



Community Calendar

Town meetings in October may be held both in person and/or virtually.

- Virtual Coffee with the Town Manager
Oct. 8 at 9 a.m.
RSVP to:
epappacoda@oaklandfl.gov
- SAC
Oct. 13 at 4 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall
- Town Commission
Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall/
Virtual
- Town Commission
Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall/
Virtual

Details: www.oaklandfl.gov

Town of OAKLAND Florida

RESTROOMS NOW OPEN AT HEALTHY WEST ORANGE ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTER AT THE TOWN OF OAKLAND

To accommodate a growing number of West Orange Trail goers, the Town of Oakland has opened outdoor public restrooms at The Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland.

The outdoor restrooms, located at 126 Petris Ave., operate seven days a week from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The facility will be managed and maintained by the Town. The new public restroom facilities were made possible through a \$182,000 donation by Orange County Government.

The Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland, nestled among the oaks on the West Orange Trail at Oakland Town Center, will be a dynamic hub for community activity. The Center's grand opening has been delayed due to COVID-19, however final touches continue on the building's exterior signage and interior gallery. Hours of operation for the Center will be announced at a later date.

The Town has posted a solicitation for proposals for Food and Beverage Concessions at the Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland. To bid on this project, visit www.oaklandfl.gov.

The Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center is committed to preserving Oakland's past, present and future. The Center supports the mission of Healthy West Orange. This project is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program.

PUBLIC WORKS PLANTS OVER 30 TREES



Making the most of recent rain and in keeping with its mission as a Tree City USA, the Town of Oakland planted more than 30 trees last week. Public Works staff planted 10 trees at Speer Park, eight along West Oakland Avenue and 15 trees near the Town's new lift station.

The Speer Park planting is part of an ongoing initiative to reinvigorate the property, which will include new sidewalks, playgrounds, sport courts and a pavilion.

The Oakland Avenue work helped to spruce up a location that needed some extra TLC. "This area was previously overgrown with weeds and a few invasive trees, which were removed as a part of the recently completed sewer project," said Public Works Director Mike Parker.

Staff installed 15 Red Cedar trees as a buffering around Lift Station #4. This important public facility is located adjacent to the Longleaf neighborhood and immediately west of Pollard Park.

For the 17th year, Oakland was named a Tree City USA® by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Oakland achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements.

TOWN OF OAKLAND REOPENS PLAYGROUNDS

The Town of Oakland has opened its playgrounds, which were temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

The decision comes with approval from Town Commission and in accordance with Orange County Parks and Recreation's opening of playgrounds on Sept. 19.

Pollard and Speer Park playgrounds are now open with the following guidelines to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19:

- A maximum of 10 children are allowed on the playground at one time.
- Visitors should maintain social distancing.
- Visitors should wash and/or sanitize their hands before and after use.
- Masks are strongly recommended.
- Families should follow CDC recommendations for park visits.

"The Town of Oakland is thrilled to be able to reopen playgrounds for area children with safety precautions and proper signage in place," said Town Manager Steve Koontz. "We ask that families follow the CDC's guidelines regarding social distancing to ensure our community can safely play outdoors in public spaces."

The Town of Oakland will continue existing cleaning and hygiene practices for outdoor areas. Visitors should be aware that surfaces may only be clean for the immediate period until touched by another child.





OAKLAND NATURE PRESERVE HOSTS PUMPKIN GLOW

The Oakland Nature Preserve is inviting ghouls and goblins to an enchanted evening hike. The Pumpkin Glow, the Preserve's new autumnal event, features a winding wooded trail of decorated and hand-carved jack-o'-lanterns. It will be hosted from 6-9 p.m. on Oct. 24 at the Preserve, located at 747 Machete Trail.

Participants are encouraged to dress in family-friendly costumes and bring a flashlight or lantern. Children will receive candy bags and will be able to meet some cool critters.

The Glow Trail will be lined with pumpkins created by members of the community, creating an ethereal and beautifully haunting sight. Those wishing to participate may carve a jack-o'-lantern for display with a battery powered light inside - no open flames will be allowed. All pumpkins submitted will be available for pick up the day after the event. Any pumpkins left behind will be shared with the Preserve's program animals for enrichment.

The night of the event, visitors will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite jack-o'-lanterns. All contest participants will receive a Pumpkin Glow Certificate and large ONP sticker. Awards for each carved jack-o'-lantern group will vary by age group. For details, visit <https://oaklandnaturepreserve.org/>

Admission to the ONP Pumpkin Glow is donation-based.

OAKLAND PD RAISES FUNDS FOR THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Through the Oakland Police Department and Special Olympics partnership, we are lighting the way for acceptance and inclusion. Please join us in being a "Virtual Guardian of the Flame," and help share a message with courageous Special Olympics athletes that COVID-19 could not stop us!

Did you know that more than 58,000 unified partners and athletes with intellectual disabilities receive health exams and compete in year-round sports competitions at no cost to them or their families? By raising funds, even more athletes will get to experience the joy of sports through the programs of Special Olympics Florida.

You can help! Please donate at the link below to make a quick, secure online donation directly to Special Olympics Florida!

<http://give.specialolympicsflorida.org/goto/OaklandPD>.



PD TO SUPPORT BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Oakland Police Department is doing their part by wearing pink badges and T-shirts.

VIRTUAL COFFEE WITH THE TOWN MANAGER

OAKLAND TOWN MANAGER STEVE KOONTZ INVITES YOU TO JOIN HIM FOR COFFEE AND CONVERSATION TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TOWN SERVICES AND PROGRAMS. RESIDENTS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS AND TO SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS.

RSVP TO EPAPPACODA@OAKLANDFL.GOV

SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

9 - 10 AM
ZOOM



COFFEE WITH THE TOWN MANAGER TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY

BYOC (bring your own coffee) to this month's virtual Coffee with the Town Manager on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 9 a.m. via Zoom.

Oakland Town Manager Steve Koontz invites you to join him for coffee and conversation to learn more about Town news, services and programs.

Residents will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas about various topics affecting the Town. The event also offers residents and business owners an opportunity to network with each other virtually.

The meetings will be held virtually on the second Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. through the end of the year, unless otherwise announced.

For login information for this virtual meeting, RSVP to Administrative Services Manager Elisha Pappacoda at epappacoda@oaklandfl.gov.

TOWN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR BOARDS

The Town of Oakland has a number of boards and committees which provide assistance to Town of Oakland staff and the Town Commission, most have monthly meetings and require only a few hours of a volunteer's time. These meetings are all open to the public.

Are you interested in serving? Volunteers are always needed to serve on the Town's Boards and Committees as there are periodically vacant seats. Most of the members will be recommended by town staff and appointed by the Town Commission. Feel free to attend a meeting to research and review the board/committee that is the best fit for you.

Please fill out the Application Form located on the Town's website oaklandfl.gov under "How Do I" > Apply for Board/Committee.

Applications can be dropped off at Town Hall at 230 N. Tubb Street, mailed to Town of Oakland, P.O. Box 98, or emailed to Elise Hui, Town Clerk at ehui@oaklandfl.gov.