Volume 4, Issue 3

September 2013

Oak Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc.

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

Current Events

- Restrictions Committee—How are our Covenants and Restrictions enforced
- Property Values—Why the HOA exists
- **Community Yard Sale—** November is the time to clean out the garage
- **Veterans Day Flags**-Join the fun with flags, November 9, 10, 11.
- Opportunity to Assist Local Veterans
 James A Haley Veterans Hospital
- **President's Corner** Tell us about your "home improvement" projects

Calendar

Nov 8 thru 11—Flag salute to Veterans

Nov 8, 9 and 10—Oak Ridge Community Yard Sale

Dec 24-Luminaries Display

Apr 15, 2014—Annual Oak Ridge Member's meeting

Restrictions Committee-Maintaining your Property Value

The Oak Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc. from time to time needs your assistance.

The Oak Ridge Restrictions committee is an advisory

Ridge parcel owners who determine if the <u>DECLARA-</u> TION OF COV-ENANTS AND RE-STRICTIONS FOR THE OR-DERLY DE-

group of Oak

Restrictions Committee: The committee will follow a written guideline, to be provided to the members by the Association, for data acquisitions and follow through, up to and including Pasco County Court appearance before a Judge with the Oak Ridge parcel owner in an attempt to resolve the violation to everyone's satisfaction.

Did you know?

ORHA members advertise free on www.myorha.org?

ORHA members advertise at discounted rates in the newsletter?

ORHA members receive discounts on flags and luminaries?

Are you an ORHA member?

www.myorha.org

As the President of the Association, and per the Associations bylaws, I have responsibility to seek volunteers to staff the Restrictions committee.

If a complaint is received for an Oak Ridge parcel owner, I seek participation in the Oak Ridge Restrictions committee of parcel owners in the proximity to the complaint. Your insight is valuable, your participation is sought.

If you receive a letter from the Association, please help the Restrictions Committee do its part in enforcing the <u>DECLA-RATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE OR-DERLY DEVELOPMENT OF OAK RIDGE SUBDIVISION</u>, by participating.

<u>VELOPMENT</u> <u>OF OAK RIDGE SUBDIVISION</u> has been violat-

ed by an Oak Ridge parcel owner. The committee chairperson, with help from the committee members, makes recommendations to the Oak Ridge Board of Directors for enforcement of the <u>DECLARATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF OAK RIDGE SUBDIVISION</u>.

Property Values—Why the HOA exists

Besides organizing the annual member meetings, besides publishing newsletters, besides acting as an information source on topics that affect Oak Ridge parcel owners, besides organizing neighborhood events such as the annual yard sale, annual luminaries, bi-annual flag celebrations, the Oak Ridge Homeowners association is here for one reason; to maximize your value in your home.

Each of us, as a homeowner, has a deep interest in seeing our property value increase. Real Estate professionals can provide you with specific information on every aspect of your home, from the pool outback to the remodeled master bath; but neighborhood is and always has been KEY to selling a home.

When your purchased your Oak Ridge property, you were provided with the <u>DECLARATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF OAK RIDGE SUBDIVISION</u> and by purchasing, you agreed to abide by those covenants on the property. That document exists for your benefit and its purpose is to maximize the value of your property.

The Oak Ridge Homeowners Association has the responsibility of enforcing those covenants. The process used by the Association is documented in the <u>By-laws</u> of the organization and more specifically the section that describes the Restrictions Committee. **We're a team for your benefit.**

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Herbs for Fall Planting

The following herbs are perfect for fall planting in most of Florida. Some may even be planted during the winter months in South Florida. Seeds and transplants of most common herbs are generally available at local retail stores or seed retailers. Some less popular types may be a bit harder to find, but may be obtained from herb specialty businesses. A few of the more common herb choices are:

Anise– is grown for its seeds. It has many white flowers and is attractive in a flower garden or as a border plant. Leaves may be used fresh. Harvest the seeds when they turn brown. Separate the seeds from the fruiting structures (umbels). You may need to dry the umbels before the seeds can be separated, cleaned, and stored.

Basil— is a spicy, pleasant-smelling herb. The tender leaves may be used fresh at any time or dried along with the white flowers.

Coriander– is a grown mainly for its aromatic seeds. The fresh foliage of coriander is also used in cooking and is called cilantro. When the tiny fruits mature and turn brown—about three months after seeding—remove them from the plant and dry them on a screen. Once dried, thresh the seeds and store them in a dry, airtight container.

Dill-is a flavoring plant that gives dill pickles their name. It is a strong-smelling, fennel-like plant with yellow flowers that develop

into fruiting structures. The fruiting tops, leaves, and stems may be used fresh or dried.

Garlic- is similar to onion, except that instead of producing a single bulbous stem, it produces a bulb made up of many spicy, pungent cloves. Growing garlic is similar to growing onions. The suggested planting time for garlic is October through January. Plant garlic by dividing the bulb and planting the cloves.

Ginger- is a perennial plant that produces well from Homestead to Pensacola. It grows from thick underground rhizomes that are very aromatic. Harvest the roots about a year after planting, when the stalks die down. After cleaning, scraping, boiling, and peeling the roots, dry them in the hot sun for about a week.

Parsley– is easily grown in Florida gardens. The leaves are used fresh or dried as flavoring or a decorative garnish. The rooting types are useful as a cooked vegetable, particularly in soups.

Rosemary—is a hardy perennial with a spicy aroma. Small pink flowers form in the second or third year. Use the leaves fresh or dried in cooking.

To explore the full list, go to the Pasco County Extension web site http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu/hot_topics/lawn_and_garden/herbs_for_fall.html#)

November 8 through 11, 2013 —Oak Ridge Annual Veteran's Day Flay Display

Fall brings us cooler weather and our purchasing and displaying your flags

annual Veteran's Day This salute. year's flag display coincides with our annual community yard sale. The overlapping events afford lots of flag visibility.

You may purchase flags online via the web site at http://www.myorha.org/ flagDisplayInfo.shtm

Oak Ridge salutes our veterans with a massive display of streets lined with U.S. flags each year.

Be a part of this annual celebration by

beginning Friday morning, November 8, 2013 through sundown Monday, November 11, 2013.

Flag purchases must be completed online by November 1st and will be delivered to you at the address you provide by November 7th.

Oak Ridge members save approximately 33% over non-members.

If you haven't joined the association, it is to your benefit, in more ways than one, to join now.

It's an easy way to show our patriotism and our appreciation for those who sacrifice a lot for us and the freedom we enjoy. We've noticed more and more Oak Ridge residents participating and it looks GREAT! Keep up the good work!

Consider participating; it's an easy way to show our support for our Vets.

Emergency - 911 Non-Emergency Sheriff 727 847 5878 Fire 727 847 8102 Code Enforcement 727 847 8110 Volume 4, Issue 3 Page 3

Banner of a Yard Sale—Nov 8, 9 and 10

The annual Oak Ridge Community Yard Sale will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; November 8, 9 and 10.

The Association will be running ads on Craig's List and other free

media resources in addition to paid advertising in the St Pete times and/or Pasco Tribune. We will also place signs at the nine subdivision entrances and a Banner (see photo) beginning Monday, November

It is important for your success to supplement this advertising effort by placing signs with arrows at your corner to draw people down your street. An indication on your mailbox of your participation in the community yard sale event is also a good idea.

The signs to remind Oak Ridge residents of the event will be placed at the exits of the subdivision and facing IN, approximately two weeks prior to November 8.

On Thursday evening, November 7, the signs advertising the event will be relocated at each entrance to be facing the passing traffic, to draw them into the subdivision.

Some tips from www.yardsalequeen.com are:

- ⇒ Getting people to your house is the first priority, so advertising and signage is critical to your success.
 - ⇒ Check your sign's effectiveness by driving by it yourself—can you read it easily from your car?
 - ⇒ Signs need to be solid and sturdy. Plain paper droops in the humidity so use heavy poster board or cardboard. Use a dark colored marker and print LARGE and clearly.
 - ⇒ **Price things**—yes, it's a pain but people are more apt to either buy or make an offer if they know the starting price.
- ⇒ **Price things to sell.** Do you really want to return that lamp to the attic for one more year?



President's Corner—Home improvement

Did you start (and finish) any projects this past summer? Any planned for the fall?

Send us pictures, tell us what you did or had contracted to have done and how the project went. We'll publish the pictures and your story on the project. Any helpful tips for others? Would you recommend the contractor? Would you do the job by yourself again?

Curious minds (your neighbors) want to know.

We're wrapping up a driveway paver project here at our house now. The concrete driveway that was poured in 1979 had cracks and had dropped about one inch where it met the garage. That drop caused water to drain

toward the foundation of the house. That was unacceptable.

The options to renovate the drive way were; 1) Concrete 2) Asphalt 3) Pavers

Concrete is what was currently in place, asphalt just didn't provide the look we wanted, so we checked out the options for concrete pavers.

We contacted three different paver con-

tractors and after narrowing to two, whose estimates were very close on price, we signed a contract with Premier Paves of Clearwater. The estimate did not include sealing the pavers, but by accomplishing this relative sim-

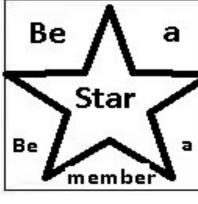
ple part of the project we saved almost one thousand dollars.

After product ordering, Pasco County permit acquisition and resource scheduling, the project actually completed in three days.

The project added value to the property and solved the drainage issue. A win-win.

Send in your project details and pictures if you have them. Enquiring minds want to know.







Oak Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc.

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

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http://www.myorha.org

Opportunity to Assist Local Veterans—James A Haley Veterans' Hospital, Tampa FL

Contributed By Julie Rosin

My husband David and I volunteered at the Veterans Wheelchair Games event in Tampa recently and the personal "reward" was far more than the time we were able to give. There was a sense of a common purpose and community to have things go smoothly and make it the most enjoyable experience for all the vets and their families. Being a part of an event that brought so many smiles truly warmed my heart and made me want to do more.

With Veteran's Day just around the corner there is an opportunity to assist James A Haley Veterans' Hospital in getting disabled Veterans to the Veterans Day Parade that will be held Monday, November 11.

"James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital depends on the goodwill of their benefactors and volunteers who wish to give something back to America's heroes." To explore the various volunteer opportunities and how you can become involved, visit their web site at (http:// www.tampa.va.gov/giving/ index.asp) or contact their Voluntary Service Office at (813) 972-7533.

Volunteering is a win-win. You are helping others, but in the process you are benefiting also. It's good for the mind, the body and definitely the soul.

From helpguide.org, here are some additional reasons to volunteer:

- 1. Help others
- 2. Learn a new skill
- 3. Use your skills in a productive way
- 4. Be a part of your Community

- 5. Motivation and sense of achievement
- 6. Explore new areas of interest
- 7. Meet a diverse range of peo-
- 8. Gain new experiences and skills
- 9. Boost your career options
- 10. Make a difference
- 11. Contribute to a cause you care about

Several factors drive people into community service, but the powerful force behind volunteering is the social change that is made through the inspiration of people to make a difference to help those in need.

Many organizations can not function without the energy and input of volunteers.



Please help the James A Haley Veterans Hospital. Again, their web site is: (http://www.tampa.va.gov/ giving/index.asp) or contact their Voluntary Service Office at (813) 972-7533.