



# THORNTON PARK NEWS

Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2015

## THE THORNTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



### Association Officers

**President** - Leo Hunt, 407-316-8640

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

**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](mailto:llampher@hotmail.com) or call 605-490-0732

**Website** - Margaret Steiner

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

[www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkNeighborhoodAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkNeighborhoodAssociation) (Like us!)

### Other Links

Local Businesses:

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

[facebook.com/ThorntonParkDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkDistrict)

Local News:

[Bungalower.com/category/neighborhoods/thornton-park/](http://Bungalower.com/category/neighborhoods/thornton-park/)

City Historic Preservation:

[www.cityoforlando.net/planning/cityplanning/hp\\_lawsona.htm](http://www.cityoforlando.net/planning/cityplanning/hp_lawsona.htm)

### Neighborhood Watch

Info or Volunteer

Call Dee Bendowski

## CITY AND COUNTY ARE NOW USING NEXTDOOR.COM



A new app has been growing in popularity in Orlando. Nextdoor.com includes Thornton Park in their list of Orlando neighborhoods, and offers residents an additional way to connect, post announcements, and keep up on what's going on in the neighborhood. Thornton Park already has their own Facebook page and website (see the links to the left), but Nextdoor.com is a new communication tool, especially for folks who may not be friends on Facebook. According to their website, it's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world. And it's free.

People are using Nextdoor to:

- Quickly get the word out about a break-in
- Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group
- Track down a trustworthy babysitter
- Find out who does the best paint job in town
- Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- Find a new home for an outgrown bike
- Finally call that nice man down the street by his first name

In addition to information from neighbors, the City and County are now putting information on Nextdoor.com. The Orange County Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division (NPRD) will be utilizing Nextdoor to share information about Orange County Government's neighborhood assistance programs, public events, and emergency notifications. The Orlando Fire Department will be utilizing Nextdoor to share information on fire safety, events and programs, and emergency notifications. The City of Orlando is partnering with Nextdoor to help keep our residents informed, connected and involved. Mayor Dyer's Neighborhood Relations team will use Nextdoor to share important news and updates on City resources, programs, events and emergency notifications. Messages from the City can be easily accessed from the "City Agencies" tab on the left hand navigation bar of your Nextdoor account page. You will have the chance to share information and engage in the conversation.

Although you will regularly receive updates from the City and County, it's important to note that they cannot access or view any information that you and your neighbors have shared on Nextdoor, including your profile information.

## DISTRICT 4 CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 3

In addition to a mayoral election, there will be a race for our District 4 City Commissioner seat. Incumbent Patty Sheehan, who has served since 2000, will face opposition from Aretha Olivarez, Randy Ross, and Jason Van Horne.

## EVENTS

- **National Night Out**  
Tuesday, Aug 4, 2015
- **Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**  
Monday, August 10, 2015, 7pm,  
Langford Community Center
- **Thornton 2nd Thursday Art & Wine Walk**  
Thursday, August 14, 6:30pm  
Thursday, September 10, 6:30pm  
Thursday, October 8, 6:30pm
- **Taste of Thornton Park**  
Thursday, October 15

## MEET YOUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

**John Mina**  
Orlando Police Chief



In February 2014, Mayor Dyer appointed John Mina, a 23-year OPD veteran to succeed Orlando Police Chief Paul Rooney after nearly 28 years of service to the citizens of Orlando. Mina will serve as the 38th Police Chief, and will oversee the day-to-day operations of the department and serve as chief counsel to the Mayor in matters of public safety. During his 23-year tenure with the Orlando Police Department, Mina has worked in a variety of divisions, including the West Patrol Division, the Criminal Investigations Division, the Community Policing Division, the Training Unit and the Drug Enforcement Division. He has also served as the Division Commander for both the North Patrol Division and the Criminal Investigations Division and served as Staff Director for the Chief of Police under former Chief Val Demings.

Chief Mina also served as a member of the SWAT Team for 17 years and was the Team Commander. Most recently, he served as the Bureau Commander for the Patrol Services Bureau, the largest section of OPD comprised of 392 sworn and civilian personnel.

Chief Mina is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has also completed the Southern Police Institute Command Officer's Development Course. Chief Mina is currently working on a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Columbia College.

## EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

### Insight Tax Services

Thornton Park isn't all cool bars, trendy restaurants and cozy bungalows. There are also professional offices such as Insight Tax Services, which provide a vital function for many businesses and individuals in the Thornton Park neighborhood. Across from Graffiti Junktion, the team at Insight Tax Services represents people and businesses before the IRS to resolve their tax issues. They also prepare tax returns and help small business owners with their taxes.



The practice was founded by Andrew R. Schaefer, a licensed Enrolled Agent, and has been in Thornton Park since 2012. They serve clients from all over Florida and nationwide, even via email for soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq! Andrew is joined by Tom Evans, a Federal Tax Relief Attorney and Case Manager. Asked why they located to Thornton Park, Andrew says that Thornton Park exudes a professional yet laid-back vibe. Both these elements are important because we want our clients to hand their tax issues to us and de-stress. I love the sense of community inherent in a human scale historic bungalow neighborhood. Plus it's easy for our suburban clients to get here and park for free.

Last summer, they moved upstairs to 901 E. Washington St, Suite 2, which can be accessed up the staircase on Hyer Ave.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 4



Thornton Park will once again be celebrating National Night Out with a block party on Mills Ave between Central & Washington. We will have a bounce house, corn hole toss game, burgers, hot dogs and drinks provided by the Thornton Park Neighborhood Association. Neighbors can bring a side dish or dessert to share if they can. This event is a great time to meet and mingle with the neighbors.

## TASTE OF THORNTON PARK IS COMING!

The annual showcase of Thornton Park restaurants is coming October 15. A Taste of Thornton Park is a fundraiser for the Thornton Park Neighborhood Association and Outreach Love, Inc. Forty area vendors are represented, all bringing their very best for attendees to sample. Tastes include beer, wine, cocktails, great food and desserts - all of which are included in the ticket price. If you are interested in participating, please contact Leo Hunt at [thorntonparkorl@aol.com](mailto:thorntonparkorl@aol.com).



## HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

### Church Street

Church Street is generally assumed to have been named for the Union Church, located on the street from 1872 until 1891. A 1939 newspaper article claims that it was instead named after Colonel H.B. Church, a member of the English Colony who founded the Conway Yacht Club. (From A Guide to Historic Orlando by Steve Rajtar)