

Tuscawilla Today

APRIL 2020



Who are those women with the baby strollers at Trotwood Park? Welcome to Kettle Belles Fitness, a unique recreation program sponsored by the City of Winter Springs and designed to promote a healthy lifestyle for women.



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NEXT MEETING: APRIL 9, 2020

[NOTE: THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED!]

WEDGEWOOD TENNIS VILLAS CLUBHOUSE – WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Historic Times

When the *Tusawilla Today* articles, notes and photos are put together and reach an editorial deadline; roughly two weeks elapse before you have the opportunity to open your mailbox and read that issue of *Tusawilla Today*. As I sit down to write this President's Message, the full scope and impact of this national emergency (COVID-19) has yet to come into focus. Schools have been closed until mid April. Disney, Universal and associated hotels have been closed. Bars have been closed but restaurants are still allowed to be open although most have seen a dramatic decrease in business. It appears that restrictions will continue to tighten over the coming days and the impact on our economy may be a once in a lifetime event. Layoffs and rising unemployment rate appear almost guaranteed.

The most important issue during this time is the health and well being of our residents. We are all well aware of the news coverage and strong suggestions from government officials regarding "social distancing". I am uplifted by the increasing stories of communities coming together to help one another in this time of crises. The positive reports of communities checking on, and shopping for their home bound elderly neighbors. The small child who could not have a birthday party so his neighbors went outside and sang happy birthday together for the child from their own yards. These are the things that build and unite a community.

In the coming days, the THOA Board of Directors will be discussing ways to be an effective resource in the community during these times. If you have a suggestion, are aware of a home bound senior that may be in need of medication or groceries; please let us know.

I would encourage you to stay connected with your community during this crisis. Please follow us on Facebook and check our new web site www.tusawilla.org for the latest news and information regarding your community.

Neighborhood Cancellations

As you may all ready be well aware; the Tusawilla Home Owners Associations annual "Family Fun Day" scheduled for March 29th was postponed indefinitely. Your Board of Directors has not made a decision on a new date. Due to the crowds and time of day, (noon to 4pm) this event would not take place until after the summer season if at all this year. The

Board has decided to not make any firm plans but to take a conservative stance at this time. If all goes well over the coming months, the event could be rescheduled or replaced with other events this year such as our successful "Wine Night" held last October.



As the President of the THOA Board of Directors it is within my power to cancel our next board meeting scheduled for April 9th if two days notice is provided to the board of directors. The board has been notified by Wedgewood Tennis Villas that they are closing their clubhouse indefinitely and that we would not have use of their facilities to hold our meeting. At this time, it is my intention to cancel our April meeting in an abundance of caution while communicating with the board via email. Again, please follow us on Facebook or visit the web site listed above for current information.

A Personnel Thank You

In last month's issue of *Tusawilla Today*, I wrote of my intention to shave my head to raise funds and bring awareness to childhood cancer research in memory of my nephew Connor. I am humbled and grateful to report that my friends, family and neighbors donated over \$1,200 toward childhood cancer research. More importantly; the St. Baldrick's Foundation, working with members of the Orlando, Orange County and Seminole County Fire Departments, raised approximately \$35,000 during the one day event held near downtown Orlando on March 7th. Tusawilla has once again represented central Florida in a meaningful way and I am grateful for your support in this meaningful endeavor.

In closing, we can all be proud of our Tusawilla and the neighborhoods within that we call home. In the coming days be sure to check on your neighbors and communicate if you are aware of someone in need within our community. We are not likely to be in a position to assist them financially but if you are aware of a resident that may need prescriptions picked up or cannot get out for groceries; let's work together to find a solution. In the end; we will get through this as one Tusawilla Family.

With gratitude,

Kevin McCann

THOA President

Publisher, *Tusawilla Today*

Email: kev.mccann1@yahoo.com

KETTLE BELLES FITNESS



Kettle Belles Fitness is a community of women working toward being stronger and healthier together! Women of all ages and life stages are welcomed to join! We offer fun and challenging boot camp style classes led by Certified Instructors. Classes are an hour long and include strength and cardio training. Whether you are new to fitness or super fit, our instructors have options for you in every class! We work with a wide variety of equipment, including Kettlebells (of course!), battle ropes, free weights, Bosu balls, etc.

Set your fitness goals and join us! Our group is designed for women, by women. Come out and try a FREE class



today! Classes include: Abs, Buns, & Guns, Strength & Cardio Circuits, Total Body Blast, and Saturday Slay. For more information, contact Heather Rosenberger at www.kettlebellesfitness.com or 305-986-8868. Heather is NASM CPT, ACE FNS, REVO2LUTION RUNNING Certified.

Please note: Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, Heather has been offering some of her classes online. Regular class sessions will once again be available as soon as the group limits have been lifted.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

EXPLORE OUTDOORS

Please note that this City of Winter Springs signature event scheduled for April 4th has been canceled.

CITY OF WINTER SPRINGS UPDATES, INTERVENTIONS, and CONTACT INFORMATION

Please be sure to see pages 11 and 13 for the various schedule changes, cancelations, and safety interventions that are taking place within the City. Included are the official websites for local information that is designed to help our citizens get through these challenging times. At the time of publication, our municipal and county parks continue to be open to the public. The WS Parks and Recreation Department staff members are diligently sanitizing the restroom facilities and the playground equipment daily. That said, it is advisable that hand sanitizer and wipes be used as an extra precaution. As you know, all community activities and interventions are subject to change given the rapid course of developments related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

BE AWARE OF HACKERS

As coronavirus has now become a global pandemic, everyone's keeping a close eye on how it continues to

spread across the world and here in Florida. Cyber-criminals are now targeting individuals as well as industries by pretending to represent well known organizations such as the Center for Disease Control and the World Health Organization. These fake emails typically use fear and panic as leverage to glean access to passwords and control over email accounts. Attachments claim to contain details how recipients can prevent the disease's spread but, in fact, infect computers with malicious software.



While it is important to gain information related to COVID-19, you should only use verified websites to avoid getting hacked. The City of Winter Springs has created a webpage to post the latest city-related updates at: www.winterspringsfl.org/covid19. Additional valid websites are: Seminole Emergency Management at www.PrepareSeminole.org; Center for Disease Control and Prevention at: www.CDC.gov/coronavirus/ and World Health Organization at: www.WHO.int.

TUSCAWILLA RESIDENTS

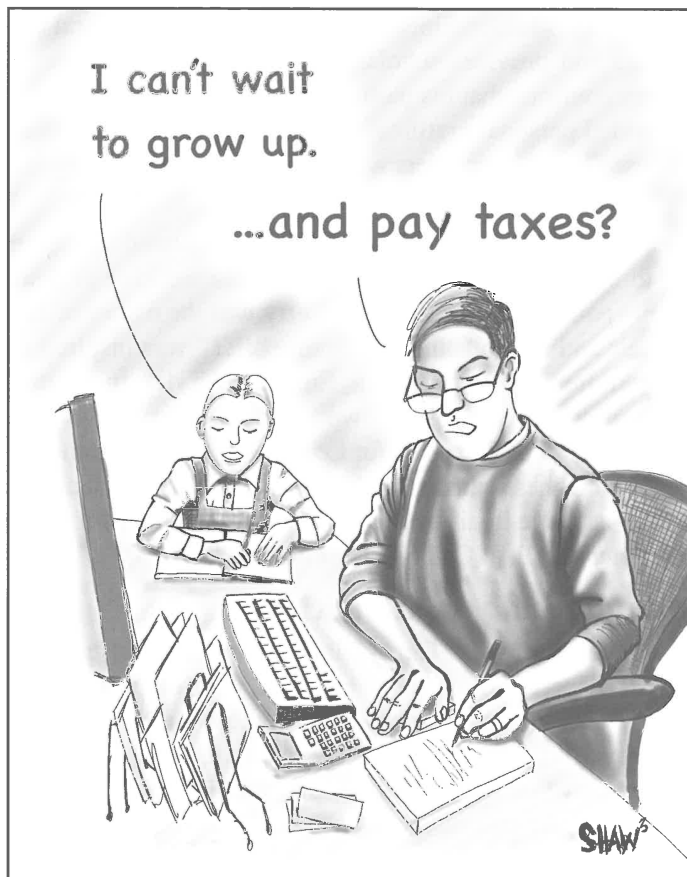
We have had the privilege of living in the Tuscahill Community for over 23 years. During that time, our neighbors and friends have enjoyed the benefits of living in an excellent community and city. Periodically, challenges confront us that test the fabric of the human spirit but these instances are temporary. That said the current situation unfolding in our country represents a significant and historic chapter for all of us.

Our residents have always risen up to meet any challenges, be it hurricanes, flooding, drought, or COVID-19. Be kind, use good common sense, look out for your neighbors, and stay safe!

Ted Johnson

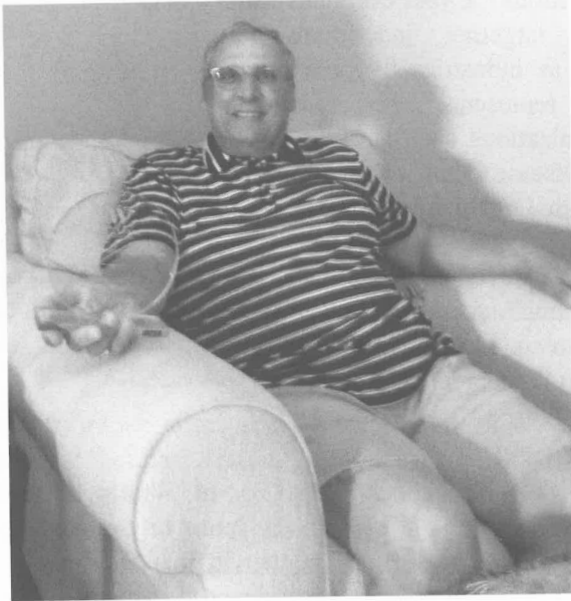
Editor, *Tuscahill Today*

I can be reached at tedjohnson1@live.com



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Gerry Marino holding his Winter Park Chamber of Commerce 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award



Meet Mr. Gerry Marino

A Dedicated Civic Leader and Longtime Tuscawilla Resident

Mr. Marino has made it his mission to make the world a better place to live. Gerry is a responsible citizen and change agent who actively participates in community organizations that enhance each of our lives. He is respectful of the opinions and beliefs of others while maintaining a positive outlook on life. His dedication to the welfare of our community is evident when reviewing the many volunteer rolls that Gerry has filled over the years.

Gerry Marino has been actively engaged with the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce and the Oviedo/Winter Springs Chamber of Commerce. He has served as Board of Director member and is the Past-President of our local Chamber. As the owner of his own home remodeling business, Gerry has focused on supporting other small business owners in our area. To that end, his work at both chambers helped local entrepreneurs network and receive the necessary resources that enhanced their success. He has received numerous awards for his volunteer work at both chambers.

Civic activities are important because they teach life and leadership skills which empower youth and help them become self-reliant adults. Recognizing the importance for future leaders to maintain our civic standards, Mr. Marino has a passion for supporting our local schools. To that end, he was a board member for the Seminole County Public

Schools "Foundation" for 18 years. While serving in this capacity, Gerry was a member of the Arts Alive committee and organized a variety of fundraising events to support our students. Gerry organized the SCPS Foundation Annual Golf Tournament to generate funds for supporting our schools and teachers.

The Rotary Club of Winter Springs has been a strong charitable organization in our community for many years. Gerry Marino has been an active member and past president. Through his leadership, the club participates at several city events and provides scholarships to high school students. Gerry confirms that his participation in the Rotary Club has provided personal gratification and strength during difficult times. The club members were a vital support several years ago when Gerry's wife passed.

Gerry is a veteran of the Marine Corps, a husband and father of three children. He met his wife while working at Sears in the paint department. Later, Gerry was the owner of JET Repair and Remodeling. The name "JET" was inspired by his children's names: Jessica, Emily, and Tyler. In addition to owning his own business, Gerry has served on the Board of Directors for Leadership Seminole, and has taught business classes at Valencia Community College. Gerry is active in his church and is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Winter Park.

Volunteering from the Heart

A conversation with Gerry Marino confirms that he has a passion for being actively engaged with helping others. Gerry and his older brother were adopted when he was 4 years old. He learned early on that, in spite of the challenges that occur in life, opportunities abound. "I get my energy by volunteering" is Gerry's approach to leading a meaningful life. Through volunteering, individuals can



make a significant impact upon the lives of others. One's legacy is based upon how you served the individuals in your community.

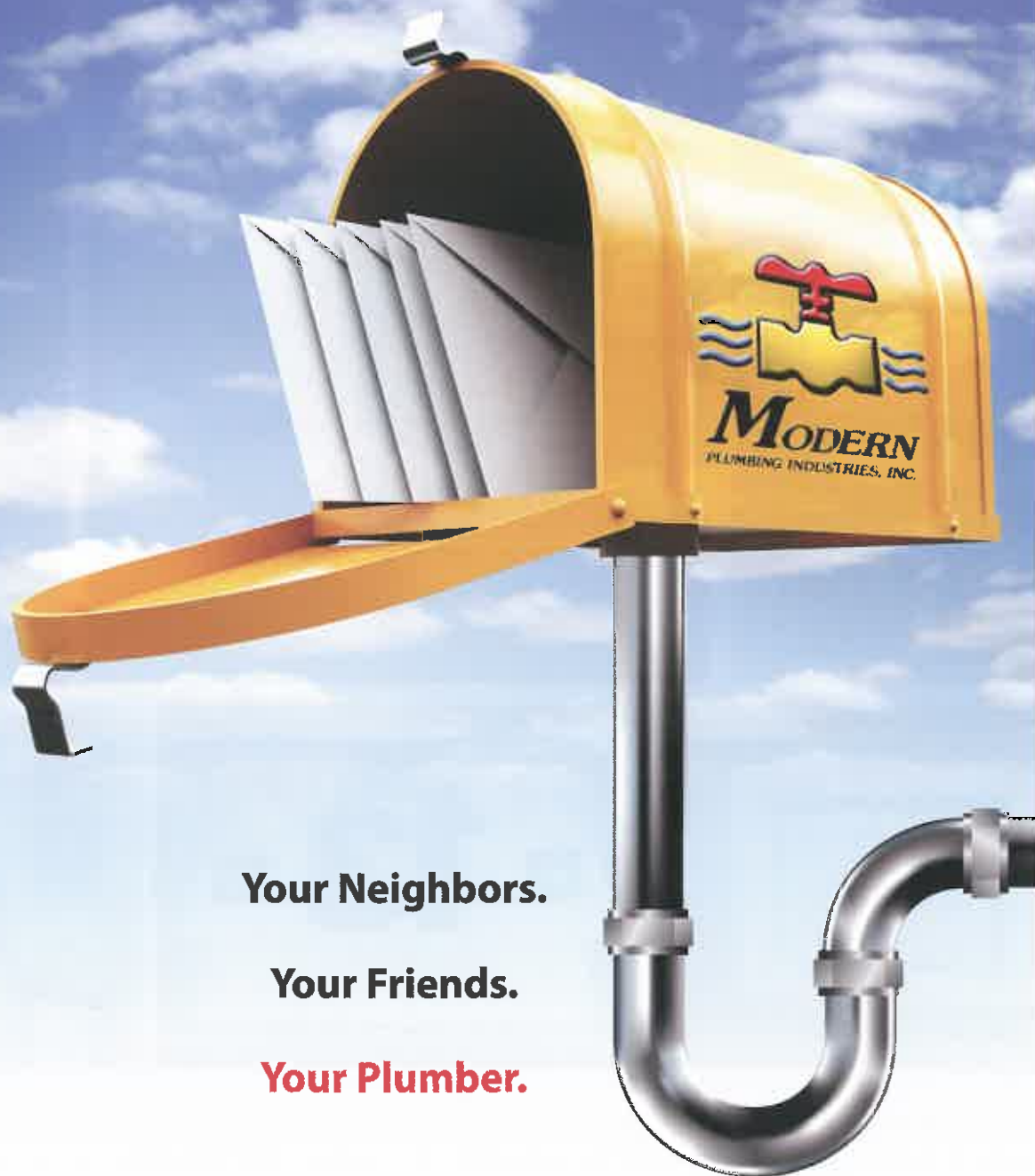
When discussing leadership, Gerry is a firm believer in the "Servant Leadership" model. This style of leadership comes from the heart and is evidenced in the leader's willingness to work side-by-side with others to accomplish a common goal. There are those who propose to do a task, simply write a check to support a cause or roll up their sleeves and actually do the work. Gerry is the type of leader who can interact easily with others and organize the tasks that need to be completed. He argues that true volunteerism involves "getting your hands dirty".

Upon visiting Gerry's home, I was invited into a den that was filled with various awards, plaques; and acknowledgements of the contributions that Gerry has made to the many organizations in our community that serve to help people.

Living a rewarding life requires a positive attitude and dealing with difficulties by embracing these events as potential opportunities. To that end, Gerry has had challenges throughout his life but continues to work diligently to make a positive impact in the lives of others. He is adamant in promoting the importance of volunteering and encourages people of all ages to get involved with helping others.

In addition to enjoying his children and grandchildren, Gerry loves to travel. He has visited Egypt, traveled through Europe, and enjoys visiting friends and relatives throughout the United States. His travels also included a trip to Hawaii.

As a resident of the Tusawilla Community for 26 years, we are fortunate to have Gerry as one of our neighbors. He represents the best of those who want to make a difference in the world through their work as a volunteer. We appreciate Gerry and the important work that he continues to do to help others in our community.



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Indian Trails MS Garden Club Statements

During the summer months of 2019, volunteers from our community along with the help from the City of WS staff and a dedicated service of the 1st Platoon of The Mission Continues Orlando built the above-ground gardens at Indian Trails Middle School. The following pictures and statements reflect the benefits to our students and our community.



Sierra Boucher, Sponsor:

Gardening Club has been a very exciting experience this year at ITMS! The Principal, Dr. Johnson, asked me to start building momentum for the program in January, and in a matter of two weeks we gathered 35 ambitious young students with a passion for gardening, agricultural sciences, and sustainable living to start the Garden Club. This STEM-based club was founded on the idea that hands-on, immersive learning is a critical element to contemporary educational practices. In a world where students are used to immediate gratification and a fast-paced lifestyle, allowing them to participate in hands-on learning activities is an excellent way to keep them engaged. In Gardening Club, we are learning and growing in many ways. We have cultivated an environment where students can come together, explore earth and agricultural sciences, and learn lifelong skills. The students have gained a tremendous amount of respect for themselves and each other by seeing the hard work that goes into gardening as well as enjoying the fruits of their labor! We are very excited to continue to build this program for enthusiastic and curious students to enjoy for many years to come!

Maddie Maldonado (8th Grade), Club Member:

I like Garden Club because, well, honestly, it's amazing! It has shown me a lot that I didn't know before, like how vegetables

look and grow naturally. Garden Club is teaching me a sense of responsibility and how awesome vegetables are. Garden Club has been such a great experience with the amount of independent, hands-on work we have been doing while also learning a ton about the importance of agriculture and technology. One of the best things about Garden Club is we get to make friends with other people interested in gardening that we wouldn't normally see at school. Garden Club is an outlet where we can make be ourselves and enjoy being outside. Garden Club is its own unique family and I'm glad to be part of it.

Kenneth Collins (8th Grade), Club Member:

Hi! I am Kenneth Collins and I am part of the ITMS Garden Club. It is a really fun environment to work in where everyone is friends with everyone! I like to work outside and learn how things work, so Garden Club seemed like the right thing to join. We have harvested many vegetables so far, and there are still more growing! That is what I like about growing things. There is always something growing, and it is fun to harvest and see how the planning and hard work pays off! At the end we have plants that we can eat, and it is even cooler to me because I am a vegetarian. Seeing and knowing where the stuff I eat comes from is really cool! I love this club!



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Diary of a Pug!
By Lester Moffitt

Dear Diary,
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- Pugs & Kisses, Lester

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COVID-19 UPDATE

The **City of Winter Springs** is monitoring the COVID-19 (Coronavirus 2019) situation and following guidance from the CDC and the Florida Department of Health. The City is taking the following proactive and precautionary measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to prioritize the health and safety of our community and employees.

City Facilities & Programs

The **Winter Springs Senior Center and Therapy Pool are closed** and all programs and activities have been suspended until further notice.

Rentals of all City facilities, fields, and park pavilions are canceled through April 12.

City parks will remain open at this time for general use. Staff is taking additional sanitation measures to ensure playground equipment and restrooms are clean and disinfected. However, staff strongly recommends all users exercise extra caution when in any public area and continue to use elevated hygiene protocols.

All City events, activities, and city-sponsored programs are canceled through April 12. Cancellations include Explore Outdoors, league practices and games, recreation programs, and WSPD's ride-along program.

Utility and City Services

Utility Billing has **suspended disconnections for non-paying customers** in order to deliver essential services. For more information regarding payments and payment arrangements, contact Customer Service at 407-327-1800 or utilitybills@winterspringsfl.org.

The City has spoken with WastePro to ensure that collection services will continue.

The City's water and wastewater management partner, Veolia North America, has established a management team to monitor ongoing activities and accept suggestions from national trade associations and government agencies. **Veolia staff will continue to operate the facilities in compliance with regulations including state required testing of water and wastewater.**



— Continued on page 13

Kim Coburn

SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

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APRIL 27



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Police Update

The Winter Springs Police Department is fully operational and capable of handling situations that may occur. WSPD has established a unified command through the Department of Emergency Management, who is in contact with the Emergency Operations Center, Department of Health and the State Attorney's Office.

Calls for police services are being screened and officers will now take reports over the phone. If a face to face is required, officers will meet with the complainants in an open-air setting to reduce personal exposure and or physical contact.

Fingerprinting services have been suspended until further notice.

Human Resources

Employment services such as **interviewing and hiring** have been suspended until further notice. We are still accepting applications, but will not be interviewing.

Department directors have identified essential personnel that may be required to work from home prior to any operational closures.

Employees have been provided **educational material** and are encouraged to self-report and self-quarantine as needed. In addition, logistical arrangements have been made which include separating shared spaces, and **extreme sanitization protocols** are being executed across all departments.

IT Services

IT staff is monitoring VPN and security protocols to safeguard network operations and has created redundancies to continue City operations remotely as needed including dispatch and police services.

City Hall Lobby

Sanitizing protocols for Customer Services Representatives have been established to protect employees and the community. A **rigorous cleaning schedule** has been issued to sanitize counter tops, entry hardware in the morning, every 2-hours, and at end of day (60% alcohol hand sanitizer or bleach wipes).

In addition to working closely with the Seminole County Office of Emergency Management, the City has created a webpage to post the latest CITY-RELATED updates and information that can be found at www.winterspringsfl.org/covid19.

For the latest updates and information, visit:

Seminole County Emergency Management | www.PrepareSeminole.org
Florida Department of Health | [Florida COVID-19 Data & Surveillance Dashboard](https://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19)
Center for Disease Control and Prevention | www.CDC.gov/coronavirus/
World Health Organization | www.WHO.int





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PREPARE SEMINOLE!

Office of Emergency Management

Seminole County Emergency Operations Center is operating at a Level 2 while responding to COVID-19.

The County and its partners are closely monitoring the virus and have taken protective measures including: specialized training for employees, procurement of personal protective equipment for first responders, implementation of emergency response plans, and provision of community workshops to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Seminole County Emergency Management and Florida Department of Health-Seminole, personnel will be on hand to answer non-emergency questions related to COVID-19 and Seminole County's response
- The Citizens Information Hotline will be available Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm at 407-665-0000
- To receive text alerts from Seminole County Office of Emergency Management related to COVID-19, please text COVID19INFO to 888777 to opt in; standard text message rates apply.

Practicing personal health and hygiene actions are key in preventing the spread of respiratory viruses. Seminole County recommends following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then discard the tissue.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you are sick, stay home and practice "social distancing."

Seminole County is placing additional sanitizing stations in lobbies and entrances of the County's public-facing buildings, including but not limited to: library branches, the Civil and Criminal Courthouses, juror waiting areas, Environmental Services customer service offices, Building Division desks, and more. These locations will also undergo enhanced cleaning services by County contractors.

Dentistry for Children

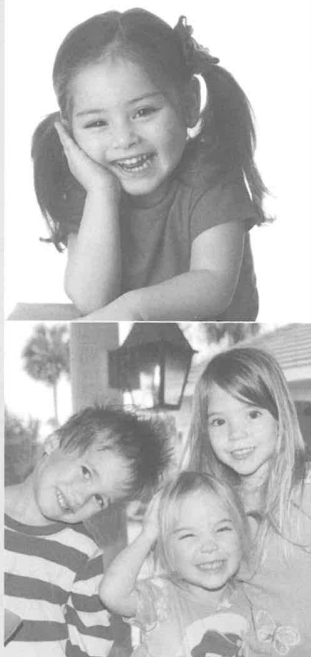
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 1st

April Fool's Day

Census Day

WS Planning and Zoning Board Meeting: 5:30

April 4

City of Winter Springs "Explore Outdoors" 2020 at the Town Center: 12:00-5:00 [Canceled]

April 9th

THOA Board of Director's Meeting at Wedgewood Tennis Villas: 7:00 [Canceled]

April 10th

Good Friday

April 12th

Easter

April 13

City Commission Regular Meeting: 6:30

April 15th

Tuscahill Lighting and Beautification District Committee Meeting: 5:15

TAX DAY [Note: The IRS has extended the deadline to JULY 15th]

April 22nd

Earth Day

April 27th

City Commission Regular Meeting: 6:30

April 28th

Code Enforcement Board Meeting: 5:30

News At A Glance

SENIOR CENTER TRIPS UPDATE

As the latest guidelines for COVID-19 are to limit contact to groups of 10 or less, we will be postponing all trips until May 15th. The Titusville Playhouse is working to reschedule Titanic and we will offer the Ocala Horse Farms and Shop 'Til You Drop trips again once the crisis has passed. I will keep you updated as things progress and hopefully we will be able to restart our day trips with New Smyrna Beach on May 30th.

Thank you and prayers that we all stay safe and healthy.

Karen Strain

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Newcomers of Central Florida

For information about any of our up-in-coming events please contact Co-VP-Membership Brenda Jones at bjones47@cfl.rr.com or 407-366-7751.

TUSCAWILLA WOMEN'S CLUB

Please note that the Message of Unity program scheduled for April 9th has been canceled. The next program will be the Meet and Greet scheduled for August 13th.



Happy Easter!

CLASSIFIED ADS

1. Classified ads are **FREE** to **MEMBERS** of the THOA. There is a \$5.00 charge for non-members that must be submitted with the ad. **When submitting, include your name, address & phone number.** Ads must be 6 column lines or less and received by the 15th of the month. Ads received after the 15th will be placed in the following month's publication.
2. You may not advertise any **TYPE OF BUSINESS** in the classified section. This includes both the sale of goods and the provision of services on a regular basis to the public.
3. You may not advertise any **REAL ESTATE**, except for vacation rentals. There is a \$5.00 charge for both **members & non-members** that must be submitted with the ad.
4. Ads **CANNOT** be accepted by phone. **E-mail** Lisa@cponline.com or **mail** Creative Printing & Publishing, Attn: Lisa Kimbrough-Rodriguez, 2300 Old Lake Mary Rd, Sanford, FL 32771 (**note in e-mail or on envelope that it's a THOA Classified**).
5. The Homeowners' Association and the Printer reserve the right to edit contributions for space or content purposes.
6. This section will only print if there are 2 or more ads submitted.

GARDEN TOOLS and Rubber Maid sheds. Please call (407) 365-3922.

WANTED: Hobbyist wants to buy old Lionel electric trains. Please call 407-365-7860.

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Boards and committees are comprised of both Board Members and volunteers from the Community. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Kevin McCann at 407-409-5646.

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ADDITIONS OR UPDATES: Clubs, private HOAs, babysitters and pet care are responsible for providing additions or updates to their listing. These may be e-mailed to Lisa@cponline.com. Please mark in the subject "THOA NL" and they must be received by the 15th of each month or they will be made for the following months newsletter. **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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You, or your parent, must be a **paid member of the THOA** to be listed. E-mail your name, age, phone number and address to: Lisa@cponline.com on or before the 15th of the month. Please mark in the subject "THOA NL". **We cannot take info over the phone.**

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ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Should be e-mailed to Ted Johnson, at tedjohnson1@live.com and to the THOA President, Kevin McCann, at kev.mccann1@yahoo.com. All articles are to be approved by the THOA President before publishing. **Deadline** for

articles 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. Ads that are not paid for, will be removed until payment is received. **Deadline** for ads and payment is the **15th** of the month

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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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