



# THORNTON PARK NEWS

Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2019

## THE THORNTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



### Association Officers

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

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**Vice President** - David Desforges

**Secretary** - Chris Betsher

**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

Facebook:

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

Local Businesses:

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

Local News:

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

Downtown Community Paper:  
[otownpaper.com/](http://otownpaper.com/)

City Historic Preservation:

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

Neighborhood Postings:

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

## A TASTE OF THORNTON PARK UPDATES LOGO

The 18th annual "A Taste of Thornton Park" is set for Thursday, October 17th from 6:30-9:30 p.m., and will return to Washington St, between Hill Ave and Hyer Ave. The event is the annual fundraiser for the Thornton Park Neighborhood Association, and will again be sponsored by the Thornton Park District along with the Downtown Development Board. Organizers felt the time was right to return the popular event showcasing local businesses to the street, and have also updated the logo with help from the logo's original designer, Sharon from Queen "B" Graphics. To participate, call committee chair Leo Hunt at 407-448-0859.



## EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

### Island Time now serving food

Island Time has started serving food! Long time Orlando executive chef Devon Tillman started serving weekend brunch on June 8<sup>th</sup>, and will expand to full meals later in August. Brunch menu items include a Creole shrimp and grits, Caribbean hummus, orange mojo pork, salmon BLT, chicken and Johnny cakes, grain bowl, frozen sangria, and rosé. The light and refreshing tropical crab stack has a poached egg, mango, avocado, tomato, cucumber, key lime hollandaise, and plantain chips. Tillman's business partner is Andy Anderson, and they're very excited to be part of the Thornton Park Neighborhood.



### Felipe Rodriguez Tequila House

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, otherwise known as Cinco de Mayo, a new bar and restaurant opened at 900 E Washington Street, in the former location of The Truck Stop, and before that, the original Graffiti Junktion. Tequila House serves Mexican favorites, along with trendy tastes such as rock shrimp tostadas, buffalo shrimp tacos, chili-spiced salmon tacos, skirt steak, and churros with Nutella. They are open 11am to midnight Mon-Wed, 11am-2am Thurs-Sat, and 11am-9pm on Sundays. Their website says, "Felipe Rodriguez grew up on a blue agave farm in Mexico. He came from nothing but struck gold with his tequila. The community built Felipe Rodriguez and now he's giving back to the community. He brought his tequila to the U.S. to share with us. 'My community loves my tequila, so now I want to share it with the world!'"



## EVENTS

- ❖ **Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**  
Monday, Aug 5, 7-8pm, Mayor Langford Community Center
- ❖ **2nd Thurs Wine & Art Walk**  
Thursday, Aug 8, 6:30-9:30pm  
Thursday, Sept 12, 6:30-9:30pm  
Thursday, Oct 10, 6:30-9:30pm
- ❖ **Neighborhood Clean-Up**  
Sat, Aug 17, 9am, Graffiti Junktion
- ❖ **A Taste of Thornton Park**  
Thurs Oct 17 6:30-9:30pm

Printed at the **UPS Store** at 424 E Central Blvd. 407-872-1057.

## MEET YOUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS



**Billy Hattaway,**  
**Director of Transportation**  
**City of Orlando**

Billy Hattaway, P.E., has been the Transportation Director for the City of Orlando since 2016. He has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering Technology from Wentworth Institute of Technology and an MBA from FSU. At FDOT, he was the champion for both their Pedestrian and Bicycle Focused and Complete Streets Implementation Initiatives to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety and comfort in the state of Florida. He is also Chair of Bike/Walk Central Florida, a non-profit organization dedicated to safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

He has initiated a number of projects and initiatives since joining the City, including the North Quarter Study, which is evaluating the potential to convert Orange and Magnolia from one way to two way streets. The next leg will be from Colonial down to Gore and will consist of a Downtown Master Plan. That study will begin this fall, with the evaluation of converting Orange and Rosalind to two way, along with urban design and economic analysis with the goal to restore retail to downtown. With a goal to eliminate all traffic deaths by 2040, he is leading the City's Vision Zero efforts.

His department is updating the City's Bike Plan, which will expand the bike network, allowing cyclists of all abilities to move throughout the City. The Robinson Street project will improve safety from Garland to Mills in the first segment, by creating a three lane cross section with a cycle track on the south side. Projects such as this consistently reduce crashes by up to 45%, as the Edgewater Drive project has since being implemented. He resides in Lawsona/Fern Creek.

## CRAFTSMAN CORNER

Your choice of exterior color is an easy way to enhance the historic nature of your home. Most of Thornton Park is in the Lake Lawsona Historic District, which does not regulate color, but here are some good choices from Sherwin Williams.

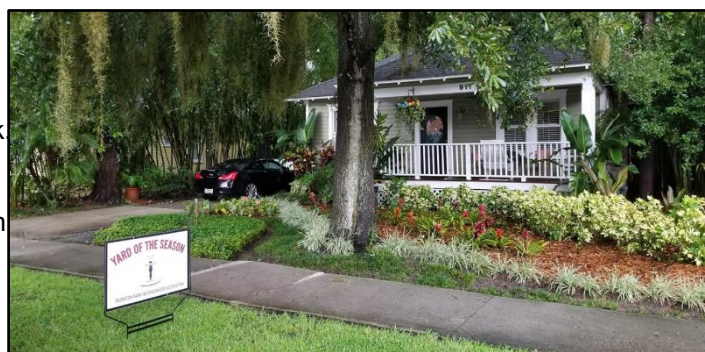


## URBANISM UPDATE: STREET GRID

If you grew up in a suburb, you probably remember confusing streets that curved around turning back on themselves, clu-de-sacs, having no idea how streets related to other subdivisions, and not a single shop or restaurant within walking distance. But in Downtown Orlando, we have a tried-and-true grid system, where streets are measured north and south from Central Boulevard, and east and west from Orange Avenue, with house numbers progressing in a predictable, logical method, barring the gaps caused by our numerous lakes. City planners have come to realize that grids are far superior when it comes to dispersing traffic and allowing people to find their way. Walter Kulash from the Congress on New Urbanism (CNU.org), says that a traditional neighborhood street network is more efficient and has more capacity because it makes turns easier and it greatly reduces the need for complicated, multiphase traffic signals. During rush hour, drivers can decide to take alternative routes more easily within a grid. Grids facilitate "complete streets"--a goal of Orlando's--where people have transportation choices such as walking, bicycling, driving, or taking the bus. According to [smartcitiesdive.com](http://smartcitiesdive.com), other advantages of a grid include being more economical, sustainable, and having better walkability and navigation. Perhaps our old street grid is one reason for Thornton Park's popularity.

## SUMMER YARD OF THE SEASON

The Thornton Park Gardening Committee selected 911 E Washington Street as their summer "Yard of the Season". This yard is lovingly maintained by Miss Glorious, whom you may often see out laboring away. She has replaced nearly all of the grass with plantings, including bromeliads, mondo grasses, crinum lilies, and crotons. You may see native rain lilies after a good rain. There's a vanda orchid and bird-house up in the live oak notice a small evergreen being misted—it's a giant sequoia from California—and we're all eagerly watching it to see how tall it can grow in Central Florida!



## THIS EDITION SPONSORED BY: Julie Glass, Realtor

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