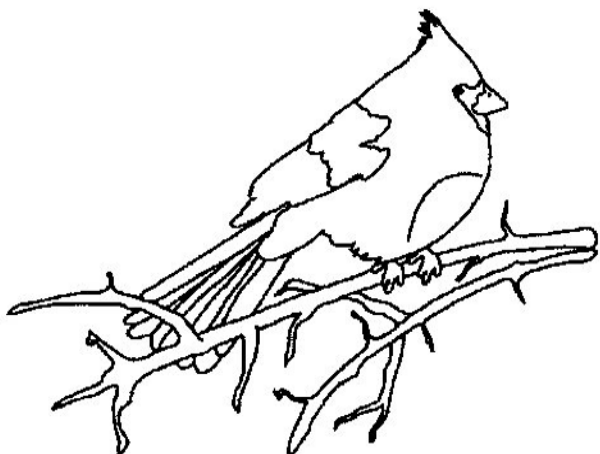


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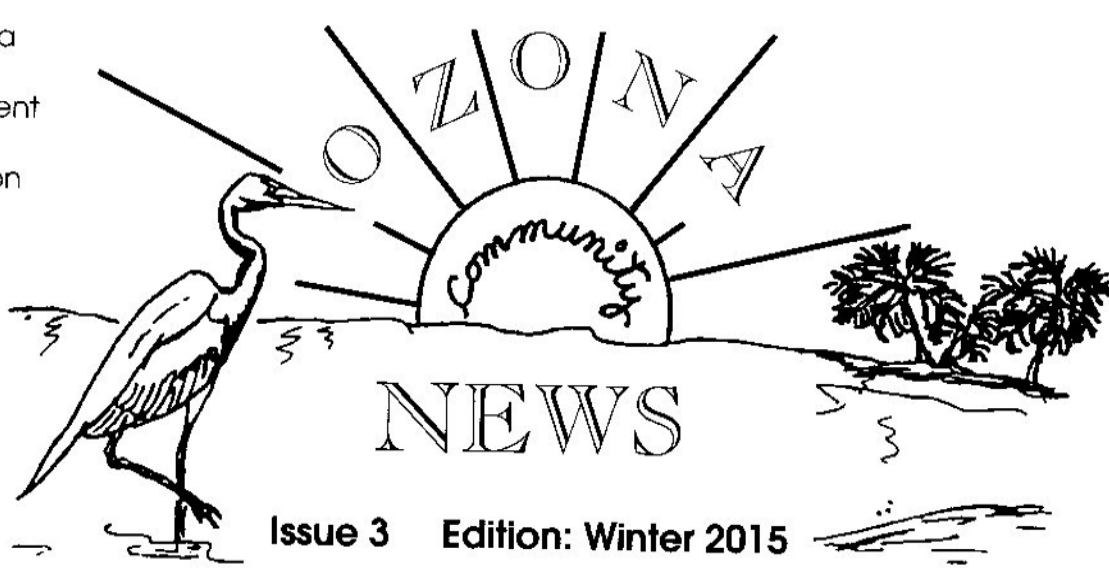
OVIS Website Information

The official website of OVIS can be found at www.OzonaVillageFL.us. On the website, you will find updates to current community initiatives, such as OVIS Programs, the Golf Cart Parade, the Holiday Potluck, Community Cleanups, Community Workshops, and notice of upcoming events or other such community interests.

You'll also find:

- A link to OVIS membership information and how you can join, renew or be a sponsor.
- A page on the Village Hall and how to reserve the Hall for your upcoming event you might be planning.
- Historical photos of Ozona.
- OVIS meetings and downloads of previous *Ozona News* newsletters.
- You'll also find a link to our sponsor section where you can find contact information to our wonderful sponsors.

This website also offers a way to communicate comments you would like to make to OVIS concerning the community.



Holiday Potluck Set For December 8

Every year at this time, OVIS hosts a potluck dinner at the Village Hall. The local restaurants of Ozona provide many interesting foods for this event. In addition, people bring food they are proud to share with others at the Hall. That's the nature of a potluck dinner.

Furniture is arranged so that there is a series of tables on one side of the Hall containing all the various foods. The rest of the Hall is filled with tables and chairs arranged so that people can gather to socialize and enjoy each other's company and the good food.

To increase the ambience for those of the correct age, at the end of the food tables, there are choices of wine, beer, soda, and of course, water. Ozona is very lucky to have some excellent restaurants who support our community in this way and other ways as well.

Everyone in the community is invited to participate and bring their friends. This is an excellent opportunity for you to either connect with people you have not seen for a while or to meet people in the community you don't know. Another benefit of attending the potluck dinner is you will be in a building that is one of the oldest in the County. The Hall was built in 1900 by members of the community for this very purpose of community gatherings. If you need directions, the Village Hall is at 341 Bay Street. The event is **Tuesday, December 8 starting at 6:30 p.m.**

Ozona Holiday Golf Cart Parade

Sunday • December 13

As has been a well established tradition for the past 16 years, Ozona will have its annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade the evening of Sunday, December 13. This is an event that residents of Ozona and visitors have enjoyed by either participating in the parade or going to a location where the parade will pass. For most of Ozona that is a short walk and in some cases it is in front of your house.

The golf carts will assemble into the parade on Orange Street in the restaurant and post office zone at or before 5:30 p.m. The actual parade will start after that at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Some people spend months decorating their golf carts with holiday lights and decoration. This is a major holiday event which is unique to Ozona because golf carts are permitted within the community. These days over 100 golf carts participate.

With success comes some responsibilities. OVIS has taken over sponsorship of the event and has obtained the needed permits and authorizations. We will also have two Deputy Sheriffs working with us that night assisting with the traffic logistics and to make sure everything goes smoothly. This is important primarily around the startup area where the restaurants are. A graphic depicting the golf cart parade route is included within this newsletter. If you would like a better copy of the map, there is one available on the OVIS website: www.ozonavillagefl.us.

President's Message...

It is that time of year when there are many festive activities going on. The Ozona community is no exception to this. We have some marvelous opportunities that exemplify the holiday spirit. On **December 8** we will have our traditional **Community Potluck Dinner** at the Hall. The Hall is always decorated for the season and I encourage everyone to come and enjoy the networking and good food.

This is followed by the very unique **Ozona Holiday Golf Cart Parade on December 13**. You can either participate in the parade with your golf cart or ride in someone else's, or you can go down the street to where the parade goes by and be part of the experience. You might even be lucky enough to have the parade down your street. However, you enjoy the parade, the experience is unique to Ozona.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those that make this community what it is and would like to wish you all

Happy Holidays!

Brian Smith
O.V.I.S. President

Beginning Membership and Sponsorship Drive

Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS), functions primarily from funds obtained through membership dues and sponsorships. OVIS **membership** is \$20 annually and a **sponsor** donation is \$100 annually.

It is noted, that if you are a Progressive Waste Solutions customer, you will receive a discount if you have an OVIS membership.

Also, if you are an OVIS sponsor, your business card is included in the newsletter and on the community website. The membership and sponsorship run from January 1 to January 1, but OVIS begins open enrollment in September to allow for logistics of the program.

It should be noted however, that membership or sponsorship actually start from the time of enrollment (there is no delayed effective date). The last page of the newsletter is devoted to an enrollment form or you can go to the OVIS website and enroll or renew there using PayPal. The website is www.ozonavillagefl.us.

Join Today...

Help Keep OVIS Strong

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Vice President– Dennis Green - 741-2903

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Dave Ennis - 743-7041

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Neighborhood Watch Dolly Swallow • 787-6470

Hall Oversight Dennis Green • 741-2903

Historical/Records Terry Fortner • 786-2837

Hall Rental Donna Green • 741-2904

Report on the Neighborhood Watch Worskhop

On November 2, OVIS hosted a community neighborhood workshop conducted by Deputy Charles Skipper of the Sheriff's Office. The purpose of the workshop was to refresh people in the community on the purpose to the neighborhood watch program and how it is being conducted.

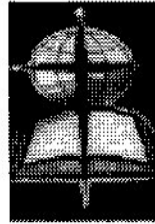
Deputy Skipper provided an excellent overview of the types of things that people in the community need to do to maintain a secure environment. He talked about such things as always lock your car when it's in the driveway. Never leave your house unlocked when you're off somewhere else. Or reporting to the Sheriff's Office - directly - any suspicious activity or people in the community.

Deputy Skipper also showed the group how you can go on to the Sheriff's website and obtain information in your community of recent incidents that have been registered with the Sheriff's Office. He emphasized that if you did see something suspicious it was important to call their office at 582-6200. He said you could also call 911. The main point is to report the activity as soon as possible without delay.

The group felt the presentation and meeting was very productive. It was agreed that this should be an annual workshop to make sure that everyone is aware of the program and how to function within it. Therefore, we are marking the calendar for October of next year for another workshop with the Sheriff's Office. Needless to say, if there is a need for it we can have a special workshop before that time. Dolly Swallow is our community representative and liaison to the Sheriff's Office for this program. We should thank her for all that she has done over the years staying on top of this program.

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Survey of Trash Pickup Companies

Since there are several companies that provide trash collection pickup in Ozona, OVIS occasionally conducts a survey of the companies available and what their prices are. OVIS has an agreement with Progressive Waste Solutions, where OVIS members obtain a discount documented below. This survey was performed this August (2015) and the breakdowns are:



1. **Progressive Waste Solutions** – \$52.00 (\$71.00 without OVIS discount = \$4.50 per quarter increase from 2014).
2. **Waste Management** – \$77.10 (\$4.20 per quarter increase from 2014)
3. **Waste Pro** – \$87.50 (\$0.15 per quarter decrease from 2014)
4. **Solar Sanitation** – \$94.50 (\$19.50 per quarter increase from 2014)
5. **DisposAll** – \$91.50 (same price as 2014)
6. **Superior Trash Services** – \$59.85 (no garbage receptacles or recycling / 3 cans maximum) (\$12.00 per quarter decrease from 2014)

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Village Hall Receives Historic Designation

At its November 10 meeting, the County Commission took action to designate the Ozona Village Hall under the County's historic preservation ordinance. The Hall is the oldest structure in the County that is still located where it was built. The Hall was built by members of the community in 1900.

Dr. Nancy Whitford organized the community in the late 1890's to respond to the situation that there was a need for a community meeting place in Ozona. She served as President of the Ozona Ladies Improvement Society (now OVIS) and through that role, organized volunteers and obtained donated materials for the Hall construction. There were bake sales and other fundraising events. There was no government money involved. It was built by the community.

Even though it is now 115 years old, the Hall is still in good shape and serves the community. Several years ago, there was a refurbishment of the Hall, adding air conditioning and ADA facilities among other things. OVIS owns and operates the Hall. OVIS will be working with the County on a designation plaque to be placed in front of the Hall.

County Commissioner Dave Eggers Visits the Community

County Commissioner Dave Eggers attended the October 26 OVIS meeting of the community which gave people the opportunity for dialogue with him.

He opened the meeting with an expression of how he wanted to approach being a County Commissioner. He expressed a genuine interest in receiving people's concerns and comments that he could then consider as he carries out his commissioner role. He emphasized that he had an excellent aide (Kim) who helps him work with the system.

It was a very good meeting with Commissioner Eggers - establishing a good line of communication with people in the community. He made a point of indicating his accessibility and provided his office number for people to make contact with him and his aide with any concerns. The number he provided is (727) 464-3276.



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Two New Stop Signs

The County has installed two new stop signs on Bay Street. The first one is at Banana Street and should have a calming effect on the traffic in that area. It is halfway between the shoreline on the west and Orange Street on the east. The second stop sign is at the intersection of Bay Street and Orange Street. This will make that intersection safer and will also slow traffic down as it enters and leaves the restaurant / post office area. This should create a much calmer environment in this active pedestrian area since we now have a stop sign at either end of this busy Orange Street area (stop signs at Tampa Road and Bay Street).

Solared Powered Speed Indicators

There has been an ongoing community concern about the speeding on Shore Drive and what can be done to respond to that. A somewhat new initiative that is available involves placing an instrument along the side of the road that looks like a sign which contains a screen. When a car approaches the sign, the screen indicates the

speed that the car is traveling.

It has been proven in traffic management circles that this has a dramatic effect upon people that are speeding where the instruments are used. These instruments are solar powered so there are no wires associated with their function. The County plans to install two of these indicators on Shore Drive. (These indicators may already be installed by the time this newsletter is published.) There will be on indicator sign for each direction of traffic. These instruments also collect data on passing traffic that can then be used to assess the traffic situation in that part of the community. So, hopefully, this will help people driving along Shore Drive to be conscious of their speed and to drive safely.

Alternate 19 Gets Sidewalks

If you haven't noticed yet, there is a lot of activity along the sides of Alternate 19 north of Curlew Road. All of this activity is mostly associated with the construction of sidewalks on both sides of the road. With the ditch and all the other obstacles, it is hard to imagine what the sidewalks will look like. Admittedly, we do have the trail going north-south parallel to this roadway. However, the sidewalks will provide a much better means of access - especially to the areas south of Ozona.

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Community Cleanup

A community cleanup in Ozona was held on Saturday morning November 7. It was a small group of people - a half dozen who participated. Dave Ennis and Bob Fortner co-chair this program for the community. People gathered at the Village Hall and got their assignments for litter collection. People then dispersed in golf carts to cover the key parts of the community, including the Pinellas Trail.

Admittedly, there was a lot of clean up needed since we want to have a clean community. The cleanup took a bit over an hour. OVIS then filed

a report with the County. The cleanup is done twice a year.

Thank you Dave and Bob and those that participated.



Oliver

Oliver is a six-year-old boy who was born with a rare bone disease call Osteogenesis Imperfecta, which causes his bones to break easily. Because of his condition, he requires a lot of therapy and extras which insurance will not cover. The best therapy for Oliver is the pool.

Friends of Oliver are trying to raise funds to help him get his own therapy pool and make his home more handicap friendly. The Ozona Pig held a special fundraising event in October for Oliver. Oliver's dad, Dave Bellant is the dock master at Home Port Marina. If you would like to help in this effort there is a website that you can go to: www.gofundme.com/oliverpool.

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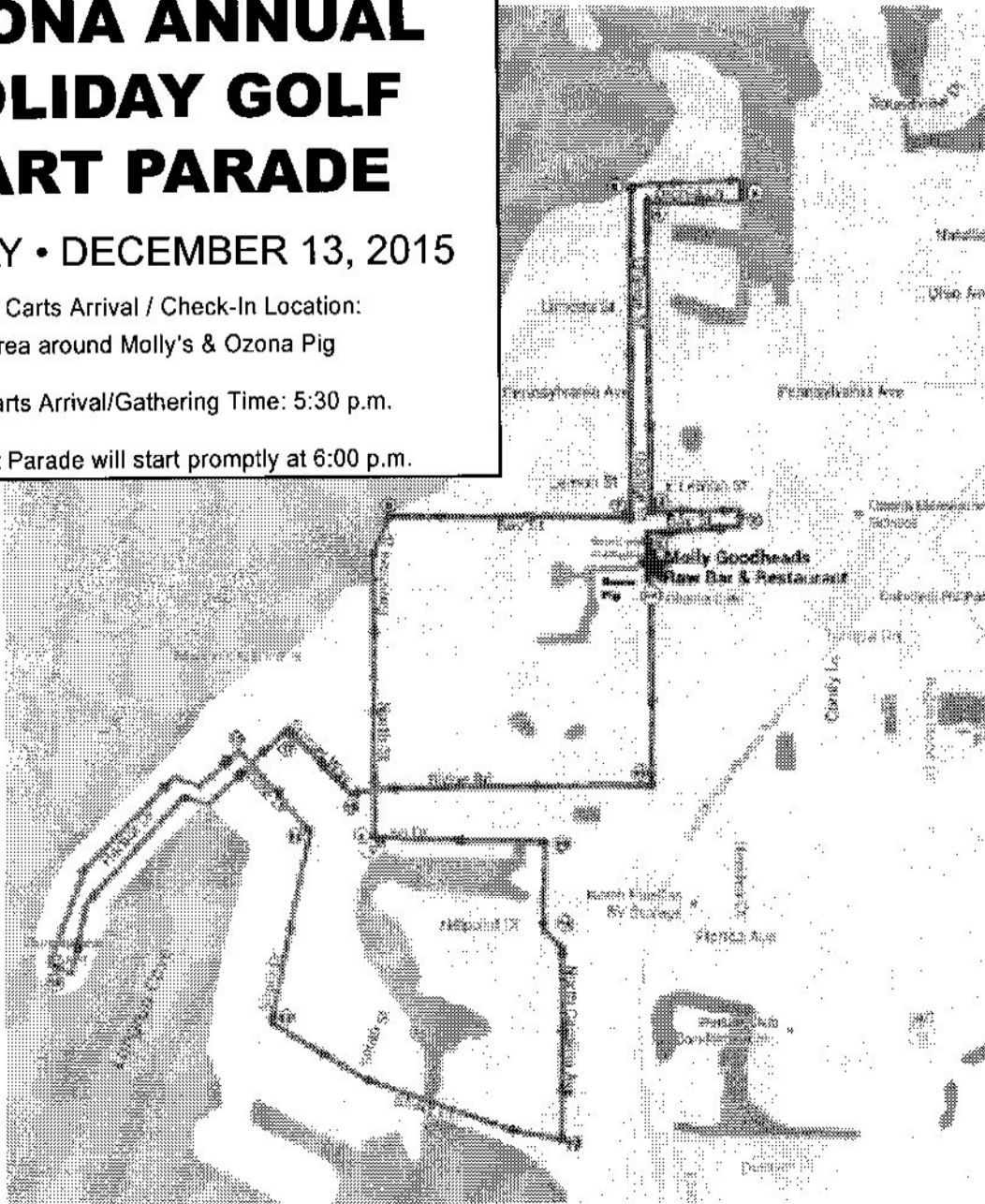
OZONA ANNUAL HOLIDAY GOLF CART PARADE

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 13, 2015

Golf Carts Arrival / Check-In Location:
Area around Molly's & Ozona Pig

Golf Carts Arrival/Gathering Time: 5:30 p.m.

Golf Cart Parade will start promptly at 6:00 p.m.



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Rent the Village Hall

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Book Your Special Events & Family Reunions Today!

The Village Hall in Ozona is located on Bay Street and has served as the facility for community events over the years. The Hall is owned by the Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS) which uses the Hall for community events and meetings during the year.

In addition to that, OVIS does make the Hall available for rental for private events as well. While the Hall has a heritage and appearance of its vintage construction of 1900, the Hall does have the modern conveniences of central heat and air conditioning, restrooms and a kitchen area (without a stove).

Folding tables and chairs are also included in the Hall rental. The Hall rents for \$225 for a private event. If someone is an OVIS member, there is a reduced rate of \$175. If you wish to rent the Hall the contact information is available next to the photo above or on the OVIS website.

Halloween Open House

Halloween night (October 31) the Hall was open for trick-or-treating. It is always nice to see such a friendly lit Hall on such a scary night. During the course of that evening, there were many visitors who dropped by to trick-or-treat - some large and some small. It was a good evening.

