

THE FLOW

May 2026
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EDITION

NUCA OF NORTH FLORIDA, INC.



Upcoming Events

May 14th - Next Man Up Training

May 19th-20th - Washington DC Summit

May 27th - Young Professional
Networking Event

June 15-19 - Trench Safety Stand Down

July 9th - Scholarship Night

July 16th-18th - NUCA Florida
Conference

August 22 - Fishing Tournament

Sept 24th-25th - NUCA FL President's
Cup

Oct 21 - Young Professional Networking
Event

Nov 3 - Clay Shoot

Nov 19 - Top Golf Event

Nov 12th - 14th - NUCA FL Bass
Tournament

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NUCA
REPRESENTING UTILITY & EXCAVATION CONTRACTORS
NORTH FLORIDA

Presidents Message

May Flow Presidents Letter

Dear NUCA Members and Friends,

May is here, bringing longer days and a renewed sense of momentum. As the season picks up and business continues to find its footing, let's lean into the challenges and come out stronger and wiser on the other side.

Scholarship enrollment remains open. If you're interested in applying, please reach out to Jennifer via email for more information. We're aiming for a record number of applications this year and for many years to come.

Our Golf Tournament saw strong participation and great engagement across the board. A round of applause goes to the Core & Main team for beating out all the weekend warriors. We wrapped up the month with a good turnout at the Catty Shack Family Event this past Saturday. In light of his absence, I've officially nominated Tony Zebouni as our new Tiger Feeding Chairman.

Let this summer be defined by resilience, humility, and continued support for one another.

As always, please know that if there is anything NUCA of North Florida can do to support you or your company, don't hesitate to reach out.

Best Wishes



Alvaro A Rios
Vice President
T.G. Utility Company, Inc.
nucanf@gmail.com

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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The Law and Your Business

The Law and Your Business - Escrow Agents Tony Zebouni, Lindell & Zebouni, P.A.

Many of you are familiar with Escrow Agreements. How the agreement works and who pays for any expenses related to payments under the escrow agreement was litigated in a recent case.

This case involved a failed residential real estate transaction, the Escrow Agent sought recovery of its attorney fees from the escrow deposit.

The standard purchase and sale contract between Buyers and Seller provided that the contract was contingent upon Buyers obtaining financing within thirty days of the agreement's effective date. The contract further required Escrow Agent to refund the escrow deposit to Buyers if, prior to the expiration of this thirty-day period, (1) Buyers were unable to obtain financing after the exercise of diligent effort, and (2) Buyers timely provided written notice to Seller of their inability to obtain financing and their election to terminate the contract. The Buyers were unable to obtain financing within the thirty-day period and that Buyers timely provided the required written notice to Seller. Buyers, therefore, were entitled to the return of their \$15,000 escrow deposit. The Escrow Agent claimed that it was still entitled to be paid its attorney's fees from the escrow deposit.

The contract authorized Escrow Agent to interplead funds and have its attorney's fees paid from the escrow deposit, but only if there were competing demands for the deposit or Escrow Agent had a "good faith doubt" as to entitlement to the deposit. Escrow Agent submitted no affidavits from Seller or the real estate agents involved in the transactions, no copies of any communications evidencing competing demands, and no other evidence that supported Escrow Agent's alleged "good faith" in not honoring the contract's plain and unambiguous provisions governing return of the escrow deposit.

The escrow agent or his/her attorney did not have evidence to overcome the language in the agreement stating that all proceeds would be paid to the Buyer. It is important to read the terms and conditions of any agreement you sign to determine what fees can be paid from the deposit. If you don't like the terms of an agreement, don't be afraid to negotiate better terms

THE FIRM LAW GROUP, INC. v. MIREYA CORDERO,



Industry News and Advocacy

Highway Bill Introduction This Spring

The House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over Federal surface transportation programs continue to develop legislation to reauthorize these programs, which expire on September 30, 2026. NUCA's government affairs team has learned that committee leaders are working with Congressional leadership to negotiate top-line funding level for the multi-year highway bill, which is the largest infrastructure bill Congress considers.

The House T&I Committee Chairman Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) continues to work for introduction of a bill in late April. Senate Environment and Public Works Chair Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) recently acknowledged that while she shares Chairman Graves's desire to complete the legislation before the programs expire, it may be difficult to hit the Sept. 30, 2026, deadline. Given the size and complexity of the bill, it is possible that lawmakers may not pass the bill until after it expires on Sept. 30, requiring an extension.

Washington Summit, May 19-20: Make Your Mark In Congress

This is the year to come to Washington, D.C. and introduce your business and your Chapter to your lawmakers! Our legislative agenda is moving this year within the surface transportation bill and State Revolving Fund reauthorization, accompanied with other industry priorities. It's easy to attend: Your Chapter will arrange your meetings with lawmakers, and we'll provide the briefing materials. Capitol Hill Day will be Wednesday, May 20. Our headquarters hotel will be located this year at the Holiday Inn Capitol Hill, 550 C St. SW, Washington, DC 20024.

If you haven't attended a Washington Summit, this is the year! Attendees can also enjoy a Night Out with Washington Nationals baseball on May 19 (they're playing the N.Y. Mets, with the game an additional \$25 per person). Summit registration is now open at **WeDigAmerica.org**.



Association News

Your NUCA membership delivers business benefits that will help your bottom line. Are you or your employees taking advantage of them?

Safety & Damage Prevention Conference: Registration Now Open, Sept. 15-18

Don't miss your chance to join the industry's top safety professionals at the NUCA Safety & Damage Prevention Conference, September 15-18, 2026, at the iconic Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. Immerse yourself in three powerful days of timely discussions designed to tackle the real challenges facing utility construction today. The agenda features critical sessions on transportation accidents, risk management, mental health in the workplace, the latest OSHA updates, emergency preparedness, rethinking trench safety (presented with NUCA National Partner United Rentals), a compelling panel on drugs in the industry, and a fresh 811 update.

This year's conference shines a spotlight on the most pressing safety and damage prevention issues impacting our industry. You'll gain actionable insights, practical strategies, and fresh ideas to strengthen safety practices and reduce incidents back at your company. Connect and recharge during two dynamic networking events, including the prestigious STAR Award presentation. Whether you're looking to stay ahead of regulations, protect your team, or drive real improvement in damage prevention, this is the must-attend event of the year. Register today at nuca.com/safety-damage-prevention-conference/ and secure your spot in Louisville!

NUCA Assurance: Get more control over your business insurance program

Join like-minded NUCA contractors who have taken control of their claims, managed their risk, and secured better, more focused insurance services for their businesses. NUCA Assurance is a construction-focused group captive owned by NUCA members and designed by insurance experts to deliver the claims control and risk-management support smart construction business owners need. This cost-effective association benefit helps your company purchase workers' compensation, general liability, and auto liability insurance. Find out how to get more control over your utility construction company's insurance needs by starting at NUCAAssurance.com.



Association News

NUCA Benefits: The expanded NUCA Advantage member benefits program

Your NUCA membership investment can deliver benefits far in excess of its cost -- but only if you ask your human resources office to explore what it offers. Start by forwarding this document to them and ask them to check out NUCA Advantage. Our online portal leads to expanded health care benefits options for your company, as well as payroll, wellness, compliance, benefits administration, 401K programs, online training, OSHA logs and a wealth of free HR benefits available only to NUCA members.

Find our expanded NUCA Advantage benefits program at www.NUCAAdvantage.com.

NUCA Benefits: Why NUCA Members Should Rethink Their 401(k) Strategy

Managing a 401(k) plan often creates more work than it should especially for NUCA members already stretched thin. That's why NUCA has now partnered with Voya, AMP Administrator, and Greenline Wealth Management to create the Voyager 401(k) Pooled Employer Plan (PEP), built specifically for utility contractors and their employees.

Voyager simplifies plan administration by pooling multiple NUCA companies into a single structure unlocking access to economies of scale and service. Greenline also conducts a no-cost benchmarking review for NUCA members to identify savings and help reduce fiduciary liability through full outsourcing. Whether you're offering a plan today or considering one for the first time, Voyager offers a compliant, cost-effective solution designed around your construction business. Schedule your free plan review today by calling 561-405-6609 (option 7), or email info@greenlinewm.com.

SAFETY NEWS



lifa Barr, Chair, NUCA Safety Directors Forum.

May Safety Article: As we move into May, the weather starts heating up, and so do the risks on our jobsites. Warmer temperatures can lead to fatigue, dehydration, and reduced focus, all of which increase the chances of accidents. Make it a priority to stay hydrated throughout the day—don't wait until you feel thirsty. Take short breaks when needed, especially when working in direct sunlight or inside equipment without proper ventilation. Remember, heat-related illnesses can sneak up fast, so look out for warning signs in yourself and your crew.

With longer days and increased workloads, it's easy to rush tasks to stay on schedule. That's when mistakes happen. Stay disciplined with your daily routines—complete your equipment inspections, follow proper trenching and excavation procedures, and always wear the required PPE. Shortcuts might save a few minutes, but they can cost much more in the long run. Keep communication strong on-site so everyone understands the plan and potential hazards before work begins.

May is also a great time to refocus on situational awareness. Whether you're operating heavy equipment, working around moving vehicles, or performing manual labor, always stay alert to your surroundings. Watch for changing conditions like unstable ground, overhead hazards, or nearby crew members. A safe jobsite depends on everyone looking out for each other. Let's make safety a daily habit—not just a requirement.



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Builders Risk & Underground Work: What to Know

Builders Risk policies are essential for construction projects, but underground work often falls into coverage gray areas. Standard policies are built for above-ground exposures, so it's important to understand where gaps may exist.

What's Covered?

Typical coverage includes materials, equipment, and structures during construction for risks like fire or theft. However, underground elements such as piping, foundations, and excavation are often limited or excluded.

Why It Matters

Underground work brings added risks like soil movement, water intrusion, and limited visibility. Because of this, insurers frequently require special endorsements to extend coverage. Without them, damage below ground may not be insured.

Real-World Examples

- A newly installed pipe shifts due to soil settling coverage may be denied without proper wording.
- Excavation damages nearby utilities often excluded under standard terms.
- Water intrusion or trench collapse impacts installed systems before completion.

Bottom Line

Don't assume underground work is automatically covered. A quick policy review and the right endorsements can help avoid costly surprises and keep your project protected from the ground down.

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NUCA NORTH
FLORIDA

NEXT MAN UP TRAINING SURVEY CLASS

RESCHEDULED
THURSDAY, MAY 14TH

We are hosting a learning session focused on the basic fundamentals of reading civil construction plans. This class will cover key topics such as understanding drawing indexes, identifying existing versus proposed grades, interpreting drawing scales and stationing, reviewing detail sheets, and calculating slopes for sewer and storm installations.

After the classroom portion of the session, we will move outside for a hands-on exercise where participants will set up and break down a level, take grade shots, and calculate elevations. This practical portion is designed to help reinforce the concepts covered during the class.

RSVP TO
NUCANF@GMAIL.COM

Class size is limited. Reserve your spot! Pizza will be served.

At 6:00pM – 8:00 PM

AJ Johns Training Room
3225 Anniston Road
Jacksonville, FL 32246

904-296-1230

nucanf@gmail.com



**Join Us for a Fun Night of Jacksonville
Jumbo Shrimp Baseball!**

Game Date: Thursday, May 7th

Where: VyStar Ball Park, 301 A. Phillip Randolph Blvd

Picnic Area Access: 6PM

Food Service: 6-7:30pm

Game Start: 7:05pm

PRICING

Tickets Only (non picnic): \$17.50

Tickets & Picnic Area: \$38.00 Includes all you can eat hot dogs, hamburgers, cookies, soda & water

Tickets Only # _____

Tickets & Picnic # _____

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2026 NUCA NORTH FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIPS

Now Open!

NUCA NF is now accepting
applications for our
2026 Scholarships

Three \$5000 Scholarships!!!!

Who Is Eligible?

- High School Seniors
- College & Trade School Students
- Sons/Daughters of NUCA NF Members



**\$5000 New This Year - The Michael Woodall
Scholarship**



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\$5000 Mike Allen Scholarship

APPLY NOW!

For Eligibility Requirements & Application go to www.nucanf.com

“Scholarship Application”. Questions? Contact *Jen*:

nucanf@gmail.com. Application Deadline is June 4th, 2026.



NUCA OF FLORIDA CHRISTMAS IN JULY CONFERENCE



JULY 16TH - 18TH, 2026

HYATT REGENCY CLEARWATER BEACH

Event Overview

Celebrate Christmas in July at beautiful Clearwater Beach with the perfect blend of industry connection and beachside fun. Festivities begin Thursday with Committee and Board meetings followed by an evening Welcome Reception, and conclude Saturday night with a festive “Holiday” themed dinner, scholarship awards, and dancing with a DJ.

Construction Industry

Forum – Friday

Friday’s Construction Industry Forum delivers timely insight with presentations on OSHA, AI in construction, and legislative updates, plus an engaging industry panel discussion and an inspiring keynote leadership speaker—designed to inform, engage, and energize industry professionals.

BOOK YOUR ROOM



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NUCA NF

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



2026 NUCA NF GOLF TOURNAMENT

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We Could Not Do This Without You... You're Support is Greatly Appreciated!

WINNERS

1ST PLACE - CORE & MAIN
2ND PLACE - ECS
3RD PLACE - JOHN WOODY INC

CONGRATULATIONS





Special Shout Out to Valinda Krynicky - United Rentals Trench Safety, Molly Berry - Duval Asphalt and Tricia Milliken - ETM for volunteering your time to help out. Thanks So Much!

CATTY SHACK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



JUNE IS TRENCH SAFETY MONTH!

Safety Training and Protective Systems Save Lives



Trench Safety Stand Down Week | June 15–19, 2026

Make plans for your company to participate in the 2026 NUCA Trench Safety Stand Down (TSSD) Week. Being a part of our popular 10th annual TSSD Week will help educate your employees on trenching hazards at the jobsite.

OSHA's National Emphasis Program on Trenching and Excavation is a high agency priority. Sponsored this year by NUCA National Partners United Rentals and Sunstate Equipment Co., NUCA and OSHA have teamed up for our annual trench safety program. More than 24,200 employees on 461 jobsites from 330 companies participated in the 2025 TSSD.

Every company or organization that holds a TSSD will receive a certificate of participation, as well as hard-hat stickers for every employee who participated. Recognition will also be given in NUCA publications. Please plan for your company to be a part of this vital industry safety event this year.

2026 TSSD Sponsored By



For more details and TSSD materials: nuca.com/tssd #TSSD26 #TrenchSafetyMonth



26TH ANNUAL ANDREW SCOTT JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION BASS TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE



HEADWATERS LAKE

16955 Fellsmere Grade Rd.,
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NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 2026



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Call 772-388-8588 to make
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