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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Through the years many people have made their way and settled in this premiere planned community called Tuscawilla. All of our residents are special and have added something to make this a great place to live. My ninety-four-year-old neighbor just passed away. He was a Colonel in the Air Force and flew jets off aircraft carriers in two wars. He was one of many of my neighbors that demonstrated the value of community service.

Not too many years ago I remember attending the dedication service for the plaque at the base of the flagpole on the east end of Winter Springs Blvd. The plaque is in memory of all our service men and women. At the ceremony there was a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941. Also, there was another Tuscawilla resident named "Spike" who was one of the paratroopers who landed at night in Normandy prior to the June 6, 1944 invasion of the European Continent in World War II.

I have another neighbor named Don Jonas who was a famous football player in the Canadian Football League and later joined the Philadelphia Eagles. He was also the first football coach at UCF. We have living among us engineers, doctors, authors, scientists, educators, television personalities, politicians, clergy, business owners, athletes and more.

One of those athletes recently passed away. His name was Wayne Allan Granger, and he is a member of Cincinnati Reds Baseball Hall of Fame. Wayne was a formidable relief pitcher whose dominant performances were a hallmark of the Cincinnati Reds early "Big Red Machine". He signed with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1965 and was traded to the Cincinnati Reds in 1968. It was there that he quickly established himself as one of the League's premier closers. In 1969 he led the League with ninety appearances and twenty-seven saves.



In the 1970 baseball season Granger continued his dominance setting a National League record with thirty-five saves, a mark that stood for many years. He also had the historic distinction of throwing the final pitch and earning the last victory at the Reds' venerable home, Crosley Field, before the team moved to Riverfront Stadium. Leaving the Reds, Wayne also pitched for several other teams including the Minnesota Twins, New York Yankees, Chicago White Sox, Houston Astros, and the Montreal Expos, before arm injuries ultimately cut short his career in 1976. Wayne was a long-time resident of Tuscawilla.

The Tuscawilla Today is always interested in recognizing our residents who have or had an interesting career. We are thankful for each of you and hope you will continue to support us as your association works to keep this a wonderful place to live.

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.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

As we welcome May, I'm once again reminded how fortunate we are to live in a community that shows up—for each other, for our neighborhoods, and for the traditions that bring us together year after year.

This issue is full of those moments.

From the smiles and laughter at Family Fun Day to the creativity and fun of the Easter Golf Cart Parade, it's clear that Tuscahill knows how to celebrate. These events don't just happen on their own—they are the result of neighbors volunteering their time, families participating, and a shared desire to keep our community connected.

You'll also read about the wonderful work of the Sunshine Garden Club, whose efforts continue to add beauty and care to the spaces we all enjoy. Their dedication is a reminder that even the quiet contributions can have a lasting impact.

This month, we are especially proud to highlight Laura Lee Wood. Many of you already know her—not just by name, but by presence. Whether she's supporting local schools, volunteering her time, helping organize community events, or working with organizations like Hope Helps, Laura Lee has spent years investing in the people and places that make Tuscahill feel like home. Her commitment to education, her involvement with the Arbor School, and her long history of giving back speak volumes about the kind of community we strive to be.

May also brings meaningful moments of reflection. As Mother's Day approaches, we celebrate the women who shape our families and guide us with strength, patience, and love. These are the quiet heroes in our lives, and this is a wonderful time to recognize all they do.



And as Memorial Day nears, we pause as a community to remember those who gave everything in service to our country. This year, we honor Lt. Col. Chad Beuhring, whose connection to Tuscahill and Winter Springs reminds us that the sacrifices made by our service members are not distant—they are part of our own community story. It is our hope that by sharing his story, we help ensure his legacy is remembered with the respect and gratitude it deserves.

Putting this issue together is always a team effort. I'm grateful for the many residents who share stories, photos, and ideas—and yes, I'll admit I have a little help at home as well. Together, it's a privilege to help tell the story of this community.

Thank you for continuing to read, contribute, and be part of what makes Tuscahill such a special place.

Katherine McCann

Editor, *Tuscahill Today*

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A STRONG FINANCIAL REPORT CARD FOR WINTER SPRINGS

Each year, the City of Winter Springs completes an independent financial audit, formally known as the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, or ACFR. While that may sound technical, the goal is simple: to provide a clear, transparent look at how the City manages its finances and your tax dollars.

Think of it as a financial report card prepared by an outside firm. Auditors review revenues, expenses, and financial practices to ensure everything is accurate and handled responsibly.

The good news? This year's audit reflects very strong results, and that is something our entire community can feel good about.

The report highlights solid financial stewardship and responsible budgeting. One standout detail is that our pension fund is now over 100 percent funded, approximately 105 percent. That means the City is not only meeting its obligations to our police officers and staff, but exceeding them, helping ensure long term financial security for those who serve our community.

The audit also confirms that the City is well positioned to move forward with major infrastructure investments,

including improvements to our wastewater treatment facilities. These projects are essential to protecting our environment, supporting future growth, and maintaining the quality of life we value.

In addition, the audit reviews internal controls, the safeguards that help prevent errors or misuse of funds. Positive results here provide added confidence that public dollars are being managed with care and professionalism.

For residents of Tuscahill and across Winter Springs, this is reassuring news. It reflects careful planning, strong oversight, and a continued commitment to doing things the right way.

Simply put, it is a great report card for Winter Springs.

To view the full report, Google "Winter Springs ACFR 2025" or visit winterspringsfl.org.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*"A man who does not think for himself,
does not think at all"*

— Oscar Wilde

BUILDING CONNECTIONS: WINTER SPRINGS COMMUNITY YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM RETURNS FOR 2026

The Winter Springs Police Department is once again investing in the future of our community through its 2026 Community Youth Outreach Program. Designed to strengthen relationships between local youth and law enforcement, this program offers a meaningful opportunity for young residents to connect, learn, and grow in a positive and engaging environment.

At its core, the program is about building trust. Through shared experiences, participants will interact directly with members of the department's Community Relations team, creating connections that last far beyond a single week. It is a chance for children to see the people behind the badge and to better understand the role law enforcement plays in keeping our community safe.

PROGRAM DATES AND STRUCTURE

This year's program will be offered in two separate weeks:

Week 1: June 1 through June 5

Week 2: July 6 through July 10

Each session runs Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Torcaso Park, located at 104 North Moss Road in Winter Springs. Lunch and water will be provided daily, ensuring a safe and comfortable experience for all participants.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS CAN EXPECT

The program is designed to be both fun and impactful. Activities include splash pad time, school yard games, team sports, and a field day experience that encourages teamwork and positive

interaction. Every element is carefully planned to keep children active while reinforcing important values such as cooperation, respect, and community pride.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration is free and open to Winter Springs residents ages 5 to 15. Parents must register their children in advance for the full week, and all required waiver forms must be completed prior to participation. Children will also be signed in and out each day for safety.

Registration opens April 20, 2026 at 8 a.m. Due to limited capacity, families are encouraged to register early. Participants who are unable to attend are asked to provide advance notice so that others may have the opportunity to take part.

A PROGRAM THAT REFLECTS OUR COMMUNITY

Programs like this highlight what makes Winter Springs and Tuscahill special. They reflect a community that values connection, invests in its youth, and supports the men and women who serve. By creating opportunities for positive interaction at a young age, we help build a stronger, more unified community for years to come.

For more information, residents may contact Officer Tommy Ballew at tballew@winterspringsfl.org or 407 327 1000.

As we look ahead to summer, this program offers a simple but powerful reminder. When a community comes together with purpose, everyone benefits.

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON IN TUSCAWILLA: DUKE ENERGY TREE TRIMMING



Residents in Tuscahill and across Winter Springs may soon notice crews from Duke Energy working in our neighborhoods. While much of Tuscahill benefits from underground power lines, the larger lines feeding electricity into our community remain above ground and are vulnerable during storms.

Our tree canopy is one of Tuscahill's greatest assets, but it also contributes to storm related outages. Many residents have experienced extended power loss after hurricanes, most often caused by falling trees or large branches damaging these main lines.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Duke Energy crews will be pruning trees along electric lines through the second quarter of 2026. Work typically begins at substations and moves outward, including some rear lot access for lateral lines. Crews will clean up all debris as part of the process.

WHY IT MATTERS

Even with underground utilities throughout much of Tuscahill, outages can still occur when feeder lines are damaged. A

single fallen tree can interrupt service to large portions of our community. Proactive trimming is one of the most effective ways to reduce that risk and shorten recovery times after major storms.

REMINDERS FOR RESIDENTS

As you plan landscaping around your home, please keep the following in mind:

- Avoid planting trees or large shrubs near overhead power lines
- Be aware of how quickly vegetation grows in Central Florida
- Consider the mature size of trees before planting
- Proper placement today helps prevent outages and future removal

WORKING TOGETHER

Protecting our tree canopy while maintaining reliable power requires a shared effort. Duke Energy's maintenance plays an important role, and so does thoughtful planning by residents.

To learn more about Duke Energy's vegetation management practices, please visit: <https://www.duke-energy.com/vegetation-management>

By staying mindful, we can help preserve the beauty of Tuscahill while reducing the risk of outages when severe weather arrives.





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Sunshine Garden Club Tour Showcases Beauty and Inspiration in Tusawilla

The Sunshine Garden Club recently brought a touch of springtime inspiration to Tusawilla with a special garden tour held on April 14, 2026. Hosted in partnership with the Tusawilla Homeowners Association, the event highlighted not only the beauty of our community, but also the creativity and pride of the residents who call it home.

Club members visited a collection of unique properties, including three homes on smaller lots and a stunning conservation backed garden. Two of the homes overlooked the golf course, while another bordered the Seminole Trail, each transformed into inviting outdoor retreats. Despite limited space, these homes demonstrated how thoughtful design, careful planning, and a passion for gardening can turn even smaller areas into something truly special.

The tour concluded with a visit to the elegant garden of Peg Greenwood, whose home backs up to conservation. Her landscape provided a peaceful and picturesque setting, offering a perfect example of how natural surroundings can be beautifully incorporated into a residential garden.

Special thanks go out to Amparo Saladino, Kim Bryant, Renate Cahill, and Peg Greenwood for graciously opening their homes and sharing their talents. Their efforts not only showcased the beauty of Tusawilla, but also inspired others to enhance their own outdoor spaces.

Looking ahead, the Sunshine Garden Club is excited to expand this event. Plans are already underway to open next year's tour to Tusawilla residents for a nominal fee, giving more members of the community the opportunity to experience these exceptional gardens firsthand.

It is just another example of how Tusawilla continues to grow, not just in beauty, but in community spirit.



EASTER GOLF CART PARADE

The Tuskawilla Golf Cart Club's Easter Parade brought a bright burst of springtime cheer to our community, turning an already beautiful afternoon into something truly special. Lined with smiling neighbors, the parade route came alive as a colorful procession of creatively decorated golf carts rolled by, each one more festive than the last. From pastel patterns and blooming florals to playful bunny themes, the creativity on display was a joy for all ages.

Families gathered along the route, waving, laughing, and eagerly collecting treats tossed from passing carts. Children especially delighted in the sights and sounds, with plenty of excitement building for the highlight of the day, a special appearance from the Easter Bunny, who did not disappoint. With plenty of waves, photos, and cheerful energy, the

Bunny added just the right touch of magic to an already memorable event.

What stood out most was the sense of community. Neighbors reconnecting, new friendships forming, and everyone sharing in a simple but meaningful tradition that captures the spirit of Tuskawilla. Events like this remind us how fortunate we are to live in a place where people take the time to come together, celebrate, and create lasting memories.

A big thank you goes out to the Tuskawilla Golf Cart Club and all the participants who helped make this event such a success. We are already looking forward to next year's parade and the continued traditions that make our community feel like home.



REMEMBERING ONE OF OUR OWN



As Memorial Day approaches, our Tusawilla community pauses to reflect on the true meaning of the day, honoring those who gave their lives in service to our nation.

Among them is Charles H. Buehring, a United States Army officer with deep ties to Winter Springs, who was killed in action on October 26, 2003, during the Iraq War.

Lt. Col. Buehring served his country with distinction, earning both the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart. He was widely respected as a thoughtful and dedicated leader, serving in Special Forces and psychological operations, with assignments that took him across the world, including Bosnia and Somalia. At the time of his passing, he was serving as a special adviser in Iraq, contributing to efforts aimed at stability and improving the lives of others.

Beyond his service, he was a husband and a father to two young sons. In the years since, both of his sons have chosen to serve as officers in the United States Army, a meaningful continuation of his legacy.

For those of us here in Tusawilla, his story carries a more personal connection. Records reflect that Lt. Col. Buehring

attended Trinity Preparatory School, and that his family has been part of this community. These ties remind us that the sacrifices we honor on Memorial Day are not distant. They are connected to neighborhoods like our own.

In recognition of his service, the United States military named Camp Buehring in his honor, ensuring that his legacy will be remembered by generations of service members.

This remembrance has been thoughtfully compiled from publicly available information. Efforts have been made to respectfully connect with family members, and we remain hopeful for the opportunity to share more of his story in their own words.

If anyone in our community has additional information, memories, or a personal connection they would be willing to share, we would be grateful to hear from you. Please consider reaching out to the editor at editorkathymccann@gmail.com so that we may continue to honor Lt. Col. Buehring's life and service with the care and respect he deserves.

As we gather this Memorial Day, may we take a moment to remember Lt. Col. Buehring, not only for his service, but for his connection to this community, and all those who have given their lives in defense of our country.

In Tusawilla, we remember. And in remembering, we honor.

Celebrating a Community Champion:

LAURA LEIGH WOOD

In every great community, there are individuals whose quiet dedication and consistent presence help shape the character of the place we call home. In Tusawilla, one of those individuals is Laura Leigh Wood.

For 25 years, Laura Leigh has called Tusawilla home, and throughout that time, she has become a familiar and uplifting presence across our community. Whether she is organizing events, supporting local schools, or lending her time to important causes, her commitment to making Tusawilla a better place is both genuine and lasting.

Laura Leigh's passion for helping others is perhaps most evident through her volunteer work with Hope Helps, an organization focused on preventing homelessness in Central Florida through housing, outreach, prevention, and education. Her willingness to give her time and energy to support families in need reflects a deep sense of compassion and responsibility to others.

Her dedication to education is equally impressive. Laura Leigh actively supports Keith Elementary School, Indian Trails Middle School, and Winter Springs High School, consistently showing up for students, teachers, and families. She also serves on the Board of Directors for The Arbor School, further demonstrating



her long-standing commitment to educational opportunities for children of all abilities.

In addition to her work in education and service organizations, Laura Leigh is well known for bringing people together. From sponsoring Food Truck Thursdays at Trotwood Park to hosting local talent shows and community gatherings, she plays a key role in creating the moments that bring neighbors closer and strengthen community bonds.

Her leadership extends even further. Laura Leigh is a past Queen of the Winter Springs Krewe of Leaders, an organization that not only celebrates community spirit but also provides scholarships to support students in their educational journeys. Her involvement reflects a broader commitment to investing in the next generation.

She is also a proud graduate of Leadership Seminole, Class 35, a program dedicated to developing informed and engaged community leaders. This experience further underscores her ongoing commitment to civic involvement and thoughtful leadership.

Through it all, Laura Leigh is often joined by her partner in life, Chuck Rudis, who can frequently be seen by her side supporting the same causes and community efforts.

Simply put, Laura Leigh Wood represents the very best of Tusawilla. Her generosity, energy, and unwavering dedication continue to leave a lasting impact on our community. We are fortunate to call her a neighbor, a leader, and a friend.

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Celebrating Mother's Day in Tuscawilla

As spring settles beautifully over Tuscawilla, Mother's Day offers a perfect moment to pause and celebrate the women who shape our families, our neighborhoods, and our community. It is a day filled with gratitude, reflection, and simple acts of appreciation that often mean the most.

Here in Tuscawilla, Mother's Day feels especially meaningful. Whether it is a quiet morning walk along our tree lined streets, a family gathering in the backyard, or brunch with loved ones, the day is less about grand gestures and more about connection. It is about time spent together, laughter shared, and memories made.

Mothers in our community wear many hats. They are caregivers, mentors, volunteers, professionals, and friends. They are the ones cheering from the sidelines, organizing busy schedules, and quietly holding everything together behind the scenes. Their impact is felt not just in their own homes, but throughout our schools, parks, and local organizations.

Mother's Day is also a time to honor those we miss and to recognize that the meaning of the day is different for everyone. For some, it is a joyful celebration. For others, it may be a moment of remembrance or reflection. In all cases, it is an opportunity to lead with kindness and appreciation.

As a community, we are fortunate to be surrounded by strong, caring women who help make Tuscawilla such a special place to live. This Mother's Day, a simple thank you, a shared meal, or even a handwritten note can go a long way.

From all of us in Tuscawilla, we wish every mother, grandmother, and mother figure a very Happy Mother's Day. Your love and dedication truly make a difference every single day.

Congratulations to the Winter Springs High School Class of 2026
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SAVE THE DATE: TUSCAWILLA MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

The Tuscawilla Homeowners Association invites residents to mark their calendars for the upcoming Meet the Candidates Night, to be held at the Tuscawilla Country Club. The date and time will be announced soon.

This well attended event, hosted every two years by the THOA Board of Directors, has become a valued tradition within our community. In past years, the main room at the Country Club has reached standing room only as residents gathered to hear directly from candidates seeking to represent Winter Springs.

Meet the Candidates Night provides an opportunity for voters to learn more about each candidate's background, priorities, and vision for the future of

our city. Each candidate will have time to speak, offering residents a chance to hear their perspectives in one setting before Election Day.

As a community organization operating under IRS 501(c)(3) guidelines, the THOA is committed to providing informative, nonpartisan events that benefit residents. This forum is designed to educate and engage, helping voters make informed decisions while encouraging respectful civic participation.

Whether you are new to the community or a longtime resident, this event is a great way to stay informed and involved. Additional details, including the confirmed date and time, will be shared soon.

We look forward to seeing you there as Tuscawilla comes together to learn, engage, and participate in the future of our community.

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UNDERSTANDING FLOOD RISK AND THE WORK AHEAD

In the wake of Hurricane Ian, our community experienced a level of flooding that many residents had never seen before. Hundreds of homes across Winter Springs, including within Tuscawilla, were impacted. While the exact number of affected homes is unknown, the scale of the event made one thing clear: our stormwater system, much of which was built decades ago, is being tested in new ways.

As our region continues to grow, development brings more roads, rooftops, and other hard surfaces that do not absorb water. These impervious surfaces increase both the volume and speed of stormwater runoff. Over time, this places additional strain on drainage systems that were not originally designed for today's conditions. Combined with more intense rainfall events, this means flooding challenges will become more critical if not addressed proactively.

What Residents Should Know About Flood Maps

FEMA flood maps remain an important tool, especially for insurance and long term planning. However, they are based on historical data and modeling and are not designed to predict every possible storm scenario. During Hurricane Ian, many homes that experienced flooding were not located within designated flood zones.

This does not mean the maps are inaccurate, but rather that they represent a baseline level of risk. Extreme rainfall events can exceed those assumptions. The takeaway for residents is that flood risk is not limited strictly to mapped flood zones, reinforcing the need for continued investment across the entire system.

Understanding your property's flood risk is an important part of protecting your home. Residents can easily look up their address using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Map Service Center: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

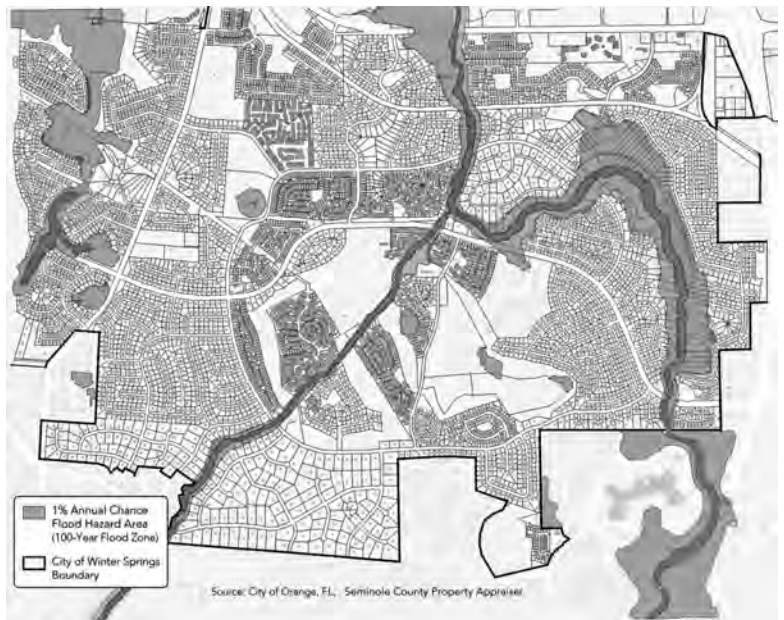
Major Projects and Investments

Since Hurricane Ian, the City has been working closely with its stormwater engineering team to identify priorities and move key projects forward. To date, the City has invested approximately \$13 million in storm resiliency efforts, with additional projects planned in the years ahead.

Several larger scale efforts are already underway or moving toward construction, including:

Tuscawilla Crossings Pond 1 Repairs and Restoration – Estimated cost: approximately \$2 million. This project will restore critical stormwater storage capacity and improve how water is managed during heavy rainfall events.

Targeted Drainage Improvements in Flood Impacted Neighborhoods – Estimated cost: several million dollars across multiple locations. These projects focus on areas that experienced repeated flooding and may include upgrades to underground pipes, additional storm drains, and improvements



to how water flows through neighborhoods.

Citywide Stormwater System Modeling and Engineering Analysis – Ongoing investment. This effort uses updated data and technology to better understand how water moves throughout the system today. The results will guide future projects, prioritize funding, and strengthen applications for state and federal grants.

Infrastructure Repairs and Capacity Improvements – Costs vary by project. This includes addressing aging or undersized drainage infrastructure, removing bottlenecks in the system, and improving overall performance during major storm events.

These projects represent a combination of City funding and outside grant opportunities, with a continued focus on securing additional resources whenever possible.

Looking Ahead

Stormwater management is not a short term fix. It is a long term effort that will take sustained investment over many years. Some improvements can be made relatively quickly, while others require detailed design, permitting, and funding before construction can begin.

As our Mayor Kevin McCann recently shared,

“For the past five years, one of the most pressing issues facing our community has been the replacement of aging wastewater infrastructure. Stormwater will be the challenge we must manage for decades to come.”

Future efforts will continue to focus on increasing system capacity, improving water flow, and modernizing infrastructure to better reflect current conditions and future growth.

Moving Forward

No one wants to see flooding in their neighborhood, and no one wants to face rising costs associated with infrastructure improvements. At the same time, the reality is that investment in stormwater systems is essential to protecting homes, property, and quality of life.

By continuing to take a thoughtful, measured approach, the City is working to reduce flood risk and strengthen the resilience of our community for years to come.

PROTECTING YOUR SKIN IN THE FLORIDA SUN: A TUSCAWILLA PERSPECTIVE

Living in Tuscawilla means enjoying sunshine nearly year round. Whether it is a walk through the neighborhood, a round of golf, time at the park, or cheering on our kids at outdoor events, the Florida lifestyle keeps us outside. And with the beach and Walt Disney World Resort both about an hour away, many of us spend full days in the sun more often than we realize. While that is one of the great benefits of living here, it also comes with an important responsibility: protecting our skin.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States, and Florida residents face higher exposure due to the strength and consistency of our sun. The good news is that simple, consistent habits can significantly reduce your risk.

EVERYDAY PROTECTION MATTERS

Start with sunscreen. Use a broad spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30, and apply it generously before heading outside. Reapply every two hours, especially if you are sweating or spending time at the beach or walking the parks.

Protective clothing also makes a difference. Wide brim hats, sunglasses, and lightweight long sleeves can help shield your skin without sacrificing comfort. These simple steps are especially helpful during long days outdoors, whether you are at a community event or spending the day with family at a theme park.

TIMING IS KEY

The sun is strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. When possible, plan outdoor activities earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon. Taking breaks in the shade, even for a few minutes, can make a meaningful difference over time.

KNOW YOUR SKIN

Regular skin checks are just as important as prevention. Watch for new spots or changes in existing moles, including changes in size, shape, or color. If something does not look right, it is worth having it checked by a medical professional. Early detection saves lives.

A COMMUNITY APPROACH

In a place like Tuscawilla, where neighbors gather outdoors and families stay active, awareness can go a long way. Keep sunscreen on hand during youth sports and community events, and encourage one another to take simple precautions.

Protecting your skin does not mean avoiding the outdoors. It means enjoying everything our community has to offer, from local parks to day trips, while taking smart steps to stay healthy.

A little preparation today helps ensure many more sunny days ahead for you and your family.

LOOKING OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER

In a community like Tuscawilla, we often define ourselves by the things we can see, well kept homes, familiar faces, and the steady rhythm of daily life. But just beneath the surface, there are challenges that are not always visible. Mental health is one of them.

Like many communities across the country, we have experienced moments of loss and hardship connected to mental health struggles. These are deeply personal situations that affect families, friends, and neighbors in ways that are not always easy to understand from the outside. While we may not always see the signs, it is important to recognize that these challenges do exist, even here in a place we care about so deeply.

Mental health does not discriminate. It can affect anyone regardless of age, background, or circumstance. Stress, anxiety, depression, and other conditions can quietly take hold, often without outward warning. For some, simply getting through the day can be a significant effort.

That is why awareness matters. It begins with something simple, looking out for one another. A quick check in, a kind word, or taking a moment to listen can make a meaningful difference. We do not need to have all the answers. Sometimes, just being present is enough to remind someone they are not alone.

It is also important to remember that seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness. There are resources available, both locally and nationally, for those who may be struggling or for those concerned about someone they care about. Encouraging open conversations about mental health helps reduce stigma and makes it easier for people to reach out when they need support.

For immediate support, residents can call or text 988, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Locally, 211 Big Bend, dial 211, can connect Seminole County residents to counseling services, crisis support, and other community resources. These services are free, confidential, and available to anyone in need.

As neighbors, we share more than just streets and sidewalks, we share a responsibility to care for one another. By fostering a culture of understanding, compassion, and awareness, we can help ensure that Tuscawilla remains not only a beautiful place to live, but a supportive one as well.

If you or someone you know is struggling, reaching out, whether to a friend, a counselor, or one of the resources above, can be the first step toward help. Sometimes, a single conversation can make all the difference.

News At A Glance

HOA CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE REQUESTED

Please take a moment to review the HOA contact listings on page 18 of Tuscawilla Today. We are working to keep this information accurate and useful for residents across the community.

We understand that many prefer not to include private phone numbers. An email address is a great alternative and still allows neighbors to connect when needed.

Residents often reach out looking for HOA contacts, especially when questions or concerns arise. Updated information helps improve communication and keeps our neighborhoods running smoothly.

If you notice any changes to names, board positions, or contact details, your updates would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping us keep this community resource current.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES

As Memorial Day approaches, residents are encouraged to take a moment to honor and remember the men and women who gave their lives in service to our country.

Local veterans organizations will once again be hosting ceremonies in and around our community. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5405 is expected to hold a Memorial Day observance here in Winter Springs, while the American Legion Post 243 traditionally hosts a ceremony nearby in Oviedo.

Event details such as times and locations may vary, so residents are encouraged to search online or reach out directly to these organizations for the most up to date information. Both groups welcome community participation and provide meaningful opportunities to reflect, remember, and show support for the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Whether attending a formal ceremony or simply taking a quiet moment of reflection, Memorial Day offers all of us a chance to come together as a community in gratitude and remembrance.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE MARCH 2026

The latest Citizens Advisory Committee report reflects the continued commitment of our Winter Springs Police Department to keeping our community safe and well served. Throughout March, officers responded to 13,377 calls for service, maintaining strong response times of 3 minutes 21 seconds for emergencies and 6 minutes 18 seconds for non emergency calls.

In addition to responding to calls, officers remained visible and engaged throughout our neighborhoods, issuing 632 citations and 674 written warnings as part of ongoing traffic safety efforts. There were 27 accidents reported during the month, including 2 with injuries and no fatalities, a reminder of the importance of safe driving for everyone in our community.

Code Enforcement also played an important role in maintaining the character of Winter Springs, addressing 127 cases, removing 22 signs from the right of way, and bringing 1 case before the Code Board.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the City's House Check Program when traveling. This free service allows our Police Department to periodically check on your home, providing added peace of mind while you are away.

We appreciate the continued partnership between our residents and public safety teams that helps keep Winter Springs a safe and welcoming place to call home. For more information, please visit winterspringsfl.org/police.

TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB

"Where you are among friends"

The Tuscawilla Women's Club continues to stay active this spring, with members enjoying time outdoors while refreshing their yards after the winter season.

At the April meeting, members welcomed a guest speaker from SafeHouse of Seminole County, an organization that provides life changing services for women and children experiencing domestic violence. The discussion highlighted an important reality: one in three women are impacted by domestic violence. While it can be a difficult topic, awareness and support remain critical. Help is available through the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline at 1 800 500 1119.

Looking ahead, members will gather for their annual luncheon on Thursday, May 14 at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse. The club will not meet in June, with the next official meeting scheduled for July 9, when members will celebrate America's 250th anniversary.

As a reminder, Mother's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 10, a wonderful opportunity to recognize and honor the mothers in our lives.

For more information about the Tuscawilla Women's Club, please contact Anne Combs.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 10	Mothers Day
May 11	City Commission Meeting- 6:30, City Hall
May 14	Board of Trustees regular meeting- 5:30 pm, City Hall
May 14	Food Truck Thursday, Trotwood Park 5 – 8:00 pm
May 16	Armed Forces Day
May 17	Farmers Market- Trotwood Park, 9:00-2:00pm
May 20	Tuscawilla Lighting and Beautification District Committee - 5:15pm, City Hall
May 25	Memorial Day
May 26	Code Enforcement Board- 5:30pm, City Hall
June 4	Planning and Zoning Board- 5:30pm, City Hall
June 8	City Commission Meeting- 6:30pm, City Hall
June 14	Flag Day

THOA BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Kurt Miericke..... 407-359-4077

Secretary:

Chris Waguespack 407-365-4537

Treasurer:

Roger Monroe..... 407-366-7592

Directors:

Sue Beveridge..... 561-302-6425

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Cindy Guiles 407-462-6061

Carlos Luengo..... 786-201-2822

TUSCAWILLA TODAY

Kathy McCann..... 407-409-5640

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

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.

PRIVATE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS

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

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VP Donald Gavagan Non-Published

Sec Becki Long Non-Published

Tres Matt Scott Non-Published

Bono & Associates

Chelsea Bono-LCAM 407-233-3560

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ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS / ADVERTISING

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.

The Homeowners' Association reserves the right to deny any advertising or editorial copy that is deemed inappropriate to the interests of the community; however, neither the publisher nor the advertisers necessarily always support or agree with all viewpoints printed herein.

Moving You Forward This May



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Whether you're preparing your home for the market or searching for the perfect place in Tuscawilla or Winter Springs, we're with you every step of the way.

Thinking about making a move this spring?

Let's create a plan that works for you.

Colleen Kahl, REALTOR®

Kim Coburn, REALTOR®

407-630-0027

ColleenKahlRealtor@gmail.com


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