratic waves of revolt one after another across Europe. People revolted against tyranny, monarchy, and the powers that be. These uprisings ricocheted and carried across the seas to the thirteen colonies. Being tired of the policies and restrictions of England, the colonists wanted independence and freedom. Over a period of years, they gradually came to a breaking point. It was time to form their own democracy. Of all the countries that tried democracy, America was the only one to succeed. We are the oldest democracy in the world. Actually, we are a democratic republic. For two hundred and fifty years we have continued being the land of the free and the home of the brave. There is no other country like the United States.

Given the nature of mankind, our journey has not been an easy one. The country has gone through great periods of upheaval testing of this government and the principles that formed its foundation. Fortunately, during the years of crisis, there were enough citizens among the population to keep us together and moving forward. In spite of our challenges, we have developed into the greatest country in the world. We are a land of opportunity and hope. Our strength comes from the Bill of Rights and our Constitution so well thought out and written over two and one half centuries ago. Our strength also comes from the example of our founding fathers who sacrificed everything to help form a perfect union for each person where life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness would prevail



America has been a haven for many seeking a better life. My father immigrated to the United States in March of 1923 at age twelve from war torn Europe. He left Germany while they tried democracy after World War I. We all know how that turned out. My grandmother immigrated from Sweden in 1906 seeking a better life In the United States. She found freedom and opportunity with her growing family of nine children.

Every American needs to ask themselves these two questions. Am I willing to make some personal sacrifices to keep our great land strong and free? In my daily decisions and actions, am I putting my community and country's welfare before my personal agenda? The United States was established on such a great foundation. Let's commit ourselves to do all we can to move this wonderful country forward into the next centennial.

Dr. Kurt Miericke

THOA President

Publisher, *Tuscawilla Today*

Email: THOAws20@gmail.com

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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.

THANK YOU TO OUR FAMILY FUN DAY SPONSORS

The Tuscawilla Homeowners Association would like to extend a sincere thank you to the local businesses and community partners who generously donated door prizes for this year's Family Fun Day. Their support helped make the event even more enjoyable for the many families and residents who attended.

A special thank you goes to Adventure Cycling, whose generosity included another bicycle giveaway that quickly became one of the most exciting prizes of the day. Adventure Cycling has a long history of supporting the Tuscawilla community and has generously donated a bicycle for Family Fun Day for well over a decade. Their continued commitment and support have helped

create lasting memories for many local families over the years.

We would also like to recognize and thank Mavis Tires and Brakes, Town House Restaurant, Huey Magoo's, Chick fil A, Fresh Market, and Nothing Bundt Cakes for their support and contributions.

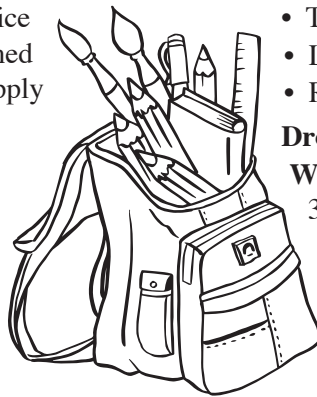
Events such as Family Fun Day succeed because of the willingness of businesses and community partners to invest in the neighborhoods and families they serve. We truly appreciate their support and encourage residents to remember these local businesses that continue giving back to our community.

WINTER SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Beginning in June, the Winter Springs Police Department will be accepting new, unopened school supplies for our annual School Supply Drive, running through July 31.

They are especially in need of:

- Backpacks
- Spiral and composition notebooks
- Crayons, markers (including dry erase), and colored pencils
- Pens, pencils, and pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks and scissors



- Three-prong folders and 1-inch binders
- Loose-leaf paper (wide and college ruled)
- Rulers and pencil cases

Drop-off Locations:

Winter Springs Police Department Lobby
300 North Moss Road

Winter Springs City Hall Lobby
1126 East State Road 434

Your generosity helps local students start the school year ready to learn. Thank you for supporting our community!

FOOD, FUN, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Food Truck Thursday continues to be one of Winter Springs' most popular community gatherings, bringing neighbors, families, and friends together for an evening of great food and community fun. Held throughout the year at both Trotwood and Torcaso Parks, these events have quickly become a favorite tradition for many residents.

The appeal extends far beyond the food itself. Families can often be seen gathering with blankets and lawn chairs, children enjoying nearby playgrounds and open spaces, and neighbors taking time to reconnect and enjoy a relaxing evening together. The variety of local food vendors and desserts means there is usually something for everyone to enjoy.

Events like Food Truck Thursday help create the sense of community that makes Tuscawilla and Winter Springs such special places to live. Sometimes the best memories are made through simple moments, sharing a meal, catching up with friends, and spending time together outdoors.

The smiles and activity shown in these photos say it all. We look forward to seeing this popular community tradition continue for years to come.



EDITOR'S NOTES

Summer has arrived in TuscaWilla, bringing with it many of the things that make this season special: longer days, family gatherings, neighborhood activities, celebrations, and opportunities to spend time with the people and places that make our community feel like home.

As I looked through this month's issue, I could not help but notice a common theme woven throughout these pages: community. Sometimes we think of community as the big events that bring everyone together, but often it is found in the smaller moments that quietly shape our daily lives.

Gathering Together in Our Parks

The growing success of the Farmers Market at Trotwood Park is featured in this issue, and it has quickly become much more than a place to shop. Families gather, children laugh on playgrounds and splash pads, neighbors reconnect, and local businesses are supported. It is another reminder that some of the best parts of community happen when people simply spend time together.

That same spirit can also be found during the City's popular Food Truck Thursday events held throughout the year at both Trotwood and Torcaso Parks. Families spread out lawn chairs and blankets while children enjoy playgrounds and open spaces as neighbors gather to share food, conversation, and time together outdoors. These events continue helping create the welcoming atmosphere that makes TuscaWilla and Winter Springs such special places to call home.

Our parks themselves have become an important part of community life. Whether it is youth sports, playgrounds filled with children, community events, walking trails, or simply neighbors enjoying an evening outdoors, these shared spaces continue bringing people together in ways that strengthen the sense of connection so many residents value.

Celebrating Freedom and Community

We also take a look at the upcoming 28th Annual Celebration of Freedom presented by AdventHealth, one of Winter Springs' favorite traditions. For nearly three decades, families have gathered under summer skies to enjoy live music, food, friendship, and fireworks. Events like these remind us that while we come from different backgrounds and experiences, there is tremendous value in coming together to celebrate the freedoms and opportunities we all share.

June also brings special occasions that invite us to pause and reflect. Fathers Day reminds us to celebrate fathers, grandfathers, and the many people who serve as mentors and role models in our lives. Flag Day offers an opportunity to appreciate the values and sacrifices represented by the American flag and the freedoms that continue to unite us as a nation.

Celebrating Our Students and Young People

This issue also celebrates a season of tremendous accomplishment. Congratulations to the graduating seniors of Winter Springs High School and Oviedo High School, as well as graduates from Seminole State, UCF, and the many colleges and universities attended by students from our community.

Our community also has tremendous reason to celebrate the accomplishments of Winter Springs High School athletics this year. The Lady Bears softball team captured a second

consecutive state championship while the boys baseball team made an incredible run to the state finals. Their accomplishments brought pride to our entire community and reflected the hard work, dedication, and character of so many young people throughout Winter Springs.

As another school year comes to a close, summer also gives families an opportunity to slow down, spend time together, and create memories that often become some of the most meaningful moments of childhood. Whether it is vacations, afternoons at the park, backyard cookouts, or simply enjoying time with friends and neighbors, these are often the moments families remember most.

Hurricane Season and Community Preparedness

As summer begins and hurricane season officially arrives on June 1, this month also includes information on preparedness and resiliency. Living in Central Florida reminds us that preparation matters. We experienced that reality firsthand in recent years. Yet one lesson that storms repeatedly teach us is that communities are strongest when neighbors support one another.

Residents are also encouraged to attend the upcoming THOA membership meeting on Thursday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wedgwood Tennis Villas Clubhouse on Forest Hills Drive. TuscaWilla's own Maureen McCann, meteorologist with Spectrum News 13, will be speaking about the upcoming hurricane season and what residents should know as we enter the busiest months of the year. We are fortunate to have such a respected weather professional from our own community sharing her experience and insight.

The Volunteers Who Make a Difference

This issue also highlights the many volunteers and organizations that quietly contribute to making TuscaWilla such a special place. From the Sunshine Garden Club and TuscaWilla Women's Club to residents who volunteer their time and energy, community service continues to make an incredible difference. People willing to step forward and give of themselves help preserve what many of us have long considered one of the true jewels of Central Florida.

We also share updates on projects and growth occurring around us. Communities continue to evolve and change over time, and while opinions may differ, staying informed and engaged helps us continue shaping the future together.

As always, thank you to everyone who contributes stories, photographs, ideas, and information for TuscaWilla Today. Most importantly, thank you for being part of this community.

I hope you enjoy this issue, enjoy the summer season, and perhaps most importantly, take time to enjoy the people around you.

Warm regards,

Katherine McCann

Editor, *TuscaWilla Today*

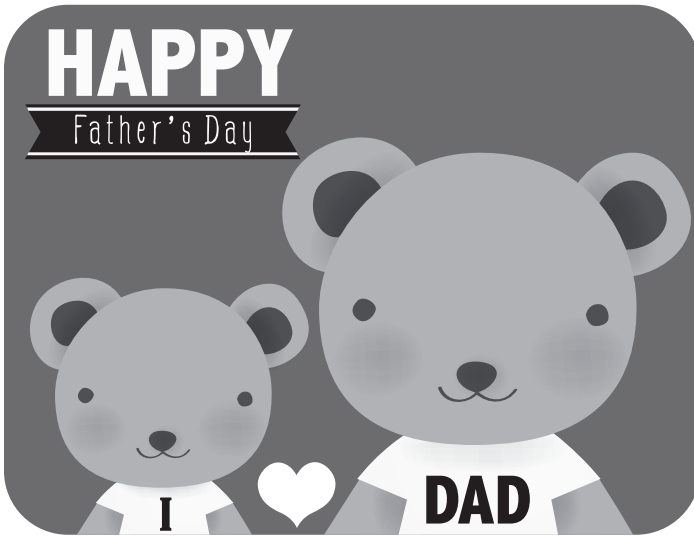
editorkathymccann@gmail.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"A true community is not just about being geographically close to someone or part of the same social web network. It's about feeling connected and responsible for what happens."

— Yehuda Berg

CELEBRATING FATHERS DAY IN TUSCAWILLA



June brings the start of summer, longer days, backyard cookouts, family gatherings, and another special occasion for many families in our community: Fathers Day.

Throughout Tuscawilla, Fathers Day means something a little different for everyone. For some, it may mean a round of golf, firing up the grill, watching baseball, heading to the beach, or simply spending quiet time with family. For

others, it can be a day to remember fathers, grandfathers, mentors, and the many people who have helped guide us through life.

Our community has always been built around families and neighbors who support one another, and fathers often play many roles at once. They are coaches on local fields, volunteers at schools and community events, teachers of life lessons, problem solvers, and sometimes the person behind the wheel driving to one more practice or school activity.

Perhaps some of the most meaningful moments are not the big ones at all. They are the everyday moments that become memories over time. A walk around the neighborhood, fishing with the kids, helping with homework, or simply spending time together often becomes what families remember most.

As Fathers Day approaches, we wish all of the fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, and father figures throughout Tuscawilla a happy and meaningful day. Thank you for the many ways you help make our community such a wonderful place to call home.

CELEBRATING FLAG DAY IN TUSCAWILLA



Each year on June 14, Americans observe Flag Day, a day recognizing the adoption of the United States flag in 1777 and honoring the symbol that has represented our nation for generations. While it may not receive the same attention as some national holidays, Flag Day serves as a meaningful reminder of the values, freedoms, and sacrifices represented by the Stars and Stripes.

Throughout Tuscawilla and Winter Springs, many residents proudly display the American flag outside their homes, particularly during holidays and patriotic occasions. As we celebrate Flag Day, it can also be a good opportunity to remember a few simple guidelines for proper flag etiquette.

The American flag should be displayed respectfully and should never touch the ground. When flown at night, it should be properly illuminated whenever possible. If a flag becomes worn, faded, or damaged, it should be retired respectfully and replaced.

Residents may not realize that Winter Springs offers a local option for proper flag retirement. A flag drop box is located in the main lobby of Winter Springs City Hall where worn American flags may be respectfully dropped off free of charge. The drop box was built as part of an Eagle Scout project and is monitored by Winter Springs VFW Post 5405, whose members ensure that retired flags receive proper and dignified disposal.

Flag Day is also a reminder that patriotism is often found in the everyday moments around us. It can be seen in veterans who served our country, first responders who protect our communities, neighbors helping neighbors, and the many residents who contribute to making Tuscawilla a wonderful place to call home.

As Flag Day approaches, take a moment to look around our neighborhoods and appreciate the flags proudly displayed throughout our community and the values they continue to represent.

A REMARKABLE SEASON FOR BEAR ATHLETICS



There are moments in every community when accomplishments extend beyond scores, standings, and trophies. This spring, Winter Springs High School gave our community one of those moments.

The Winter Springs Bears girls softball team captured the Class 5A State Championship, bringing home a state title and giving our community another reason to celebrate Bear pride. The team completed an extraordinary postseason run, defeating Niceville 6–0 in the state championship game and earning the program’s second consecutive state championship, an achievement that places this team among the most successful in school history.

The numbers behind the championship run are equally remarkable. Throughout the playoffs, the Bears outscored opponents by an astounding 71–0 margin, not allowing a single run to be scored against them during postseason play. Such dominance reflects not only tremendous talent on the field, but also discipline, preparation, teamwork, and outstanding coaching.

This season also carried a deeper meaning for the team. Throughout the year, the players dedicated their season to teammate Madison Latham, honoring her memory while playing with tremendous heart, resilience, and unity. Their journey became about more than wins and losses. It became a reflection of friendship, perseverance, and the strength that can be found in supporting one another through difficult moments.

At the same time, the Winter Springs Bears boys baseball team put together a remarkable season of their own, battling all the way to the state finals and finishing as state runner up after an outstanding playoff run. Reaching the final game in one of

Florida’s most competitive high school sports environments is an achievement few teams ever experience and one that reflects tremendous talent, dedication, and teamwork.

Championship seasons are built long before the final games are played. They begin with early morning practices, long bus rides, difficult workouts, committed coaches, supportive families, and teammates learning to trust one another through both victories and setbacks.

what makes these accomplishments even more meaningful is that they represent more than athletics alone. They reflect the character, discipline, and determination of young people throughout our community.

The entire Winter Springs community has reason to be proud. Congratulations to the student athletes, coaches, families, school leadership, and everyone who helped support these outstanding teams throughout the season.

For the Bears, this was much more than a successful year.

It was a season to remember.

Go Bears!



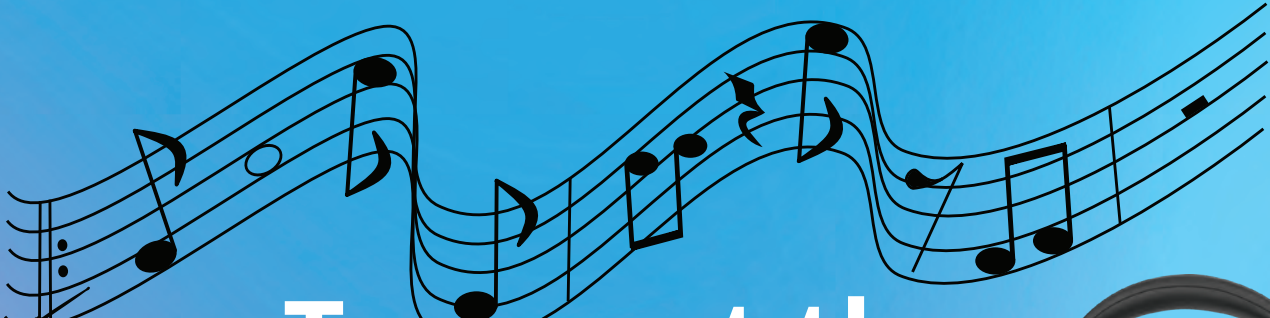
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CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY AT WINTER SPRINGS' 28TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

Presented by Advent Health

Summer in Central Florida brings many traditions, and one of Winter Springs' favorite community gatherings is once again right around the corner. Residents are invited to come together and celebrate our nation's independence at the 28th Annual Celebration of Freedom, taking place on Friday, July 4, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. at Central Winds Park.

For nearly three decades, this event has brought together neighbors, families, and friends for an evening filled with patriotic spirit, entertainment, community pride, and great memories. The celebration has become a tradition for many families who return year after year to enjoy live music, family activities, food vendors, and one of the most anticipated fireworks displays in the area. Live music has long been one of the highlights of the evening, helping create the festive atmosphere that many residents have come to look forward to each summer.

While the fireworks often take center stage, events like this are also an opportunity to appreciate something equally

important, the sense of community that makes Winter Springs such a special place to call home. It is a chance to see familiar faces, meet new neighbors, and spend time together celebrating the freedoms and opportunities that unite us.

Whether you have attended every Celebration of Freedom over the years or this will be your first visit, there is something special about watching families spread out blankets and lawn chairs across Central Winds Park while children run and play as the evening builds toward a spectacular fireworks finale.

As we celebrate Independence Day, we also remember and honor the service and sacrifices of the men and women who have defended the freedoms we enjoy today.

Mark your calendars, gather your family and friends, and join your neighbors as Winter Springs celebrates Independence Day together at the 28th Annual Celebration of Freedom.

We hope to see you there!

LOOK WHAT'S COMING

Many residents have likely already heard discussions surrounding some of these projects, attended meetings, read social media posts, or even watched construction activity taking shape firsthand. As development continues around the Tuskawilla Road, State Road 434, and 417 corridor, we thought this would be a good opportunity to provide a simple update and bring residents up to date on several projects currently under construction or moving through the development process.

If you have driven through the area lately, you have likely noticed changes beginning to take shape. While growth often brings questions and differing opinions, many residents are naturally curious about what they are seeing rise from the ground and what may soon be coming to the area.

The accompanying map provides a quick look at several projects residents may begin seeing over the coming months.

#8 – Ace Hardware and Future Restaurant Space: Many residents have likely already noticed construction activity underway on the new Ace Hardware building. In addition to the hardware store, plans also include restaurant space on the Tuskawilla Road side of the building featuring an outdoor patio seating area. While a restaurant tenant has not yet been announced, the addition could provide another gathering place for residents and visitors alike.

#9 – Chick-fil-A: Another project many residents have been anticipating is a new Chick-fil-A location planned nearby.



The restaurant will add another dining option to the growing area and is expected to become a highly visible addition to the corridor.

#14 – Wawa: This project has likely generated the most discussion among residents. The future Wawa has been the topic of many conversations throughout the community and is expected to bring both convenience and additional activity to the area.

#17 – Christopher Ryan Homes: Located to the west, Christopher Ryan Homes is planning a new residential project consisting of twelve upscale single family homes. Early information indicates these homes are anticipated to be priced at approximately \$1 million and above, creating a smaller luxury residential development within the area.

#19 – Proposed PNC Bank: An application has recently been submitted to the City for a future PNC Bank location. As with all projects, proposals continue through review and approval processes before construction activity begins.

Growth and redevelopment are part of the changing landscape of every community. While projects vary in size and type, they also represent investment in the future of our area. Residents should remember that development projects often move through multiple review stages and can evolve over time as plans are refined.

As construction continues, keep an eye on the skyline around Tuskawilla Road. There is clearly a great deal taking shape, and our community will continue watching these projects as they move forward.

FRESH FINDS AND FRIENDLY FACES AT TROTWOOD PARK

If you have driven by Trotwood Park recently and noticed colorful tents, crowds of people, and plenty of activity, you have likely discovered one of Winter Springs' newest community successes.

The Winter Springs Farmers Market, now held twice each month at Trotwood Park, has quickly become a popular gathering place for residents throughout Tuscaloosa, Winter Springs, and neighboring communities. What started as a new addition to our community calendar has rapidly grown into an event many residents now look forward to attending. The market is currently held on the first and third Sundays of each month from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., continuing to draw families, neighbors, and visitors eager to spend time together while supporting local businesses.

The market offers something for nearly everyone. Residents can browse fresh produce, baked goods, plants,



local honey, handmade items, artisan products, and specialty vendors while enjoying a relaxed atmosphere under the beautiful tree canopy that makes Trotwood Park such a special part of our community.

Part of what makes the event especially enjoyable is the family friendly atmosphere surrounding it. During the market, children can often be seen enjoying the large playground with its swings, slides, and climbing features while parents browse vendors or visit with friends and neighbors nearby. The splash pad has also become a favorite destination and is often filled with families taking advantage of sunny Florida mornings. Together, these activities create something that feels like more than simply a market. They help create a true community gathering place.

Perhaps even more important than what is sold is what is being created. The market has become more than a place

to shop. It has become another opportunity for neighbors to gather, meet friends, support small businesses, and enjoy time together in the heart of our community.

Events like this often become part of what makes a community feel connected. Families stroll through the market, children play nearby, conversations happen naturally, and neighbors who may have previously only waved while driving by each other have an opportunity to stop and talk.

The accompanying photos tell much of the story. Smiles, crowds, and activity are clear reminders that residents appreciate opportunities to come together and enjoy the sense of community that makes Tuscawilla and Winter Springs such wonderful places to call home.

So bring the family, take a stroll, support local businesses, and enjoy one of our community's newest traditions. We hope to see you there!





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WELCOME HAROLD DODDS

The Tuscawilla Homeowners Association Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Harold Dodds as our newest board member.

Harold has been a resident of the Georgetown community within Tuscawilla since early 2024 and currently serves as Secretary of the Georgetown Homeowners Association. He brings with him a strong interest in preserving the beauty and character of our community, particularly maintaining the appearance and aesthetics along Winter Springs Boulevard.

Harold also shares a commitment to helping keep Tuscawilla a safe and welcoming place for residents and families. Community organizations succeed because of residents who are willing to step forward, volunteer their time, and work alongside friends and neighbors to make a difference.

Tuscawilla has long been considered one of the jewels of Central Florida, and maintaining that reputation does not happen by accident. It takes dedicated residents like Harold and countless volunteers throughout our community who contribute their time, ideas, and energy to preserve the character and quality of life that makes Tuscawilla such a special place to call home.

We appreciate Harold's willingness to serve and look forward to his contributions in the years ahead. Please join us in extending a warm Tuscawilla welcome.



HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED: WINTER SPRINGS VETERANS BANNER PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

The City of Winter Springs is once again inviting residents to help honor the men and women who have served our nation through the Winter Springs Veterans Banner Program.

This meaningful community initiative recognizes local veterans and active duty military members by displaying commemorative banners along city streets as a visible tribute to their service and sacrifice.

Each year, these banners line the light poles along Blumberg Boulevard near Veterans Memorial and Bear Springs Drive, creating a powerful reminder of the individuals who have answered the call to serve our country. For many residents, the banners have become a source of pride and a meaningful way to recognize neighbors, family members, and loved ones whose dedication has helped protect our freedoms.

Each banner features the honoree's name, branch of service, and a military photograph, creating a lasting tribute that

allows our community to celebrate local heroes in a very personal way.

To qualify, the honoree must be either an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces or a retired or honorably discharged veteran who currently resides, previously resided, or lived in Winter Springs prior to their passing.

The sponsorship cost for each banner is \$200 and includes design, printing, and installation, with an annual renewal fee of \$100 for future display years.

Applications and photographs must be submitted no later than October 1, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

If you have a family member, friend, or loved one who has served our nation, this program offers a wonderful opportunity to ensure their service and sacrifice are recognized by the community they helped protect.

For questions or additional information, contact winterspringspark@winterspringsfl.org



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2026

who may be attending schools throughout Florida and across the country.

Graduation marks much more than the completion of classes and exams. It represents years of hard work, determination, late nights studying, early mornings, athletic competitions, performances, friendships, and memories that will remain for a lifetime.

For some graduates, the journey ahead will include college, trade schools, military service, or beginning careers. Others may still be deciding where the next chapter leads. Whatever path lies ahead, each one represents opportunity and the beginning of something new.

Communities like Tusawilla have always taken pride in supporting young people as they grow. We have watched many of these students on local sports fields, in classrooms, at community events, and volunteering throughout our neighborhoods. It is both rewarding and exciting to see them reach this important milestone.

To all of our graduates, remember that success is rarely defined by a single moment. It is built through character, perseverance, kindness, and the willingness to continue learning and growing.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026. Your community is proud of you, and we look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in the years ahead.

This time of year brings a special energy throughout our community. Caps and gowns begin appearing in family photographs, graduation announcements arrive in mailboxes, and proud parents, grandparents, family members, and friends gather to celebrate an important milestone in the lives of young people throughout our area.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the graduating seniors of Winter Springs High School and Oviedo High School, along with students graduating from nearby colleges and universities including Seminole State College, University of Central Florida, and the many graduates from Tusawilla



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HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE: IS YOUR FAMILY READY?

June 1 marks the official start of hurricane season, and for many of us in Central Florida, it is more than just a date on the calendar. In recent years, our community experienced firsthand how storms can impact our homes and daily lives. Hurricane Ian reminded us that even communities away from the coastline are not immune to severe weather. Hundreds of homes in and around Winter Springs experienced flooding, roadways became impassable, and many families dealt with power outages and uncertainty.

The good news is that preparation before a storm arrives can make a tremendous difference.

Many people picture hurricanes as coastal events driven primarily by wind, but in Central Florida the greater threat often comes from water. Heavy rainfall can quickly overwhelm streets, low areas, ponds, and drainage systems. Our Tusawilla community includes lakes, ponds, conservation areas, and natural drainage systems that play an important role in protecting homes and neighborhoods. Residents should take a few moments before hurricane season to walk around their property and look for anything that may prevent water from flowing properly.

Clear leaves and debris from storm drains near your home if it is safe to do so. Check gutters and downspouts and make sure they are not clogged. Trim dead tree branches and secure outdoor furniture, decorations, and other items that could become airborne during strong winds.

Now is also a good time to review your insurance coverage. Many homeowners are surprised to learn that standard homeowners insurance policies generally do not cover flood damage. Flood insurance typically requires a waiting period before becoming active, so once a storm is approaching, it may be too late.

Prepare a basic emergency kit for your family and consider including:

- Bottled water and nonperishable food
- Flashlights and extra batteries

- Prescription medications
- Cell phone chargers and backup battery packs
- Pet supplies
- Important documents stored in waterproof containers
- Cash for emergencies

Do not forget about technology. Make sure emergency alerts are enabled on your phone and take photos or videos of your home and valuables before a storm arrives. A simple phone video walking through your home can be extremely helpful if you ever need to file an insurance claim.

One lesson many residents learned during recent storms is that neighbors matter. Check in on elderly residents, new neighbors, or anyone who may need assistance before or after severe weather.

Residents who would like to learn more about hurricane preparedness will also have a local opportunity right here in Tusawilla. Tusawilla resident and Spectrum News 13 meteorologist Maureen McCann will be speaking at the Tusawilla Homeowners Association meeting on Thursday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wedgwood Tennis Villas Clubhouse on Forest Hills Drive. The meeting is open to the public and offers a chance to hear insights from a trusted local weather expert as hurricane season gets underway. As many residents will likely be receiving this issue of Tusawilla Today in their mailboxes around the same time, it serves as a timely reminder that hurricane season is no longer approaching, it is here.

The City of Winter Springs continues making significant investments in storm resiliency, wastewater improvements, and infrastructure upgrades designed to strengthen our community for the future. While large projects help improve our long term resilience, preparedness also begins at home.

We cannot control the weather, but we can control how prepared we are when it arrives.

Stay safe, stay informed, and have a plan in place before the next storm appears on the map.

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News At A Glance

CENTRAL WINDS PARK MAINTENANCE UPDATES

Residents planning summer visits to Central Winds Park are encouraged to be aware of several temporary maintenance closures taking place over the coming months. These routine projects are designed to help keep park facilities safe, attractive, and enjoyable for everyone who uses them.

The Central Winds Dog Park is scheduled to remain closed through June 1 for maintenance activities. In addition, the park's upper and lower athletic fields will undergo maintenance and reseeded from June 1 through August 3, helping ensure healthy playing surfaces for future recreational use.

While temporary closures may occasionally create inconvenience, these improvements are part of ongoing efforts to maintain the high quality parks and recreational spaces our community enjoys. The City appreciates residents' patience and understanding as these important projects are completed.

GROUNDBREAKING PLANNED FOR NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The City of Winter Springs is tentatively planning a July 15 groundbreaking ceremony for the community's new wastewater treatment plant, a major infrastructure investment designed to serve residents for decades to come.

The approximately \$70 million facility will be constructed adjacent to the existing treatment plant located off Winter Springs Boulevard near Sam Smith Park. The project represents one of the most significant infrastructure improvements in the City's history and is part of a long term effort to improve efficiency, environmental protection, storm resiliency, and the reliability of essential public services.

The new facility is also expected to significantly improve reclaimed water availability throughout the community, helping provide a more reliable source of irrigation water for residential lawns and landscaping.

As many residents know, wastewater infrastructure has become one of the community's most important priorities in recent years. Additional information regarding the project and groundbreaking ceremony will be shared in future issues of Tuscawilla Today as plans continue moving forward.

SUNSHINE GARDEN CLUB OF TUSCAWILLA *Friendship, community spirit, and a love of nature*

The Sunshine Garden Club of Tuscawilla is preparing for another exciting year of friendship, gardening, and community involvement. The club recently celebrated a successful season that included engaging guest speakers, educational programs, and a popular garden tour featuring beautiful member gardens. Plans are already underway to expand the garden tour next year.

The club is also excited to begin a new partnership with the City of Winter Springs to create a community wildflower

garden at Sam Smith Park, helping bring even more beauty and natural spaces to our community.

The new club year begins on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, with a Welcome Tea for new and prospective members. Meetings are held from 9:30 a.m. to noon on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, at the Wedgwood Tennis Villas Clubhouse in Tuscawilla.

New members are warmly welcomed. For more information, contact Connie Nadrowski at (407) 310-7316 or Phyllis Ruebusch at (407) 421-8144.

TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB CELEBRATES SUMMER AND LOOKS AHEAD

"Where you are among friends"

The Tuscawilla Women's Club is welcoming summer with friendship, fellowship, and exciting plans for the months ahead. Members recently gathered at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse for their annual luncheon, enjoying a relaxing afternoon filled with conversation and summer plans. The gathering included longtime members as well as several new members, providing another opportunity to strengthen friendships and connections within our community.

The club will not meet during June but will return on Thursday, July 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wedgwood Tennis Villas Clubhouse for a July 4 Celebration Party. This year's celebration carries special significance as our nation marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, recognizing the freedoms and liberties that continue to shape our country today.

The club's popular Lunch Bunch and Book Club activities also continue throughout the year. New members and guests are always welcome. For more information, please contact Anne Combs at (407) 761-5779.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

June 7	Farmers Market - Trotwood Park - 9am - 2pm
June 8	City Commission Meeting - City Hall - 5:30pm
June 11	THOA Board Meeting - Wedgewood Tennis Villas Clubhouse - 7:00pm. Guest Speaker Maureen McCann
June 14	Flag Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 21	Fathers Day
	Farmers Market - Trotwood Park - 9am - 2pm
	Summer begins
June 22	City Commission Meeting - City Hall - 6:30pm
June 23	Code Enforcement Board Meeting - City Hall - 5:30pm
July 2	Planning and Zoning Board Meeting City Hall - 5:30pm
July 3	City Holiday
July 4	Independence Day
July 9	Veteran and Veteran families Meeting - 5:30pm

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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

Tusawilla 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@cponline.com. Please mark in the subject "THOA NL".

We cannot take changes over the phone.

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

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Do to space, we only list Pres, VP, Sec & Treas.

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Should be e-mailed to Kathy McCann, at editorkathymccann@gmail.com and to the THOA President, Kurt Miericke, at THOAs20@gmail.com. All articles/announcements need to be approved by the THOA President before publishing. **Deadline** is the **12th** of the month for the following months issue.

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For rates and availability contact Lisa Kimbrough-Rodriguez at Creative Printing & Publishing, **407-302-9147** or Lisa@cponline.com.

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