

# Oak Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc.

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

## Current Events

- Warm Thank You—
- ORHA Members in Indianapolis, IN—
- Long Time Oak Ridge HOA members—
- BMP 1a work begins—
- NBC—
- Hummingbirds
- **President's Corner**— Neighbors get together and Members meeting importance
- **Scheduled Events:**
  - **July 4th** – Independence Day Flag celebration planned for July 4, 5 and 6, 2014
  - **Nov 7, 8, and 9** – Oak Ridge Community Yard Sale
  - **Nov 11** – Veteran's Day Flag celebration
  - **Dec 24** – Luminaries

## A warm thank you from an exceptional Oak Ridge parcel owner

The Oak Ridge Neighborhood Get Together went off without a hitch due to the hard work and careful planning of John McCormick and Mike Brescia with assistance from Randy Mabry, Mike Emanuel, and John Williams. To top of this successful Oak Ridge event, were the parcel owners who participated by bringing a side dish for all to enjoy. The association received numerous compliments from both participants and non-participants but one stands out and says 'Thank you' the best of them all.

*I grew up on a farm and the neighbors' homes were spread out over a wide area. Every neighbor who had a telephone had a different ring tone, but when the telephone rang everyone listened in. The word spread quickly when the neighbors found out that my folks were sheltering a homeless mother and her 5 children and they sprang into action. Home baked goods, tons of toys and all sizes of clothing arrived almost every day. Neighbors even offered money and ran errands to help.*

*That spirit of togetherness was renewed for me with the Oakridge Homeowners first social get together. It was held last month on a sunny afternoon, gratefully hosted at the residence of –John McCormick Through the innovativeness and ingenuity of the Oakridge Homeowners committee, we came together as good neighbors from all sections of Oakridge, happy to make new acquaintances and to renew old friendships. It was a fun-filled day with plenty of drinks and great food.*

*The days of corresponding by listening in on the neighbor's telephone conversations are long gone but hopefully our Oakridge get together socials will continue for a long time to come.*

**Barbara Mallon**

If you had the pleasure to meet Barbara at the get-together as I did or if you are lucky enough to know Barbara, you know she is an inspiration to the human condition.

Her and I spoke at length about her upcoming trip to Europe and the skillfulness she has used to book the Air, Hotel and Cruise segments on the Internet.

I introduced Barbara to my Welsh neighbor Bob (you met him at the Members meeting as he ran the N&E (Nominations and Elections) committee.

I'm not sure who bent who's ear the most but Bob and Barbara discussed Europe in general and United Kingdom specifically for

a long time.

Thank you Barbara for your kind note and thank you John M, Mike B, Mike E, Randy, John W and **all** who worked to make the first Oak Ridge Neighborhood Get Together a big success.

## Oak Ridge July 4 Flag Celebration to run Jul 3-6th

At the Oak Annual members meeting, Wally M. asked how can we achieve greater participation with Flag celebrations.

I need your help!

Oak Ridge salutes our Nation's independence each July 4th with a massive display of lawn-lined U.S. Flags. I need you to help make this the biggest display of U.S. Flag lined streets in all of Pasco County. **July 4th is only a couple of weeks away.**

Be a part of this annual celebration this year by displaying your flags beginning Thursday evening July 3 through sundown, Sunday, July 6, 2014.

You may purchase flags online via the Oak Ridge Homeowners Association web site at <http://www.myorha.org/flagDisplayInfo.shtm>

## Association Members in Indianapolis

Darlene and George C. (Left) were spotted on the show floor at the Indianapolis Convention center on Friday, the first day of the show.

Julie and I (right) had heard that **Can Can Concealment** would have a presence at the show and we were determined to find them in the sea of hundreds of vendors on the show floor of the Indianapolis Convention Center for the [NRA annual members' meeting](#).



Numerous celebrities were seen on the show floor Will Hayden (from "Sons of Guns" TV show and Red Jacket Firearms), Bobby Jindal (LA Gov), Joe Nichols (country singer), and Tim Schmidt (President/CEO of USACCW).

Darlene and George are our Oak Ridge "celebrities".

## Long time members of the Oak Ridge HOA—Darlene and George

In addition to Darlene and George being successful entrepreneur, they are friendly people and best of all, Oak Ridge Homeowner's Association members (shameless plug for membership in our Association) When you bump into

suggest you look at and compare all the products on the market and choose the best one available, which would be the ones produced by **Can Can Concealment**.



George or Darlene you receive a friendly smile and a warm 'hello'. They are neighbors you hope for when you move in or your long time neighbor moves away and someone buys the home next door.

If you are in the market for their product type, I'd like to

I've seen the product and know personally one of the workers who makes the product. Top quality product made **locally** by a darned good seamstress!

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## Pasco Stormwater—BMP 1A work begins on Seven Springs (part 2)

[http://www18.swfwmd.state.fl.us/Erp/ERP/Entry/ERP.aspx?per\\_mit=34034&rev=1&UniquePageID=2155c84f-cd26-4fad-92d2-20a130afd1e5](http://www18.swfwmd.state.fl.us/Erp/ERP/Entry/ERP.aspx?per_mit=34034&rev=1&UniquePageID=2155c84f-cd26-4fad-92d2-20a130afd1e5)

*"ABSTRACT: This permit authorization is for the modification of an existing surface water management system serving a drainage improvement project in southwest Pasco County. The project is designed to improve conveyance in Duck Slough in an effort to alleviate upstream flooding. The area upstream from this project has had recorded flooding of homes and streets. The project consists of 2 parts identified as BMP1A and BMP 5A on the plans.*

BMP 1A is located in Duck Slough between Mitchell Boulevard and Seven Springs Road, about 0.1 mile north of their intersection in Section 36, Township 26, Range 16. BMP1A consists of two 36-inch pipes with operable gates at the downstream end. The gates on BMP

1A are to be operated according to Duck Slough BMP 1A Operation and Maintenance guidelines submitted to the District on October 28, 2013. The gates are to be opened only in anticipation of a significant rainfall event (i.e., an event that is expected to result in flood risk to upstream properties). The BMP 1A gates are to be closed at the onset of significant rainfall and are to remain closed for the duration of that event.



**727-375-2288**  
Nancy & Bob Kinney  
OREA Member

By now you have seen the heavy equipment and construction personnel at the job site.

Oak Ridge Homeowner's Association received clarification as to the impact the changes would have on the Oak Ridge Canal, which is the main canal that runs between Ridgetop Road and Coronet Drive.

**Emergency - 911**  
**Non-Emergency Sheriff**  
**727 847 5878**  
**Fire**  
**727 847 8102**  
**Code Enforcement**  
**727 847 8110**

Oak Ridge homeowners who live on these streets should take particular interest in this project and its correct execution. It is the opinion of this Oak Ridge Homeowner's Association President that SWFWMD has done its due diligence in protecting 'down water' (that would be

Oak Ridge) from the Pasco Stormwater's planned changes. When Pasco Stormwater operates BMP1a per guidelines, Oak Ridge should encounter no change in existing water flow during a storm event.

Residents who live along Oak Ridge Canal: Although there are easements for access, you own it and must ensure that water way is clear of debris. You and everyone upstream depend on unobstructed flow to reduce the potential of flooding in a rain event.

## What's going on behind the CVS Drug store—By Mike Emanuel

### Whats Going on Behind the CVS Drug Store?

The final phases of the Thousand Oaks / Trinity Oaks Flood Mitigation Project. Since this project has the potential to impact homeowners in Oak Ridge, your ORHA President and board members have been following its progress and attending public meetings to ensure that we are represented. Here are some of the highlights that might help you to quickly understand what the problem was, and what is being done to correct it.

- Pre-1978 - The area now known as "Trinity" is scattered with wetlands that provide drainage by an East to West movement of water through Duck Slough, to the Anclote River and out to the Gulf of Mexico. The Eldridge Wilde wellfield is located in Pinellas County, on the Southern edge of the "Duck Sough Drainage Basin". There are concerns that years of pumping have started to diminish the wetlands.
- 1979 - Oak Ridge is developed at the Western edge of the "Duck Slough Drainage Basin". Several natural creeks are expanded, including major widening of a creek that paral-

els Duck Slough. This creek runs between Coronet and Ridge Top Dr. and terminates in a small pond with a weir that leads to the Anclote River. There is also a spillway that connects this pond to Ducks Slough if the water rises high enough.

- 1980's- mid 1990s - Trinity Oaks and Thousand Oaks are developed to the East of Oak Ridge. Engineers purposely hinder natural flows through Duck Slough in an attempt to retain water and mitigate loss of wetlands due to pumping from the wellfields.
- 2003/2004 - During El Nino storms, Trinity/Thousands Oaks get their first real floods, damaging streets so bad that Federal Disaster grants are used for repairs.
- 2005 - Pasco County & SWFWMD hire consultants and map out a plan to mitigate flooding by restoring natural flow from Trinity / Thousands Oaks through the Duck Sough network of creeks to the Anclote River.
- 2011 - Pasco County spends \$1 Mil to complete several remotely controlled gates and other control structures, but cannot get approval to deep-

en existing flow paths so the water can reach the gates.

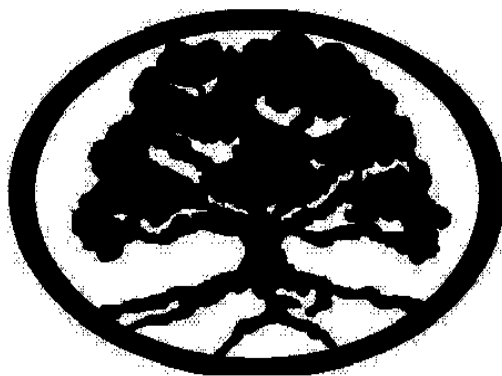
- 2012 - Tropical Storm Debby causes major flooding of streets and homes in Trinity/Thousand Oaks.
- 2013/14 - Pasco County is granted approval to complete the deepening of existing flow paths and has started to complete the project.

The work behind the CVS Drug Store, along with the remotely controlled gates that have been installed in the creek that runs between Coronet and Ridge Top are key components in the County's Flood Management plan. Deepened flow paths will allow water to flow from the Trinity / Thousand Oaks neighborhoods, under Mitchell Blvd, behind the CVS, under Seven Springs Blvd and down the creek. The gates will allow independent control of water levels in the creek and in the ponds/wetlands of Trinity / Thousands Oaks. In anticipation of a major flood event, the gates can be remotely opened and water levels drawn down to limit the risk of flooding.

## Neighborhood Beautification Committee—By Mike Emanuel

### Entrance Signs

We have been experimenting with inexpensive solar powered floodlamps at the Collingswood entrance, and happy to report that they are still functioning perfectly after a year of being exposed to the elements, weedwackers, etc. After a normal sunny day, the lights will shine



Oak Ridge Membership  
Protect your home investment

pretty strong until midnight and gradually fade out into the early morning hours. Based on this success, additional lights were purchased and installed at the Millstone and Overview entrances. So with very little upfront cost and maintenance requirement, we now have lighted signs!

A project to standardize the lettering and colors used on each sign began last year, and continues to putter along. Several color, and weathering tests are in progress as we seek ways to get a professional look on a shoe-string budget.

**We would also like to thank the volunteers who regularly donate their time and sweat to maintain the landscaping in front of each of our entrance signs. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated. We don't always see you in action, but we sure know when you've been there. THANK YOU!**



## Hummingbirds in our Backyard – By Bill Higdon

Hummingbirds live only in the Americas. There are 338 species known and 16 of them are found in the United States and three are found in Florida. The black-chinned and rufous hummingbirds can be seen occasionally in Florida. The ruby throated hummingbird is the most common hummingbird found in this state.

This name comes from the brilliant color of their throat feathers which contain air bubbles that give off an iridescent red tone in full light. Their backs

are metallic green and they have two sets of tail feathers: two green ones in the center that cover eight outer black ones when they're folded. In hens and juveniles, the black feathers have white tips, males lose the white tips as they mature.

Since the ruby throated hummer is the only one that breeds in Florida, this article will focus on their habitat and how to attract them.

In Florida, although some birds stay all winter, most males hummingbirds arrive in March and the hens arrive about a week later. They stay until September.

Their nests are made of plant down, lichens, moss and bound with spider web and plant fibers. The nest is the size of a walnut shell and they are frequently built over water.

Hummingbirds are well adapted to a liquid diet. Long needle like bills and specially adapted tongues allow them to reach nectar deep inside a flower (tubular flowers). They can lick up to 13 times a second. When they are young, insects are an important part

of their diet and are used to feed babies. As they mature, they switch over to nectar but will still consume some insects.

For their size, they have some of the largest appetites in the bird world, feeding every 10 – 15 minutes from dawn till dusk.

Artificial feeders will attract these birds but should not be the only source of food for them. The sugar solution used to feed them does not offer much nutrition so having plants that provide nectar is extremely important. They will eat more than eight times their body weight in water and half their weight in food.

One bird may need nectar from nearly hundreds of blossoms daily to maintain their body weight.

Gardening for hummingbirds must be planned. They are drawn to the colors red, orange or pink. This attraction is learned and is not instinct. Tubular flowers that are either long or drooping are best. Blooming season is another important consideration. Nesting birds need nectar from March to September so it is best to plant a variety of flowers. Plant your flowers in different parts of the yard to create small hummingbird gardens because the males are very territorial and this will help eliminate fighting.

Some plants that attract hummingbirds are as follows: Butterfly milkweed, pentas, shrimp plants, Red basil, passion vines, trumpet vines, firespike, hibiscus, and bottle brush. These are just a few of many.

Mix and match according to light requirements. Remember to choose the right plant for the right spot.



## Remembering and Showing Support for the Troops—By Pauline

I remember when my son was serving in Dessert Storm for a year.



Everywhere I went there were yellow ribbons tied on trees, mail boxes and houses everywhere. I was so proud and felt everyone was supporting our troops.

Now you don't see or hear anything about our troops who are serving, getting wounded and killed.

It is time to show our support once again. I have researched buying yellow ribbons to show support for our troops.



The cost would be \$6.25 for a 9 inch with 20 loops or \$7.00 for a 6 inch plastic ribbon. If interested in working on this project or purchasing ribbons, contact Pauline M at: linka41@live.com





*Oak Ridge Homeowner's Association, Inc.  
A Florida non for profit corporation*

Oak Ridge Homeowners Association Primary Business  
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New Port Richey FL 34655

The **first five people** who read this and send an email to the President of the association with 'FLAGS' as the subject line will receive 10 US Flags for the 4th of July.

**Without you, we are nothing. Join, contribute, be involved, be a member.**

<http://www.myorha.org>

*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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## Biking in and around Oak Ridge—By Mike Emanuel

### New Sidewalk South of Collingswood Ct Entrance

A new section of sidewalk now connects the intersection of Seven Springs/Collingswood Ct to the refurbished sidewalk on the Pinellas County side. This is great news for those of us in Oak Ridge Phase III who have had to push our bikes along the side of Seven

Springs/East Lake Rd to get to the miles of bike trails that await in Pinellas county. Along with the widening of Keystone Rd, the PTKC (Pinellas Trial Keystone Connector) was also opened to allow safe hiking/biking all the way through to downtown Tarpon Springs, as well as completing the connection to the Pinellas Trail. Oak Ridge resi-

dents to the North still do not have continuous sidewalk on the West side of Seven Springs Blvd. They must cross over to the East side at the Perrine Ranch or Hideaway traffic signal, or they can ride down Copperfield and Ridge Top in Oak Ridge Phase III to make the connection to the new sidewalk.

## President's Corner— Emergency Services and your House Number

At the Annual members meeting you heard a Pasco County deputy mention the importance of having your house number in a prominent location such that, when seconds count, emergency services isn't cruising right by your house because they can't see the number easily.



Membership means success

the development of guidelines for the display of house numbers and house names.

The minimum height for numerals and letters at 75mm, plain legible numbers or letters made from white or yellow reflective material are preferred, as red, blue or green can not

be easily seen, even with a spotlight at night. Ideally, numbers or letters

would be attached to a dark, non-reflective background or mounting plate as a light colored or reflective background can wash out numbers and letters, making them harder to read. Numbers and names should be displayed at the front of a property.

Be safe, be creative and have fun!

*David Rosin*

President

[National Ambulance Service](#) is calling for