

Oak Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc.

*David Rosin, President; Mike Brescia, Vice President
Julie Rosin, Secretary; Pat Spence, Treasurer.*

Current Events

- **Community Yard sale Success,** \$1,160 Richer
- **Drainage Easement** impact
- **Luminaires**-The Association has everything you need to participate.
- **Pasco County Recycling**
- **Recycling**—A new way to look at it
- **President's Corner** – Thankful
- **Florida Winter Gardening** – Add Some Color

Calendar

Dec 24 — Luminaries December 24, 2013, find out more on page 1

Apr 15, 2014 — Annual Oak Ridge Members' meeting. Time again to elect a new President

Jul 4—Annual Oak Ridge flag celebration

Community Yard Sale Success, \$1,160 Richer

On November 8,9, and 10, Julie and I took part in this years annual ORHA garage sale. This was an amazing accomplishment because I almost took another job to avoid having to take part in all the preparations like pricing all that stuff, putting down new carpet in our garage so our customers would feel welcome, hanging all sorts of stuff from our garage door supports, hiding everything we didn't want to sell, putting together all the old Ping Pong tables for use as display tables, making use of all my work tables, moving all my projects off the work tables so we could use them, covering all the tables with the

proper color coded old sheets, repairing all the saw horses so we could use them for display table support structure, gathering all that stuff from the attic, agonizing on having to part with some useless treasures, negotiating with customers that didn't want to pay a quarter for something that was worth ten cents, emptying out our closets, and probably the worst of all—getting up with the chickens to open the garage door for people waiting in line—for three days in a row. I'm not used to getting up with the chickens. Normally I just get up and go to lunch. I will have to say that after all the dust settled Julie reported that we were \$1,160.00 richer!!!!!! I can hardly wait till next year!!!!!!!
Doug Lines, 6505 Coronet Dr.

Drainage Easement Impact - What Pasco County is about to do to you.

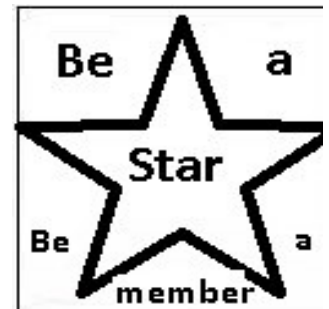
This year and the previous two years have brought above average rain fall to Pasco County. Debbie, the tropical storm in 2011 which held stationary in the Gulf of Mexico, brought rainfall amounts which are described by the Pasco County Storm Water Management as 500 year storm water events. During Debbie in 2011, Oak Ridge residents witnessed street flooding, easement flooding and backyard flooding which has not been seen in our neighborhood since its construction in 1979. Neighboring subdivisions, Trinity Oaks, One Thousand Oaks suffered significant flooding causing property damage in 2011. Oak Ridge was spared, as no reports of properties flooding were reported.



Pasco County storm water management has held meetings with the parcel owners of those neighborhoods over the subsequent two years and spent millions of Pasco County tax dollars (no joke, the amount spent to date approaches two million dollars) analyzing what needs to change to prevent future flooding. Mike Emanuel, one of your Oak Ridge Board of Directors has obtained the summation of that analysis in a [report](#), produced by Pasco County, on what has been accomplished to date and what are the planned changes for the future for storm water management.

Because of the nature of Duck Slough and its location to Oak Ridge, parcel owners and the water overflow which migrates to drainage easements that are located in Oak Ridge, the Oak Ridge Homeowners Association wanted you to be aware of the changes and their potential impact. I'm not an hydrologist and will be the first to admit I need to lookup the meaning of several of the words in the report to obtain an understanding of what was identified as the problem and the proposed solutions. Review the Pasco County report for yourself and draw your own conclusions.

To sum up the impact: More water, sooner will be transferred from the easements of neighboring subdivisions to Duck Slough and subsequently its overflow, the creek and spill way that runs between Ridgetop and Millstone roads in Oak Ridge.



Common sense:

You can help in small ways to ensure the water that is supposed to make its way to the Gulf of Mexico via the Anclote river gets there. (cont page 3)

Luminaire—Help light the neighborhood on Christmas Eve

Help light up Oak Ridge on December 24, 2013, Christmas Eve with Luminaries lining your property frontage.

Additional details, purchase options and the [necessary safety precautions](#) are available at the web site: <http://www.myorha.org/Luminary.aspx>

The following information was taken from the web site www.lumabase.com:

“Several variations of the luminary exist, but the one people are most familiar with is the one that contains a light source – usually a candle – inside a plain or decorated small paper bag. You probably know what luminaries look like, but did you know that not all of the United States calls them by the same name?

In parts of New Mexico, for instance, they're generally referred to as *farolitos*. This name is common in Santa Fe and other northern areas of the state. *Farolito* means “little lantern” in Spanish, and luminary, or [luminaire](#), means “festival light.” Traditionally, the term luminaire was used in reference to a vigil bonfire, though it's primarily northern New

Mexicans who have kept this distinction. But whether you call it a *farolito* or a luminaire, it's beautiful to look at and easy to make.”

“Just about everybody loves making a luminary, especially during the Christmas season.”

The hope among Roman Catholics is that the lights will guide the spirit of the Christ child to one's



home. To others, just a lighted path for Santa Claus. Which ever your purpose, join your neighbors to create a fantasy filled evening on Christmas Eve.

Luminaries are made from paper bags weighted down with sand and illuminated from within by a lit candle.

These are typically arranged in rows to create large and elaborate displays.

Be a part of the traditional Luminaries display here in the Oak Ridge neighborhood on [Christmas Eve](#).

Members and non-members of the association are welcome to participate to create a great festival of lights in our Oak Ridge Neighborhood that will be the envy of neighborhoods that surround us.

[You may purchase your luminaries](#) from the association for a discounted price as a member and it will be the best Christmas activity

you can do with your family in conjunction with bringing the neighborhood together with the holiday spirit.

Safety Safety Safety

The Association has a two page luminary how to and safety tip sheet available at:

<http://www.myorha.org/Documents/LuminaryHowTo.pdf>



Recycle Your Christmas Tree and MORE!!

Pasco County Christmas Tree Recycling will take place again this year from December 26, 2013 to January 5, 2014.

Please don't forget to remove everything from the tree prior to dropping it off. There are many drop-off locations throughout the county but the two closest to Oak Ridge are:

Anclote Gulf Park
2305 Bailie's Bluff Rd.
Holiday

Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park
10500 Wilderness Park Rd
New Port Richey

To learn tips for recycling during the holidays and year round check out the Pasco County Recycling Department's Fall newsletter posted on the ORHA web site.

Drainage Easement Impact - What Pasco County is about to do to you. (cont)

- ⇒ Keep the creeks behind your parcel debris free.
- ⇒ Clear fallen trees and brush to facilitate water flow (do not cut live trees without consulting a contractor who understands and abides by Pasco County code)
- ⇒ Report dumping to Pasco County Code Enforcement, DEP (Florida Department of Environmental Protection) or SWFWMD (South West Florida Water Management District)
- ⇒ Keep your swale / easement along the road right of way, free flowing. Contact Pasco County storm water management to have your swale reworked for maximum water flow. (they will do it for free).
- ⇒ If you've recently purchased or own a property that doesn't have a culvert or swale at the driveway easement, consider installing one to a) meet county code b) prevent street erosion (which you just recently paid for) c) reduce mosquito population by reducing standing water
- ⇒ If you own property that does have a culvert which runs under your driveway that is obstructed. Contract to have the culvert 'jetted' or cleaned out

Other ways to recycle

By Mandy Stephens, Pasco Co recycling coordinator

Pasco County publishes a [recycling newsletter](#) from time to time and the latest has a timely article, by Mandy Stephens, about "recycling" in a way you may have not thought about.

"Have you ever donated new or gently used clothing, appliances, furniture, or even a used car to a local non-profit agency? Whether you realize this or not, by donating items (versus just throwing them away) you are reducing your carbon footprint"

There are multiple non-profit agencies in Pasco County that can use reuse items, either by giving these items straight to those in

need or to resell these items. Reselling items can help the non profit agency generate money; it also allows individuals to work who might not otherwise have an income.

*Goodwill, 1 800 GOODWILL or email contactus@goodwill.org
HPH Hospice, 1-800-486-8784 Habitat for Humanity, (727) 843-8786 (NPR), Salvation Army, for information call (727) 937-7841 (Holiday)*

President's Corner— A lot to be thankful for

I'm writing this newsletter at 36,000 feet on our 16 hour return trip from Bangkok, Thailand.

Visiting different countries and experiencing their culture and way of life gives me a deep appreciation for our way of life, both at the National level and the neighborhood level.

Travel is a great benefit I have been lucky enough to experience much of my life; but as much fun as going away is, returning is even better.

I miss the neighbor chats with Frank and Martha and planning the next camping trip down to Fort Desoto; seeing how the new baby of neighbors Mike and Amanda, is doing. Making fun of Gayne's hats (I know she knows I'm only kidding her) and enjoying a

Smithwicks with her husband, Bob while we discuss the latest home remodel or repair (you should see the Italian plaster job he accomplished in the master bathroom remodel). Looking forward to the vacant house two doors down that is for sale to have new owners and doing what new owners do best; fix up the place. Discussing politics with Pat and Mark in between Wally's barks.

I have a lot to be thankful for everyday, all year round.

Please plan on participating in the Christmas Eve luminary display to help guide the spirit of Christmas to your front door.

The clock's a-tickin'. There will be less than twenty shopping days left by the

time you read this piece.

May God bless you and your loved ones in the new year.

Merry Christmas.

David Rosin

President





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Together we can do wonderful things

Christmas Bonus

The first 10 people who email president@myorha.org with the word "LUMINARIES" as the subject line will receive a set of 10 luminaries, complements of the Oak Ridge Homeowner's Association

<http://www.myorha.org>

Florida Winter Gardening – Add Some Color

Submitted by Bill Higdon

Winter is a time for Florida gardeners to plant colorful annuals. We can plant dusty miller, alyssum, calendula, pansies, impatiens, petunias, and snapdragons. All of these can withstand a light frost. There are many beautiful varieties of geraniums also available although some of these plants may need some protection. Plant delphinium, foxglove, hollyhocks and sweet peas for winter or spring bloom.

Hollies give good fall through winter color. Other cool season berry plants include the native beautyberry and pyracantha.

Camellias "the rose of winter" can add a beautiful burst of rose-like colors to your winter landscapes. They are dark evergreen shrubs which are grown best under a canopy of partial light shade, like a stand of pine trees. They love an acid soil.

This is an ideal time to plant winter vegetables such as beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, collards, lettuce, onions, peas, radishes, and spinach. Most can withstand a light freeze.

Herbs that should be doing well now are chives, rosemary, basil, parsley, oregano, and mints.

Lawn care is slowing down now. If necessary use spot weed control for your lawn type. It's too late to feed but if you forgot you can use a winterizer product in early December.

Delay pruning until after holiday plants are dormant. Then you can begin to prune such plants as crape myrtles, shade trees, deciduous fruit trees and hardy shrubs until after they bloom. Resist pruning hydrangeas, they have formed buds in their stems that will

bloom in the spring.

For tomato, pepper and eggplant transplants to plant on March 1, sow the seeds in mid January. It usually takes about six weeks to grow transplants this time of year.

Be prepared for a freeze. Sometimes moving a plant under the canopy of trees or applying a layer of fabric will be enough. No plastic. Be ready to move prized plants indoors until safe. If plants are injured by a freeze, delay pruning until you are sure there will be no more freezes, then trim.

Enjoy the winter months. This is a great time to plan for the next growing season.

Oak Ridge Restrictions Committee— Holds First Meeting

The first meeting of the Oak Ridge Restrictions Committee occurred in November in preparation to submit its recommendations to the Oak Ridge Board of Directors. The committee, chaired by Doug Lines, operates under these written [guide-lines](#) and as always seeks your participation to help with the enforcement of the

[DECLARATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF OAK RIDGE SUBDIVISION.](#)

A special Thank You to Doug Lines, Bipin Parikh, Chuck Hollweg, Martin Danko, and Julie Holt for their assistance.

You may review the meeting minutes of the

The Oak Ridge Homeowners' Association, Inc. (ORHA) is a voluntary HOA in a deed restricted community located in beautiful New Port Richey, Florida.

The contents of this publication, both hardcopy and electronic are for the benefit of the paid members of the Oak Ridge Homeowners Association and the parcel owners of Oak Ridge.

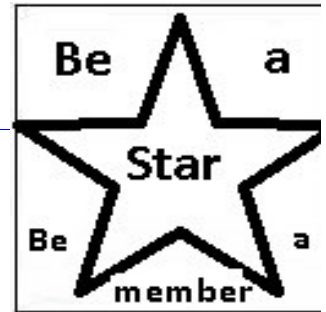
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Oak Ridge Restrictions Committee on the Legal Information page of the web site:

<http://www.myorha.org/legalInfo.aspx>