



THE THORNTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Association Officers

President - Leo Hunt, 407-316-8640

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Vice President – Terry Driscoll

Secretary - Betty Wheeler

Treasurer – John Moore

Newsletter Editor – Logan Lamphere

Please email news, kudos, events, or article ideas to llampher@hotmail.com

or call 605-490-0732

Website - Margaret Steiner

www.ThorntonPark.org

www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkNeighborhoodAssociation (Like us!)

Other Links

Local Businesses:

ThorntonParkDistrict.com

facebook.com/ThorntonParkDistrict

Local News:

Bungalower.com/category/neighborhoods/thornton-park/

City Historic Preservation:

www.cityoforlando.net/planning/cityplanning/hp_lawsona.htm

Neighborhood Watch

Info or Volunteer

Call Dee Bendowski

FARMER'S MARKET EXPANDS

In addition to the popular farmer's market that occurs every Sunday in Lake Eola Park, a new farmer's market called Fresh has begun on Wednesday evenings near the same location on the cul-de-sac in front of Post Parkside. From 5pm to 9pm every Wednesday, there will be food vendors along with local vendors selling produce, cheese, plants, baked goods, etc.



EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

The end of 2014 was very busy in Thornton Park with the start of several new businesses. The start of some signaled the end of others. Patronizing local businesses has again become popular, as many people realize the benefits, including contributing to the local tax base and City of Orlando sales tax receipts, keeping buildings occupied which helps avoid urban blight, and helping enhance the character of our neighborhood. You can help welcome them and strengthen our neighborhood by patronizing these new Thornton Park establishments:

Affordable Benefit Plan

The cozy house at the north entrance to our neighborhood has a new business. America's Choice Affordable Benefit Plan has relocated to the former location of Eola Insurance at 210 N Mills Ave. Owner John T. Jack has been working in insurance



for years, and has created a new and innovative way to offer competitive rates and products, not all of which are traditional insurance. John says it is the perfect bridge plan for people on tight budgets until they can afford a full policy. John has also opened a pet insurance office in Winter Park. For more information stop by or visit www.AffordableBenefitPlan.com.

Hue Space Finally Filled by Soco Restaurant

The space on the corner of Central Blvd and Summerlin Ave vacated by the long popular Hue restaurant has finally been filled by Soco, offering Southern contemporary cuisine. According to their website, executive chef and partner Greg Richie says, "we are local, both in terms of the products we use and the neighborhood where we reside. Soco is committed to enriching Thornton Park and cultivating the culinary renaissance of Downtown Orlando." They are open 5pm-10pm daily, and serve brunch on Sundays 11am-3pm. (cont'd on pg 4)

EVENTS

- Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2015, 7pm,
Langford Community Center
- Thornton 2nd Thursday Art & Wine Walk
Thursday, February 12, 6:30pm
- Neighborhood Garage Sale
Saturday, April 11
- Spring Fiesta in the Park
April 11-12, Lake Eola
- Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting

MEET YOUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

**School Board Representative
Nancy Robbinson**



Nancy Robbinson, a native of Orlando, has served on the Orange County School Board representing District 6 since 2008. As a school board member, she serves on the Communications and Legislative Committees. She also represents the Central Florida School Boards Coalition on the Congress of Regional Leaders through myregion.org. Mrs. Robbinson became a Florida School Board Association (FSBA) Certified Board Member in June 2010, and serves on the FSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Committee. Mrs. Robbinson grew up in the district she represents and attended Orange County Public Schools. She graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations/ Speech Communications. Mrs. Robbinson is passionate about serving her community and is on the board of directors for the Urban Think! Foundation which supports literacy programs for inner-city Orlando students. She has also served on the Destiny Foundation's Greater Orlando Food Outreach advisory board in downtown Orlando, and the Mayor's Education Action Council. Mrs. Robbinson has been involved in the schools that her children have attended for the past 20 years as both a PTA officer and mentor. Nancy's family lives in the College Park area of Orlando. She and her husband Bill have three children. She would love to hear from us with our ideas, concerns and questions regarding the school district. She can be contacted at nancy.robbinson@ocps.net, or like her Face-book page at [facebook.com/nancyrobbinsonocps](https://www.facebook.com/nancyrobbinsonocps).

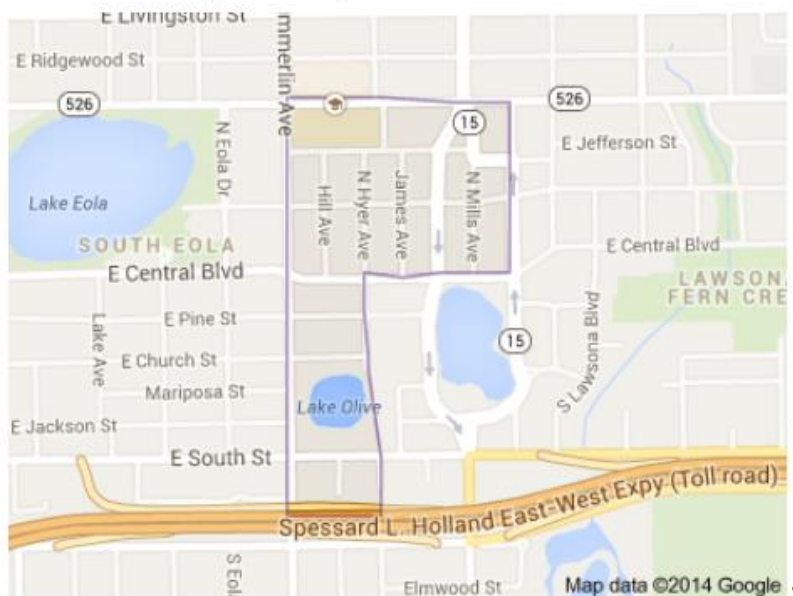
Additionally, Nancy will be hosting a community meeting on Feb 2 at 6pm in the Boone High Auditorium to discuss the plans for a new K-8 school that will merge the Lake Como and Kaley elementary zones.

DO YOU LIVE IN THORNTON PARK?

The definition of Thornton Park has always been a bit fuzzy to me, but when I had to hand deliver +300 newsletters, I decided to determine the exact borders. There are actually three different, overlapping jurisdictions. The first is the "Thornton Park Neighborhood", a City of Orlando designated neighborhood in which you are probably a resident, and for which I write our neighborhood newsletter. It is bordered on the north by Robinson Street, the west by Summerlin Ave, the south by the 408 and the east by Brown Ave, but not including the area around Lake Lawsona (refer to the map—it's easier as a picture!). Google Maps also shows this configuration, when searching for Thornton Park.



Thornton Park, Orlando, FL 32801



LUMINARIES BRING PEACE TO THORNTON PARK



Thanks to the volunteers who helped put out, light, and pick up the annual sidewalk luminaries.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Washington and Jefferson Streets

Washington and Jefferson streets parallel each other, and presumably were named for our presidents, right? Not quite—Washington Street is named after Dr. Washington Kilmer, who lived along it (and was presumably named after the president). Jefferson Street was opened and named by Big Tom Shine for his wife's great-grandfather, President Thomas Jefferson. *(From A Guide to Historic Orlando by Steve Rajtar)*

CRAFTSMAN CORNER

Exterior Colors

Subdued and earthy colors were a hallmark of the Arts & Crafts Era, grounding bungalows to the earth. The key is highlighting the different architectural elements using color: clapboard or shingle siding, ceilings of eaves, cornices and corbels, pillars, stairs, doors, and even the shingles. You can see examples at: <http://artsandcraftshomes.com>.

EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS (CONTINUED)



Island Time

Thornton Park has a new place to hang out, in the former IZA Tapas Bar next to Wildside's. Island Time has craft and local beers and a good wine list in a relaxed environment. They also have a menu of light snacks, and are open at 4pm on week days and earlier on weekends.

uOwn Real Estate Expands

uOwn Real Estate has opened its second office in the Thornton Park District, at 888 E. Raw Juicing & Detox, and Dexter's. As we first reported in the Summer Newsletter, previous occupant Thornton Park Yoga moved around the corner to a larger and more suitable location at 113 Hyer Ave. uOwn fits well into this small space on pedestrian friendly Washington St. This office even has a mobile devices recharge station!



Orlando-Based Woof Gang Bakery Expands



The successful boutique pet store headquartered in Orlando has opened a new location in the heart of Thornton Park, at the corner of Washington and Summerlin in a 1906 house. Woof Gang Bakery, which has more than 50 locations nationwide, offers their own in-house brands, along with regular pet store

items. Their stated goal is "to get to know each of our customers and their pets so that we may provide personal attention... because we truly care!". In addition to their gourmet dog treats, they offer grooming and eventually pet massage and acupuncture.

VICTORY GARDEN

Invaders!

Invasive species cost Florida more than any other state (and no, I'm not referring to tourists from Brazil and Britain!). Because of our warm climate and seaports, Florida is the main entry point for invasive species into the US. According to the Nature Conservancy, the top invaders include: island apple snails, Old World climbing fern, fire ants, the Mexican bromeliad weevil, along with the Chinese tallow tree, Cuban tree frog, and air potato vine. We can make a difference in our neighborhood! Help repel the invaders by visiting www.floridainvasives.org for more information.

