

News from Town Hall

August 2019

Town Hall

Town Meetings:

August 5 - Trailside HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

August 13 & 27 - Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

August 15 - Coffee with the Town Manager - 9:00 a.m. (OMH)

August 19 - Deer Island HOA Meeting - 6:45 p.m. (HTH)

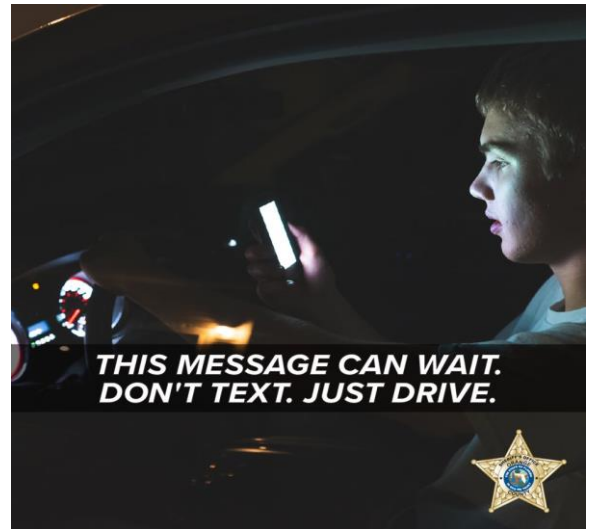
August 20 - P & Z Meeting - 6:30 p.m. (HTH)

August 25 - Johns Landing HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

HTH = Historic Town Hall OMH = Oakland Meeting Hall

these larger vehicles with all our traffic laws. We have recently worked in conjunction with the FHP and FDOT to make sure that these vehicles are operating as they should and are all properly inspected. This combination of efforts is designed to allow for the safe operation of this type of vehicle in concert with passenger vehicles that most of our residents operate. So far, our efforts have been successful, and we will continue those efforts moving forward.

Did you know that texting while driving is now a **primary offense**? Please refrain from distracted driving. No matter how important you think it is, safety comes first! Just put it down. Don't text while you're driving and always remember to buckle up!



Around Town

Coffee with the Town Manager



Town Manager Steve Koontz invites you to join him Thursday, August 15 at the Oakland Meeting Hall for **coffee** and **conversation** to learn more about Town services and programs. Residents will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas. **Coffee with the Town Manager** events are the third Thursday of the month from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and are open to the public. We hope to see you there!

JAZZ NIGHT



Friday Night Jazz is back! Our next event is Friday, August 23, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This month's special guests are the Sebastian Dones Quartet. Come join us in the Town Center for a relaxing evening of live music. **Friday Night Jazz** is presented by HAPCO Music Foundation every fourth Friday through October.

Police Department

There has been a significant increase in dump truck traffic in and around Oakland. These trucks are servicing developments in our town and others. We have increased our efforts to monitor these trucks and other construction vehicles as they travel Oakland Avenue, SR 50 and other roadways. Our objective is to ensure compliance from

Public Works Department

Hurricane Season

The 2019 hurricane season has arrived!! Don't wait until a tropical storm or hurricane is imminent before you begin preparation. Timely, advance preparation can protect both you and your property from harm. Please visit the following websites for tips and valuable information on how you can protect your family, your property and yourself during times of emergency.

<http://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/DiasterPreparedness.aspx#.V2Py3qT2aUk>

<http://www.ocfl.net/EmergencySafety/HurricaneSafetyGuide.aspx#.XSyX9OhKiUk>

Arts and Heritage Center

Work is steadily progressing on what will become the newest and most exciting building in the downtown area of Oakland. Among other things, the building will consist of nearly 2000 square feet of exhibit space, a wrap-around porch, a space for a future concession stand and much needed restrooms on the West Orange Trail. A “soft opening” is anticipated this Fall, with the official opening slated for some time after the first of the year.

As an added feature, a walkway is being planned which will connect the Center with Speer Park. Situated along Cross Street, it will be eight feet wide and meander among the huge oak trees that line the street. This improvement is scheduled to be ready just in time for the Oakland Heritage and Wildlife Festival to be held on October 26.



Arts and Heritage Center under construction.

Sewer System Improvements

The Town is preparing to move forward with additional sewer system improvements! Recently a bid was approved by the Town Commission for two separate extensions of the Town’s sewer system. The improvements will include a gravity system in the area of West Oakland Avenue, which will allow for connection of the commercial businesses between the turnpike bridge and the Circle K store. A second improvement will also be constructed that will extend a force main sewer from the Longleaf at Oakland neighborhood up to Tubb Street, allowing for connection of commercial properties along SR 50.

The winning bid was submitted by Valencia Construction Group, a local firm located in Winter Garden, in the amount of \$426,578.00. It should be noted that the funding for this improvement was made possible by the Florida Legislature through a \$1,000,000.00 grant, which we will not have to pay back! The remainder will fund additional sewer system improvements in the area.

2018 Annual Water Quality Report

Your **2018 Annual Water Quality Report** is now available for viewing online. This report contains vital information about the source and quality of your drinking water. To view the report online, please visit <https://oaklandfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3865/Consumer-Confidence-Report-2018>. If you would like to speak

with someone about the report or request a paper copy mailed to your home, please call 407-656-1117 x 2304.

Oakland Nature Preserve

Celebrating 20 Years of Education, Restoration, and Conservation



2019 Oakland Heritage & Wildlife Festival

The Oakland Heritage & Wildlife Festival is held each fall at the Town’s Speer Park. This free festival celebrates the cultural and natural history of the Lake Apopka basin and Central Florida. Join us Saturday, October 26 for this great day of food, entertainment, merchants, live entertainment, and family fun! Sponsorship and vendor applications are available online at www.OaklandNaturePreserve.org. This is the Preserve’s largest annual fundraiser. Proceeds benefit the Preserve and our environmental education programs.

Happenings

Education Challenge Match

Oakland Nature Preserve is delighted to announce that we have received a Challenge Match Grant for our environmental education programs! This grant will provide matching funds of \$15,000 if we are able to raise \$15,000 by **August 31!** This is extremely valuable to our environmental education programs, which serve people of all ages in both Orange and Lake counties. We are very proud of our educational accomplishments over the years, and with this opportunity we can continue to develop and expand our programs.

Your donation will be matched, dollar for dollar, so your contribution will have double the impact and will directly help fund our educational programs throughout the 2019-2020 school year.

Oakland Nature Preserve is an active 501c3 organization, and your donations may be tax deductible. You can make checks payable to Oakland Nature Preserve and mail to P.O. Box 841, Oakland, FL 34760. Please note on the memo line that your donation is for the Challenge Match Grant.

You can also visit www.OaklandNaturePreserve.org and click “donate” to have your gift matched. Thank you for your continued support of Oakland Nature Preserve!

Upcoming Events

- August 3 - Insect Safari
- August 7 - Summertime Story Time

Volunteer Opportunities

(Pre-register at www.OaklandNaturePreserve.org)

- **Community Workdays:** Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.
- **Restoration Projects:** Mondays from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

****Follow us on Facebook to see everything that is happening at YOUR Nature Preserve!**