

Hey West Orange County!

Join us ***TOMORROW***, October 16, at Barry University's Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law for the Environmental Advocacy Symposium, a two-day gathering bringing together elected officials, legal professionals, policymakers, researchers, environmental advocates, students, and community members to address some of the most pressing water challenges facing our communities.

From the impact of AI data centers on our water resources to sustainable infrastructure, water reclamation, resource management, and environmental justice, this symposium will foster meaningful dialogue and explore solutions to protect our most precious resource.

💧 *Who has access to clean, reliable water—and what must we do to protect it for future generations?*

Your voice matters in this conversation! We invite you to join us as we work toward a more sustainable, equitable, and water-secure future for Florida.

✨ CLE credits are available for eligible attendees!

🥗Complementary lunch will be provided for attendees!

📅 **October 16–17, 2026**
📍 **Barry University's Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law**

🔗 **Register today and be part of the conversation: HERE**

Let's come together to advance environmental justice and protect Florida's water future! 🌎💧



There's never a shortage of fun events, so be sure to scroll to the bottom!

What We've Been Up To

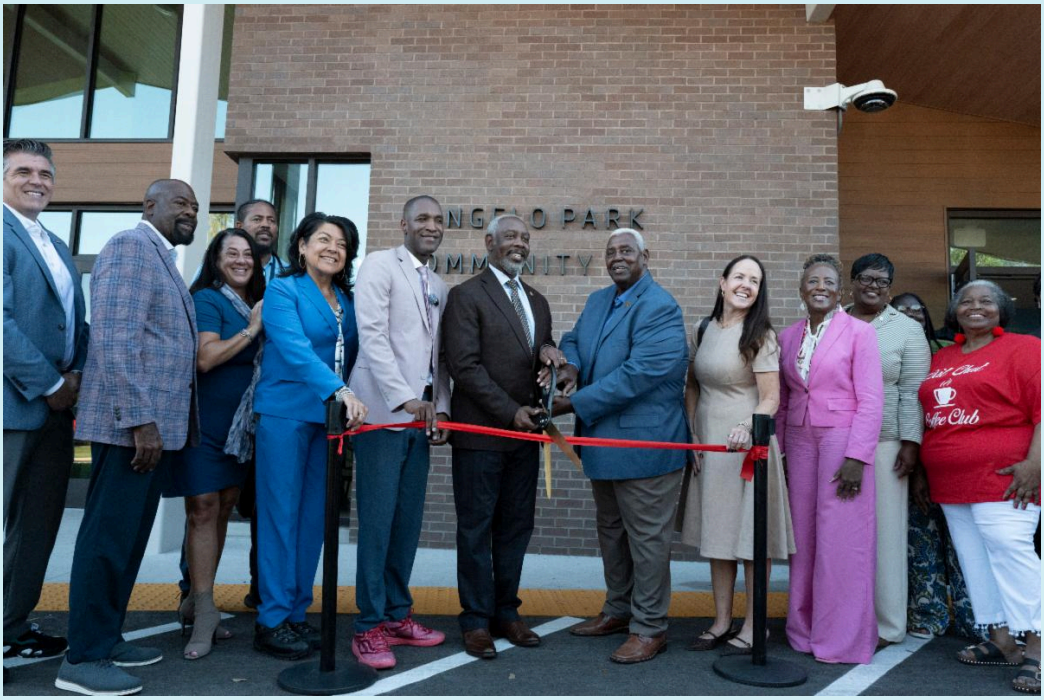


HeadStart Annual Presentation at BCC

Head Start programs prepare America's most vulnerable young children to succeed in school and in life beyond school. To achieve this, Head Start programs deliver services to children age birth to 5 and their families in core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being. The Head Start program serves children ages birth to 5 and pregnant women in urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout America. Head Start services are provided in centers, family childcare homes, or in the family's own home. Learn more about the Head Start approach to providing services to eligible children and families in local programs.

If you live in Orange County, have a child who is 3 or 4 years old, and your household income is at or below 100% of the 2024-2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines, please call (407) 836-6590 for an application. We accept applications throughout the year, and a waiting list is developed to fill vacancies in the classrooms.

Enroll now!



Tangelo Park Ribbon-Cutting

Wednesday morning's ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrated the grand opening of the Tangelo Park Community Action Center, a wonderful new space dedicated to empowering residents, uplifting families, and creating opportunities for generations to come.

From youth mentoring and workforce development to recreation and essential community resources, this center represents growth, hope, and a brighter future for the community. ❤️🏡

A heartfelt thank you to Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings, District 6 Commissioner Michael Scott, community leaders, and residents who helped make this special day possible.

Here’s to new beginnings and a lasting impact in Tangelo Park! 🎉✂️

Tangelo Park Community Action Center is located at:
5160 Pueblo Street
Orlando, FL 32819



Orange Extends Contracts with two E-scooter vendors

"Orange County recently enacted countywide rules for micromobility devices. There are other, special rules for the county's two designated e-scooter areas near UCF and I-Drive.

In those areas, Lime and Bird are the only types of e-scooters that may be used, based on the county's license agreements with both vendors. (There's no such restriction affecting other types of micromobility devices, like e-bikes.)

Additionally, for the entirety of both designated areas, e-scooters are limited to a maximum speed limit of 10 mph. Staff said the change already took effect back in December. The 10 mph speed limit matches the one for micromobility devices traveling on sidewalks in the rest of the county. Elsewhere — like on roadways and shoulders, bike lanes and trails — the maximum speed limit is 20 mph.

Currently, the county's geofencing — a digital boundary around a specific area — stops e-scooters from being used there, including by the convention center and, between the hours of 2 a.m. and 4 a.m., near bars. Now that the contract

extensions have been approved, staff plan to collect data on areas where geofencing could potentially be expanded.

Additionally, over the next three months, staff plan to collect data on things like how parking corrals are being used and whether e-scooters are being used more in the now-expanded areas. Already, the parameters of the county's ongoing pilot program have changed "significantly" based on reported safety concerns, Public Works Project Manager Jerald Marks said Tuesday."

Read the entire @cfpublicmedia story here.

On Your Radar



Property Tax Town Hall at Hunters Creek

Join us for an important community conversation focused on property taxes and the issues impacting Orange County residents.

Thank you so much to Senator Arrington and Representative Harris for organizing this event! Special guests include myself, John Mina, Orange County Sheriff, Property Appraiser Amy Mercado, and Angie Gallo, Orange County School Board Chair-Elect.

📆 **Thursday, October 15 at 6 p.m.**
📍 **14101 Town Loop Blvd., Orlando, FL 32837**

RSVP here.



OCPortal is here!

Orange County Parks and Recreation's new online system will make it easier than ever to access Parks and Recreation services, register for programs, reserve facilities, manage memberships, and make secure cashless payments -- all through one convenient portal, anytime and anywhere!

Get started today!



Hope Along the Way Free Mammograms

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Hope Along the Way, in partnership with the City of Winter Garden and Orange County Commissioner Nicole Wilson, is pleased to once again bring the 3D Mobile Mammography Unit to our community!

Only 20 appointment slots are available!

Early detection matters, and we want to help remove barriers that may prevent women in our community from receiving this important screening.

Call 321-663-3476 today to schedule your appointment.
Appointments are limited, so please don't wait!

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Winter Garden Resource Center
125 Center Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Learn more here.



Legal Aid Clinic Survey

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!



OC Loves Trees Urban Forest Master Plan Update!
🌳🌳🌳

Did you attend our first public workshop? We talked about trees!

During the meeting on Sept. 29, attendees used maps to mark where trees are needed, ranked their favorite community and outreach strategies related to trees, and learned about a variety of native trees and their benefits.

Missed the meeting? Use Engage Orange to share your thoughts, ask questions, suggest tree planting locations, and stay informed about upcoming events. There will be other in-person and virtual engagement opportunities in the near future.

More Trees? Yes, please!

We put down some new roots this week at the Lila Mitchell Center Clinic in Orlando as part of our OC Loves Trees program.

Crews planted 24 trees across the property, including:

🌿 8 Dahoon Hollies
🌿 8 Yaupon Hollies
🌲 5 Slash Pines
🍁 2 Red Maples
🌸 1 Southern Magnolia

They may be small now, but these trees will grow to provide more shade, greenery, and tree canopy for years to come.

Use our new interactive map to tell us where to plant or focus tree giveaways.

Drop a pin on the map and plant a tree here!



Scoop It Forward

A West Orange Creamery community-giving initiative

Ice cream has always had a way of bringing people together. Scoop It Forward is their way of turning that simple joy into something even sweeter—neighbors helping neighbors and celebrating the people who make our community special.

Their first Scoop It Forward campaign is all about thanking the teachers who give so much to local students and families every day.

Each $125 Teacher Treat Cooler serves up to 20 teachers and includes pre-scooped ice cream cups with sprinkles, syrup, whipped cream, cherries and waffle-cone pieces—plus spoons and napkins—packed cold and ready for the school to pick up.
It's a simple way to come together, say "thank you," and make a teacher's day a little sweeter.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Choose a participating school.
2. Make a pledge in any amount.
3. Once a complete Teacher Treat Cooler is sponsored, WOC sends the pledge invoices.
4. The school receives its Teacher Treats.

READY TO SCOOP IT FORWARD?
Choose a participating school and make your pledge below. Every pledge helps bring a local teacher closer to a well-deserved treat.

Scoop it forward here!



go.ufl.edu/PBC | #PBChallenge

An Equal Opportunity Institution.

What is the Peanut Butter Challenge?

The Challenge is simple: Community members donate unopened, unexpired jars of peanut butter of any size in a friendly collection competition during the month of October to help combat hunger. Food insecurity has been linked to many negative health outcomes and has grown more widespread in the wake of COVID-19. At the end of the collection period, the jars are tallied, bragging rights are awarded to counties collecting the most peanut butter, and the jars go to local food pantries just in time for the holiday season.

Learn more here.


Drop Off Locations:
UF/IFAS Extension Orange County, 6021 S. Conway Rd., Orlando, FL 32812
Barnett Park, 4801 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32808
Bear Creek Recreation Complex, 1600 Bear Crossing Dr., Orlando, FL 32812
Bithlo Park, 18501 Washington Ave., Orlando, FL 32820
Capehart Park, 715 Capehart Dr., Orlando, FL 32822
Fort Gatlin Recreation Complex, 2009 Lake Margaret Dr., Orlando, FL 32806
Goldenrod Recreation Center, 4863 N. Goldenrod Rd., Winter Park, FL 32792
Meadow Woods Recreation Center, 1751 Rhode Island Woods Cir., Orlando, FL 32824
Silver Star Recreation Center, 2801 N. Apopka-Vineland Rd., Orlando, FL 32818
South Econ Recreation Center, 3850 S. Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando, FL 32829
Renaissance Senior Center at South Econ Community Park, 3800 S Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando, FL 32829
Tibet-Butler Preserve (office), 8777 C.R. 535, Orlando, FL 32836
West Orange Recreation Center, 309 S. West Crown Point Rd., Winter Garden, FL 34787
An Equal Opportunity Institution.



Not Your Typical Youth Town Hall

Excited to join the District 1 Youth Council for their very first Youth Town Hall! Students will be taking the lead here and have the opportunity to interact with public officials, share their ideas, and bring important issues to the floor.

Attendees will also be able to gain further insight into the legislative process and learn how ideas can become laws and ordinances that impact our communities.

If you are young or know a teen, please join us and make your voice heard!

Follow this link to sign up and register for this amazing event.



Five-Year-Consolidated Plan Survey

Looking ahead to the next five years, Orange County's Housing & Community Development Division needs your help identifying priorities related to housing, homelessness, public services, public facilities and infrastructure, fair housing, and more.

Community engagement is essential as Orange County develops its next five-year Consolidated Plan.

The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that helps the County identify its most important housing and community development needs and decide how federal funding should be used to address those needs.

The plan guides the use of funding from three federally funded programs:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – supports community development activities, public services, public facilities, infrastructure, and housing.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) – supports the development and preservation of affordable housing.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – supports programs and services that address homelessness and housing instability.

Take the Survey Here

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!

📆October 16 & 23 & 30
Every Friday from 9:00am to 1:30pm (Weather Permitting)
📍 Town Square Park, 519 Main St, Windermere, FL 34786.

Learn more here.



Winter Garden 118 Anniversary

Winter Garden is celebrating 118 years since its official incorporation! Step back in time through this exclusive exhibit showcasing rare, original artifacts.

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

Learn more here.



Trick or Treat Market Crawl

Come shop local, trick-or-treat your way through the market, dance the night away, and see all the cutest pups dressed up for Halloween!



Plant Festival Fundraiser

Browse a wide selection of plants, find something new for your home or garden, and help support the continued care of this historic property.

Grab your friends + kiddos, dress up, and make plans to join us!

📅 **October 16 at 7 p.m.**
📍 **16016 New Independence Pkwy #100, Winter Garden, FL**

Learn more here.

📅 **October 17 9 a.m.**
📍 **2267 Hempel Avenue, Gotha**

Learn more here.



Free ASL 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.

📅 **October 16**
(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.



BEWITCHED AT HOMEGROWN
Something magical is coming to Hamlin!

Join us for a special Bewitched at Homegrown edition of Homegrown Market at Hamlin.

Bring the whole family for a morning of shopping local, live music, FREE fitness classes, kids activities and a little extra magic.

Elphaba + Glinda Meet & Greet
Local Vendors & Makers
Food Vendors
Live Music
FREE Fitness Classes
Kids Activities
Children's Entrepreneur Market
Halloween Costume Drive

📅 **October 18 at 9:00 a.m.**
📍 **16016 New Independence Parkway, Winter Garden.**

Learn more here.



OCOM Run Club

Meet up at Clean Eatz Cafe and enjoy a community run at your own pace! All experience levels and ages welcome.

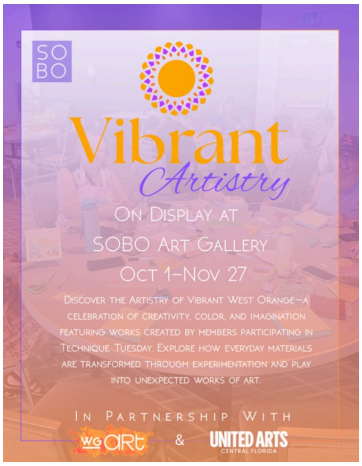
Enjoy a smoothie afterward!

While we're rooted in OCOM, you do NOT have to be a student to join! Friends, partners, neighbors, and anyone interested are welcome.

All paces are welcome. Come for one mile or five.

📅 October 28 at 5:30 p.m.
📍 9250 Miley Drive, Winter Garden, Florida 34787, US

Learn more here.



Vibrant Artistry

Abstract Conversations will be on view at SOBO Art Gallery from October 1 through the end of November 2026, featuring contemporary abstract artwork where color, form, movement, texture, and expression speak without words.

📅 October 1 - Nov 27 at 5:30 p.m.
📍 SOBO Art Gallery 127 S. Boyd Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Register here.



Pet Fest

Horizon West Pet Fest brings together pet parents, animal enthusiasts, and our community for a day packed with good vibes and tons of fun! It's the perfect chance to celebrate your pets and connect with fellow animal lovers. Bring your crew, your friends, and of course, your pets. Let's make memories! "Sit, stay, enjoy!"

📅 Oct 17 at 9 a.m.



Blue Hike Kayak Tour - Dora Canal

If you need a rental kayak, please rent your kayak prior to registering.

Launch location: Dora Canal.

Exact meetup information will be emailed the day prior to the event.

📅 Oct 17 at 9 a.m.

📍 **14111 Shoreside Way, Winter Garden**

Learn more here.

📍 **Launch Point: Dora Canal**

Register here.





Walmart pharmacies across Florida will host "The Wellness Event"

On Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., participating Walmart locations will offer:

• Free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screenings.
• Flu shots with no out-of-pocket cost for most insured patients, along with other immunizations.
• Vision screenings at select locations.
• Access to Walmart pharmacists for health and medication questions
As families continue to navigate rising costs, we hope these services can help make preventive care more convenient and accessible in your community.

This year also marks 20 years since Walmart launched its $4 generic prescription program, helping make commonly prescribed medications more affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. The program reflects a commitment that continues today: finding ways to lower barriers to care and help customers better manage their health.

Additionally, Walmart offers Better Care Services, simplifying access to virtual care providers, with some offering discounts on telehealth services.

📆 October 17 at 10:00 a.m.
📍 Find your local participating Walmart here.



Meditative Hike

Join certified instructor Felecia Bryant for a meditative hike. Suitable for all-levels, these sessions are designed to help you slow down and reconnect to your true nature, surrounded by the beauty of the Oakland Nature Preserve.

Relax. Restore. Repeat.

Enrollment: $10 per session

📆 October 25 at 9:15 a.m.
📍 747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL 34760

Register here.



Science Saturday - Awesome Opossum

Celebrate Opossum Appreciation Day at ONP.

Learn about why we love these mammals and you should too!

📆 October 17 at 10:00 a.m.
📍 747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL 34760

Register here.





Halloween Lightshows on City Hall

Enjoy this outdoor Halloween Light Show featuring family-friendly haunting projections onto the front facade of City Hall. The

Halloween Flix at the Garden on Plant

Join the Halloween fun in spirit by visiting the Garden on Plant to see an array of spooktacular films.

📅 **October 20 & 27**
📍 **160 W Plant St.**

Purchase tickets here.

show runs in a continuous loop synchronized to spooky tunes.

Presented by the City of Winter Garden, enjoy six magical nights of this FREE fan favorite show on select Friday and Saturday nights in October (including on Halloween!).

📅 **October 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 & 31**
📍 **Winter Garden City Hall 300 W Plant St**

Learn more here.



Rotary Club of Winter Graden Lunch

Rotary Club of Winter Garden bring local leaders and community-minded people together each week to build relationships, learn about community needs, and coordinate service and charitable efforts that benefit Winter Garden and the surrounding area.

Interested in becoming a member?

Fill out an Application and come have lunch with the Rotary Club of Winter Garden.

Here is the link to the application.

📅 **October 20 & 27**
📍 **Tanner Hall, 30 W Garden Avenue**

Learn more here.

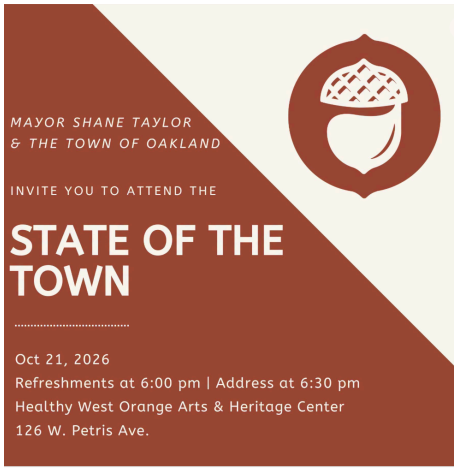


Improv Showcase!

Join Vibrant West Orange and Theatre South Playhouse in Dr. Phillips on October 24 at 2:00 PM for an afternoon of improv, laughter, and unexpected fun! Cheer on our talented performers as they take the stage. Tickets are $10 per person.

📅 **Oct 24 at 2 p.m.**
📍 **Theatre South Playhouse**
The Marketplace at Dr. Phillips
7601 Della Drive, Suite 15
Orlando, FL 32819

Purchase tickets here.



State of the Town of Oakland

State of the Town 2026 is next week, Wednesday October 21. Doors open at 6pm for refreshments and the presentation will begin at 6:30pm at the **Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland**.

📅 **October 21 at 6 p.m.**
📍 **126 W. Petris Ave.**

Learn more here.



Oakland Trunk or Treat!

Oakland friends, join us for Trunk or Treat 2026!

Cars or golf carts that want to pass out treats, please arrive @4:30 so we can safely get everyone parked.

Enjoy an evening of trick-or-treating, music, a food truck, and lemonade stand.

📅 **October 30 at 5 p.m.**
📍 **230 N Tubb St., Oakland**

Learn more here.



Haunted Illusions Starring David Caserta

Featuring jaw-dropping magic, eerie suspense, and audience participation, this high-energy production keeps audiences on the edge of their seats from beginning to end.

📅 **October 22 7:00 p.m.**
📍 **160 W Plant St.**

Purchase tickets here.



Halloween Spooktacular Preeschool event

Put on your favorite costume and join us for a festive morning of Halloween fun! Children will enjoy carnival-style games with prizes, holiday-themed crafts, snacks, and music. Costumes are encouraged!

📅 **October 23 at 10:00 a.m.**
📍 **310 N. Dillard Street Winter Garden, FL 34787**

Learn more here.



Southern Hill Farms Fall Fest

Join us for the 11th Annual Southern Hill Farms Fall Festival, taking place September 26 through November 22 on select Thursdays and every Friday through Sunday, plus Monday, October 12!

Enjoy a day of fall fun on the farm with carnival rides, a corn maze, u-pick flowers, a petting zoo, live music, pumpkins, food trucks, seasonal treats, photo opportunities and more. Admission tickets are required for all guests ages 3 and older and must be purchased online before arrival.

Admission tickets are not sold at the farm. Children 2 and under enter free and do not need a paid admission ticket. However, they must be included in the “Children 2 & Under” section of an accompanying adult’s ticket order. More information and tickets are available here.

📆 **October - November 22**
📍 **Southern Hill Farms - 16651 Schofield Road Clermont, 34714**

Purchase tickets here.



Jack-o-Lantern Trail

Join us for what could be West Orange county's only nighttime Jack-o-lantern hike. Bring your flash lights and lanterns 'cause its dark in them there woods. Want to dress in costume? Go right ahead! Our Sponsors will have trick-or-treat stations in the



Tucker Ranch Holistic Health & Wellness Park and Botanical Garden

Join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, October 23, 2026 at 10:00 am to open the 25.6-acre crown jewel park and gardens to the public. Be one of the first to see and take a tour of Central Florida's new oasis!

The 25.6-acre Tucker Ranch Holistic & Wellness Park and Botanical Garden, Phase II within

parking lot and we will have some not-so-spooky critters out.

📆Oct 23 & 24 at 6:30 p.m.
📍747 Machete Trail, Oakland, Fl 34760

Learn more here.

the 209-acre Tucker Ranch Park and Nature Preserve, is a state-of-the-art wellness sanctuary providing a holistic approach to overall wellness for the community to nourish its mind, body, and spirit.

📆 October 23 at 10:00 a.m.
📍100 Avalon Road, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Learn more here.



Orlando Health Horizon West Hospital: Sip and Screen

You're invited to a Parisian-inspired evening where wellness meets relaxation. We're celebrating women's wellness with a focus on early detection, featuring on-site mammography screenings and information about our comprehensive breast care services.

📆 October 21 at 4 p.m.
📍Main Entrance 17000 Porter Rd. Winter Garden, FL 34787

RSVP here.



Trunk or Treat at TLE Windermere

Get ready for a spooktacular evening of free, family-friendly Halloween fun! 🍬🧡

Bring the whole family and join our TLE community for:

🚗🍭 Trunk-or-Treat
🎨 Face Painting
🎮 Fun Games
🎶 Music
A special visit from Bubbles!

📆Oct 23 at 6 p.m.
📍 The Learning Experience Windermere 6290 Lake Smith Cir Windermere, FL 34786

Learn more here.



Outdoor Zumba Fitness Class

Bring a friend and join us for a complimentary outdoor Zumba fitness class sponsored by AdventHealth Primary Care+



15 Spooktacular Facts About West Orange

Join us at our open house for some fun. We will have pumpkin

Flamingo Crossings. Be among the first to sign-up for this inaugural Zumba class and you'll get a free AdventHealth branded yoga mat, while supplies last!

📆 **October 23 at 9 a.m.**
📍 **AdventHealth Primary Care+ Flamingo Crossings**
153 Sugar Belle Drive, Suite J
Winter Garden, FL 34787

Learn more here.

carving station, snacks, drinks and prizes.

Join the family-friendly fun!

📆 **Oct 26 at 5 p.m.**
📍 **101 W Plant Street**

Learn more here.

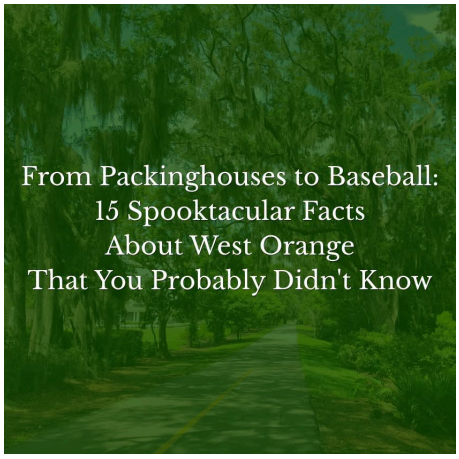


Winter Garden Plant Swap

Bring a plant or two and one for a raffle. Meet plant people chat about plants and enjoy a morning in the park.

📆 **October 24 at 9 a.m.**
📍 **Newton Park, 31 W Garden Avenue**

Learn more here.



15 Spooktacular Facts About West Orange

Museum Director Will McCoy, will present 15 "spook-tacular" facts about West Orange County! In the leadup to Halloween, we will explore a full range of Florida fall activities, from the beginning of the citrus harvest to the final days of the baseball season.

📆 **Oct 29 at 11:30 a.m.**
📍 **21 E Plant Street**

Learn more here.



Trunk or Treat at TLE Horizon West

Join us for a boo-tiful night of costumes, candy, and ‘fang’-tastic fun!

📢 FREE Event! 📢
🎨 Face paint
🎃 Games
🗳️ Pumpkin decorating voting
🎶 Music
🍭 Candy
🎉 Our school mascot, Bubbles, will be there too!!

No tricks here! All are welcome to attend! Current TLE families, future TLE families, prospective TLE families and the entire Horizon West community! Costumes encouraged!

Call or text us if you have any questions! 📱 407-614-3622

We hope to see you and your family there! 😊

📆 **October 24 at 5 p.m.**
📍 **The Learning Experience of Horizon West 9275 Miley Drive, Winter Garden, Florida 34787, US**

Learn more here.



Horizon West Golf Cart Halloween Parade

Get those golf carts decorated because the Horizon West Golf Cart Halloween Parade is rolling through the community!

FREE to enter!
The parade will make its way through several Horizon West communities, including Summerlake, Summerlake Groves, Watermark and Overlook.

🏆 Prizes for 1st, 2nd + 3rd place best decorated carts
🍬 Bring candy to toss along the route
🎃 Deck out your cart in your best Halloween decor
👻 Spooky smiles highly encouraged

📆 **Oct 24 at 7 p.m.**
📍 **Join the Facebook group for exact address and parade route details.**

Learn more here.



Matthew's Hope Garden Party

You're Invited to Matthew's Hope's Annual Fall Fundraiser!

Theme: Garden Party

✨ The evening kicks off with heavy hors d'oeuvres and an exciting auction.

🍽️ Followed by a delicious plated dinner,
🎲 Thrilling games of chance,
🎭 Live entertainment
🕺 Dancing and more!
🍸 Bar beverages available throughout the night & a little sweet treat at the end!

📆Oct 24 at 6 p.m.
📍 125 North Lakeshore Drive Ocoee, FL

Learn more here.



Halloween Pizza Party + Playtime - Play Street in Winter Garden

🎃🍕 Halloween Pizza Party!👻 Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for a spook-tacular time! We'll have fun Halloween activities, lots of PLAY, and PIZZA for the kids!

🍕🕷️Parents, consider dinner handled! 😉 Skip the cooking and enjoy the fun while the kiddos eat, play, and celebrate Halloween with us! We will provide cheese and pepperoni pizza, as well as water or juice. 🎃✨

📆 October 29 & 30 at 5 p.m.
📍Play Street WG - 12107 Stoneybrook West Pkwy, STE 104

Learn more here.



Spooky Caboose

Enter if you dare as the beloved Chessie Caboose turns into a fright zone on Halloween. Climb the steps into the dark recesses of the caboose outside the Winter Garden Heritage Museum to see what family-friendly frights await.



Orlando Halloween Pumpkin Glow Run 5k

There will be treats – along with some tricks. Free to enter, donations appreciated.

📆 **October 31 at 3 p.m.**
📍 **Winter Garden Heritage Museum, 21 E Plant Street**

Learn more here.

Join us for an event that epitomizes the concept of combing Fun and Run into One! October 30, 2026, Orlando transforms into a glowing Halloween playground like no other.

Lace up your sneakers and prepare for an unforgettable evening of spooky fun!

📆 **Oct 30 at 6 p.m.**
📍 **4715 Hamlin Groves Trail, Winter Garden, FL 34787**

Learn more here.



Windermere Spook-tacular

Halloween is just around the corner, and the Town of Windermere is ready to celebrate! Join us Saturday, October 24th for our annual Halloween Hayride & Costume Parade. The fun starts at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall!

📆 **Oct 24 at 9:30 a.m.**
📍 **Windermere Town Hal**

Learn more here.



Veterans Appreciation 5k Fun Run!

Join the American Legion Post 419 for their Veterans Appreciation 5k Fun Run!

This event is free and open to everyone in the community.

Come out and support the community and its veterans!

📆 **November 7 at 8:30 a.m.**
📍 **16016 New Independence Pkwy #100, Winter Garden**

Learn more here.

Upcoming Events in the County



Orlando Pride Parade

Every October, in honor of National Coming Out Day, our community comes together for a day filled with love, visibility, joy, and belonging—a powerful reminder that everyone deserves to live boldly, proudly, and authentically.

With more than 235,000 attendees joining us in 2025, Come Out With Pride has grown into Central Florida's largest single-day event and a vibrant celebration where LGBTQIA+ individuals, families, friends, allies, and community members can experience connection, acceptance, and unapologetic joy.

📅 October 17 at 12:00 p.m.
📍 Lake Eola Park, 512 E Washington St, Orlando

Learn more here.



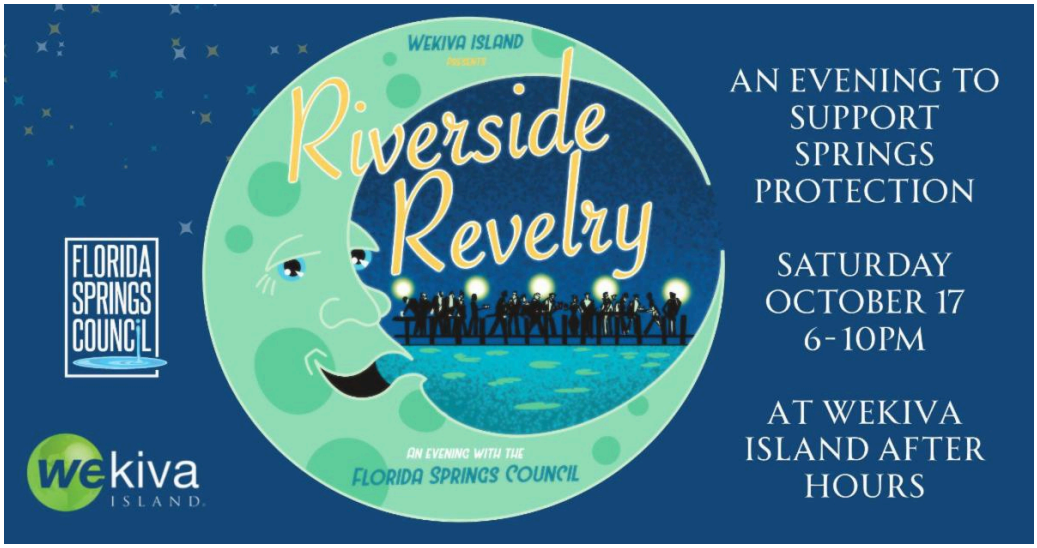
Sensory Sunday: Black Cats & Bats

Black cats and bats are stalking the night – be careful or you might give them a fright! Step into our annual Halloween Sensory Sunday, a sensory-friendly version of the History Center's Trick or Treat Safe Zone. Themed activities and free trick-or-treating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Costumes are encouraged, and trick-or-treat bags will be provided.

Admission for Sensory Sundays is free through the support of Orlando Health Children's.

📅 October 18 at 12 p.m.
📍 Orange County Regional History Center, 65 E Central Blvd

Learn more here.



Florida Springs Council 10 Year Anniversary Celebration

We want to have as many people as we can at our Riverside Revelry to celebrate 10 years of saving our springs together! We've added a new general admission ticket option for the event. Check out our $10 General Entry ticket and join us along the Wekiva River on Oct. 17

The general entry ticket does not include dinner, drinks or raffle tickets. We do still have our Event Ticket Package available, which includes a buffet dinner, two drinks and two raffle tickets.

📆 **October 17 at 6 p.m.**
📍 **Lake Eola Park, 512 E Washington St, Orlando**

Purchase tickets here.



Music and Story Time with Mark Demario, Caravan Learning

Join Mark DeMaio of Caravan learning for a program that is perfect for the youngest of art lovers! We will have a great time exploring visual and musical arts in a percussive sing-along song and story time.

📆 **October 21 at 11 a.m.**
📍 **Menello Museum, 900 E Princeton St**

Learn more here.



Symphony Storytime at Orlando Museum of Art

In this special Symphony Storytime@OMA series, the power of music and the beauty of storytelling are perfectly combined to bring a story to life. Enjoy live music presented by musicians of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra along with narration of the book Hello Lighthouse written and illustrated by Sophie Blackall.

📆 **October 24 at 11:30 a.m.**

📍 **Orlando Museum of Art, 2416 N. Mills Ave. Orlando, FL 32803**

Register here.



Annual Family Fall Festival in the park

Save the Date! Join the fun at this Annual Family Fall Festival. Make plans to stay after for Movie Night in the Park.

Be sure to bring a blanket!

📆 **October 23 at 6:30 p.m.**
📍 **Orlo Vista Park 1 North Powers Drive**

Learn more here.



Isamu Noguchi: Metal the Mirror

On loan from the Art Bridges Foundation, Metal the Mirror is a captivating traveling exhibition showcasing nine of Isamu Noguchi's galvanized steel sculptures from 1982-1983. With their reflective surfaces and evolving patinas, these works delve into themes of duality inspired by Noguchi's personal experience navigating his life as a Japanese American.

📆 **October 1 - February 28, 2027**
📍 **Menello Museum 900 E. Princeton Street Orlando, FL 32803**

Learn more here.



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Join us for a powerful and inspiring morning as we come together to honor survivors and thrivers, celebrate life, and take meaningful steps toward a world without breast cancer.

We're counting down to the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, with health tips from the **American Cancer Society** all month. Join the **Healthy West Orange** team in Downtown Orlando on Oct. 31 as we step up for a great cause!

📆 **October 31 at 7 a.m.**
📍 **Lake Eola Park, 566 E Robinson St, Orlando, FL**

Learn more here.



Barktoberfest

Barktoberfest is the shelter's rescue appreciation event that serves to celebrate the partnership between OCAS and the rescue community.

Many of these pets will be present at Barktoberfest and available for adoption through the individual rescue groups.

📆 **October 25 at 12 p.m.**
📍 **Lake Eola Park**
100 N. Eola Drive, Orlando, FL 32801

Learn more here.



Pilates against Breast Cancer

A culturally inspired wellness experience bringing together movement, music, culture, and community supporting Breast Cancer Awareness

Class start at 9am | Please Bring your own mat !!

📆 **October 31 at 9 a.m.**
📍 **9421 S Orange Blossom Trl ste 20, Orlando, FL**



Pink Sparkling Cocktail

Join us for a meaningful and elegant evening as Sociedad Hispana de Empresarios Corp. a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, through its program Brasier con Propósito, celebrates the program's 5th Anniversary and presents its First Edition in Orlando, Florida.

Learn more here.

Brasier con Propósito supports low-income breast cancer survivors by providing specialized post-mastectomy bras, as well as workshops, training, motivational activities, and empowerment tools designed to strengthen confidence, dignity, self-esteem, and hope throughout their recovery journey.

📆 **October 22 at 6 p.m.**
📍 **Mills Gallery, 1650 N Mills Ave, Orlando, FL 32803**

Learn more here.



Please Join Us for Orange2 Pink: Breast Cancer Awareness Event

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Orange County Government invites you to the **Orange2 Pink** event.

Let's come together to raise awareness, show support for those affected by breast cancer, and learn about the importance of early detection.

📆 **Wednesday, October 21st from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**
📍 **Orange County Administration Building**
201 S Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801



Community Conference

It's time to register for the OCFL Community Conference!

The annual conference offers onsite resource providers, dynamic speakers, and relevant workshop topics for residents, HOAs, community associations, youth, entrepreneurs, and other groups.

Attendees will receive a swag bag with giveaways, event program, light breakfast, snacks, door prizes, and an opportunity celebrate outstanding County residents during the Awards Luncheon. Come learn, connect, and get involved!

Early registration, $10 per person on Eventbrite; $12 on event day

📆 **November 14 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
📍 **Orange County Multi-Cultural Center, 7149 W Colonial Dr.**

Register here.

The Library has a Place for Everyone!



STEAM Junior: Monster Bugs

Junior scientists will explore STEAM concepts to expand their minds and explore the world around them.

Recommended for ages 6-12.



Teen Fiber Arts: Kumihimo

Explore Kumihimo, the Japanese art of braiding unique cords.

Recommended for ages 13-18.

📆**October 16 at 2 p.m.**
📍**Horizon West Branch (Meeting Room 2)**

Registration is required.

Register here.

📆**October 21 at 2 p.m.**
📍**Windermere Branch (Ask at Desk)**

Registration is required.

Register here.



Adult Game Time

Get your game on! Spend a fun afternoon playing games and meeting new friends. From party games to strategic, on a team or on your own, enjoy seeing how the dice roll. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

It's weekly game time! Are you ready for the challenge? Bring your friends and make new ones as you compete in this week's organized game.

📆**October 24 at 3 p.m.**
📍**Horizon West Branch**

Registration is not required.

Learn more here.



Teen Escape Room: Escape Plum Manor

Team up to crack codes, decipher clues, and solve a mystery!

Recommended for ages 13-18.

📆**October 29 at 3 p.m.**
📍**Horizon West Branch (Meeting Room 2)**

Registration is required, and it's filling up fast!

Register here.

Check out OCLS Events

Community Meetings



Special TDT Work Session

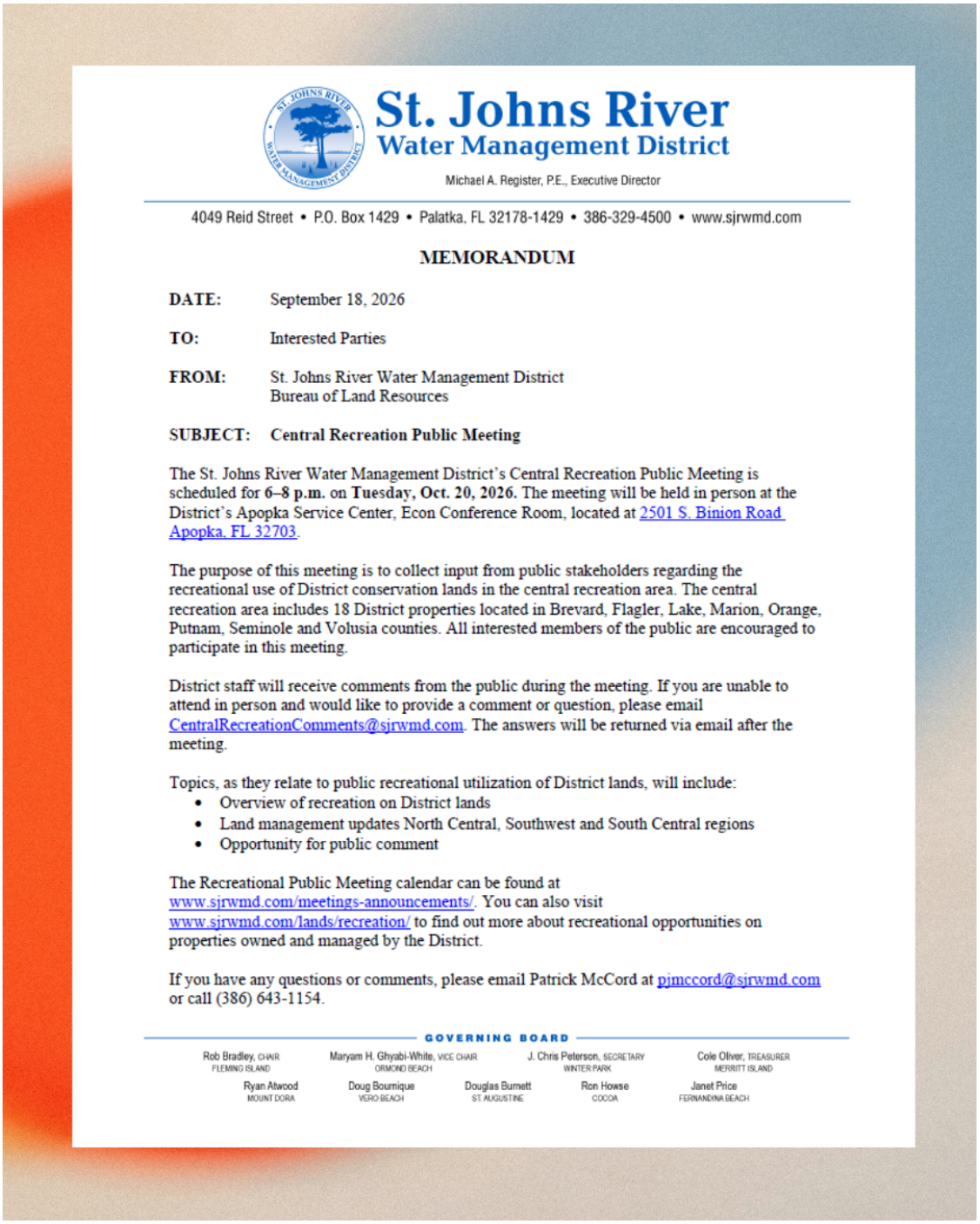
Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings has proposed more than $800 million in Tourist Development Tax (TDT) funding for 13 arts, culture, sports, and tourism-related projects across the county.

The proposal could fund all 12 projects recommended by the county's citizen task force, while also providing $46 million to UCF for an expanded soccer stadium and new track and field complex.

There will be a public comment section!

📆 **October 19 at 12:30 p.m.**
📍 **201 S Rosalind Ave**

Learn more about TDT here.



St. Johns River
Water Management District

Michael A. Register, P.E., Executive Director

4049 Reid Street • P.O. Box 1429 • Palatka, FL 32178-1429 • 386-329-4500 • www.sjrwmd.com

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 18, 2026

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: St. Johns River Water Management District
Bureau of Land Resources

SUBJECT: **Central Recreation Public Meeting**

The St. Johns River Water Management District's Central Recreation Public Meeting is scheduled for **6–8 p.m.** on **Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026.** The meeting will be held in person at the District's Apopka Service Center, Econ Conference Room, located at 2501 S. Binion Road Apopka, FL 32703.

The purpose of this meeting is to collect input from public stakeholders regarding the recreational use of District conservation lands in the central recreation area. The central recreation area includes 18 District properties located in Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Putnam, Seminole and Volusia counties. All interested members of the public are encouraged to participate in this meeting.

District staff will receive comments from the public during the meeting. If you are unable to attend in person and would like to provide a comment or question, please email CentralRecreationComments@sjrwmd.com. The answers will be returned via email after the meeting.

Topics, as they relate to public recreational utilization of District lands, will include:

- Overview of recreation on District lands
- Land management updates North Central, Southwest and South Central regions
- Opportunity for public comment

The Recreational Public Meeting calendar can be found at www.sjrwmd.com/meetings-announcements/. You can also visit www.sjrwmd.com/lands/recreation/ to find out more about recreational opportunities on properties owned and managed by the District.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Patrick McCord at pjmccord@sjrwmd.com or call (386) 643-1154.

GOVERNING BOARD

Rob Bradley, CHAIR, FLEMING ISLAND · Maryam H. Ghyabi-White, VICE CHAIR, ORMOND BEACH · J. Chris Peterson, SECRETARY, WINTER PARK · Cole Oliver, TREASURER, MERRITT ISLAND
Ryan Atwood, MOUNT DORA · Doug Bournique, VERO BEACH · Douglas Burnett, ST. AUGUSTINE · Ron Howse, COCOA · Janet Price, FERNANDINA BEACH

The St. Johns River Water Management District is hosting its Central Recreation Public Meeting next Tuesday!

There is opportunity for public comment!

The purpose of this meeting is to collect input from public stakeholders regarding the recreational use of District conservation lands in the central recreation area. The central recreation area includes 18 District properties located in Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Putnam, Seminole and Volusia counties. All interested members of the public are encouraged to participate in this meeting.

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Topics, as they relate to public recreational utilization of District lands, will include:

• Overview of recreation on District lands
• Land management updates North Central, Southwest and South Central regions
• Opportunity for public comment

📅Tuesday, October 20 at 6 p.m.
📍2501 S. Binion Road Apopka FL 32703

The Recreational Public Meeting calendar can be found here. You can also visit here to find out more about recreational opportunities on properties owned and managed by the District.

ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTICE

Planning, Environmental, & Development Services - Zoning Division

Meeting Information:
Wednesday, October 21, 2026
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Gotha Middle School – Media Center
9155 Gotha Rd.
Windermere, FL 34786

Commission District #1
Nicole Wilson, Commissioner

A property in your community has applied for a Special Exception with the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Please join the District Commissioner, Orange County staff and your neighbors at an in-person community meeting where the applicant will present their request and answer your questions.

Request:
Special Exception in the A-1 zoning district to allow a botanical garden

Case #:	**SE-26-04-012**
Applicant:	Jim Hall for Nehrling Gardens
Address:	2267 Hempel Ave., Gotha, FL 34734
Parcel ID:	33-22-28-3100-08-010
Zoning District:	A-1 (Citrus Rural District)
Tract Size & Location:	+/- 5.99 acres; Located on the east side of Hemple Ave., west side of Lake Nally, north of Morton Jones Rd., south of S. R. 408
Case Planner(s):	Laekin O'Hara (407) 836-5943 Laekin.O'Hara@ocfl.net

SUBJECT PROPERTY LOCATION



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Public hearings for this request will be held before the Orange County Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) and the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). A recommendation from the BZA will be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The scheduled public hearings will be held on the First Floor of the Orange County Administration Center at 201 S. Rosalind Avenue in downtown Orlando, Florida. The public hearings will be advertised in the Orlando Sentinel. Please note that the hearing dates are tentative and are subject to change.

Any party requesting additional information regarding the proposed request should contact the Orange County Zoning Division: 201 S. Rosalind Ave., 1st Floor, Orlando, FL, 32801, (407) 836-8181, or via email at bza@ocfl.net.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact the Orange County Communications Division no later than two (2) business days prior to the proceeding, at 201 S. Rosalind Ave., 3rd Floor. Orlando, FL, (407) 836-6568.

Para más información referente a esta audiencia pública, favor de comunicarse con la División de Zonificacion al número (407) 836-3111.

Pou plis enfòmasyon odyans piblik sa a tanpri kontakté Divizyon Zòn nan nan nimewo (407) 836-3111.

Nehrling Gardens Community Meetings

On Wednesday, October 21 we will be attending a community meeting in the Gotha Middle School Media Center, hosted by the county's Zoning Division to make nearby residents aware of the applicant's request and hear your feedback.

The request is for a Special Exception A-1 zoning district to allow a botanical garden.

📅 Wednesday, October 21
⏰ 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
📍 Gotha Middle School - Media Center, 9155 Gotha Rd. Windermere, FL 34786.

The property is located 2267 Hempel Ave., Gotha FL 34734. For more information visit EngageOrange.

Grant Opportunities



Sustainable Communities Grant

The program permits projects that fulfill the County's goal of creating a sustainable community by reducing electricity and water consumption; restoring ponds and lakes; providing for community garden construction and planting; and hosting educational events with giveaways. Neighborhood organizations are also encouraged to present projects tailored to their specific community.

Deadline: January 7, 2026

Learn more about the grant here.





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.

Nonprofit Safety Grant

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.

Volunteering Opportunities



Help us Fix up the Neighborhood!

Residents of West Orange County, our lovely friends with Neighborhood services is gearing up for a great event called, Fixin' Up The Neighborhood Community Revitalization Day.

Orange County has identified Tildenville for a concentrated revitalization effort, where approximately 14 families and homes have been selected and will receive exterior beautification and needed repairs.

Join us and make a real difference where it matters most.

📆 October 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
📍 Tildenville Park, 202 Shongi Ave, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Parking is be located below.

📍 Tildenville Missionary Baptist Church
233 Massey Ave.
Winter Garden, FL 34787
Senior Pastor Cubit Malone Jr.

Apply to volunteer here.



🌈 Orlando Pride Parade needs Volunteers 🌈

DID YOU KNOW?! PRIDE is powered by VOLUNTEERS!

From the parade to the festival, the stages to the behind-the-scenes magic — our incredible volunteer crew helps make it all happen.

And now… they want YOU!

Come meet the COWP leadership team, learn about volunteer roles, ask questions, meet other volunteers, enjoy some light bites, and find your place on the Pride team!

First-time volunteer? We want you.
Pride pro? We want you too.
Just curious? Come hang out!

COME JOIN THE PRIDE CREW!

Saturday, October 17 at 12 p.m.

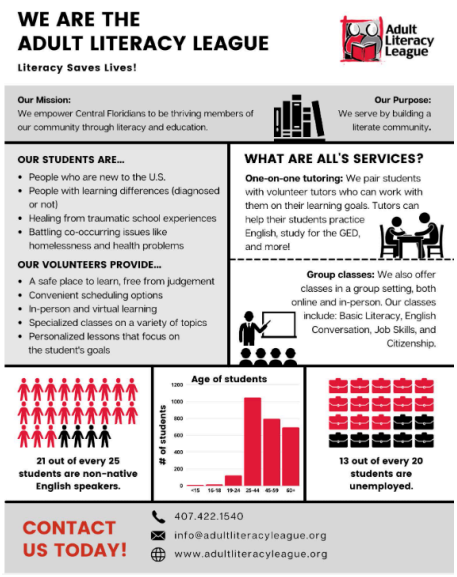
Lake Eola Park, 512 E Washington St, Orlando

Register to volunteer here. 🌈🌈🌈

Lightning Round of Resources



Learn more about the Warm Line for Parents here!



Learn more about the Adult Literacy League here!



Learn more about Cornerstone Family Connections here!



Learn more about the monthly food pantry here!

Community Calendars

ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA
Community Action

MAXEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Monthly Calendar

October 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	2 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	3
5 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	6 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1 pm LIHEAP 8 – 5 pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm Simeon Resource & Development 11 – 4pm	7 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm FIT2Dance 10 – 11am	8 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	9 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	10
12 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	13 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1 pm LIHEAP 8 – 5 pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm Simeon Resource & Development 11 – 4pm	14 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm FIT2Dance 10 – 11am	15 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	16 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	17 Potential Rental
19 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	20 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1 pm LIHEAP 8 – 5 pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm Simeon Resource & Development 11 – 4pm	21 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm FIT2Dance 10 – 11am Movie Day 11am – 2pm	22 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	23 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	24
26 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	27 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1 pm LIHEAP 8 – 5 pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm Simeon Resource & Development 11 – 4pm	28 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm FIT2Dance 10 – 11am	29 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	30 Computer Lab 9 – 4pm Meals on Wheels 10 – 1pm LIHEAP 8 – 5pm Family Self Sufficiency 8 – 5pm	31 Rental



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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