



Mind Your Manor

ORWIN MANOR WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION – Serving Orwin Manor Westminster since 1983

No. 3 Summer 2025

The Sounds of Our Streets: A Neighborhood Symphony

President's Report by Stephen Pategas

Our neighborhood which comprises 355 houses is well located with superb access to roadways, SunRail, Amtrak, shopping, restaurants, and health care. Our shaded sidewalks are also ideal for walking. The variety of architectural styles provides much eye candy. Depending upon where you walk or live and your type of house construction and type of windows, you are introduced to many sounds that come with a relatively in-close urban environment.

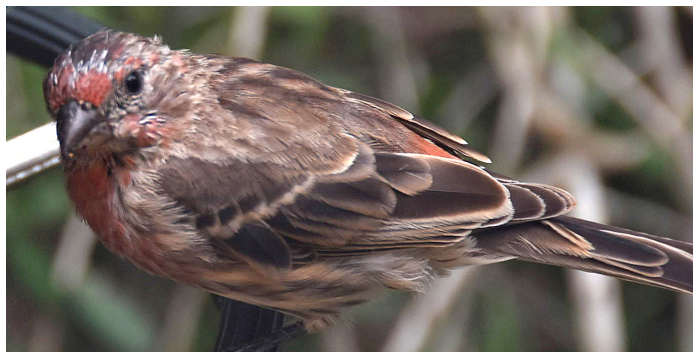
Can you tell the difference between SunRail, Amtrak, and freight by the sound they make? With “quiet zones” now in place, fortunately the train crossing bells have replaced the whistle blasts that were regularly heard from one-half a mile or more away. Helicopters from AdventHealth are less frequent now that the main heliport is no longer at the main campus on Orange Avenue.



Orange Avenue traffic noise is reduced due to only two travel lanes and a lower speed limit. The whine of revved up motorcycles at night racing on Interstate 4 are a reminder that the police can't be everywhere. Flight patterns for airplanes from OIA usually place them at a high altitude over our houses while to the east they make outdoor living uncomfortable for thousands of residents. That's another reason to praise our location.

Listen for the St. John Lutheran Church bells, late evening theme park fireworks, and announcements from Rollins College's Harper's Field especially when the breeze is blowing southwest. The breeze may also tease the olfactory sense when Krispy Kreme has hot donuts cooking. Two recent concerts at Camping World stadium when the cloud cover was low brought the heavy and lethal sounding bass notes into our homes as many were trying to doze off.

In spite of all of this man-made noise from an urban environment, our heavy tree canopy and gardens provide habitat for creatures that bring the generally soothing sounds of nature. Chattering squirrels, perhaps a coyote, and bird songs from northern cardinals, mockingbirds, woodpeckers (including tapping), Carolina wrens, owls, mourning doves, osprey, hawks, crows, titmice, finches, and more.



Let these sounds lead your feet as you explore where these sounds are being generated.

Listen for the finches and squirrels that can be heard in our neighborhood.

We're excited to welcome six incredible Sponsors to the Orwin Manor Westminster Association Neighborhood! A warm thank you to Home Boys | Serhant, Delaney Crosscountry Mortgage, Advent Health, McLaren Orlando, Commerce Bank & Trust, and Demetree Global for supporting our community. Their partnership helps us continue building a vibrant, connected neighborhood we're proud to call home.

Mind Your Manor

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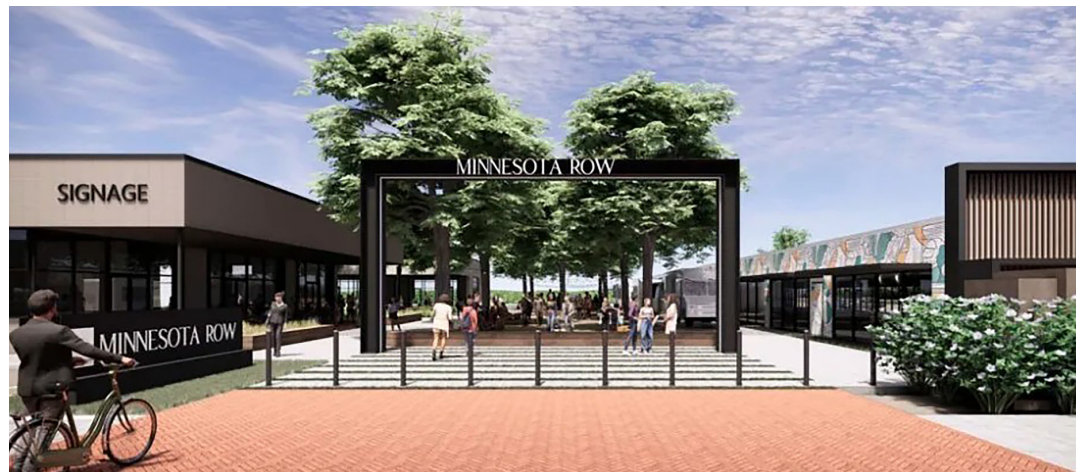
Deadlines

Winter: February 1

Spring: May 1

Summer: August 1

Autumn: November 1



Artist rendering of the Winter Park Business Center renovation.

Minnesota Row

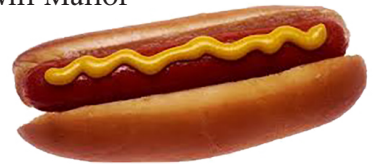
The Winter Park Business Center is in the process of being renovated with a significant transformation into a walkable, 18-hour mixed-use destination. Newly branded as Minnesota Row, it is slated to open fully in early 2026.

You may have driven through a portion of it on trips to and from Publix in Holianna Shopping Center which is to the east. It is within easy walking distance of our neighborhood.

The multi-million-dollar renovation will include façade, landscaping, and green-space improvements throughout, the addition of a central pedestrian gathering place in the heart of the project, as well as delivering restaurant, retail, and creative office space. It will remain composed of single-story structures.

Neighborhood Bits

- The Oktoberfest/Potluck event in The Park at Orwin Manor is Sunday, October 12, starting at 4:30pm. OMWA will provide brats, hotdogs, condiments, refreshments, and paper goods. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and chair so you can linger and chat with neighbors. We will also have Good Neighbor Week activities.



- Have you signed? We have reached almost 350 signatures. The Orwin Manor Westminster Association has reached out to the City of Winter Park to rebuild the two northern arches demolished decades ago. Please go online to <https://chnng.it/2TN4Lx-CZBT> and sign the OMWA petition requesting the gateway arches be rebuilt. Bre-elle Ishtar remembers seeing the missing gates in the early 1970s when she and her hus-

Continued on page 3.

About OMWA

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association (OMWA) founded in 1983, offers the best of two worlds – a neighborhood association with voluntary membership but without the rules, regulations, or assessments of a homeowners' association. If our neighborhood was within an HOA, every household

would be assessed mandatory fees. Many volunteers contribute their time and energy to improve our neighborhood. OMWA advocates with municipalities and is responsible for launching The Park at Orwin Manor, creating the bronze identity signs, hosting events, and researching our history.

2025 OMWA Events Calendar

Oktoberfest/Potluck – Sunday, Oct. 12, 4:30 pm

Great Pumpkin Judging – Thursday, Oct. 16, after 6pm

Witches Walk – Friday, Oct. 31, 6:30 pm-8 pm

Orwin Manor Aglow – Monday, Dec. 8 after 6, (Most Traditional, Most Creative, Most Lights)

Luminaries – Wednesday, Dec. 24, rain date Dec. 25, 6 pm

Annual Meeting 2026 – Tuesday, Jan. 13, 7-9 pm at Commerce Bank & Trust

Upcoming Neighborhood Gatherings

Join us at the historic clubhouse at Dubsdread Golf Course, 549 West Par Street, Orlando every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. We reserve the long high-top table adjacent to the bar in the Taproom.

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, August 13, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, September 10, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, October 8, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, November 12, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 10, 5:30 pm

Board Meeting Dates

Third Tuesday, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm unless otherwise noted

Tuesday, September 16

Tuesday, November 18

Tuesday, January 20

Please join us! Call 407-622-4886 for the locations or to place an item on the agenda.

The E-News (typically sent out once or twice a month) moved to a MailChimp platform which provides more flexibility. We promise you will not want to opt out. So far, we reach about one-third of our neighbors. What are two-thirds of you missing? Sign up at <https://orwinmanor.org/omw>.

From page 2.

band first arrived in our neighborhood. Does anyone else remember them flanking Orange Avenue just south of Orlando Avenue?

- Has your painted house number on the driveway flares worn out? Call David Kirk at 904-921-1001. Help emergency vehicles, package deliverers, and visitors find your house.

- In July, Ginger Gadsen, anchor of the News 6



Team reported on registered historic houses in Orwin Manor Westminster and interviewed historic house owner Tanya Glatt of 1412 Canterbury Road. Tanya showed off her beautifully remodeled interior and shared that as long

as the front exterior looks original the requirements for historic designation are met. Ginger also interviewed Allison McGillis the Winter Park Planning & Zoning Director who explained how the matching grant process for historic houses works.

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Noteworthy Events

The City of Orlando is offering free street trees to residents. You can request a free tree until August 31.

Live Oak



Illustration © Robert O'Brien



Japanese Blueberry



Illustration © Robert O'Brien

Bald Cypress



Illustration © Robert O'Brien

Bottlebrush



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Tabebuia

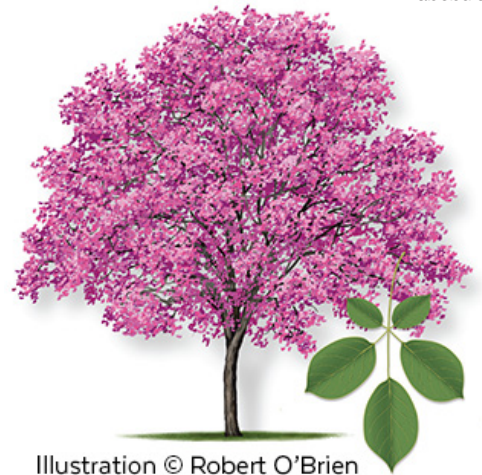


Illustration © Robert O'Brien

Help Build Orlando's Tree Canopy

The City of Orlando is offering free street trees to residents. You can request a free tree until August 31. They will be planted between December and February. Choices this year include a variety of small, medium and large trees. Small trees such as Bottlebrush, Japanese Blueberry, Eagleston Holly and Native Dahoon Holly, can be planted under power lines or if you have a narrow right-of-way. Medium and Large trees can be planted if there are no overhead power lines or if your right-of-way is at

least six feet wide. Medium trees include yellow tabebuia, winged elm, crape myrtle and olive trees. Large trees this year include bald cypress, bluff oak, live oak, pink tabebuia, American sycamore and Nuttall oak. The city will plant the tree while you care for it. Tree care instructions are provided.

Learn more and apply at Orlando.gov/Parks-the-Environment/Trees/Request-a-Free-Street-Tree

Kudos

• To Donovan Myrie on Devon on joining the Friends of Casa Feliz Board.

• To those who pay dues to keep us operational - thank you - and please consider rounding up the amount to cover the PayPal fee. Dues payments are not taxed and are critical for us.

Continued on page 7.

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Neighborhood Pro by OMA board member and Orange County Master Gardener Penny Potter

People are always in search of “no care” plants, to make their gardening lives easier. Alas, there’s no such thing – all living things need at little care. Among “low care” plants, the Bromeliad family of plants, is one of the most varied and interesting. There are approximately 3000 species, native to North & South America, with an additional 6000 hybrids and cultivars. More than half are epiphytes – (tillandsias) growing on trees, the other half are terrestrial – growing in the ground. Tillandsias are not harmful to their hosts, as they are not parasitic. Some have vibrantly colored leaves; others have stunning blooms that can last for several months. Because bromeliads get most of their food and water from their leaves, and not roots, they are easy to care for. They need little fertilizer or supplemental

water to what they get from the air. Most grow in shade to part shade, but there are a few that can take full sun, and some will change leaf color when moved from shade to sun. They produce “pups” from the base of the plant, which after a several months, can be separated from the mother plant and planted or mounted on a tree as new plants. As always, know what you’re buying! Make sure there is a label on your new bromeliad, and if not, try to get as much information on it from the seller, or the person gifting it to you. For more info on caring for bromeliads, this is a good source: bromeliads/ifas.ufl.edu.

As always, for more info on gardening, go to solutions-foryourlife.com or ifas.ufl.edu or call the Orange County Master Gardener plant clinic at 407-254-9200.

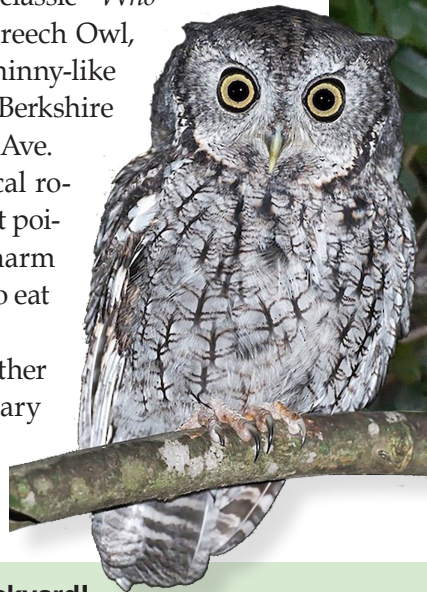
In The Neighborhood

HAVE YOU HEARD FROM OUR ORWIN MANOR OWLS?

This is a bit of a well-being check. Our neighborhood owls, long-time residents of Orwin Manor, haven’t been as active lately, and we’re hoping they’re still around. A Barred Owl has been known to frequent Canterbury Rd. near Penny Potter’s house, recognized by its classic “*Who cooks for you?*” call. An Eastern Screech Owl, smaller and known for its soft whinny-like call, has been seen and heard near Berkshire and Westchester, closer to Orange Ave.

Both owls help control the local rodent population. If you’re using rat poison, please be aware that it can harm or kill owls and other animals who eat the poisoned rodents.

If you’ve heard or seen either owl recently, please text or call Mary Soule at 407-790-0866. Let’s help keep an eye on our feathered neighbors.



Below at left is an Eastern Screech Owl. At right is a Barred Owl, photo courtesy of Mary Piercy.

Discover the Birds in Your Backyard!

Ever wonder what bird is singing in your trees or visiting your feeder? The Merlin Bird ID app, developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, makes it easy and fun to identify birds by sight or sound right from your phone. Just snap a photo or record a song, and Merlin will suggest matches instantly. It’s free, easy to use, and a great way to connect with nature right here in our neighborhood. Give it a try and see who’s flying through your yard!

An advertisement for the Merlin Bird ID app. It features a smartphone screen displaying the app's interface with a bird photo and a list of suggestions including "Common Yellowthroat", "House Wren", and "Tree Swallow". To the right of the phone is a photograph of a yellowthroat bird perched on a branch. Below the phone is a QR code and the text "Download for free!". The Merlin logo is in the bottom right corner.

Around The Corner

Winter Park has installed seven new rapid electric vehicle chargers at its freshly minted “mobility hub” on West Morse Boulevard, right next to the SunRail station. Designed to support more sustainable transportation, the new setup replaces a single slow charger that once served the area. City officials say two additional chargers for electric scooters and e-bikes will be added to the hub soon. The new mobility hub is part of Winter Park’s broader push for greener, more connected travel options.



Yard Of Distinction

Visit <https://orwinmanor.org/programs/>

Congratulations to Sandra & Gio Montano at 1721 Westchester for earning the July/August Yard of Distinction.

From page 5.

- To Scott Bowers for volunteering to deliver newsletters to Suffolk Road residents and for John Courson and Laura Turner becoming back-up deliverers.
- To the neighbors who searched for an elderly neighbor when she took a walk to Publix that lasted far longer than expected. There was a happy ending.
- To those who are storing their trash toters out of sight from the street.

McLaren
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Orwin Manor Membership 2025

It's easy to become a 2025 Orwin Manor Westminster Association Member. Thanks to all of our existing and new members for supporting our neighborhood events and newsletter. OMWA dues fund our events, this newsletter, our P.O. Box, and so much more. Our dues are only \$35 per year. If you would like to join, simply scan the QR code below or mail a check to Orwin Manor Westminster Association, P.O. Box 2367, Winter Park, FL 32790-2367, or pay online at www.orwinmanor.org, under resources tab select membership. Contact us at <https://orwinmanor.org/contact> with any questions.

Please see a hand delivered copy for the list of paid members. Thank you.



It's Easy to Become an OMWA Member!

Scan the QR code at left, make your \$35 payment, and consider a donation.
Please note what payment is for.

Not Getting the OMWA E-News? Visit <https://orwinmanor.org/omwn/>



What Are Those Silver Poles on Park Avenue?



If you've noticed the large shiny silver poles at the entrances of Park Avenue from Fairbanks and Webster, don't worry, they're not permanent. Starting late August, the north-end poles will be transformed into a historic gateway sign, with the south end following in late September. These new signs will celebrate downtown Winter Park's heritage, which was officially recognized in 2011 when the area was added to the National Register of Historic Places.