



# THORNTON PARK NEWS

Neighborhood Newsletter

Spring 2026

## THORNTON PARK SEED EXCHANGE INSTALLED

The Thornton Park Gardening & Beautification Committee is happy to announce the installation of our permanent Seed Exchange.

Thanks to Felicia at Kaleidoscope for agreeing to host the Seed Exchange, and for enlisting her friend Hector Coreano to build it for us

It's attached to the front fence at Kaleidoscope where it should have good visibility. It has already had a lot of use!



Seeds for vegetables, flowers, herbs, native Florida plants, shrubs and trees are all welcome. Seeds should be cleaned and put in small packets labeled with name, year collected, and any gardening tips. There are also drawers for loose seeds, with packets, labels and pens. Stop by, check it out, and share some seeds!

### Association Officers

**President**—Leo Hunt, 407-448-0859

[thorntonparkorl@gmail.com](mailto:thorntonparkorl@gmail.com)

**Vice President**—David Desforges

**Secretary**—Wayne Johnson

**Treasurer**—John Moore

**Newsletter**—Logan Lamphere

[llampher@hotmail.com](mailto:llampher@hotmail.com)

#### COMMITTEES:

**Welcome Wagon**—Wayne Johnson

**Social**—Amanda Capote

**Neighborhood Watch & Safety**—

David Arendt

**Garden. & Beaut.**—Logan Lamphere

**Historic**—Logan Lamphere

**Fountain**—John Moore

**Taste of Thornton Park**—Leo Hunt

#### ONLINE:

[ThorntonPark.org](http://ThorntonPark.org)

[facebook.com/ThorntonPark](https://facebook.com/ThorntonPark)

[NeighborhoodAssociation](http://NeighborhoodAssociation)



Local Businesses:

[ThorntonParkDistrict.com](http://ThorntonParkDistrict.com)

Local News:

[yourCommunityPaper.com](http://yourCommunityPaper.com)

[Bungalower.com](http://Bungalower.com)

Neighborhood Postings:

[Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com)

## EVENTS

- ❖ **L. Lawsona Historic Walking Tour**  
Sat, May 9, 8-10am, Benjamin's
- ❖ **Neighborhood Association Mtg**  
Tues, May 12, 7-8pm,  
Mayor Langford Park Ctr & Zoom:  
[us02web.zoom.us/j/89007221182](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007221182)
- ❖ **TPD Wine & Art Walk**  
Thurs, May 14, 6:30-9:30pm
- ❖ **Neighborhood Clean-Up**  
Sat, May 16, 9-10am, Kaleidoscope
- ❖ **Gardening & Beautification Comm.**  
Wed, May 20, 7-8pm, Burton's
- ❖ **History Committee**  
Tues, May 26, 7-8pm, Anthony's
- ❖ **Social**  
In June, TBD
- ❖ **TPD Wine & Art Walk**  
Thurs, June 11, 6:30-9:30pm

## EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

### PaperMap Theater & Co.

A new children's rehearsal-centered theater studio and performance space has opened at 2 N Summerlin Avenue in the former Artifact Candle Foundry. Artistic Director Richie Akers said the studio is for children ages 10 to 17. In the black box theater students will learn costuming, sound design, light design, and of course acting, but with minimal sets.

### Benjamin's French Bakery has new owners

Tyler Cheatham and his father Keith Cheatham recently purchased Benjamin's French Bakery. Tyler, originally from New York, is a recent business graduate from UCF, and has two French bulldogs Paris and Blu.

He was drawn to the Thornton Park Neighborhood and plans to be involved in community events. Tyler's brother Kyle is helping cook. They plan to expand the menu with organic produce and charcuterie boards and extend hours of operation.



## NEXT SPIRIT OF THE SEASON: 4TH OF JULY

The next Spirit of the Season will be 4th of July, when we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the USA by decorating your home and yard!

## VILASA CONDOS OPENS FIRST PHASE

The first phase of Vilasa Thornton Park has opened on Robinson Street. Five three-story luxury townhomes have been completed and are for sale with plans for another six, along with a two-story duplex that will reflect the historic character of the neighboring single-family homes to the south. The condos replaced a single-story office building and parking lot.



They sit just outside the Lake Lawsona Historic District.

## NEW PLANTERS ON WASHINGTON ST.

Washington Street has new planters and rubber-padded tree wells. The design committee of the Thornton Park Main Street District asked The Flourishing Spot to select plants that are sun-tolerant, easy to care for and maintain, and are unique, according to Thornton Park District Executive Director Robert Soviero.

The new planters will be maintained by the Thornton Park District and the Downtown Clean Team, which delivered the pots and



provided the soil. They are large and heavy to help with pedestrian and traffic safety. Past plantings in the tree wells on Washington Street didn't fare well with the heavy pedestrian traffic, so the team installed a rubber matting from recycled tires.

The new mats are more even with the sidewalk, safer for pedestrians, and should be easier to maintain. A new tree was also planted in front of Kaleidoscope, which will also have the rubber mat installed.



## NEW VOTING DISTRICTS

It's an election year, but for Thornton Park (and much of Orange County), we will have a new County Commission District. We are moving from District 5 to District 3., precinct 302. We don't yet know if our Congressional district (10) will change, due to the Special Legislative Session the Governor has called to redistrict between the usual census years.

Visit [ocfelections.gov](https://ocfelections.gov) to learn more and stay up to date on early voting dates and polling places.

Election	Election Day	Deadline to Register	Deadline to Request a Vote -by-Mail ballot
Primary Election 2026	August 18, 2026	July 20, 2026	August 6, 2026
General Election 2026	November 3, 2026	October 5, 2026	October 22, 2026

## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The following businesses support our fundraiser: "A Taste of Thornton Park"

- Aku Aku
- Alpine Bar & Grill
- Animal Medical Clinic
- Anthony's Thornton Park
- Benjamin's French Bakery & Café
- Burton's
- Capital Realty Group
- Cavo's Bar & Kitchen
- Downtown Development Board
- Eola Pets
- Eola Wine Co.
- F&D Cantina
- Flower Girl Green House
- Great Harvest Bakery & Café
- JINYA Ramen Bar
- Kaleidoscope Thornton Park
- Keller Williams Realty at The Parks
- Maxine's on Shine
- Olde Town Brokers
- Orange Blossom Brewing Co.
- Outpost Neighborhood Tavern
- Red Scarlet Salon
- Roque Pub
- Ten10 Brewing Co.
- The Classic Thornton Park
- The Commission
- The Falcon Bar & Gallery
- Thornton Park District
- Thornton Park Pub
- Vamp Hair Studio
- Wellness Concierge
- World of Beer - Downtown Orlando

This edition of the Thornton Park News sponsored by:

**kw** at the PARKS  
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY



Contact us Today!

- ☎ (407)629-4420
- ✉ [Lisa.Hill@kw.com](mailto:Lisa.Hill@kw.com)
- 📍 11 S Bumby Ave  
Orlando, FL 32803