



THORNTON PARK NEWS

Neighborhood Newsletter

Fall 2015

THE THORNTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Association Officers

President - Leo Hunt, 407-316-8640

thorntonparkorl@aol.com

Vice President – Terry Driscoll

Secretary - Betty Wheeler

Treasurer – John Moore

Newsletter Editor – Logan Lamphere

Please email news, kudos, events, or article ideas to llampher@hotmail.com or call 605-490-0732

Website - Margaret Steiner

www.ThorntonPark.org

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

Other Links

Local Businesses:

ThorntonParkDistrict.com

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

Local News:

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

City Historic Preservation:

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

Neighborhood Watch

Info or Volunteer

Call Dee Bendowski

407-843-2616

EVENTS

- **Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**
Monday, November 9, 2015, 7pm, Langford Community Center
- **Wine & Art Walk, every 2nd Thurs**
Thursday, October 8, 6:30pm
Thursday, November 12, 6:30pm
Thursday, December 17, 6:30pm
- **Halloween Block Party**
Saturday, October 31, 8pm-2am, Washington St.
- **General Election**
Tuesday, November 3, 2015
- **Robinson St. Planning Workshop**
Nov 4, 5:30pm 1st Unitarian Church

DISTRICT 4 CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 3

In addition to a mayoral election, there will be a race for our District 4 City Commissioner seat on November 3. Incumbent Patty Sheehan, who has served since 2000, will face opposition from Aretha Olivarez and Randy Ross.



Patty Sheehan has represented District 4 since 2000. She serves as Vice Chair of the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and established some of the first neighborhood horizon planning processes, which led to successful developments like SoDo, Mills Park and Baldwin Park. Patty has worked on restoring the Lake Eola Fountain, expanding Lake Eola Park, extending sidewalk coverage throughout the city, passed the Domestic Partnership legislation, pioneering the urban chicken and community garden programs, and supporting the Orlando's MainStreet Districts. She is the founder and chairperson for Wheels for Kids, which has provided more than 1,000 bicycles to needy elementary and middle school students in Reeves Terrace public housing. Patty graduated from UCF, and was formerly an Administrator with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



Ms. Olivarez is former US Navy, and is a successful small business owner. According to her website, she plans to go after more federal grant and corporate money, if elected, and is a former grant writer. She is an advocate for both for-profit and nonprofit businesses, and has been for many years through her small business, Multiplying Talents International. Aretha believes the biggest issue facing Thornton Park is that "as downtown continues to build high rises, neighborhoods will suffer from tax increases. Most of the new residents will be renters leaving the homeowners with the burden of the property tax increase". She would address this "by having meetings with the associations and asking residents to voice their concerns, and form a coalition of people to address the problems, requesting City Council to vote NO on the items that would negatively affect their neighborhood(s)."



Randy Ross is a public relations professional, and was most recently director of marketing and public relations at the Orlando Museum of Art. Randy has a degree in speech communications and PR from Ball State University, and has been a PR professional in Orlando for 21 years. He also holds a certification in government contract pricing and the GSA procurement process from George Washington University. He has spearheaded crime watch efforts, been involved with the Boys & Girls Clubs, AIDS Walk Orlando, the Chamber of Commerce, Inner City Games Orlando, producer of the "Front Porch Chat" TV show, and is a fiscal conservative. Mr. Ross was arrested for insurance claim fraud earlier this year, but was not convicted. He says he has learned from his mistakes, and now wants to get to the root of the 18% property tax increase, recently passed with help from incumbent Patty Sheehan.

MEET YOUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Mike Miller
State Representative, District 47



Mike Miller of Winter Park was elected just a year ago in 2014, to the Florida House of Representatives. Mr. Miller won a narrow victory over Democratic incumbent, Linda Stewart. After graduating from the University of Florida, he worked for US Senator Connie Mack, and later US Representative Ric Keller. After working on Bill McCollum's unsuccessful 2004 US Senate campaign, Mike worked as a consultant in business development, serving as the Business Development Officer at CNLBank and becoming the Director of Development and the Director of Marketing and Corporate Sponsorship of Athletics at Rollins College. Mr. Miller also received his MBA from Rollins College. Mike is on the Health Quality, Justice Appropriations, K-12, and Transportation & Ports Committees. He and his wife Nora, and their two children are active members of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Winter Park.

OFFICER KAREN LONG

1974 - 2015



Officer Karen Long, who was Thornton Park's Community Liaison Officer, lost her battle with breast cancer on October 10th. She will be greatly missed.

ROBINSON STREET CORRIDOR STUDY

The City of Orlando, along with FDOT, is creating a study for multimodal use and safety of Robinson Street, which borders our neighborhood to the north. A public input session will be held November 4 at the First Unitarian Church at 1901 E Robinson at 5:30pm. Comments can also be made at: <http://maps.kittelson.com/RobinsonStreet>.



The annual Come Out With Pride Orlando parade, sponsored by Macy's, went through Thornton Park on October 10. Thousands lined the parade route and attended the festival and fireworks at Lake Eola. Pictured is Walt Disney World Resort's parade entry.

HISTORIC HOME BEING REFURBISHED

After two arson attacks in June of 2014, the wooden house at 907 E Washington St is under renovation. According to the Historic Board application, David Beeler is renovating the home, restoring the front porch, and adding about 600 square feet of living space in the rear. The house, built prior to 1921, is a contributing structure to the Lake Lawsona Historic District, but the garage was not, and it has been demolished to make way for a new two car garage that will have a 630 square foot apartment above it.



HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Hyer Avenue is named after the family of livery stable owner Augustus M. Hyer. Mr. Hyer also appears to have been involved in construction, building the county's fourth courthouse at 65 E Central Blvd in 1875, and the White Building at 200 S Orange Ave, home of White's General Supplies Store. (From A Guide to Historic Orlando by Steve Rajtar)