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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Around noon one weekday an elderly resident of Tusawilla was shopping at the Walmart Neighborhood Market on Red Bug Road. She paid with cash and proceeded to depart the store. What she was not aware of was that she was being watched by a middle-aged man. She entered her car and slowly made her way out of the parking lot by way of the apartments on Dodd Road. As she got to the exit her car was blocked by another vehicle. The driver in the car was the same man who was observing her in the store. She began to panic when another car raced up behind her and slammed on its brakes. A man got out and approached her car window. He showed his badge and then ran up to the car that was blocking the exit. That car sped off. The off-duty policeman said he noticed her being watched in the store and then being followed out to the parking lot. He happened to be shopping but dropped everything anticipating that this elderly lady was going to be a crime victim.

There are many ways we can become a crime victim from having one's purse stolen while shopping, having someone taking your cash at an ATM machine, or being pick-pocketed in a crowd. We all need to be aware of our surroundings and realize that there are bad characters out there even in our nice neighborhood stores.

On June 12 the Tusawilla HOA invited Winter Springs Police Captain Nick Romano to speak at our Membership Meeting on safety. He gave us a practical and engaging presentation focused on how residents can protect themselves from fraud and scams. Not only do we need to be careful when we are out shopping, but we need to be careful when we respond to a phone call, text, or email.

I have a dear friend who lives in a retirement village in South Florida. She was notified that she was the lucky winner of a five-million-dollar jackpot or so she thought.

ON THE COVER (LEFT TO RIGHT)

Kurt & Cindy Miericke, Captain Brad Heath, Deputy Chief Kevin Presley, Mayor Kevin McCann



The correspondence looked genuine, and the lady on the phone was very helpful. Of course, my friend had to pay a registration fee of thirty thousand dollars. Once she did this, she only had to prepay part of the taxes which were another fifty thousand dollars. Now after a few weeks she was notified that the final tax payment of three hundred thousand dollars had to be paid, and the money was all hers. Fortunately, after much arguing with her bank, they stopped her, and she woke up minus eighty thousand dollars. She now, along with a detective, shares her story to other residents of retirement homes.

I want all of you to keep your money and not get fooled by some very smart and not so smart criminals. Always be conscious of your surroundings and the people around you. Delete suspicious emails and texts. Use an answering system on your phone. I want you to be safe as you enjoy living here in Tusawilla.

Dr. Kurt Miericke

THOA President

Publisher, *Tusawilla Today*

Email: THOAws20@gmail.com



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EDITOR'S NOTES

As summer begins to wind down, I hope everyone had a chance to relax, enjoy time with family and friends, and take in some of the wonderful events happening right here in our community. One of the highlights this season was Winter Springs' annual Celebration of Freedom. With an incredible turnout and a truly spectacular fireworks display, the event was a reminder of just how special it is to live in a city that values tradition, community, and good old-fashioned fun. A big thank you to all who attended, volunteered, and helped make the evening such a success.

This month's issue includes a few important updates as we prepare to head into a busy late summer and fall. First, you'll find two timely articles about wildlife in our area. One story features a black bear caught red-pawed trying to raid a backyard bird feeder; thank you to the neighbor who shared both the photo and the tale! The other article highlights the growing number of coyote sightings in Tuscawilla and throughout Winter Springs. These reminders are shared not to alarm, but to help us all live safely and responsibly alongside the wildlife that calls our area home.

Also in this edition is some helpful back-to-school information. Seminole County schools resume on Monday, August 11, so please be extra cautious in school zones and give a wave to those returning carpool lines. Whether you're a student, parent, teacher, or neighbor, here's wishing

everyone a safe and successful school year ahead.

Finally, you may have noticed activity along some of our creeks in recent weeks. Crews contracted by the City of Winter Springs have begun essential debris removal and sediment control work in waterways including Sheoah, Gee, Little Howell, and Bear Creeks.

This important effort, funded in part by federal recovery grants, is being done to restore stormwater flow and better prepare our city for the upcoming hurricane season. If you live near one of these creeks, please be aware that you may see or hear workers as they carry out this necessary project.

As always, thank you for staying connected and involved. Wishing you a wonderful August!

Katherine McCann

Editor, *Tuscawilla Today*

editorkathymccann@gmail.com



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*The strength of society lies in
the integrity of its Citizens*

— JOHN LOCKE

2025 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

OVIEDO HIGH SCHOOL LIONS

Aug 15 – vs Lake Mary (Kickoff Classic, Home)
Aug 22 – at Bishop Moore (Away)
Aug 29 – vs Tampa Sickles (Home)
Sep 5 – at Lake Brantley (Away)
Sep 12 – at Lyman (Away)
Sep 19 – Bye Week
Sep 26 – at Wekiva (*District 6A-4 game)
Oct 3 – vs Hagerty (Home rivalry game)
Oct 10 – vs Lake Howell (*District game)
Oct 17 – at University High (Orange City) (Away)
Oct 24 – vs Evans (*District game)
Oct 31 – vs Eustis (Home)

WINTER SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL BEARS

Aug 15 – at Atlantic (Kickoff Classic) – Port Orange – Preseason
Aug 22 – vs Pine Ridge (Home)
Aug 29 – vs Celebration (Home)
Sep 5 – vs Dakota Ridge (CO) (Home)
Sep 12 – at Kissimmee Liberty (Away)
Sep 19 – at Kissimmee Gateway (Away)
Sep 26 – at Horizon (Away)
Oct 3 – vs Melbourne (Homecoming)
Oct 10 – vs Edgewater (*District 5A-5 game)
Oct 17 – Bye Week
Oct 24 – at Lyman (*District game)
Oct 31 – vs Lake Howell (Senior Night)



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.

SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT CALENDAR

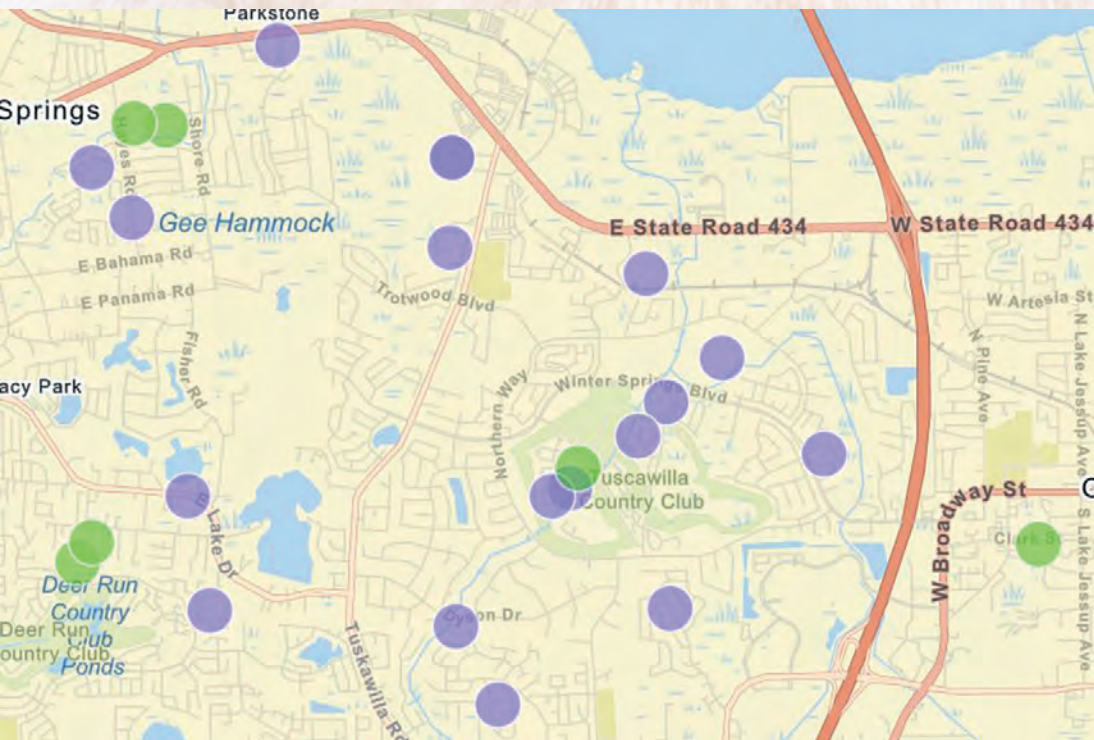
2025-2026

Definition of Descriptions:

- **Schools Closed** = Teachers and students not in attendance;
Educational Support Center open for business
- **Schools Closed for Students** = Students not in attendance;
Teachers are working & Educational Support Center is open for business
- **School System Closed** = Teachers, students, and employees at
Educational Support Center not in attendance

August 5 - 8	Teacher Workdays
August 11	First Day of Student Attendance – Start of 1st Quarter/1st Semester
September 1	School System Closed
October 10	End of 1st Quarter
October 13	Schools Closed for Students/Teacher Workday
October 14	Start of 2nd Quarter
November 24 - 28	Schools Closed
November 27 - 28	School System Closed
December 16 - 18	Early Dismissal for Students
December 18	End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester
December 19	Schools Closed for Students/Teacher Workday/Student Make-Up Day #3, if needed
December 22 - January 2	Schools Closed/Winter Break
January 5	Schools Closed for Students/Student Make-up Day #1, if needed
January 6	Classes Resume - Start of 3rd Quarter/2nd Semester
January 19	School System Closed
February 16	School System Closed
March 12	End of 3rd Quarter
March 13	Schools Closed for Students/Teacher Workday/Student Make-up Day #2, if needed
March 16 - 20	Schools Closed/Spring Break
March 23	Classes Resume - Start of 4th Quarter
May 22	Early Dismissal for Students
May 25	School System Closed
May 26, 27	Early Dismissal for Students
May 27	Last Day of Student Attendance/ End of 4th Quarter/2nd Semester
May 28	Teacher Workday-Post Planning/Student Make-up Day #4, if needed

COYOTES ON THE RISE IN TUSCAWILLA: LIVING WITH WILDLIFE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA



In recent months, more residents of Tusawilla have reported coyote sightings, some even capturing photos or videos near their own front yards. What once seemed like a rare wildlife encounter now feels increasingly common. While this shift can be unsettling, especially for those with outdoor pets, it reflects a broader pattern seen across Central Florida: coyotes are becoming a permanent part of our suburban landscape.

Many neighbors have shared heartbreaking experiences of missing pets, cats that never returned home, small dogs taken during a walk, or chickens lost from backyard coops. My own family recently lost our beloved cat. Just days later, we began seeing coyotes on or near our street. That loss still hurts, and I know we are not alone.

Coyotes are now present in all 67 counties in Florida, and according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), efforts to eliminate them are not effective. In fact, studies show that when coyotes are removed from an area, others quickly move in to take their place. These animals are intelligent, resourceful, and most importantly, here to stay.

Coyotes can and do prey on domestic cats and small dogs. Most incidents occur during the early evening, night, or early morning hours, especially at dusk and dawn. The FWC offers these safety tips for pet owners:

- Keep cats indoors particularly at night. Free roaming cats are highly vulnerable to coyotes and other predators.
- Walk small dogs on a leash no longer than six feet, particularly in the early morning or evening.
- Avoid heavily wooded or overgrown areas where coyotes may rest or travel.
- Do not leave pets unattended outdoors, even in fenced yards. Coyotes have been known to climb six foot fences in pursuit of food or animals.

A recent conversation with an FWC official confirmed what many residents suspect: coyotes are not just passing through; they are establishing territory. The map included in this article shows numerous reported sightings in Tusawilla, but these only reflect a small portion of actual activity. Most encounters go unreported unless there is a direct conflict.

Our goal in sharing this information is not to alarm anyone or place blame. On the contrary, it is to promote awareness and provide practical guidance for living with wildlife. If we stay informed and take common sense precautions, we can reduce risk while respecting the natural world that surrounds us.

For additional resources, visit myfwc.com and search "Living with Coyotes."

Hurricane Checklist



Do now!

Take photos of belongings, scan important documents and collect important phone numbers. Make a hurricane kit. Install surge protectors and carbon monoxide detectors, get generator ready. Trim Trees.



Before Storm

Make an emergency kit including a battery operated radio and flashlights. Charge portable devices and have battery operated chargers. Fill gas tank. Remove debris and lawn items. Install your hurricane shutters, plan an evacuation route and determine your safe area.



During Storm

Stay indoors. Go to your safe area. Listen to the news. Keep family close. Unplug unneeded appliances. Get hurricane kit. If evacuating, take pets, gather meds, bring phone chargers. Never drive through flooded streets.



After Storm

Check on loved ones. Stay away from downed power lines. Take photos of any damage. Call insurance company if damage.



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FLORIDA SALES TAX HOLIDAYS IN 2025

In 2025, Florida has streamlined its sales tax holiday offerings, replacing multiple brief events with two major annual tax free periods and instituting a number of permanent exemptions.

According to House Bill 7031, signed into law on June 30, 2025, Florida now offers a permanent back to school sales tax holiday running from August 1 through August 31. During this month long period shoppers pay no state or local discretionary sales surtax (Seminole County rate is 7 percent) on qualifying items including clothing, shoes, backpacks, and school supplies priced under 100 dollars, school supplies under 50 dollars, and personal computers and related accessories up to 1,500 dollars. This replaces previous short back to school weekends and ensures more flexibility and planning time for families.

Beginning September 8 and continuing through December 31, Florida also launches a new Hunting, Fishing and Camping Sales Tax Holiday. This extended exemption encourages purchases of outdoor gear including tents (up to 200 dollars), camping chairs (up to 50 dollars), fishing equipment, and other supplies without paying sales tax.

Effective August 1, 2025, the state has enacted permanent year round sales tax exemptions for certain disaster preparedness supplies and recreational items previously covered under temporary programs. Exempt items include batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 6 volt, and 9 volt), all bicycle helmets, carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers, ground anchor systems, insect repellent, life jackets,

portable gas cans (five gallons or less), portable generators (up to 10,000 watts), smoke detectors, sunscreen, and tarps up to 1,000 square feet. These exemptions effectively make certain hurricane preparedness items and outdoor safety gear permanently tax free.

Absent in 2025 is any separate disaster preparedness holiday or Freedom Month holiday in July, which were offered in previous years. Instead, the relevant products are now permanently exempt under the new law.

Thus, for Florida shoppers in 2025: In summary

Many school related and clothing purchases during August 1 to 31 qualify for tax relief up to specified price limits.

Outdoor enthusiasts and those preparing for hurricane season can shop tax free on eligible hunting, fishing, and camping gear from September 8 through December 31.

Year round disaster preparation items and outdoor essentials remain permanently tax exempt.

While the statewide sales tax rate is 6 percent, many counties add local surtaxes, often around 1 percent, bringing the total to just over 7 percent in most areas. During the tax free periods, shoppers still avoid both state and local surtax.

These reforms make it simpler and more predictable for Floridians to save on school supplies, outdoor gear, and emergency preparedness essentials. For official details and complete lists of qualifying items, see the Florida Department of Revenue website or review House Bill 7031.

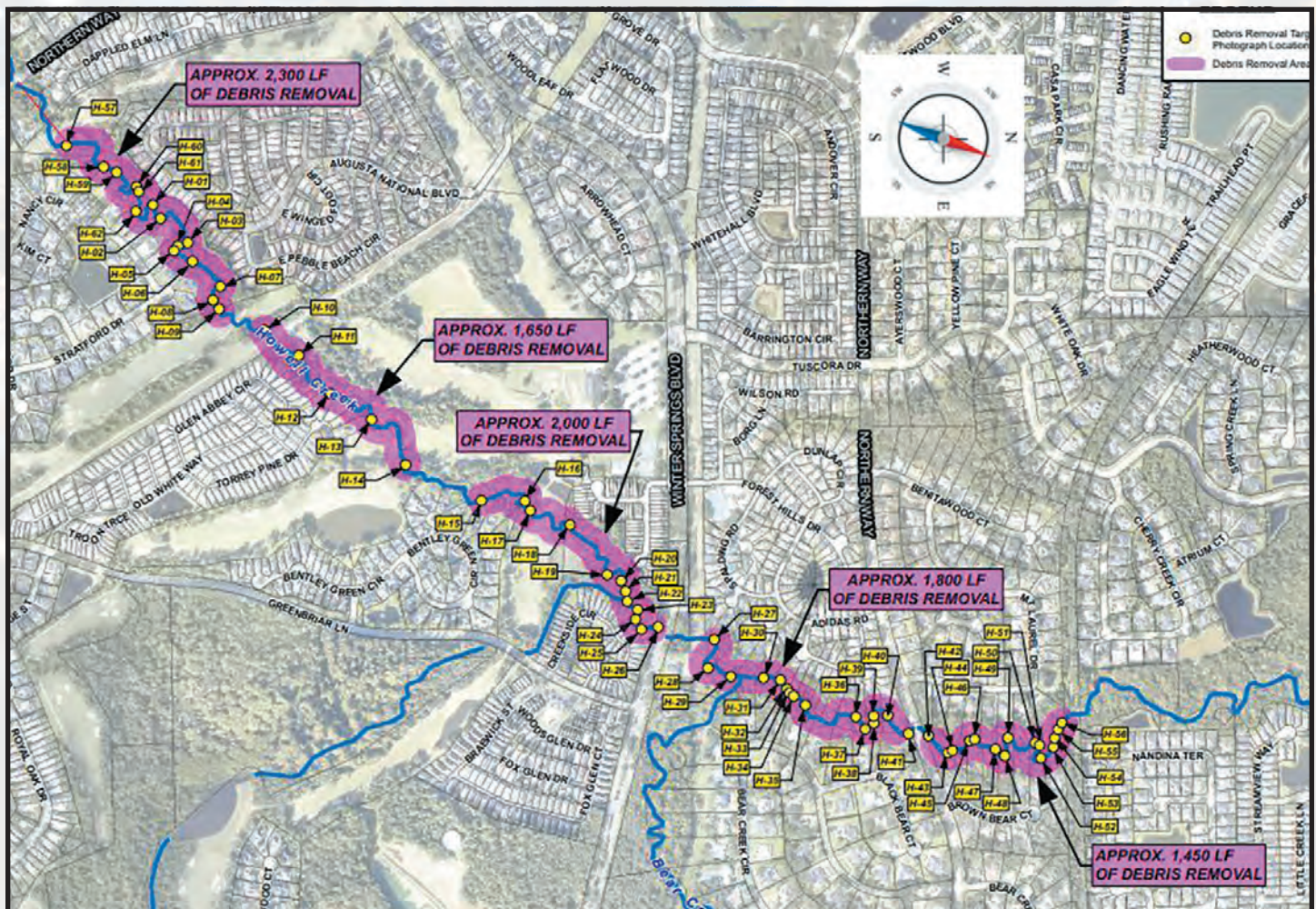
CREEK RESTORATION UNDERWAY IN

Starting June 17, 2025, the City of Winter Springs began a major effort to remove storm related debris from several key waterways throughout our community, including right here in the Tuscawilla neighborhood. This project is made possible through a federal grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which will cover up to 100% of the total cost as part of the City's ongoing Hurricane Milton recovery efforts.

Contractors began their work along Sheoah Creek and will continue in sequence through Gee Creek and No Name Creek each of these within Winter Springs yet outside the Tuscawilla

Country Club community before focusing on two vital creeks within our neighborhood: Little Howell Creek and Bear Creek.

These creeks serve an essential function, quietly carrying stormwater away from homes, roads, and parks. Over time, however, fallen trees, limbs, and other storm related debris have blocked or restricted the natural flow. This can contribute to localized flooding, erosion, and stress on our stormwater system. The current project is designed to clear this debris and help restore the creeks' capacity to move water efficiently through our community.



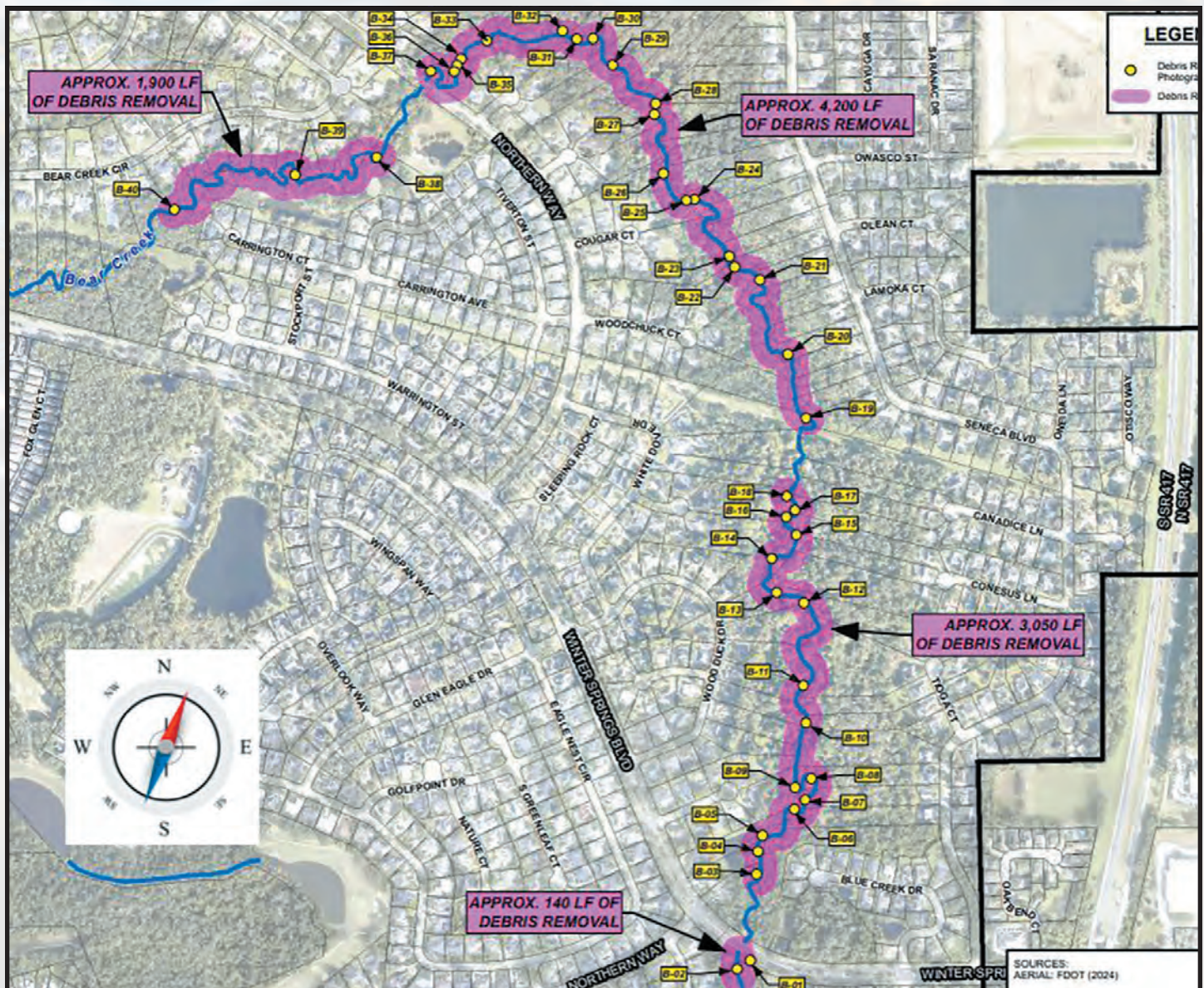
OUR TUSCAWILLA NEIGHBORHOOD

Once the debris has been cleared, crews will return to remove sediment buildup, as permitted by both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the St. Johns River Water Management District. These agencies closely regulate any work that may disturb a waterway, ensuring that environmental protections remain in place while allowing for necessary maintenance.

Work is expected to continue for several weeks, and residents may notice crews and equipment

near creek banks during this time. While some temporary disruption may occur, the long-term benefit to our neighborhood will be significant with improved stormwater flow, reduced flood risk, and healthier, more functional creeks.

We thank the NRCS for their support, and the City of Winter Springs for prioritizing this critical work. Please use extra caution near work zones and stay tuned for further updates as progress continues.



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Yard of the month



NATIVE RESIDENTS HONORED WITH YARD OF THE MONTH!

Congratulations to Sam and Brittany Sobering, lifelong Tuscahill-area residents, who have been awarded the Yard of the Month! Both Sam and Brittany grew up locally, attending Oviedo and Winter Springs High Schools. In 2017, they built their dream home right here in the neighborhood at 921 Arabian Avenue, where they are now raising their three children.

Their beautifully maintained yard reflects the pride they take in being part of this community. Be sure to drive by and admire their hard work and green thumbs!

From left to right: Kurt Mierke, President of the Tuscahill HOA; Laura Leigh Wood, VP of the Sunshine Garden Club; Brittany and Sam Sobering; Phyllis Ruebush, Co-President of the Sunshine Garden Club; and Mary Joyce Fisher, Garden Club member.



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOUR LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AN ENJOYABLE AND EDUCATIONAL WAY?

The Citizens Police Academy offers a unique opportunity for participants to gain insights into public safety alongside local officers. Participants will have the chance to visit the firearms training range, experience a pit maneuver, examine equipment up close, learn defensive techniques, and more! This free course will cover various topics, including the traffic unit, crime response, K-9 units, SWAT operations, and other areas. Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion at a celebratory graduation ceremony.

DETAILS

The Citizen Police Academy meets one night a week for 10 weeks from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Beginning on September 30, and concluding on December 16, 2025. To sign up, please visit winterspringsfl.org

All participants must be at least 21 years old and able to pass a background check. Space is limited to 20 participants. If you are interested, please submit your application to Officer Thomas Ballew at 300 N. Moss Road. All applications must be submitted by September 16, 2025, by 4 PM.



CAUGHT IN THE ACT: ONE BEAR'S LATE-NIGHT SNACK ATTEMPT

Life in the Central Florida area certainly has its perks; peace, nature, and the occasional... surprise visitor!

On the evening of June 17, Rob and Colleen Aboud of Goshawk Terrace discovered they weren't the only ones enjoying their backyard bird feeder. After two mysterious "takedowns" of their feeder, they installed a small solar-powered webcam and alarm system, hoping to catch the culprit red-pawed. It didn't take long.

Just after dusk, the siren sounded. When they peeked outside, there it was, a small black bear caught mid-snack, trying to liberate a few seeds from the feeder. According to Rob, "It had only slightly bent the pole by then, and as I yelled and clapped, it ran off into the conservation area."

The best part? The webcam caught the exact moment the alarm and strobe light went off, causing the bear to glance right at the camera and unintentionally pose for the perfect snapshot, just seconds before Rob's applause sent it scurrying back to the woods.

We thank Rob and Colleen for sharing both the story and the now-iconic bear photo.

A gentle reminder to neighbors: if you live near wooded areas, consider taking down bird feeders and securing trash bins at night. And maybe, just maybe, keep your cameras ready.

After all, not every evening ends with a bear posing like it's auditioning for a nature documentary.

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WINTER SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Calls for Service: 6,028

Response Times

Emergency: 3:35

Non-Emergency: 6:20

TRAFFIC

Citations: 713

Written Warnings: 667

Total: 1816

ARRESTS

Adult Arrests: 26

Juvenile Arrests: 0

Capias Filed: 0

TRAFFIC

Accidents: 36

Injuries: 6

Fatalities: 0

Domestic: 3

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement

Cases: 237

Code Board: 7

Signs Removed From

Right of Way: 131

Going out of town? Call The Police Non-Emergency line for our house check program. (407) 327-1000

PREVENTING CONFLICTS WITH BEARS IN FLORIDA

Some of these suggestions should be followed if your yard has a history of bear encounters while others make sense to follow at all times.

- **Secure Garbage:** Store garbage in a shed, garage, or wildlife-resistant container and put it out on the morning of pickup rather than the night before.
- **Secure Pet Food:** Feed pets indoors or bring dishes in after feeding. Store pet food in a secure container.
- **Protect Bird Feeders:** Use bear-resistant bird feeders or remove them entirely.
- **Secure Chickens and Livestock:** Use electric fencing to protect, beehives, compost piles, and chickens or other livestock.
- **Manage Fruit Trees:** Pick ripe fruit from trees and remove fallen fruit from the ground.
- **Clean Grills:** Clean grills thoroughly and store them in a locked, secure place.
- **Report Problems:** If a bear is a persistent nuisance or poses a safety threat, contact the FWC Regional Office.

ENCOUNTERING A BEAR:

- **Stay Calm:** If you encounter a bear, remain calm and avoid sudden movements.

- **Back Away Slowly:** Give the bear space and a clear escape route.
- **Make Noise:** Make noise to alert the bear to your presence and encourage it to leave.
- **Do Not Approach or Feed:** Never approach or feed a bear, and avoid direct eye contact, which can be perceived as aggressive.
- **If Attacked:** If a bear attacks, fight back aggressively with whatever is available, such as rocks or sticks

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- It is illegal to intentionally feed bears in Florida: per the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Bears are typically shy and avoid humans, but they may linger if they find a readily available food source.
- Be aware of your surroundings, especially when walking or driving in areas known to have bears.

By following these recommendations, residents can help minimize conflicts with Florida black bears and ensure the continued success of bear conservation efforts. For more information visit myfwc.com

VETERANS CORNER

The Tradition of Challenge Coins: Honoring Service and Brotherhood



Challenge coins are small, custom made medallions that carry deep meaning in military and first responder communities. Often bearing a unit's insignia or motto, these coins are more than decorative keepsakes, they are symbols of honor, camaraderie, and shared service.

The exact origin of the challenge coin is debated, but one widely accepted story traces it back to World War I. A wealthy American pilot reportedly had bronze medallions made for his squadron. When he was later captured behind enemy lines and escaped, he used the

coin to prove his identity to French forces, saving his life. The story spread, and the tradition took hold.

In modern times, challenge coins are awarded for outstanding service, acts of bravery, or to commemorate participation in a special mission or operation. In the military, a coin may come from a unit commander, a general, or even the President. Among first responders, police, firefighters, and EMTs, coins are often exchanged to honor exceptional performance, teamwork, or interagency collaboration.

Etiquette surrounding challenge coins has also developed over time. One well known tradition is the "coin challenge." If someone calls for a challenge, all present must display their coin. Anyone who cannot produce one may be required to buy a round of drinks, or sometimes perform a light hearted penalty. Conversely, if everyone has a coin, the challenger foots the bill.

Coins should be treated with respect. It's customary to carry them on your person, not to deface them, and never to give them away casually. They are meant to be earned, not bought.

Today, challenge coins continue to serve as enduring symbols of identity, loyalty, and respect. Whether passed from commander to soldier or chief to firefighter, each coin tells a story of service and belonging.

Back to School in Tuscowilla

As the summer winds down, the excitement of a new school year begins to build across Winter Springs. With Seminole County Public Schools set to reopen on August 11, families are busy preparing for the return of routines, early mornings, and school spirit.

Our city is proud to be home to five outstanding public schools that serve as the educational heart of our community. Rainbow Elementary and Keith Elementary both offer nurturing environments where our youngest learners begin their academic journeys. Dedicated teachers and staff help children build a strong foundation in reading, math, science, and character development — all within safe and supportive campuses.

For our middle school students, Indian Trails Middle School provides an engaging transition between elementary and high school. Known for its academic excellence and extracurricular opportunities, Indian Trails offers students a chance to grow both intellectually and socially. From robotics to performing arts, the school fosters curiosity and leadership.

The Tuscowilla community is also fortunate to have not one but two highly respected high schools. Winter Springs High School, home of the Bears, is a hub of academic, athletic, and artistic achievement. Students excel in advanced coursework, clubs, and competitive sports, all while preparing for college and careers. On the other side of town, the Oviedo High School Lions continue a proud tradition of excellence, offering similar programs with a fierce commitment to community and school pride.

Back to school also means back to school zones. Drivers are urged to use extra caution near school campuses and to obey all posted speed limits. Parents are encouraged to keep up with school calendars and support students as they embark on another year of learning and growth.

Here in Winter Springs, we believe our schools are more than buildings, they are where future leaders are formed. We wish every student, teacher, and family a safe and successful school year!

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News At A Glance

9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY – WINTER SPRINGS



On Thursday, September 11, 2025, the City of Winter Springs will hold its annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony in front of the Winter Springs Police Department at 300 N. Moss Road, honoring the 2,977 lives lost on September 11, 2001. This moving event begins at 8:30 a.m., and attendees will observe a moment of silence at exactly 8:46 a.m., marking the time United Airlines Flight 11 struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

City leaders, law enforcement personnel, and neighbors from the Tusawilla area are invited to participate in this solemn tribute. Organized by the mayor, city commission, and police department, the ceremony offers a reflective space for remembrance and gratitude for first responders' sacrifice and commitment to our safety.

This peaceful gathering serves as a meaningful way for our community to honor those lost, support survivors, and reaffirm unity in remembrance.

TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB

"Where you are among friends"

We're now in the full heat of summer, and what a fun season it's shaping up to be, filled with laughter, family, and friendship!

Our July Meeting and Summer Party was a great success, offering a wonderful opportunity to reconnect and share stories from our summer adventures. The event featured lively games of bingo and a festive "Fashion Runway" hat contest that had everyone smiling. Delicious food and refreshments added the perfect finishing touch.

Our Lunch Bunch and Book Club remain active and well-attended, thank you to everyone who continues to participate and brings such great energy!

Please note: There will be no club meeting in August as we take a short summer break.

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting will be a Meet & Greet on Thursday, September 11 at 1:00 PM at the Wedgewood Tennis Villas Clubhouse. All are welcome, whether you're a longtime member or simply curious to see what we're all about, we'd love to have you join us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information or questions, please contact Anne Combs at (407) 761-5779.

ST. STEPHEN ANNUAL ARTS & CRAFTS HOLIDAY SALE

Get ready for a seasonal favorite! The St. Stephen Catholic Community will once again host its Annual Arts and Crafts Holiday Sale this October in EC-1 on the church campus, located at 575 Tuskawilla Road in Winter Springs.

This year's sale will take place on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and on Sunday, October 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event features a wide selection of handcrafted items created by the talented members of the St. Stephen Arts and Crafts Ministry. Shoppers can expect to find floral arrangements, holiday décor, kitchen accessories, and a delightful quilt boutique. There will also be gifts for teachers, potted plants, collegiate-themed items, baby and children's goods, cozy yarn crafts, Florida and beach-themed décor, and a special table of gifts priced at five dollars and under. With no commercial vendors, each item is unique and made with care.

Best of all, admission is free, and every purchase supports a meaningful cause. All proceeds go directly to the St. Vincent de Paul Outreach, which provides assistance to individuals and families in need.

In addition to the main event, the Christmas Craft Shoppe will also be open throughout November. Visitors are welcome to browse and shop in EC-1 every Sunday and Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

If you're looking for handmade holiday gifts and décor while supporting a wonderful mission, be sure to stop by and enjoy the festive spirit.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Aug. 6	Parks, Recreation & mobility advisory Committee: 5:30 City Hall
Aug. 7	Planning & Zoning Board: 5:30 City Hall
Aug. 10	National S'mores Day
Aug. 11	City Commission Meeting: 6:30 City Hall
Aug. 11	First day of school for Seminole County Schools
Aug. 13	International Left-Handers Day
Aug. 14	Board of Trustees: 5:30 City Hall
Aug. 20	Tusawilla Lighting & Beautification District Advisory Committee 5:15 City Hall
Aug. 20	World Honeybee Day
Aug. 25	City Commission Meeting: 6:30 City Hall
Aug. 25	Kiss and Make Up Day
Aug. 26	Code Enforcement Board: 5:30 City Hall
Sept. 1	Labor Day
Aug. 4	Planning & Zoning Board: 5:30 City Hall

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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:

Tace Crouse..... 407-222-4336

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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ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Should be e-mailed to Kathy McCann, at editorkathymccann@gmail.com and to the THOA President, Kurt Miericke, at THOAws20@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.

ADVERTISING:

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