

OVIS Annual Meeting April 25

The annual meeting for the Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS) is Monday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall on Bay Street. Everyone in the community is invited to attend and participate. This is an opportunity for you to meet with other people in Ozona and also to get up-to-date with what is happening within the community.

At this meeting there will be a special presentation by the County's Animal Control Office. The presentation will include what that office does in terms of providing services to the community. There will be a questions and answers section to cover either questions that arise during the presentation or things the people have wanted to know about, but did not have the opportunity to ask.

At this annual meeting, it is the long-standing tradition to conduct the election of officers and board members for OVIS. Bob Fortner is in charge of the nominating committee and the election process. County Commissioner Dave Eggers will swear in the Board once the election is completeed.

In addition, there will be a brief report as to developments and activities within the community that are either underway or planned.

So come to the Hall on April 25 and find out what is going on in your community. Refreshments will be served to facilitate socializing and there will be opportunity to hang out and meet with your neighbors.



Alternate 19 Improvements

For almost a year, construction has been underway on Alternate 19. The work is almost complete. Since this is somewhat of a new design, this will change the functioning of the road for how people use it. Therefore, it would be appropriate to review what these changes are. The project is a resurfacing of the roadway where a new surface is added to the road to keep it smooth and safe for driving. Over time, the asphalt of the road deteriorates due to environmental impacts and also due to wear from traffic of trucks and cars. These days when the Florida Department of Transportation performs a resurfacing project of a major road it is required to add provisions to make the road safer, fix any drainage deficiencies, and provide bike and pedestrian facilities. The limits of this project went from Curlew Road in the south to approximately Tampa road in the north.

See US 19 Page 3

President's Message...

This newsletter wraps up the current year for our Ozona Village Improvement Society activities. The weather is now changing as we move from Spring to Summer. Living in Ozona, people have the opportunity to gain the full benefits of Florida living. We also live in a community with considerable heritage which is not normally the case in Florida where we have mostly new communities. Not many people can live in a small community and yet have access to restaurants and social gathering places by way of walking, cycling or a golf cart.

As most people know, this started in the 1880's when Ozona was established as a fishing community with a direct line to Tampa - hence Tampa Road which dead ends in the middle of Ozona. The commercial fishermen have now mostly been replaced by recreational fishermen and recreational boaters.

Not everyone owns a golf cart or a boat, they have other activities such as walking and cycling which is what makes Ozona so special.

OVIS does provide for community dialogue and communication. An example of this will be our Annual Meeting this month where we will find out all about the County's Animal Conrol Program. I look forward to seeing you there or around the streets and places of Ozona.

Brian Smith
O.V.I.S. President

Community Cleanup & Trail Cleanup

May 14 at 8:30 a.m.

The Ozona community has a longstanding tradition of carrying out regularly scheduled cleanups. Twice a year, people meet at the Village Hall to get organized and then spend an hour and a half in golf carts and walking, picking up litter along the byways of Ozona. Bob Fortner and David Ennis have done an excellent job of organizing this for us over the years.

The Pinellas Trail is included in this effort since it is part of our community. Bob and Dave are now making the plans for the next cleanup. The next community and trail cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 14. We will meet at the Village Hall at 341 Bay Street at 8:30 a.m. for water and coffee. At that time we will receive our assignments and collection bags. The teams will then fan out into the community and the Pinellas Trail. The actual cleanup does not take much more than an hour.

Please join us with your golf cart and your kids, if you have them, and join in the fun of making sure that we have a clean community and a clean Trail.

2015-2016 OVIS Board Members

President - Brian Smith - 781-8472

Vice President- Dennis Green - 741-2903

Secretary - Donna Green - 741-2904

Treasurer - James Wiesner - 871-6901

Board Members:

Connie Rieben - 787-9777

Susan White - 793-8299

Dave Ennis - 743-7041 Dottie Choate - 780-6501

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Standing Committees:

Membership

Dolly Swallow • 787-6470

Hall Oversight

Dennis Green • 741-2903

Historical/Records

Neighborhood Watch

Terry Fortner • 786-2837

Hall Rental

Donna Green • 741-2904

Alternate 19 Continued...

To make the road safer, a lane barrier was added just north of the Curlew Road intersection, preventing the odd movement of traffic to land uses on the side of the intersection. Also, along the entire section of road, turn lanes were added to provide better traffic movement as people exit the road.

There was also a significant amount of drainage work necessary because the ditches and swales were no longer functioning the way they were intended and because of development along the road. One of the most notable improvements were the addition of provisions for both pedestrians and cyclists. Bike lanes were added on the side of the road. Also, there is now a sidewalk on both sides of Alternate 19 through this entire stretch of road. This includes striped crosswalks as well. This will make it very convenient for people to walk to and from Ozona to the Curlew Road area using the west side of the road. However, this new road feature will require drivers from Ozona that are exiting from Orange Street, to look to the right as well as the left to track pedestrians and cyclists on the sidewalk and bike lanes as they also check for roadway traffic.

In summary, all of these improvements are welcome, but as we adjust to these new features, we will also need to be conscious of doing this with safety in mind!

Stop Sign with Lights

If you were driving out of Ozona by heading north on Orange Street, then right on Tampa Road you may have noticed the stop sign looks different. There are little flashing red lights all around the perimeter of the stop sign. The County is experimenting with this attention grabing stop sign.

It is the intent that the County would have you give more attention to this stop sign than you have in the past. As you may recall, this particular stop sign is complicated because it has a through lane and a right turn lane. Needless to say, we should stop at all signs, but this does underscore the fact that we need to be more aware of this at this location.



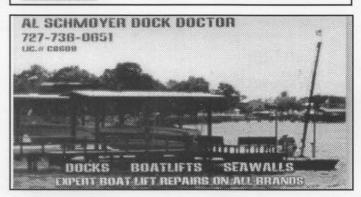
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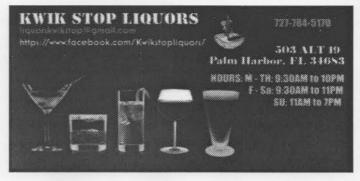
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Pastor Mike Rogers 727.487.4338

mikerogers.pastor@gmail.com







Drainage Improvement for the Hall

Several months ago, Commissioner Dave Eggers, attended an OVIS meeting where community improvements were discussed. One of those improvements needed was a clearing out of the drainage swale adjacent to the Hall. That swale carries the water not only from the hall property, but from Bay Street into the Preserve and eventually out into the Gulf.

Because this swale had become overgrown with vegetation, it was common to have standing water under the Hall during the wet season. The Hall is slightly elevated on pylons.

Commissioner Dave Eggers facilitated the communication to the County about this concern. As a result of this door opening opportunity, the County has agreed to clear out this swale area. To accomplish this project, it was necessary for OVIS to



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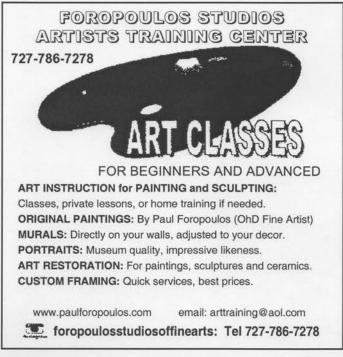
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establish a drainage easement for the County work on the west side of the property that includes the swale. A survey has been done and the easement has been established.

The actual drainage work is now being scheduled. This in an important project, not only for the Ozona community, but also for the County, because the Hall is a recognized historic landmark.







Organic Haircare

Look no further than your own backyard to find healthy, organic haircare!

Alchemy Salon, a green spa, is a new treasure located right here in Ozona. Heather Gero, owner of Alchemy Salon, believes in taking a holistic approach to all salon services. Whether you need to maintain your current look or want a total transformation, your entire sensory experience will leave you feeling beautiful, relaxed and looking forward to your next visit!

Alchemy Salon would like to thank Ozona residents for their warm welcome and patronage. Alchemy Salon is located in the cottage behind the Conscious Connection, at 306 Orange Street. Business Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00-5:00 (nights and weekends by appointment), or call, (727) 379-6718. To learn more, visit www.alchemysalontransforms.com or find us on Facebook: Alchemy Salon Ozona.



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Pinellas County One-Stop-Pool-Shop

After months of preparation, the Guarino family, of Ozona, is proud to announce the opening of PALM HARBOR POOL SUPPLIES, located at 629 Alternate 19, Palm Harbor, 34683, in the Advantage Auto Tire plaza (West Side).

PALM HARBOR POOL SUPPLIES is a new retail division of All Clear Pool Services, a company that has been cleaning and repairing North Pinellas County's pools and equipment for nearly 10 years.

All Clear Pools will continue to service our community, and we can't thank you enough for your support. And, because of your support and our hard working employees, we couldn't pass up on opening PALM HARBOR POOL SUPPLIES. Whether you need water testing, chemicals, new equipment, repairs, and pool toys galore - we have what you're looking for. If you are an OVIS member, we will give you 10% OFF your first purchase when you establish an account with us.

Thank you again for your patronage, and most importanly, keeping our local business flourishing.

If you can't find us, just look for the neon colored flamingo on Alt. 19, She's looking for a new home!

Hours:

Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Sunday Sleeping

Contact: (727) 233-5000 or allclearpools06@gmail.com



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County Animal Control Program

At the OVIS annual meeting on April 25, there will be a presentation on the County's Animal Control Program. The presentation will include a review of the services provided by that office, highlighting such services as adoption, complaints, licenses, lost and found and a number of other services. Kelli BeCraft of that office will make the presentation.

Following the presentation, will be an opportunity for questions and answers, Everyone in the community is encouraged to attend to better understand the services provided by the County and how they can be accessed. The presentation will be of interest to all age groups who are interested in the animals and pets. The meeting is at the Village Hall at 341 Bay Street, with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m.

Keeping the Hall Up

Boy Scout Troop 26 of Palm Harbor, occasionally meets at the Ozona Village Hall. From that association,





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members of that troop are interested in helping with some improvements to the Hall. One of these scouts is Luke Longen, a candidate for Eagle Scout. To meet the Eagle requirements, you must manage and implement a significant project. Since there are several things that need to be done for the Hall, this could work well for both Luke and his troop and also for OVIS with the Hall. A proposal is now being worked up by the scouts that would then be reviewd and okayed by the OVIS Board. If all goes well, this might be done at the OVIS annual meeting.



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Next Large Item Trash Pickup May 18

OVIS has an agreement with Progressive Waste Solutions, which is one of the companies that provide trash pickup in the Ozona community. In addition to providing discounted rates to those households that are members of the Ozona Village Improvement Society, the company also provides a special pickup of large trash items on select days for its customers.

Over the next few months, there will be two pickups - May 18 and October 19. This is an opportunity to get rid of those larger items that are in your garage or possibly yard, which require some special arrangements to get rid of.

There are a few ground rules for this community pickup. The pickup includes furniture, appliances, and items such as that, but does not include roofing materials, hazardous materials, tires, or other car parts. Also, refrigerators and air conditioning units must be tagged by a licensed repair man that freon has been removed. Brush has to be tied in bundles of 50 pounds or less and no longer than four feet.

It would be a good idea to place those items for pickup in front of your property the evening before, since waste services may come early for the pickups. The final point, is that you MUST be a Progressive Waste Solutions customer.



Lanterns of the Village Hall

In the center of Ozona, on Bay Street, is the Village Hall. This is where OVIS meets and where many community events are held. The Hall dates back to 1900, when it was built through a community effort.

The Hall has been a centerpiece for the community ever since that time, providing a myriad of functions. As noted in this newsletter, the Hall can also be rented out by private individuals for birthdays and other such social events.

A little known fact about the Hall, is the fact that when it was built, there was no electricity in the community. Therefore, lighting in the Hall was provided by lanterns for evening events and activities. Those lanterns still hang in the Hall now, although that is no longer their purpose.

It is hard for us to imagine in the current Ozona, what it would be like to have no electric power and have no radio or telephones. However, we did have a post office and we did have the Hall to meet in and communicate.





Neighborhood Watch

The Ozona community is a participant in the Neighborhood Watch program. This is a program operated by the Sheriff's Office.

OVIS recently received an award for its participation in this program. Dolly Swallow, is the community liason for Ozona. Deputy Sheriff Skipper made a program presentation last fall to the community at the Hall. It was agreed at that time, that we should do this on an annual basis to make sure that everyone is informed on the program with respect to not only its benefits, but how to participate within it.

Therefore, OVIS will be scheduling a Neighborhood Watch program presentation in the fall, probably in the month of October. If you have any questions about the program, you can contact the Sherriff's Office at 582-2222 or send an email to Dolly Swallow at DollyS@winntech.net

OVIS Meetings

OVIS meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 341 Bay Street. The next meeting, which is the Annual Meeting, is April 25. There is no regularly scheduled OVIS meeting starting in May until the fall.

The fall schdule is:

August 22

September 26

October 24

December 13

Holiday Potluck (tentative)

This schedule sometimes changes to work around holidays or other schedule conflicts.







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Rent the Village Hall

The Ozona Village Hall is a perfect spot for all different types of special events. For more information call Donna Green at (727) 741-2904.

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.



Ozona Village Improvement Society 2016 Membership Invitation

Benefits

- 1. Get to know your neighbors.
- 2. Preserve the historic Ozona Village Hall building on Bay Street.
- 3. Participate in fun activities for families golf cart parades, seasonal parties and potluck dinners.
- 4. Support the unique community identity of Ozona and our nature preserve.
- 5. Save at least \$100/year on your trash service comparatively to other trash services twice per week pick-up, including recycling Progressive Waste Solutions discounts their fee for members

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Additional donations are GREATLY appreciated!

Note: OVIS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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To Join/Renew Online, Go To: www.OzonaVillageFL.us

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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.