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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A few months ago, I read an article in the newspaper that really troubled me. I must confess that there are a lot of articles in the paper that cause me some concern, but this one really bothered me. I decided to save it. I am looking at it right now. It consists of five short paragraphs. The article talks about a situation that would have radically changed someone's life. Last August someone went to the Publix Grocery store on 4495 Roosevelt Blvd in Jacksonville and bought a lottery ticket for the Mega Millions Drawing. They happen to have bought the winning ticket with a payout of thirty-six million dollars. Six months later the winnings remained unclaimed. The article was an attempt to locate the owner of the ticket and remind them that they had one week to claim it. The money was not claimed so it expired. Someone was sitting on a gold mine and never knew it. That kind of money would radically change someone's life. They would discover new relatives. There would be people calling them and knocking on their door night and day. More seriously, they would have had the opportunity to use it for some good and to change other lives.

I got to thinking, what if one of you won that money, would you share some of it with your Tusawilla neighbors? Sam Smith Park could use a pickle ball court, and Seneca Blvd. could use some speed bumps. We could put fountains in all the parks and ponds once we get our main fountain operational. There are other things that could be done like helping our older residents so they could live in their homes longer. We could reach out further and buy new computers for the Winter Springs Senior Center. I am sure I could come up with many more ways to spend your money.

In thinking about all this, I cannot help but feel that each one of us is sitting on a winning ticket. We live in a wonderful community, and the value of our homes has appreciated tremendously. Tusawilla is filled with talented and caring people. At the Tusawilla Family Fun Day on April 7th

we gave out our annual Don Gilmore Award. Don Gilmore served this community well. I remember Don would go one morning a week to the elementary school and read books to the students. He took on projects such as installing flag poles at each entrance as a memorial to our veterans. He gave his time to serving on local boards and served as a city commissioner. The award is given to a resident who has given their time, talent, and treasure to help others. It is an award to encourage community service. I believe we are all sitting on abilities that could positively affect the lives in our neighborhood and in our greater community. In fact, all of you possess a winning ticket. It might not be as much as thirty-six million dollars. But, I would urge you to claim it before it expires.



In closing, I want to thank your Board of Directors and Mayor McCann for all the time and energy they put into making our Tusawilla Family Fun Day a great success. If you missed it, you missed a great Family and Community Day.

Dr. Kurt Miericke
THOA President
Publisher, *Tusawilla Today*

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FLORIDA DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX HOLIDAY

Consumers can purchase qualifying disaster preparedness supplies exempt from tax during the 2024 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday. Passed by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis, the sales tax holiday begins Saturday, May 25th and extends through Friday, June 7th. A second exemption period will begin Saturday, August 24th and extend through Friday, September 6th.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

MEET VITA HOLGUIN

Talking to SCPS "Teacher of the Year" Vita Holguin was both informative and inspiring. Throughout the interview, this Indian Trails Middle School science teacher presented as being a dedicated professional who loves her job working with children. Her level of enthusiasm cannot be captured by mere words. Please see pages 6–7 for her story.

MR. GREG SMITH RECEIVES THE "DON GILMORE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD"

The Tuscowilla Community is blessed to have so many residents who make continuous civic contributions to better the lives of others. Mr. Smith is most certainly one of those individuals. His numerous contributions of time and effort were recognized during the presentation of the Don Gilmore Award at the April 7th THOA Family Fun Day picnic. Please see page 9 for more information.

FOUNTAIN UPDATE

What is going on with the entrance fountain and why has it been idle for so long? There is ongoing dialogue on social media regarding this topic and you would be shocked to know that most of it is speculation and inaccurate. Please read the article on page 9 to understand the status of this repair project.

THOA FAMILY FUN DAY PICNIC

THOA President, Kurt Miericke, was pleased with the beautiful weather and all the members and residents who came out to enjoy the festivities. Thank you to those individuals and local businesses who contributed to our annual community event. Congratulations to Peggy Harwood for winning the grand prize during the raffle. She is now the proud owner of a new bicycle that was donated from our friends at Adventure Cycling. See pages 10–11 for pictures from this year's picnic.

CHILDREN SAFETY IS A PRIORITY

Parents are always vigilant when it comes to the safety of their children, especially the young and most vulnerable. Now is the time to consider enrolling your child in swimming lessons to ensure that they have the survival skills needed to be around water features. The State of Florida typically

has the greatest number of drowning deaths among children given the number of swimming pools, lakes, ponds, and beaches. See page 13 for some options on swimming lessons.



WILDLIFE IN TUSCOWILLA

Thank you, Linda Rogers, for sharing the photographs of our local Bald Eagles. These magnificent birds once teetered on the brink of extinction, reaching an all-time low of 417 known nesting pairs in 1963 in the lower forty-eight states. Conservation interventions have allowed the birds to flourish, and we are benefiting from their comeback. See page 13 for more information and photographs.

IRS INFORMATION

Hopefully, you are in the comfort zone regarding your tax obligations and that the deadlines have been met or extensions have been filed. On the other hand, if you have received a surprise notice from the IRS, be sure to read the article contributed by Paul Diaz on page 15.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May 12, 2024, is Mother's Day! The THOA Board of Directors wishes all mothers an enjoyable day filled with joy and happiness. Please see page 16 for some historical background on this most important day to celebrate motherhood.

MEMORIAL DAY IS MAY 27TH.

Memorial Day weekend is often regarded as the official "kick-off" for the summer season. This special day is, in fact, set aside for all Americans to pause and pay respects for our military service members who have died. Please see page 16 for some historical background on this important holiday.

MONTH OF MAY

According to The Old Farmer's Almanac, the month of May was named after the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants. May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Elaine Johnson

Editor, *Tuscowilla Today*

EditorElaineJohnson@gmail.com



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"You can't have a better tomorrow if you are thinking about yesterday all the time."

— CHARLES KETTERING

INDIAN TRAILS MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER, VITA HOLGUIN, NAMED SCPS “TEACHER OF THE YEAR”

Seminole County Public Schools has announced that Vita Holguin, a dedicated middle school science teacher at Indian Trails Middle School, is the esteemed Teacher of the Year for her unwavering commitment to academic excellence and student success. The announcement described Mrs. Holguin as having a deep passion for fostering a love of science and instilling curiosity in her students while making learning engaging and fun. Mrs. Holguin has become a pillar within her campus educational community, inspiring both her colleagues and students alike.

“Vita Holguin embodies the spirit of excellence that we strive for in Seminole County Public Schools,” according to Superintendent Serita Beamon. “Her innovative teaching methods, genuine care for her students, and relentless pursuit of academic excellence make her a truly deserving recipient of this prestigious award.” Mrs. Holguin’s classroom has been described as a hub of creativity and exploration, where students are encouraged to question, experiment, and learn through hands-on activities. Her dynamic teaching style promotes critical thinking skills and empowers her students to become lifelong learners.

During an interview with Mrs. Holguin at Indian Trails Middle School, her passion for teaching was confirmed. She clearly represents the type of teacher that every parent would want for their children. Good teachers frequently explain that their desire to work in this challenging profession is a “calling” from the heart and Vita Holguin is no exception. In fact, Vita shared that she had considered becoming a doctor before deciding on a career in education and explained that the teaching profession has proven to be much more rewarding. She is absolutely within her comfort zone when working with middle school age children, arguably the most interesting of all grade levels.

Vita Holguin is a seasoned professional with experience in both private and public-school settings. She began her career at Lockhart Middle School in Orange County as a science teacher. Her next teaching experience was working with children with learning disabilities at Pace Brantley Preparatory School in Longwood where she enjoyed her role as their high school science teacher and participated in numerous educational field trip excursions to a variety of different countries. Vita remained at Pace Brantley for 14 years before taking time off for her most significant role: motherhood.

The next teaching assignment was a science position with Proximity Learning, Inc. This company utilizes live-streaming virtual classroom settings that Vita enjoyed. Her experience with virtual instruction proved to be beneficial

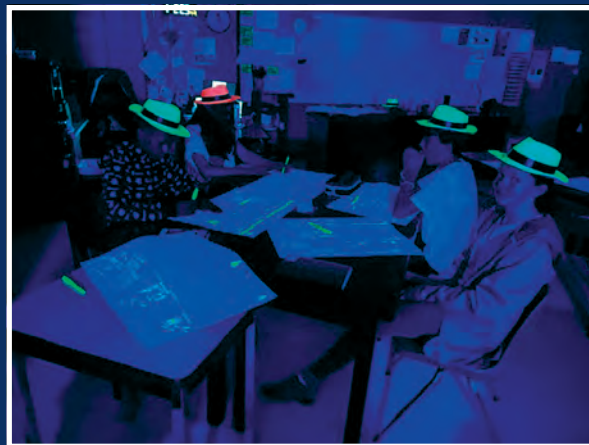
when she accepted her current position at Indian Trails Middle School during the pandemic. Her experience with virtual learning was beneficial at a time when schools were required to utilize this method of instructional delivery.

When asked how being named Seminole County Public Schools “Teacher of the Year” has impacted her professional and personal life, Mrs. Holguin paused to reflect upon her response. She then focused upon her teaching style and skills. Vita shared that she has become more aware of her teaching style and techniques because she knows that others are observing her. She stressed that the title has made her more aware of everything she does but wants to continue being “me” while meeting the expectations that others have for an SCPS Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Holguin shared a recent example for incorporating black light activities to enhance a lab experiment that focused on the layers of the atmosphere and a semester exam review. This included “glowing” hats for all the students. Vita went on to explain: “I want to be the teacher that I always wished I had (when growing up).”

On a personal level, Mr. Holguin and their 7-year-old son have been incredibly supportive. They were present during the announcement of her being named Middle School “Teacher of the Year” and once again during the surprise announcement of Vita being named as SCPS “Teacher of the Year.” Vita related that her son is too young to understand the importance of his mother’s accomplishments but did have fun while attending a Magic Basketball Game where Vita was recognized along with teachers from other school districts. Vita’s parents were elated with joy and her father shares her photo from the FOX News interview with everyone he encounters.

Regarding the school culture at Indian Trails Middle School, Mrs. Holguin praised the PTSA for supporting the teachers and students. The school administrators have been working extremely hard to instill a collaborative environment that has enhanced student behavior expectations, promoted professional development, and infused several interventions that allow time for teachers to establish a positive, interpersonal rapport with their students. Vita explained that “Circle Time,” for example, has been beneficial for promoting dialogue between teachers and students on a variety of different topics. The teachers are working together to make sure that the students are learning to become good citizens. All these interventions help to create a positive learning environment at the school.

The interview with Vita Holguin was a most rewarding experience. She is genuinely devoted to her profession



and demonstrates an infectious energy level that translates to making the classroom learning experience fun and interesting. Vita shared that she frequently becomes animated while presenting lessons. These behaviors include singing, dancing, and exaggerated body movements that keep the students focused while making learning a most enjoyable experience. She emphasized that teaching is fun and never boring! Vita summed it up by stating “Teaching is such a rewarding field because you become a part of other people’s lives forever.”

As Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Holguin will serve as an ambassador for Seminole County Public Schools, representing the district at various events and conferences throughout the year. She is currently in contention for being named the State of Florida “Teacher of the Year” and she is waiting for the list of finalists to be announced sometime later this month. The winner at the state level will be announced in July. Congratulations to Vita Holguin and please know that you are appreciated for all your hard work in making learning fun and impactful for the children in our community.



Mark your calendar for our Networking Social

We're proud to serve the Oviedo/ Winter Springs community. As a "thank you" for partnering with us over the years, we'd like to invite you to our Networking Social.

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Mayor McCann, Greg Smith, and
THOA President Miericke

THOA “DON GILMORE AWARD” PRESENTED TO GREG SMITH

Mr. Greg Smith has been designated as the 2024 Don Gilmore Community Service Award recipient. Mr. Smith and his wife have lived in the Tusawilla Community for 23 years. They have two children who are UCF graduates, and they also have two grandchildren. Greg was the Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer at Citizens Bank of Florida for 14 years until retiring in 2022. He is a member of the Winter Springs Rotary Club and served on the Board of Directors of the Oviedo/Winter Springs Chamber of Commerce and was Chairman in 2017. His other community commitments include serving on the Hope Helps, Inc. nonprofit charity, Glen Eagle HOA Board, City of Winter Springs Board of Trustees, and director for the THOA. Congratulations Greg Smith!



ENTRANCE FOUNTAIN UPDATE!

The challenges for making the structural repairs to the south side fountain have led to delays in the rebuilding of the lower basin. Soil core samples were taken at both the north and south fountain sites to determine the stability of both monuments and discern the necessary repairs for stabilizing the land around the fixtures. The good news is that the north fountain is stable and in good condition. The bad news is that the soil underneath the lower basin for the south fountain is not stable and this has led to a concrete structural failure.

The repairs needed require engineering designs that include pumping stabilizing concrete reinforcement below the old existing basin structure. Finding and hiring a reputable engineering company willing to design the necessary structural interventions proved to be time consuming. Geotechnical engineering designs for these types of problems are specialized and only a limited number of firms are

interested in bidding on these types of projects. Of note is that stabilizing the ground underneath the fountain basin and using the old structure as a foundation for constructing the new lower basin is significantly more cost effective than full demolition and replacement.

To date, the engineering design work has been completed. The construction bidding process will begin within the next couple of weeks and must remain advertised for a period of 30 days. Once the contract has been awarded, construction work to make the necessary repairs should begin sometime after June 17th with a completion date goal set for the end of July or beginning of August. This project has proven to be a frustrating and complex challenge, but progress is being made based upon using reliable methods for identifying the problems, designing appropriate structural repairs, and keeping costs as low as possible.

Do you or someone you know in Tusawilla 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 Tusawilla Today. Thank you, Elaine Johnson. I can be contacted at: EditorElaineJohnson@gmail.com.

THE THOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WISH TO THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ANNUAL THOA "FAMILY FUN DAY"

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NOW IS THE TIME TO CONSIDER SWIMMING LESSONS FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Each April Issue of Tuscowilla Today includes this reminder to parents about the importance for children to have the swimming skills necessary for surviving unintentional encounters with pools, ponds, and other bodies of water. Florida loses more children under the age of 9 to drowning than any other state in the nation. The high number of these tragedies is attributed to the state being surrounded by water, having numerous inland lakes and an abundance of swimming pools. With summer just around the corner, parents are encouraged to ensure that their children have the skills to enjoy their days at the pool, beach or participating in other aquatic activities offered by our local recreation centers. Regardless of the source of instruction, PLEASE make sure that your children stay safe this year.

YMCA SWIM LESSONS FOR ALL AGE GROUPS



The Oviedo YMCA swim lessons emphasize water safety and development of self-esteem in a safe and nurturing environment. According to the website, it is vital that all ages feel confident and can have fun

around water. Participants can choose from group swimming lessons or private lessons with certified instructors from an

aquatics program that's taught kids and adults alike how to swim for generations. The "Safe Start" program is an Infant Swimming Resource that uses the leading behavioral-based approach to swimming lessons. Certified instructors use techniques that are developmentally appropriate for your infant or young child. Visit the Oviedo YMCA website to view the variety of lessons being offered along with registration information.

TUSCAWILLA COUNTRY CLUB SWIM LESSONS



The Aquatics Center at the Tuscowilla Country Club stays busy with fun family activities, pool parties, private lessons, and unique fitness-oriented swim programs during the summer season. Tuscowilla

is also the proud home of the Champion Swim Team, the Tiger Sharks! The team is open to Member's children ages 4 and up and is a great opportunity for juniors to learn the basics of swimming or improve their swim technique. Tuscowilla offers private swimming lessons at any skill level to residents of Winter Springs, Oviedo, and other surrounding cities. Visit the TCC website for more information.



BALD EAGLES CONTINUE TO CALL TUSCAWILLA "HOME"

THOA member, Linda Rogers, shared her pictures of a pair of Bald Eagles that visit a pond near her house daily. According to Animal Triangle, eagles are carnivorous and eat a wide range of foods that include fish (their favorite), crab, other birds, amphibians, and reptiles like snakes. Bald Eagles can fly at a normal speed of 30 mph with a diving

speed of 100 mph. They are monogamous and mate for life. However, either the male or female finds a new partner if their old partner undergoes death, accident or sometimes does not return to their nest. Interestingly, eagles kept in captivity tend to live longer than those in the wild. As a result, some eagles can live as long as 70 years.



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WHAT IS CINCO DE MAYO?

Cinco de Mayo has long been misunderstood by many Americans, partly because it's easy to say and American classrooms often include little celebrating the history of people of color.

By Amanda Lee Myers

Cinco de Mayo marks Mexico's against-all-odds victory against invading French troops in 1862.

But to some Americans, it's simply Cinco de Drinko, an excuse to party with little to no understanding of what the Mexican holiday celebrates. Many who think they know what Cinco de Mayo is about wrongly assume it's Mexico's Independence Day. (It's not.)

"Everyone thinks that it's just party time, it's Corona time," said Mario García, a Chicano historian from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

"It's OK for people to go out and have a good time on a holiday like Cinco de Mayo -- at least they have some sense that it's some kind of a Mexican holiday," García said. "But we should go beyond that. We should have Cinco de Mayo events that go beyond partying and drinking, where we call attention to what the history is."

So, what does Cinco de Mayo celebrate?

Mexican Independence Day, or Día de la Independencia, came on Sept. 16, 1810, when the country broke free of Spanish rule.

Cinco de Mayo came more than 50 years later when French Emperor Napoleon III wanted to claim Mexico for himself.

The French sent troops to force Mexico's President Benito Juárez and the government out of Veracruz. On May 5, 1862, in a small town in east-central Mexico called Puebla, 2,000 Mexican soldiers faced 6,000 French troops at daybreak. Incredibly, Mexico claimed victory by the evening, and Juárez declared May 5th a national holiday.

So why are so many Americans still confused?

Part of the confusion among many Americans about what Cinco de Mayo celebrates is likely because it's much catchier-sounding and easier for English speakers to say than the day of Mexico's independence (Diez y seis de Septiembre), García said.

But also, a huge problem is that not enough American classrooms teach the importance of Chicano history and its people's contributions to the U.S.

"When you study the history of Chicanos and Latinos, of course, they've been history makers," García said. "They've been involved in all aspects of American history, not to mention the wars ... In World War II alone, almost half a million Latinos – mostly Mexican Americans – fought in the war. And they won a disproportionate number of congressional Medals of Honor."

The battle also played a role in the American Civil War. With the French defeated and leaving North America, the Confederacy wasn't able to use them as an ally to win the war.

Why is Cinco de Mayo more popular in the U.S. than Mexico?

While there are Cinco De Mayo celebrations throughout Mexico, notably in the city of Puebla, the event doesn't compare to the celebrations of Día de la Independencia, García said.

Meanwhile in the U.S., Cinco de Mayo has become an annual celebration of Mexican American culture.

The celebration of Cinco de Mayo began as a form of resistance to the effects of the Mexican American War in the late 19th century. The holiday gained popularity during the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

NAVIGATING UNEXPECTED IRS NOTICES: GUIDANCE FOR TUSCAWILLA RESIDENTS

In recent weeks, Tuscawilla households and businesses have reported a surge in IRS notices. This sudden influx, tied to the IRS resuming its mailing operations after a prolonged pause, has stirred significant concern among taxpayers. Misapplied payments and unannounced assignments to collection agencies are among the issues causing alarm.

Imagine discovering a levy notice threatens your diligently paid taxes—the first communication you receive from the IRS—due to an administrative error placing your payment in the wrong tax year. Or consider the individual who, having settled their tax dues, faces the shock of their account being handed over to a collection agency without prior notice or clarification of owed interest.

The core of the problem lies in the absence of review or adjustment to the IRS notice system post-pandemic hiatus. Taxpayers receive later-stage notices without the preliminary correspondence traditionally sent to rectify errors. This has left many unaware of discrepancies until facing potentially severe consequences.

Erroneous levy actions and distressing communications from the IRS occur amidst an already stressful tax season. The system's failure to relay corrected information to relevant departments exacerbates these issues, leaving taxpayers in limbo.

If an IRS notice arrives in your mailbox, take a deep breath. Immediate panic is not necessary, but action is. Seek expert assistance. Contact a credentialed tax professional with unlimited representation rights before the IRS, who specializes in IRS controversy promptly. With a typical response window of 30 days, there's a small but critical timeframe for addressing these notices effectively.

Due to the apparent oversight gaps within the IRS's current operational framework, it is more crucial than ever to take the initiative to clarify and rectify discrepancies. Ideally, you would have *IRS Advance Notice* through THE TAX CUTTERY to know if an IRS notice is coming.

As we navigate these challenges, we must remember the value of professional guidance and timely action. For the residents of Tuscawilla, know that you're not alone in facing these unexpected hurdles. We can address and overcome these issues with informed steps, ensuring our financial health and peace of mind.

Paul D. Diaz, EA, MBA, is an IRS Enrolled Agent, IRS Certifying Acceptance Agent, a Dave Ramsey Endorsed Tax Provider, author of THE EA ADVANTAGE: How Enrolled Agents Can Help You Conquer Your IRS Tax Controversy, and the owner of THE TAX CUTTERY™, a full-service Tax Resolution, Tax Planning, and Tax Preparation Firm. You can reach him directly at (689) 400-1040 or email him at 1040@taxcuttery.com



KENTUCKY DERBY

MAY 4TH



The Kentucky Derby, often referred to as “The Greatest Two Minutes In Sports,” is a prestigious horse race held annually in Louisville, Kentucky, United States. It marks the first leg of the Triple Crown and is a time-honored tradition that attracts spectators from around the globe. The event is celebrated on the first Saturday in May at the historic Churchill Downs racetrack and is known for its pageantry, including the parade of hats, mint juleps, and the singing of “My Old Kentucky Home.” The race features three-year-old thoroughbreds competing in a 1.25-mile run on a dirt track. In last year’s upset victory event, thoroughbred racing enthusiasts witnessed another spectacular run for the roses, continuing the legacy of this iconic American sporting event.

May 4th marks the 150th Anniversary of the Kentucky Derby. While the race is known as “The Greatest 2 Minutes in Sports,” the coverage will begin at 2:30 and run through 7:30. Post time is typically between 6:45 and 7:00. The television networks covering the race include NBC, Peacock, En Espanol, and Universo. PLACE YOUR BETS!

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MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 12TH



Mother’s Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and influence of mothers in society. According to the Farmer’s Almanac, the Mother’s Day that

we celebrate on the second Sunday in May is a fairly recent development. The basic idea goes back to ancient mythology of the Greeks and Romans. The Greeks paid annual homage to Cybele, the mother figure of their gods, and the Romans dedicated an annual spring festival to the mother of their gods.

In the United States, President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, signed a bill designating the second Sunday in May as a legal holiday to be called “Mother’s Day” which is dedicated to the best mother in the world; YOUR MOTHER. Many people give gifts, cards, flowers, candy, and a meal in a restaurant or other treats. Be sure to honor your mother on this special occasion.

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY FROM THE THOA!

MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 27TH



Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday commemorating those who have died in military service to their country. This year, we will observe Memorial Day on Monday, May 29th. The history of

Memorial Day dates back to the American Civil War. The original national celebration was known as Decoration Day and was celebrated on May 30th, 1868. The name was derived from the practice of visiting cemeteries and decorating the military graves with flowers, flags and wreathes. In May of 1966, President Johnson officially declared Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day and the holiday was expanded to include the deceased veterans of all the wars fought by American forces. We honor and respect the service of those who have served our country to preserve freedom and democracy.

News At A Glance

TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB

"Where you are among friends."

Our May meeting is our annual end of year luncheon. It will be held at Stefano's on Thursday, May 9th at noon. You can call/text Karen Meyer @ 314-962-4326 and let her know that you want to come. **RSVP by Wednesday, May 1st, 5 p.m.** Our summer meeting schedule includes a meeting in July. It's Thursday, July 11th in the WTV clubhouse @ 1pm. We will be celebrating Independence Day.

There will be no meetings in June and August. So mark your calendars.

For any questions call/text Anne Combs 407-761-5779

NEWCOMERS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.

May 16th Luncheon

Newcomers of Central Florida, Inc. will install its slate of incoming 2024-2025 Executive Board officers with a Kentucky Derby-themed event at Macaroni Grill, 7123 Red Bug Lake Road, Winter Springs, on Thursday, May 16. The event will feature some race-day activities including scratch-off tickets, a hat parade, and even some colorful hobby horses. The installation program is designed to introduce and recognize the talented and hard-working women who will comprise the club's Executive Board for the membership year that starts June 1st. In addition, the event will include a gathering of many of the club's past presidents who will be honored for their contributions to Newcomers.

The current slate of nominees for Newcomers' 2024-2025 Executive Board includes: Sue Horn-President, Ellen Bronikowski-VP Programs, Loraine Nelson-VP Luncheons, Diana Engling-VP Membership, Patti Zedo-Recording Secretary, Maryellen McCullagh-Corresponding Secretary, Helen Hoppmann-Treasurer, and Christine Shapin-Parliamentarian. Luncheon tickets are priced at \$30. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Advanced reservations are required. No walk-ins are allowed. Guests are welcome but must pre-pay by May 9th. For more information, contact: Diana Engling, VP-Membership, at 407-256-3592, e-mail: englingd@yahoo.com or visit www.newcomerscfl.org

SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

NOTE: TRIP PARTICIPATION DOES NOT REQUIRE A MEMBERSHIP AT THE SENIOR CENTER. Call: 407-786-8755

YACHT STARSHIP: June 15, 2024

Come aboard Yacht StarShip for the ultimate weekend brunch experience. Unwind from the week and relax on the water while enjoying a specially prepared brunch aboard America's first 3-Diamond-rated dining yacht. Cruise by million-dollar mansions and Florida's largest seaport,

enroute to beautiful Tampa Bay. After brunch, enjoy dancing and live music on the top deck. Dressy casual attire is suggested. **COST: \$135.00 per person. Reservations and payment due by May 15th.** Includes: R/T motorcoach transportation, cruise, brunch, taxes, gratuity, driver's gratuity. Bus will depart the Winter Springs Senior Center at 9:30 a.m.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

A message from the Winter Springs Police Department

If I see a crime in progress, what should I do?

Please do not try to apprehend the subject or take matters into your own hands. Call 911 immediately and give the Communications Specialist as much information as you can. Please be as accurate as you can in giving the precise address of the crime so we can respond as quickly as possible. You are much more valuable as a good witness.

If I see suspicious persons or activity, what should I do?

Please add the Winter Springs Police Department non-emergency number (407) 327-1000 to your cell phone contact list. Give the Communications Specialist a description of the person or the activity and they will dispatch an officer to the location. You may remain anonymous if you wish.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- May 1st Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting, 5:30
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting, 6:30
- May 2nd Planning and Zoning Meeting, 5:30
- May 5th Cinco de Mayo
- May 6th Regular City Commission Meeting, 6:30
Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6 - 10
National Nurses Day
- May 12th Happy Mother's Day
- May 17th Bike-to-Work Day
- May 18th Armed Forces Day
- May 20th Regular City Commission Meeting, 6:30
National Rescue Dog Day
- May 23rd Full "Flower" Mood
- May 25th National Wine Day
- May 27th Memorial Day
- May 28th Code Enforcement, 5:30
- June 3rd City Commission Diversity Workshop, 6:30

THOA BOARD MEMBERS

President:

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

1st Vice President:

Kim Coburn..... 407-341-1324

Secretary:

Chris Waguespack 407-365-4537

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

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Sue Beveridge..... 407-365-7447

Tony Bolyard..... 407-497-8361

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

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

Greg Smith..... 407-417-5950

TUSCAWILLA TODAY

Elaine Johnson..... 407-739-0507

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:

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

Tuscawilla Women's Club:

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

ADDITIONS OR UPDATES TO PRIVATE HOAs AND CLUBS

You are responsible for providing updates/additions to your listing by the 15th of the month for the following months issue. E-mail them to Lisa@cponline.com. Please mark in the subject "THOA NL".

We cannot take changes over the phone.

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

PRIVATE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS

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

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VP Jan Dakel 407-699-0662

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Sec Tina Regan 407-366-6473

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ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Should be e-mailed to Elaine Johnson, at editorelainejohnson@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.



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