



An Ozona Village
Improvement
Society Publication

OZONA

COMMUNITY NEWS



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Halloween Open House at the Hall

Halloween will soon be here. There will be many scary little and big characters walking the streets of Ozona. They will be trick-or-treating door to door. And as you know it is quite common these days that golf carts are used to transport them and their booty. If you find yourself on Bay Street stop by the Village Hall. It will be open that night for trick-or-treaters. There will be craft activities at the Hall, if the trick-or-treaters want to visit a while. The Hall should be open around 6 PM for this open house.



Golf Cart Parking in the Restaurant Area

A couple of years ago, the County resurfaced Orange Street from Pennsylvania Avenue south to Alternate US 19. As part of this project the County resurfaced or expanded the pavement in certain locations that made sense. This included the restaurant area fronting the Ozona Pig and the Ozona Brewing Company. That small section between the road pavement and sidewalk was paved. Golf carts began to use this area for parking. It was ideally suited for small vehicles, such as golf carts, and signs were added permitting golf cart parking. Pavement markings were added to define this area for the golf carts. Some golf carts began to angle park in this area, which began to create a safety problem, since a typical golf cart does not fit within that area at an angle. To remedy this, the County added additional signing, saying that only parallel parking is permitted. However, this continues to be a safety problem, where golf carts continue to angle park in this area. People visiting the restaurants with their golf carts are encouraged to park correctly – which means to parallel park.

Planting Canopy Trees



At its April meeting, OVIS decided to organize a tree planting program for Ozona. With mature trees in the community either dying or being removed due to construction, there appeared to be the need to proactively pursue a tree planting program. The focus would be to install canopy trees along the roadways of the community. Skip LeFleur agreed to be the organizer for the program. OVIS authorized \$5,000 for this program. Contact was made with Pinellas County's Urban Forestry staff, and they were very supportive of the community pursuing such a program and agreed to provide coordination as needed. It was decided that larger trees (30-gallon containers) should be planted to ensure their successful establishment. The initiative would include 25 trees, which would be located on Pennsylvania Avenue and Orange Street. The main focus turned out to be the Pinellas Trail, parallel to Orange Street just south of Florida Avenue. A cluster of live oak and holly trees would be planted there. There would also be plantings on Pennsylvania Avenue between the school and the church and at the southwest corner of Orange Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

The actual planting would be done by community volunteers. Joe Swett of *Sunrise Irrigation* volunteered to provide tree watering for the first couple of months following the planting. John Thurmond of *Honey Do Landscaping* volunteered to provide the transportation to get the trees from the nursery in St. Petersburg to Ozona. Carolyn Rhodes of the County's Urban Forestry program, provided the coordination for approval of the tree locations as needed. The planting day event was scheduled for Saturday, July 8. That day, 30 people showed up to participate in providing volunteer help to plant the trees. The event was a major success, and the plantings were completed within three hours. This program is significant because it involves the entire community participating, and its value will be for decades to come! There will be discussion soon about how to carry this program forward with events either annual or through some other procedure.

President's Message...

The past few days have been very eventful for our community due to the storm Idalia. Since we are a coastal community, we have more to deal with than a typical community. Although there were some impacts due to specific site flooding conditions, the total community seemed to do pretty well. I am sure that everyone is relieved that we did not have the typical storm impact with wind and rain. We do have a community with the benefits derived from being on the waterfront, but with events like this, we are reminded of the challenges of being on that waterfront.

Now, as we get with our neighbors to seek some normalcy, we should remind ourselves that some others to the north of us were not so fortunate. We need to keep them in our thoughts!

— *Brian Smith, OVIS President*

Schedule of Events

OVIS regularly meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Hall on Bay Street. The 2023-2024 schedule along with other community events are as follows:

OVIS Meeting — September 25 7PM

OVIS Meeting — October 23 7PM

Halloween Open House — October 31 6PM

Community Clean-up — November TBA

OVIS Meeting — November TBA

Holiday Golf Cart Parade — December 10 6-8PM

Holiday Potluck — December 12 6:30-8PM

OVIS Meeting — January 22 7PM

OVIS Meeting — February 26 7PM

OVIS Meeting — March 25 7PM

OVIS Annual Meeting — April 22 7PM

Neighborhood Watch Workshop — TBA



2023-2024 OVIS Board Members

President—Brian Smith•781-8472

Secretary—Julie Longen•656-5154

Vice President—Todd Guarino•251-9333

Treasurer—James Wiesner•871-6901

Board Members:

Connie Rieben—787-9777

Dave Ennis—743-7041

Susan White—793-8299

Diane Williams—951-283-5035

Steve Krout—771-8650

Standing Committees:

Neighborhood Watch—Dolly Swallow•787-6470

Membership—Open

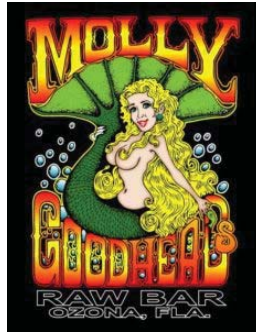
Hall Oversight—Dennis Green•741-2903

Historical/Records—Terry Fortner•786-2837

Hall Rental—Donna Green•741-2904

Pinellas Trail Access in the Works

As part of the new Shore Drive Bridge project, a sidewalk will be added on the south side of the bridge and along Shore Drive that will connect to Orange Street. OVIS made comments to the County that a Trail connection was necessary at that point of Shore Drive and Orange Street. It looks like that might happen now. The mobile home park at this location is seeking a Trail crossing, so that the people in the park can access destinations in Ozona. They are preparing an access application and design now, and a Trail crossing could be built following that. The County will make sure that this crossing will provide for adequate pedestrian and bicycle movement to the Trail as well.



Molly Goodhead's 38th Anniversary

Molly Goodhead's Anniversary will be Wednesday, September 20, 2023. The restaurant has been operating in the Ozona community for 38 good years. They are planning an Anniversary Party that day from 5 PM until 10 PM with the celebration open to all. There will be Live music provided by *Tangent*, a local entertainment group, which will start at 6 PM. There will be complementary appetizers and finger food served throughout that night. A T-shirt toss starts at 9 PM. So, come join the party!

Get an Ozona Mailing Address!

Have you thought about what a unique place we live in, here in Ozona? It's nice to be able to identify with our small town, village-ambience by having an Ozona address. Of course, the only way to use Ozona as your mailing address is by renting a PO Box from the Ozona Post Office across from Ozona Pig.



It's a cost well worth not only the name recognition of your mailing address supporting the Village of Ozona, but also for the security you gain by having your mail delivered to a staffed office. You have 24/7 access to your PO Box at the Ozona Post Office. You can also have packages sent there, so you have the added security of someone signing for your package. When a street address is required, you can use the address of the Post Office along with your PO Box number.

Our Post Office is at the center of our village. It's a great place to run into neighbors and meet new people! Stop by the Post Office and get started using an address that reflects the unique Village of Ozona!



This picture was taken by Lori Krout, an Ozona resident. You will note all of the green seagrass along the shoreline. This was another successful project that our community volunteers participated in with County environmental staff planting seagrass at the end of Bay Street.

OVIS Membership and Sponsorship



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 Waste Connections' 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 December 31, but OVIS begins open enrollment in September to allow for the 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 <http://www.ozonavillagefl.us/membership>.

OZONA VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY 2024 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.

PLEASE SELECT:

Society Membership

Individual & Family Membership - \$20.00/year

Currently a Waste Connections of Florida customer:

YES

NO

Donations

Additional Donations help maintain the Ozona Village Hall, do special projects, and host village events

\$10.00

\$25.00

\$50.00

\$100.00

\$ _____

Ozona Newsletter Ad Sponsorship

Business Sponsorship – 3 business card ads/year plus a listing in the website “Sponsors” section

\$100.00/year

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.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Your contact information will not be shared, but enables us to keep you informed regarding news and events.

Please make your check payable to:

Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS)

Mail to: PO Box 81 • Ozona, FL 34660

To Join/Renew Online, Go To: <http://www.OzonaVillageFL.us/membership>

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 \$500 for a private event. If someone is an OVIS member, there is a reduced rate of \$250. If you wish to rent the Hall, the contact information is available above or on the OVIS website: <http://www.ozonavillagefl.us>.

Events Around the Community

Friends of the Island Parks

A Citizen Support Organization serving Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks



Honeymoon Island Bluegrass Festival

Date: Dec 2, 2023
Time: 11 am to 5 pm

Honeymoon Island State Park
Dunedin, Florida



Friends of the
Island Parks

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<https://www.friendsoftheislandparks.org/40th-birthday>



Honeymoon Island State Park

- 6 hours of continuous music
- Music Tickets: \$20 at the Picnic Area
- Park entry not included in Ticket price
- Park entry \$4 - 1 person in vehicle, \$8 for 2 to 8 people in car
- Music tickets will be collected at the stage area.
- If you have prepaid, please bring your proof of purchase.
- The Stage is at North Beach in the Picnic Area
- Advance Tickets online \$17
- Eventbrite Advance On-Line Tickets: [Buy Tickets Available](#)
- Children Under 12 Free
- Local vendors will offer food, beverages, and water
- Lawn Chair Seating
- Handicapped Parking at the Picnic Area
- Children's Activities Area
- Alcohol Free Event
- Dog Friendly
- Coolers allowed



Photo Courtesy VISIT FLORIDA

HONEYMOON ISLAND'S 2ND ANNUAL

FALL FEST

October 21 & 22 10am-5pm
Oasis Beach Area
FREE With Park Admission

<https://www.friendsoftheislandparks.org/earth-days>

Events Around the Community

Palm Harbor Museum's
FAMILY DISCOVERY DAY
 Brought to you by
 Pinellas Community Foundation
 and Faith Mission Grant

3rd / INTERGENERATIONAL

Saturday, Oct 14, 2023
11 AM - 2 PM No reservations necessary!

Enjoy exhibits, crafts, activities & games celebrating the 40th anniversary of the founding of Palm Harbor Historical Society and Museum!

Dedication event for memorial "Wind Phone" at 1 PM in our camphor tree grove

Free refreshments and Culver's frozen custard!

Our Gratitude to Culver's, Keep Pinellas Beautiful & Ace Hardware Oldsmar for your support & generosity!

Families are invited to this FREE Intergenerational event!

Palm Harbor Museum
 2043 Curlew Rd | Palm Harbor, FL 34683
 (727) 724-3054 | PalmHarborMuseum.com

<https://www.palmharbormuseum.com/family-discovery-days.html>

Palm Harbor Museum's

Show your support to the museum on this vintage night!

WINE Around
Nov. 4th
4-7pm
Tickets \$40

Palm Harbor

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<https://www.palmharbormuseum.com/wine-around-palm-harbor.html>

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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 Annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade, the Holiday Potluck Dinner, 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.





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