

Commissioner Wilson's District 1 Newsletter



West Orange County events
and updates!



district1@ocfl.net



407-836-7312



[NicoleWilsonD1](https://www.facebook.com/NicoleWilsonD1)



[NicoleWilson_D1](https://www.instagram.com/NicoleWilson_D1)

Hey West Orange County!

Happy back-to-school season! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer. This year, District 1 is excited to welcome a new elementary school to Horizon West: Ovation Elementary School! We're thrilled to welcome the students, families, teachers, and staff who will make Ovation a wonderful addition to our growing community.

As students head to and from school each day, please remember to stop when school bus arms are extended and follow posted speed limits in school zones. These simple steps help keep our children safe and can also help you avoid hefty fines.

Here's to a safe, successful, and exciting school year for all of our District 1 students and families.

Keep reading for several fun, educational, and community-centered events in your District 1 community!

With property taxes and the proposed constitutional amendment generating significant discussion across Florida, Florida Representative Leonard Spencer and I are hosting a Property Tax Town Hall to help residents better understand how property taxes are collected and spent, as well as to share general information on **Constitutional Amendment 3** on the November ballot.

The proposed amendment could significantly expand Florida's homestead exemption, reducing the amount of ad valorem tax revenue available to local governments. Those revenues help fund essential services throughout Orange County, including **public safety, environmental protection, traffic and transportation improvements, development review, safety net services, and critical infrastructure.**

Residents deserve clear, accurate information about the proposal and how changes to the property tax system could affect the services they rely on every day. This town hall is a unique opportunity to hear directly from local leaders in West Orange County, ask questions, and better understand the amendment's implications before voters head to the polls in November.

We hope to see you there!



Tuesday, September 1 at 6 p.m.

West Orange High School Cafeteria, 1625 Beulah Rd, Winter Garden, FL 34787



Join us for a discussion on the proposed Constitutional Amendment 3, which would significantly restructure homestead exemptions for Florida homeowners. The revenues at stake fund vital services, including public safety, environmental protection, development review, and critical infrastructure. We'll break down what this legislation could mean for our community and the services residents depend on every day.



Florida Representative (HD-45)
Leonard Spencer



Commissioner
Nicole Wilson



Tax Collector
Scott Randolph



Windermere Town Manager
Robert Smith



Winter Garden City Manager
Jon Williams



Oakland Town Manager
Elise Hui

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 at 6:00PM

**LOCATION: West Orange High School Cafeteria
(1625 Beulah Rd, Winter Garden, FL 34787)**

County Updates



Pedestrian Improvements in District 1:

A safer walk to school in Horizon West! 🎒 Our Public Works team recently completed new sidewalk and pedestrian improvements along Hartzog Road, just in time for the first day of school.

These upgrades provide a safer, more accessible route for students and families in nearby neighborhoods walking to the brand-new Ovation Elementary School.

The improvements include:

- A new section of sidewalk to close an existing gap
- A new pedestrian crossing at Luna Harvest Avenue and Hartzog Road
- New curb ramps
- Pavement markings
- Pedestrian signage

These improvements may seem simple, but they make a meaningful difference in helping students and families get where they need to go safely. The first week was a success! Here's to continuing to expand safe, accessible pedestrian options for students and families across Orange County.



On Your Radar



D1 COMMUNITY LEGAL ASSISTANCE DAY

District 1 is exploring the launch of a Community Legal Assistance Day that would connect residents with volunteer attorneys and trusted legal professionals to provide free legal information, brief consultations, referrals, and educational workshops.

Before finalizing the event, we want to better understand the legal needs of our community. Your feedback will help determine:



- ✓ Legal topics residents need most
- ✓ Attorney specialties to recruit
- ✓ Workshops and resources to offer

Take the Community Legal Needs Survey. It Only Takes 3–5 Minutes



Legal Aid Clinic Survey

Need legal help? We can help connect you to the right experts!

Need help establishing a will or trust?

Having issues with your landlord or housing situation?

Need guidance on a legal matter?

We want to understand the legal needs of our community so we can connect residents with the right attorneys and legal professionals.

Please take our Community Legal Needs Survey - it only takes 3-5 minutes! Your responses will help us determine which legal experts, workshops, and resources would be most valuable to you.

Scan the QR code to take the survey today! Or click [here](#) to take it now!



Food Waste Diversion Pilot Program Workshop

Looking to learn how composting works, for free? Or interested in joining this county-wide environmental step to eliminate food waste from our landfills?

Orange County launched a Food Waste Diversion Pilot Survey in early July. As of August 7th, the county recognized the high level of public interest and allocated funds for the current phase of the project. Additional funding of \$25,000 will become available October 1, 2026, at the start of the new fiscal year to continue the pilot program.

- Participation requires attendance at a free composting workshop hosted by the County Cooperative Extension (UF/IFAS).
- **Workshops began this spring and were available in person and virtually. The last workshop scheduled for now is August 28th, from 12 to 1 p.m. It is open to the public, regardless of participation in this pilot program.**

 **August 28 at 12 p.m.**

 **UF/IFAS Extension Orange County, 6021 South Conway Road, Orlando**

Learn more [here](#).



Nehrling Gardens Volunteers Needed

Nehrling Gardens is looking for volunteers to help maintain their beautiful collection of plants, flowers, and historic landscape. Volunteers play a vital role in preserving this beautiful landscape for visitors, students, and the community.

Whether you're an experienced gardener or simply enjoy being outdoors, they'd love to have you join the team!

Email info@nehrlinggardens.

Learn more [here](#).



Magical Dining is here!

Central Florida's premier culinary celebration: Visit Orlando's Magical Dining is presented by Orlando Health, running **Aug. 14 – Sept. 30, 2026**.

- Participating restaurants feature three-course, prix-fixe dinners at exceptional prices. Through Visit Orlando, every meal served supports deserving charities.
- Every meal served during Visit Orlando's Magical Dining presented by Orlando Health benefits deserving local nonprofits.
- Sponsored by Orlando Health, with a commitment to compassionate care and innovation, Orlando Health strives to improve the health and well-being of its diverse community.

To view the 180+ participating restaurants and menus, click [here](#).

CENTRAL FLORIDA DIAPER BANK

JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR MOBILE DIAPER DISTRIBUTIONS

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

NO PHOTOS OR PHOTOCOPIES ACCEPTED

- Valid Form of ID
- Your Child's Birth Certificate
- Child must be under the age of 3
- Proof of Orange County Residence
- Proof of Income (if employed)

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Essential Supplies: Diapers and hygiene products (while supplies last)
- Educational Resources
- Linkage to community resources to support your family



SCHEDULE & LOCATIONS



NO DISTRIBUTIONS ON HOLIDAYS

ARRIVE EARLY – TIME: 9:00AM – REGISTRATION ENDS AT 10:30AM

PARTICIPANTS MAY ONLY ATTEND ONE DISTRIBUTION SITE PER MONTH & MUST BE AN ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENT

WEST ORANGE NCF

SEP 10

303 SW Crown Point Rd.
Winter Garden, FL 34787

UNION PARK NCF

SEP 1

9645 E. Colonial Dr.
Orlando, FL 32817

LILA MITCHELL NCF

SEP 2

5151 Raleigh St., Suite C
Orlando, FL 32811

ENGLEWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

SEP 3

6123 La Costa Dr.
Orlando, FL 32807

GRAND AVENUE
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

SEP 8

800 Grand Ave.
Orlando, FL 32805



GEICO



For more information
contact: info@cfladb.org

CALL FOR ART!



Barber Park Recreation Center Public Art — RFQ

Commission: \$29,100

Deadline: September 9, 2026
at 11:59 p.m. EDT



ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA
Arts and Cultural Affairs

Call For Art!

The Orange County Public Art Review Board and Orange County Parks and Recreation are seeking applications from individual artists or artist teams to create artwork for the Orange County Barber Park Recreation Center.

Barber Park Recreation Center—RFQ
CaFÉ Application: tinyurl.com/5as37hwm
Deadline: September 9, at 11:59 p.m.
Commission Budget: \$29,100
Design Stipend: \$300

Apply [here](https://tinyurl.com/5as37hwm).

Upcoming District 1 Events

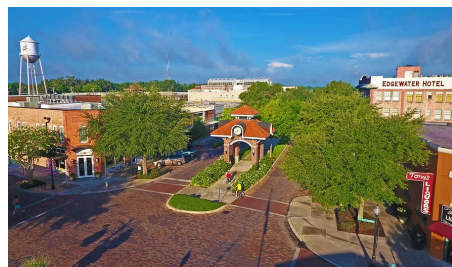


Windermere's Weekly Farmers Market!

Enjoy a wide range of vendors offering fresh produce, seafood, breads and pastries, coffee, hummus, candles, soaps, essential oils, clothing, jewelry, craftwork, flowers, and more!

 **Every Friday from 9:00am to 1:30pm (Weather Permitting)**
 **Town Square Park, 520 Main St, Windermere, FL 34786.**

Learn more [here](#).



Winter Garden 118 Anniversary

You've heard all about America's big 250th milestone, but how well do you know our hometown history? Winter Garden is celebrating 118 years since its official incorporation! Step back in time through this exclusive exhibit showcasing rare, original artifacts. Discover the incredible people, historic places, and defining moments that shaped the vibrant city we love today.

 **August 1 - October 31**
 **Winter Garden Heritage Museum, 1 North Main Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787**

Learn more [here](#).



Home State Run Club

They meet every Monday night at 6:30 pm for a group run that starts promptly at 6:45. They do 45 minutes of running.

All paces are welcome - run or walk. Then join them afterwards for 15% off YOUR ENTIRE TAB at Home State Brewing Co!

 **August 17 at 6:30 p.m.**
 **Home State Brewing Co. 16016 New Independence**



F3 Horizon Heat Free Men's Workout Group

Free, peer-led men's workouts in Horizon West. All fitness levels welcome!

This is a weekly event that happens every Tuesday and Saturday.

 **August 18 at 5:30 a.m. & August 15 at 7 a.m.**
 **Hamlin Green Space, 14111 Shoreside Way, Winter Garden,**

Pkwy, Winter Garden, Florida
34787.

Learn more [here](#).



Paint like Bob Ross with Pam Davis

Looking for a fun way to spend an afternoon? Paint a stunning landscape or seascape in this one-day class. Certified Ross Instructor Pam will teach you the Bob Ross wet-on-wet technique in a fun and exciting oil painting class!

 **August 22 at 11:00am**
📍 **SOBO gallery, 127 S Boyd St, Winter Garden, FL 34787**

Purchase tickets [here](#).

Florida 34787.

Learn more [here](#).



Dog Days of Summer: The Ulti-Mutt Art Exhibit

Created by local artists responding to the City of Winter Garden Artists' Call, the juried show displays original artwork to celebrate their favorite pooch. (See Artists' Call above.) Pups and their human escorts are welcome inside City Hall to view this paws-itively incredible exhibit throughout its showing.

 **August 1- August 31 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
📍 **Art in Public Places Gallery at City Hall, 300 W Plant St, Winter Garden, FL 34787**

Learn more [here](#).



CREATIVE CONNECTIONS CHOIR

SINGING THE BEST OF
THE BEATLES
AND
BEACH BOYS

Sign Up Today



Directed by **DR. JEFFERY REDDING**
of the Orlando Choral Society and
the Winter Garden Community Choir

In Partnership With



Creative Connections Choir

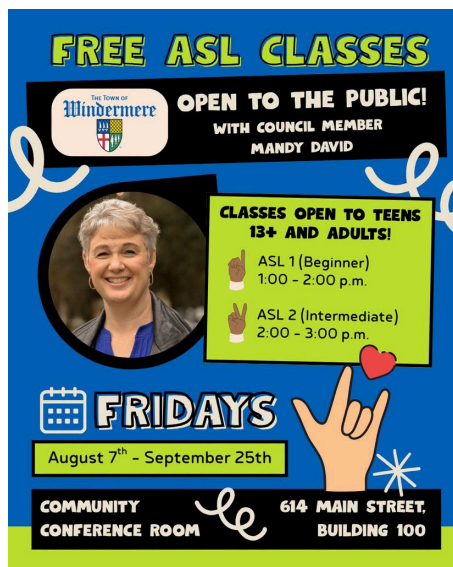
Ready to Sing? Join the Creative Connections Choir today! In partnership with Healthy West Orange, this six-week choir experience is open to Vibrant

Members and the community.

Led by local legend Dr. Jeffery Redding, participants will rehearse favorite hits from The Beatles and The Beach Boys before taking the stage for a community showcase on Sunday, September 20. Showcase location to be announced.

 **August 12 through September 16**
 **1200 E Plant St, Winter Garden, Florida 34787.**

Learn more [here](#).



Free ASL Classes!

Looking to learn something new? Join us starting this Friday for FREE American Sign Language classes!

The Town of Windermere, in partnership with Council Member Mandy David, is offering ASL classes for adults and teens. The 8-week course builds week to week, so consistent attendance is encouraged.

 **Every Friday**
***Beginners at 1:00pm**
***Intermediate at 2:00pm**

 **Town of Windermere**
614 Main Street, Building 100
(Community Conf. Room -
Police Department)

Learn more [here](#).



Homegrown Market at Hamlin (3rd Sundays)

Homegrown Market at Hamlin is your go-to open-air market in the heart of Hamlin. Featuring local makers, fresh food, live music, and community vibes twice a month. Shop small. Support local. See you there!

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month!

 **August 16 at 9 a.m. & 2 p.m.**
 **16016 New Independence**
Parkway, Winter Garden,
Florida 34787.

Learn more [here](#).

Habitat Financial Academy Schedule

August/September 2026

Date	Time	Workshop Topic	Sponsor and Teacher
Tuesday, 8/4/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Orientation & Budgeting	
Tuesday, 8/11/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Savings Plans	
Tuesday, 8/18/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Understanding Credit	
Tuesday, 8/25/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Debt Management	
Tuesday, 9/1/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Homebuying Basics	
Tuesday, 9/8/2026	7 pm - 8 pm	Protecting your Identity & Cyber Security Basics	

Habitat Financial Academy Workshops

This course is taught by field experts and is designed to financially empower you by teaching skills such as budgeting, savings, debt management, building credit, and homebuying basics. Strengthen your path to financial stability and beyond with Habitat's FREE course that is open to the public. Register for our six-week session today!

 **Every Tuesday from Aug 4 – Sept 8 at 7:00 p.m.**

 **Virtual**

Register [here](#).



Horizon West American Legion Meetup

Established in June 2023, the Legion has grown into an award winning resource and Veteran connection to our beautiful Horizon West community.

 **August 18 at 6 p.m.**

 **4814 Hamlin Groves Trl,
Winter Garden, Florida 34787.**



Homeschool Town Hall Brunch

This complimentary event is designed to bring homeschooling families together to connect, share ideas, and discuss ways we can strengthen and support

Learn more [here](#).

the homeschool community in Central Florida.

Whether it's academic enrichment, social opportunities, clubs, workshops, or simply a welcoming place to meet other families, we hope to learn how the Rosen JCC can become a valuable community partner.

 **August 19 at 12:00 p.m.**
 **11184 S Apopka Vineland Rd, Orlando, Florida 32836.**

Learn more [here](#).



Election Day (Primary Election)

Election Day is your final opportunity to cast a ballot in each election. On Election Day, you must vote at your assigned polling place based on your residential address. Polls are open from 7 AM to 7 PM, *and as long as you are in line by 7 PM, you will be allowed to vote.*

WHERE DO I VOTE ON ELECTION DAY?

On Election Day you must vote at your assigned neighborhood polling place. You can find your polling place:

- On your Voter Information Card
- On your Informational Sample Ballot
- By using the Find Your Polling Place tool
- By calling the Supervisor of Elections office at 407-836-2070

 **August 18 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**
 **Find your polling place [here](#)**

For more info click [here](#).



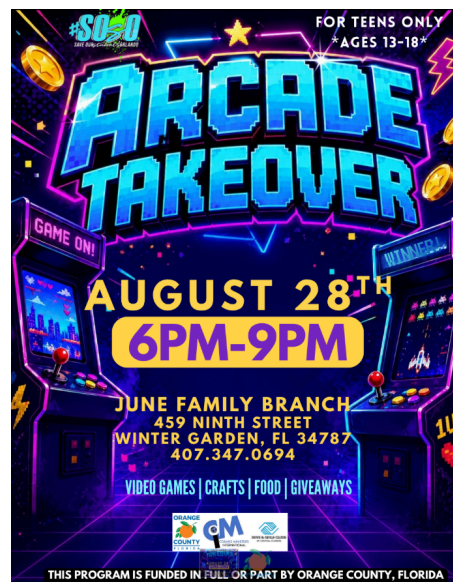
Flamingo Crossings Town Center
The Parking Lot by Fit 2 Run
102 Ruby Red Pl Unit B, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Flamingos & Fuel Cruise Night

Every month on the third Thursday. Any make, model, year, of car or truck is welcome. We will meet in the parking lot near Fit 2 Run. Hang out in this new area of Horizon West and enjoy drinks and food at the many restaurants in Flamingo Crossings, including Lime Fresh Mexican Grill, Elle Lou's Brews & BBQ, and Pieology Pizzeria, Simply Capri, and others. This is a family friendly event.

 **August 20 at 6 p.m.**
 **13200 Hartzog Rd, Winter Garden, Florida 34787.**

Learn more [here](#).



Arcade Takeover

Join in on the fun with this family-friendly event hosting video games, crafts, food and giveaways.

For teens only, ages 13-18.

 **August 28 at 6 p.m.**
 **459 Ninth Street, Winter Garden Fl, 34787.**



This workshop offers important information on the expanded federal protections for lactating employees. **Dr. Liz Ayuso** from the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition provides an overview of the federal law Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers (the "PUMP Act").



Scan the QR Code to register.



Tuesday, August 25, 2026



10-11 a.m.

For more information, visit [Oranage.FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.Oranage.FloridaHealth.gov)



Virtual Breastfeeding Workshop



When: Select Fridays
9 am-10 am

Where: Oakland Nature Preserve- Meet at Natureplay located on the Green trail

Cost: Members- Free;
Non-Members: 1 child- \$5
2 or more children- \$8

Registration required

Program designed for those walking through 4 years old. Parents must accompany children for length of program.



Toddlers on the Trails

Introduce your child to the wonders of nature through play,

The Orange County Florida Department of Health is celebrating the National Breastfeeding Awareness month with a virtual workshop on August 25, 2026, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The topic is: The PUMP ACT: Your workplace breastfeeding rights explained.

If you have any questions, please contact Wanda Day at 407 723-5355.

 **August 25 at 10 a.m.**
 **Virtual**

Learn more [here](#).

songs, and activities.

Program designed for ages walking through 4 years old.

- Parents must stay with their child for the entire program length.
- Please dress for the weather with sun and bug protection. We also recommend close toed shoes, hat, and reusable water bottle. In case of inclement weather, we will meet in the Museum.

 **Select Fridays starting Sept. 4 at 9 a.m.**
 **Oakland Nature Preserve,
747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL
34760**

Register [here](#).



Back to School BBQ

Join Summer Nights and the crew for a teen-only night on September 4th for their back-to-school BBQ.

 **September 4 at 6 p.m.**
 **Universal Orlando Branch,
5055 Raleigh St. Orlando, FL
32811**

Learn more [here](#).



Cool Cancer Group

Cool Cancer Group is a space welcoming all adults (18 - one million years old) with cancer, centering those 18-45 years old.

We're not your regular cancer support group. We're a cool cancer support group! Truthfully, we are probably more sad, angry, dissociated, frustrated, and other arrays of big feelings than "cool" BUT we ARE relatable!

 **August 18 at 2 p.m.**
 **1200 E Plant St. Ste 200,
Winter Garden FL**

Upcoming Events in the County



This musical event is for everyone 18 and older. Come and enjoy a friendly atmosphere of dance, fun and live music by the band, The Crew.

Saturday 6-9 p.m. on the following dates:

March 28	May 30	July 25	September 26
April 25	June 27	August 29	October 31

Dance With The Crew Band on August 29

Put on your dancing shoes and head over to the cool **Renaissance Senior Center** on Saturday, July 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. The event is open to ages 18 and older. Cost is \$20 per person. All guests must register and pay [online](#). Questions? Email parks@ocfl.net or call the senior center office at 407-254-9070.



Central Florida Film Slam at the Enzian

Free to submit; submissions accepted year-round! Submit [here](#).

Central Florida Film Slam is an unrated, independent film showcase and competition open to all regional filmmakers and students. Showcase your own



Science Night Live

Enjoy everything you love about the Science Center – without the kids! Special programming is designed just for adults.

Must be 18 years or older to attend.

 **August 22 at 8 a.m.**
 **777 E. Princeton St. Orlando, Florida 32803**

work or come see the work of other local filmmakers on the big screen at Enzian Theater!

 **August 16 at 12 p.m.**
 **1300 South Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751**

Purchase tickets [here](#).

Purchase tickets [here](#).



Access For All at The Orlando Museum of Art

Access for All at OMA is a monthly free day dedicated to the community. On the third Thursday of each month, OMA extends their hours from 10 AM to 8 PM, offering free admission to all visitors. Each event will feature live performances, educational experiences, and more!

Sketching materials will be available to visitors between 5 pm and 7 pm, and a docent-led highlights tour will be held at 7 pm.

 **August 20 at 10 a.m.**
 **2416 N. Mills Ave. Orlando, FL 32803**

Learn more [here](#).

The Library has a Place for Everyone!



Social Worker @ the Library

Our social worker is on-site to meet with library customers and assist with social and government services.



Mindful Start Family Yoga

Silly and fun yoga poses designed for kids! Flow-through an imaginative journey filled with puppets, parachute games and relaxing rest time! Recommended for families.

The Social Worker is on-site from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to meet with library customers and assist with social and government services.

For more information visit ocls.org/library-social-workers.

 **August 15, at 10:00 a.m.**
 **Windermere Branch Library**

Registration is not required.

Learn more [here](#).



Podcast Listening Club: Famous Feuds

Playlist episodes take a look at Famous Feuds by diving into some of history's most notorious rivalries and what really fuels them.

Ages 18 and up.

 **August 17 at 6:30 p.m.**
 **Dr P Phillips YMCA**
(Conference Room)

Registration is required.

Register [here](#).

Attendees are encouraged to dress in comfortable clothing and bring your own mat.

 **August 25 at 1 p.m.**
 **Southwest Branch Library**
(Ask at Desk)

Registration is required.

Register [here](#).



Crochet Open Lab - Catch Up and Show Off

Have a crochet project in progress, we'd love to see it! Drop in to work on your projects, ask questions or just socialize.

Let's meet to catch up on all of our projects and to show off our finished work. Don't forget to bring yarn and tools to this open lab.

 **August 19, at 11:30 a.m.**
 **Winter Garden Branch Library**
(Technology Lab)

Register [here](#).

Check out OCLS Events

Youth Opportunities

2026 ORANGE COUNTY WEEK OF THE FAMILY

ESSAY WRITING CONTEST opens May 31st



Win up to \$100
Enter today!

Entry Deadline
September 13, 2026

EVENT RULES

1. Write a thoughtful essay up to 250 words using the prompt below.
2. Essay author **MUST** be a current student age 5-18 years, in an Orange County, Florida School (Public/Private/Home).
3. Submit your essay online at weekofthefamily.org

PRIZES

- 1st PLACE \$100
- 2nd PLACE \$75
- 3rd PLACE \$50

How to Submit your Entry
<https://weekofthefamily.org/student-essay/>

Essay Prompt: "I create fun with my family ..."

The school with the most entries wins a trophy from Mayor Demings!
WINNERS will be announced in October (prior to the 2026 Week of the Family).
Winners will be honored at the Week of the Family Awards Dinner.

5 Entry Categories: Grades K-2, 3-5, Middle, High, and Special Needs

Essay Writing Contest!

Encourage your children or grandchildren to write with this fun and easy opportunity! It's a great way to build their critical thinking skills and writing ability. This year's theme: "I Create Fun with My Family..."

Your Child Can Win Up to \$100! Entry Deadline is Sept. 13.

Learn more [here](https://weekofthefamily.org).



Hunter's Creek Homeschool PE Fall 2026

Looking for a fun, social activity your kid can do while homeschooled? Hunter's Creek offers a Homeschool PE Program to Hunter's Creek residents and non-residents. It is an opportunity for your child to meet new friends, develop social and physical skills while joining other homeschool kids for fun activities/games!

Season Dates: August 18 - November 5
Every Tuesday & Thursday

Learn more [here](#).

FINDING THE LOST SHEEP PRESENTS

GROW HAPPY

MUSHROOMS & EDIBLE FLOWER ACADEMY

LEARN. GROW. EARN. LEAD.

A hands-on program for **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS** who want to grow, learn, and build a future!

Discover the science of growing gourmet mushrooms and beautiful edible flowers while learning skills that can lead to jobs, businesses, and a healthier community.

**FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS
AGES 12-19
YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE!**



TURN YOUR PASSION INTO A PAYCHECK!

HELP US BUILD OUR MOBILE GROW LAB!

We are building out a state-of-the-art MUSHROOMS & EDIBLE FLOWER TRAILER to provide hands-on training, resources, and real opportunities for our youth and young adults.

OUR GOAL:
\$25,000
TO BUILD OUT OUR MOBILE GROW LAB TRAILER.



HANDS-ON LEARNING
Real skills for real life



SCIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY
Explore nature, technology & the environment



ENTREPRENEUR MINDSET
Learn business, marketing & money skills



EARN WHILE YOU LEARN
Build income opportunities and a brighter future

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS - INVEST IN OUR YOUTH. GROW A BETTER FUTURE.

SEED PLANTER \$250	GROWER \$500	CULTIVATOR \$1,000	HARVESTER \$2,500	LEGACY PARTNER \$5,000+
✓ Name listed on our website & social media ✓ Thank you certificate of appreciation	✓ All Seed Planter benefits ✓ Name on trailer donor wall (group listing) ✓ Program updates	✓ All Grower benefits ✓ Name on trailer donor wall (medium listing) ✓ Recognition in newsletter ✓ Invitation to special program showcase	✓ All Cultivator benefits ✓ Name on trailer donor wall (large listing) ✓ Logo on program materials ✓ Recognition at events	✓ All Harvester benefits ✓ Premier logo placement on trailer ✓ Speaking opportunity at program events ✓ Legacy recognition as a community leader

YOU WILL LEARN:

- ✓ How to grow gourmet mushrooms (oyster, lion's mane, shiitake & more)
- ✓ How to grow edible flowers
- ✓ Seed starting & indoor growing systems
- ✓ Composting & sustainability
- ✓ Harvesting & food safety
- ✓ Packaging & product presentation

- ✓ Marketing & branding
- ✓ Selling at farmers markets & to local businesses
- ✓ Business planning
- ✓ Financial literacy
- ✓ Customer service
- ✓ And so much more!

WE'RE SEEING WHO IS INTERESTED!

If you are between 12-19 years old (or a parent/guardian) and would like to be part of this amazing program, let us know!

INTERESTED? LET US KNOW!

COMMENT "INTERESTED" BELOW OR SEND US A DIRECT MESSAGE!

Spots will be limited! Don't miss out!



FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION!

[f](#) [i](#) [t](#)

BUILT OUTCOMES

- AGRICULTURAL SKILLS**
Youth gain hands-on experience growing gourmet mushrooms and edible flowers.
- WORKFORCE READINESS**
Participants develop skills that lead to jobs, internships, and entrepreneurial opportunities.
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
Youth learn how to start, market, and grow their own business.
- COMMUNITY IMPACT**
Locally grown products support food security, restaurants, and community events.
- HEALTH & WELL-BEING**
Encourages healthy living, environmental stewardship, and sustainable practices.
- CONFIDENCE & LEADERSHIP**
Youth build confidence, learn teamwork, and become leaders in their community.

TOGETHER, WE CAN GROW STRONGER COMMUNITIES AND BRIGHTER FUTURES!

www.findingthelostsheep.org | info@findingthelostsheep.org | 407-614-5942

Finding the Lost Sheep is starting a program for those aged 12 to 19, where your child can learn how to grow mushrooms, compost, and build skills to thrive!

Learn more [here](#).

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**

JUNE FAMILY BRANCH

Now Enrolling for the
**2026-2027
AFTER-SCHOOL
PROGRAM!**

SERVING YOUTH AGES 6-18



**HOURS OF
OPERATION**

**MONDAY – FRIDAY
K-5TH GRADE
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL &
HIGH SCHOOL (6TH-12TH)
2:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Additional Teen Hours Available

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

Become a **LEADER IN TRAINING (LIT)!**

Build leadership skills, gain valuable experience, strengthen your resume, and make a difference in your community.

Contact the Club today to learn more!

FALL REGISTRATION

**CURRENT MEMBER
PRIORITY REGISTRATION:
JULY 13**

**NEW MEMBER
REGISTRATION:
JULY 18**

Register through the
Parent Portal.
Spaces are limited!

FEES & REGISTRATION

K-5TH GRADE

- Annual Membership Fee: \$40
- Program Fee: \$80 per month

 **SNACK/LUNCH IS PROVIDED TO EVERYONE.**

 **TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FOR DILLARD ELEMENTARY STUDENTS.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERS (6TH-12TH GRADE)

- Annual Membership Fee: \$40
- 6th Grade: \$80 per month
- 7th-12th Grade: FREE (No monthly program fee)

 **SNACK/LUNCH IS PROVIDED TO EVERYONE.**

TEEN PROGRAMS 

High school students can participate in our Leaders in Training (LIT) Program, where they will:

- Develop leadership skills
- Build their resume
- Gain volunteer and work-readiness experience
- Serve as positive role models
- Prepare for college and future careers

CORE PROGRAM AREAS

K-5TH GRADE

- Education & Career Development
- Character & Leadership Development
- Game Room
- Computer Lab
- Sports, Fitness & Recreation
- Health & Life Skills
- Mental & Emotional Wellness
- The Arts

6TH-12TH GRADE

- College & Career Readiness
- Music Studio
- Dance Studio
- Game Room
- Computer Lab
- Sports, Fitness & Recreation
- Health & Life Skills
- Mental & Emotional Wellness
- The Arts
- Leadership Development

CONTACT US

 **JUNE FAMILY BRANCH**
459 Ninth Street
Winter Garden, FL

 **SERVICE DIRECTOR:**
Shamel Akins

 **OFFICE:** (407) 347-0694

 **CELL:** (321) 322-8425

 **EMAIL:** SAKINS@BGCCF.ORG

 **CREATE YOUR
PARENT PORTAL**
AND CREATE A MEMBERSHIP

 **VISIT
WWW.BGCCF.ORG**

 **Safe. Fun.
Educational. Inspiring.**
Helping young people reach

June Family Branch After-School Program

BGCCF operates after-school and summer programs at 16 Orange County Middle Schools. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida After School Zone is funded by a grant from the Orange County Government.

Join in on the after-school fun with this brand new branch's after-school program!

Grant Opportunities



Association for the Foundation for OCPS Fall 2026 Teacher Impact Grant!

It's time to shine! Applications for the Foundation for OCPS Fall 2026 Teacher Impact Grants are officially open.

Do you have an innovative idea that will inspire students, strengthen learning, or bring a creative classroom project to life? We want to help make it happen.

Teacher Impact Grants provide funding for projects that enhance student learning through engaging, innovative, and meaningful educational experiences. Whether your idea supports STEM or the arts, we encourage you to apply.

Applications are open now through Sunday, September 6, 2026.

Know a teacher with a great idea? Please share this opportunity with an educator in your life so every school has the chance to benefit. Great ideas deserve the opportunity to grow, and together we can help create even more meaningful learning experiences for OCPS students.

Apply [here](#).

**ORANGE COUNTY
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
NONPROFIT
HOUSING
REPAIR GRANT**



About The Grant

The Nonprofit Housing Repair Grant reimburses 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations for completing minor exterior repairs on single-family homes in underserved areas of Orange County.

- Projects serving seniors, individuals with disabilities, and households in moderate- to very low-income areas may receive special consideration.
- Reimbursement available for projects up to \$20,000.
- Organizations must meet all Orange County documentation requirements.
- Applicants who received this grant in the previous two consecutive years are not eligible.
- Applications will be available soon.

Eligible Reimbursable Projects

- Minor exterior home repairs
- Gutter cleaning and repair
- Painting and pressure washing
- Door and window replacement
- Materials needed to complete project (up to 25% of total grant award)

Contact Us

Neighborhood Services Division
(407)-836-4200
OCNeighborhoods@ocfl.net
www.ocfl.net/Neighborhoods

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 10, 2026**



**ORANGE COUNTY
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
NONPROFIT
SAFETY
GRANT**



About The Grant

The Nonprofit Safety Grant provides reimbursement funding to eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations implementing community projects that improve public safety and reduce crime.

- Eligible nonprofits may receive \$1,000-\$10,000 for approved projects.
- Organizations must meet all Orange County documentation requirements.
- Applicants awarded this grant in the previous two consecutive years are not eligible.
- Priority is given to projects serving neighborhoods with large youth and senior populations, higher crime rates, individuals with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged communities.
- Applications will be available soon.

Eligible Reimbursable Projects

- Promote public safety and crime-prevention education
- Provide home safety improvements (house numbers, window locks, fire extinguishers, 911-only cell phones, gun locks)
- Offer resident training (self-defense, theft prevention, senior safety)
- Support disaster-preparedness initiatives

Contact Us

Neighborhood Services Division
(407)-836-4200
OCNeighborhoods@ocfl.net
www.ocfl.net/Neighborhoods

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 10, 2026**



Nonprofit Safety Grant

Nonprofit Housing Repair Grant

Provides reimbursement funding to eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations for completing minor exterior repairs on single-family homes located in underserved Orange County neighborhoods.

Learn more about the grant [here](#).

Provides reimbursement funding to eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations implementing community-based projects that enhance public safety and help reduce crime.

Learn more about the grant [here](#).

Lightning Round of Resources

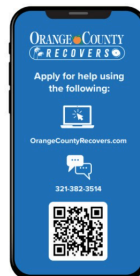


Do You Qualify?

- You owned and occupied your property at the time of Hurricane Ian AND you still own the property
- Your household is income qualified
- Your home still has documented and unrepaired damage from Hurricane Ian

Documents Needed to Apply

- Valid Photo ID/Proof of Citizenship
- Income Documentation
- Proof of Insurance for Damaged Property (if applicable)
- Proof of Ownership
- Proof of Disability (if applicable)
- Power of Attorney/Communication Designee (if applicable)
- Proof of Damage/Benefit Information as Required (see website for more details)



For more information, call 321-382-3514

Learn more about Orange County Recovers and its services [here](#)!



Are you ready to elevate your side hustle into a profitable project that generates over \$800 in revenue? Introducing COIN CREATORS, an innovative 8-month program aimed at accelerating your entrepreneurial aspirations into a thriving business venture. This program will equip you with the resources needed to grow your coins, capital, and build your wealth.

BENEFITS:

- Micro-funding and business tool kits to grow your business.
- Private mentorship from niche experts and direct access to millionaires and guest speakers.
- Free legal and finance audit review for business sustainability.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Students aged 12-18 with a current business or ready to launch in 60 days.
- Reliable computer and internet access for virtual workshops, plus transportation for in-person events.
- All details are listed on landing page.

WWW.8CENTS.ORG/CREATORS

THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED IN FULL OR PART BY ORANGE COUNTY, FL GOVERNMENT.

Learn more about 8 Cents Coin Creators and its services [here](#)!

VA Resource Navigator
A simple way to view and access VA Benefits.

 Turn on Camera App
 Scan the QR Code
 Click the Pop-Up Link




SCAN ME

Scan this code to learn about VA benefits including health care, disability, pension, records, education and training, burial services, and more.

Search "VA Resource Navigator" in your web browser. Share the link with fellow Veterans.

Patient Centered Learning

VA

Learn more about the VA Resource Navigator here!




BOUNCE BACK STRONGER

A virtual Career Reboot workshop after layoffs or termination. This is for all individuals ready to take their job search to the next level!

What You'll Learn



BONUS: Walk away with financial planning tools, resources, resume template, and one-on-one Career Coaching!

 Virtual Workshop
 Second Tuesday at 1 PM
 Fourth Thursday at 10 AM

Register Now



Learn more about the virtual Career Reboot here!

Community Champions





This week, I'm proud to spotlight two TDT Citizen Advisory Task Force members representing District 1: Joe Dunn and Chip Byers.

We are incredibly grateful for their time, dedication, and thoughtful attention to detail throughout the Task Force's review process. Over the past three weeks, the Task Force convened for long, intensive meetings to hear presentations, evaluate proposals, and analyze projects submitted by organizations across Orange County, including several projects located in District 1.

Thank you, Joe and Chip, for dedicating countless hours over the past several weeks to this important process and for representing District 1 with our community and residents in mind.

We look forward to reviewing the outcome of this process when it comes before the Board of County Commissioners in the near future.

Subscribe to Our Newsletter!

As always, feel free to contact us!

 District1@ocfl.net

 (407) 836-7312

Orange County Commissioner Nicole Wilson, District 1 | 201 S. Rosalind Avenue 5th Floor | Orlando, FL 32801 US

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