

July 2026

NUCA NORTH FLORIDA, INC

THE FLOW



Upcoming Events

July 9 - Scholarship Night

July 16-18 - NUCA Florida Conference

August 22 - Fishing Tournament

Sept 24-25 - NUCA FL President's Cup

Oct 21 - Young Professional Networking Event

Nov 3 - Clay Shoot

Nov 19 - Top Golf Benefit for Seamark Ranch

Nov 12-14 - NUCA FL Bass Tournament

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**Scholarship/General Membership
Meeting**

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NUCA NF Annual Fishing Tournament

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NUCA State Conference

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NUCA FL Bass Tournament

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Dear NUCA Members and Friends,

Half a year has gone by, and the back half is shaping up to be a great one. Summer vibes are up as we all hopefully get to spend time with our families and make new memories to fall back on during the busy times ahead. Keep digging deep, as we work for better days.

I invite all of you to join us for our annual Scholarship Night on July 9, where we will recognize three outstanding students. It's a wonderful opportunity to congratulate these deserving recipients, learn about their goals, and share your knowledge and experiences from our industry.

Next Saturday, we will come together as one nation and celebrate a milestone in our Country's young existence. I hope you find time to reflect on how truly blessed we are to live in the United States of America.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Scholarship Night. Have a safe, enjoyable, and meaningful Independence Day with your family and friends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alvaro A. Rios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Alvaro A Rios

Vice President

T.G. Utility Company, Inc.

nucanf@gmail.com

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The Law and Your Business- Agreements with a Governmental Entity
Anthony B. Zebouni, Lindell & Zebouni, P.A.

In a recent reported case, the South Seas Resort District (SSRD) is a zoning in Florida. The County created the district in a 1973 zoning resolution, on the application of the South Seas Resort developer. The resolution limited the district's development density to three dwelling units per acre. In 2002, the County issued an administrative interpretation finding that, of the 912 allowed units, thirty-five remained undeveloped.

There was a dispute in 2002 and the SSRD parties settled in 2003 with a mediated settlement agreement providing, in relevant part: “The total number of dwelling units on South Seas Resort is limited to 912. No building permits may be issued by County for dwelling units within South Seas Resort that will cause that number to be exceeded at any time. In 2023, the County adopted an ordinance amending the Lee County Development Code, which, in relevant part, excepted SSRD from the three-unit-per-acre density limitation. In 2024, the Association sued the County again, seeking a judgment declaring the 912-unit building permit limitation in the 2003 settlement agreement permanent and enforceable against the County.

Ultimately the appellate court held that the permanent 912-unit limit was unenforceable against the County as an ultra vires contracting away of the exercise of the County's police power. “The power, which in its various ramifications is known as the ‘police power,’ is an exercise of the sovereign right of the state to enact laws for the protection of the lives, health, morals, and comfort and general welfare of the people.

It is a “long established principle” that a local government “cannot contract away the exercise of its police powers.” Specifically, “the adoption of an ordinance is the exercise of municipal legislative power. In the exercise of this governmental function a city cannot legislate by contract. The City does not have the authority to enter into such a contract, which effectively contracts away the exercise of its police powers.”.

The Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act, §§ 163.3220-163.3243, Fla. Stat., first enacted in 1986, authorizes local governments temporarily freeze zoning regulations by entering into “development agreements” with developers in aid of “promoting a stronger commitment to comprehensive facilities planning, insuring provision of adequate public facilities, reducing the economic cost of development, promoting certainty in the approval process, and combating escalation of housing costs and development.

There is a limit to what a Florida governmental entity can contract or legislate consistent with the exercise of its police powers.

LEE COUNTY, v. CAPTIVA CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC

NUCA News Summary – June 2026

Industry News and Advocacy

House Infrastructure Committee Advances BUILD America 250 Act

Last month's Washington Summit also featured the first House committee vote on the big surface transportation bill. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved the BUILD America 250 Act by a May 21 vote of 62-2. The legislation authorizes \$580 billion overall, including \$474.4 billion in contract authority from the Highway Trust Fund (HTF)—a 23.7% increase over the IIJA's \$383.4 billion baseline.

The bill contains several NUCA-supported provisions to improve work zone safety for both workers and motorists. It gives states greater flexibility to use existing federal highway safety funds for measures such as advanced signage, traffic control devices, temporary barriers, enhanced worker training, and public education campaigns.

A full House vote is expected in June, though the Senate has not yet released its companion version. Both chambers are unlikely to meet the September 30 deadline, so lawmakers are expected to extend the current law at least through the end of the year to avoid disruptions to ongoing surface transportation projects.

Workforce Pell Grants Are Launching In July

Regulations have now cleared the way for last year's Workforce Pell Grants program to go live, culminating years of advocacy by NUCA's workforce development program. Enacted in the 2025 Working Families Tax Cuts Act (also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act), this expansion of Pell Grants to short-term workforce training programs becomes operative on July 1, 2026. The U.S. Dept. of Education regulations were published May 18 in the Federal Register.

Starting this summer, eligible students can use prorated Pell funding for high-quality certificate programs lasting 8–15 weeks (150–599 clock hours). These must prepare participants for in-demand, high-skill roles in construction and related trades—such as welding, carpentry, heavy equipment operation, and more—with strong completion rates, job placement outcomes, and earnings potential. While this talent pipeline will not become available for months, it is a big step towards addressing the industry's labor shortages.

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!

Access Your NUCA Member Benefits In One Place

Members now have access to a very user-friendly NUCA Member Dashboard at my.nuca.com. This webpage is where you can update your member profile, manage your NUCA committees, register for NUCA events, access your benefits, and so much more! Individual member benefits are now enhanced to include a travel suite that offers exclusive discounts on car rentals, hotels, and GE products. Plus, members can take advantage of discounts on auto, home, pet, renters, travel, and more!

Please log into your NUCA Member Dashboard by visiting my.nuca.com. For questions about logging in or your membership benefits, please contact NUCA's Lauren Roget at lauren@nuca.com.

Association News

Toolbox Talks: It's never been easier to promote safety to your employees

Toolbox Talks are for NUCA and industry members to use and distribute to their employees to assist them in promoting safety in the workplace. Toolbox Talks reinforce company safety rules, warn of dangerous conditions and describe safe workplace procedures. While these toolbox talks are not a substitute for training, they are designed to reinforce training and remind employees of the many hazards and safe working procedures on the jobsite. Each of these Toolbox Talks can be downloaded as a PDF, and many are available in both English and Spanish languages. Go to [NUCA.com/toolbox-talks](https://www.nuca.com/toolbox-talks) and browse the wealth of safety knowledge available to NUCA members.



July Safety Article: Celebrate Independence Safely

As we celebrate Independence Day and enjoy time with family and friends, it's important to remember that safety doesn't take a holiday. The Fourth of July is one of the busiest travel weekends of the year, and unfortunately, it also sees an increase in vehicle accidents, heat-related illnesses, and firework injuries. Whether you're on the job, at home, or on vacation, making safe decisions helps ensure everyone returns healthy and ready for the work ahead.

Summer temperatures can be extreme, so stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water throughout the day, wear light-colored clothing when outdoors, and take breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas when possible. If you're traveling, inspect your vehicle before leaving, wear your seatbelt, avoid distracted driving, and never operate a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

If fireworks are part of your celebration, attend a professional display whenever possible. If using consumer fireworks where they are legal, always follow local laws, keep a safe distance, have a water source nearby, and never allow children to handle fireworks without close adult supervision. Simple precautions can prevent serious injuries and fires.

Most importantly, remember that every decision you make affects not only you but also your family, friends, and coworkers. Enjoy the holiday, make lasting memories, and return to work ready to continue building safely.

Safety Reminder: *The best way to celebrate our nation's independence is by protecting your own. Make smart choices, look out for one another, and remember—no holiday is worth risking a life. Stay safe, stay hydrated, and we'll see everyone back at work injury-free.*

★ ★ ★ us GOD BLESS AMERICA us ★ ★ ★

Commercial Insurance Insights

Tanner Brewer, Commercial Insurance Advisor

Gallagher

(904) 881-9317

Distracted Driving & Fleet Safety During Summer Traffic

Summer brings heavier traffic, road construction, and more drivers unfamiliar with work zones. Motor vehicle accidents remain one of the leading causes of costly insurance claims for underground utility contractors.

Why It Matters

- Increased vacation traffic
- More backing and intersection accidents
- Auto losses can increase insurance premiums

Best Practices

- Enforce a hands-free/no phone policy
- Complete pre-trip inspections
- Use spotters when backing
- Consider using telematics / dash cameras
- Review MVRs and coach drivers regularly

Strong fleet safety practices help prevent accidents, reduce claim costs, and improve your company's overall risk profile.

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Scholarship Night & General Membership Meeting

Thursday, July 9th

6PM-8PM

St Johns Golf & Country Club

205 St Johns Golf Dr

St Augustine, FL 32092



Please join NUCA of North Florida in Honoring our Local
Scholarship Recipients

Following our Scholarship Festivities, a representative from
Tenna will speak about what's new and exciting in Equipment
Management Software

Kirk Blomgren, from our National Board, will give a NUCA
National Update

RSVP BY JUNE 25th to NUCANF@GMAIL.COM



NUCANF



ANNUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2026

Cast Off : 7-8am BYOB
Bring Your Own Boat

Weigh In: 1:00-2:30PM

RSVP: NUCANF@gmail.com
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Jim King Boat Ramp
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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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