

OAK RIDGE

Homeowner's Association

Newsletter

April 2017



Current ORHA Officers

President: John Williams
Vice President: Linda Grosse
Treasurer: Annette Guiliani
Secretary: Danielle Phillippi

Directors

Vacant Position

Mike Emmanuel
Charley Wischmann
Wally McKinley

Restrictions Committee

Chairperson: Doug Lines

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Oak Ridge Homeowners
Association, Inc

A Florida not for profit corporation
The Oak Ridge Homeowners'
Association, Inc. (ORHA) is
a voluntary HOA in a deed
restricted community located in
beautiful New Port Richey, Florida.

<http://www.myorha.org>

Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members Meeting of the Oak Ridge
Homeowners Association will be held:

Date: **Tuesday, April 11, 2017** Time: **7:30**

Location: **Trinity Meeting Center**
7813 Mitchell Blvd Suite 106
New Port Richey, FL 34655

All Oak Ridge residents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Topics of discussion to include; new Millstone Wall, financial presentation, ORHA Board Member elections, and amending ORHA membership by-laws. As of March 28th, John Williams has assumed the role of HOA President. He has been serving as the Board Chairperson as the role of president has been vacant. The Oak Ridge Board has asked John to fulfill the position and he has accepted. This leaves an opening on the Board of Directors.

There are following board members are up for election:

Mike Emmanuel Charley Wischmann Wally McKinley

There is one vacant board member opening.

The Oakridge HOA has previously taken care of some of the following issues:

•Millstone Wall

•Restrictions Committee-15 properties have responded positivity to courtesy letters sent to ensure our beautiful neighborhood

•Supported keeping Oak Ridge at Mitchell High School by attending school board meetings and voicing opinions to keep the zoning the same.

*Please support the Oak Ridge HOA and bring your comments,
concerns and most importantly, YOURSELF*

Please Note

Don't forget to pay your annual dues of \$35

While membership is voluntary, only paid members of the Oak Ridge Homeowners Association for the 2017-2018 will be able to vote on topics.

Millstone Entrance Wall



An uninsured driver destroyed our Millstone entrance wall along Seven Springs Blvd. on August 7, 2016. "Brick By The Mile Custom Masonry" has replaced the wall. The owner, Mr. Mark Tunny, and his Brother-in-law, Don Farlow, accomplished the remaining demolition and reconstruction of the wall. Mark and Don were able to salvage enough of the original brick to rebuild the new wall that saved our Association a considerable amount of money. New bricks would have cost us \$2.00 each!

The new wall is slightly smaller than the original wall due to the loss of some original brick. The wall was also reduced in size because the trees at the ends of the original wall were putting pressure on the wall structure and have grown considerably larger over the years.

Soon we will have new lettering on all three of the entrance walls. The new lettering will replace the existing deteriorating lettering on all the entrance walls and will also bring them into conformity in appearance.

If you should see Mark and Don accomplishing brick work in this area please give them a "thumbs up" for a job well done.

Doug Lines, Restriction Committee Chairperson



April 2017



Oak Ridge Students to Remain at Mitchell High



For parents, students and many affected residents, the rezoning proposals of West Pasco Schools has been an emotional and passionate topic. One recommendation brought on by the Pasco County School board was to relocate students that were currently zoned for J.W. Mitchell High School to either Anclote High School or River Ridge High School. Parents banded together and vehemently opposed the rezoning. Many concerns were raised such as the dangers of having young drivers and students in general, crossing US 19 and plucking students out of their neighborhood school.

Luckily, at a school board meeting on January 17th, a victory came for the residents of Oak Ridge. Pasco County's Superintendent Kurt Browning and School Board voted to keep the Oak Ridge area at Mitchell High and unfortunately for them, rezone other communities. While this is great news for us, it is distressing that other neighborhoods have to be displaced. There are some pending legal actions involving the rezoning process so keep an ear out. But for now, our residents and students will remain at their neighborhood school.

Remain Vigilant

According to the Pasco County Sheriff's website, we in Oak Ridge are fortunate to have very little reported crime. In the last six months, the only reported crimes were a petit theft and burglary on Coronet Drive and a theft of vehicle of Overview Drive. Looking to the neighboring developments, theft from a vehicle is the predominant crime in Magnolia Estates, Nature's Hideaway and Wyndtree. There are a lot of crimes reported just on the other side of the Anclote River in Holiday, which is very close to home for us. The local news is

always showing reports of this type of crime all over the Tampa Bay area. Items taken from the vehicles range from cell phones to GPS devices, iPods, money and firearms and other weapons. The majority of these thefts are from unlocked vehicles and can simply be prevented by remembering to lock your cars and removing your valuables. Should you be the victim of one of these crimes, please call Pasco County Sheriff's office and make a report. This can be crucial to establish a pattern and have enhanced patrols to the area.

Living with Coyotes



Coyotes are found throughout Florida and have been documented in all 67 counties. This medium-sized canid is extremely adaptable and can be found in rural, suburban and even urban landscapes. They are typically shy and elusive but encounters between people and coyotes in Florida are occurring more often. Coyotes help maintain balanced ecosystems by controlling the populations of rodents and small predators, such as foxes, opossums and raccoons. They are native to North America, have been in Florida for many years, and will continue to make their homes around the state. The following are suggestions for coexisting with coyotes.

What should I do if I see a coyote?

Coyotes are not large animals and rarely pose a threat to people, especially adults. They can be curious but are also timid and generally run away if challenged. If a coyote approaches too closely, there are methods you can use to deter it and frighten it away. Hazing the animal by making loud noises and acting aggressively will typically cause a coyote to leave an area, but you may need to increase and continue hazing efforts until the coyote is effectively deterred and leaves the area for good. There are several methods of hazing that are effective with coyotes.

Waving your arms in the air and yelling will usually get a coyote to retreat. You may need to move towards the coyote and increase hazing if the animal does not immediately run away. It is important to continue hazing efforts until the coyote has left the area or the animal may return.

Noisemakers are often effective deterrents to coyotes, including air horns, banging pots and pans and homemade noisemakers. A “coyote shaker” made from placing pebbles or coins in an empty drink container can be an effective noisemaker.

Do not attempt to hurt the coyote because injured animals are more likely to defend themselves; the goal should be to scare the coyote away. Remember that wild animals will attempt to protect themselves or their young if threatened — keep your distance.

If a coyote approaches a child, the animal can be startled away by an adult yelling loudly first and then moving towards the coyote. This gives the adult an opportunity to lift the child as quickly as possible and back away from the animal. Do not run from a coyote, as this may cause the animal to chase. (*Continued*)

Living with Coyotes (continued)

How can I protect my pets from coyotes?

Coyotes can and do prey on domestic cats and small dogs. Most coyote attacks on pets occur either at night or in the early evening or morning hours (dusk and dawn). To protect your pets, do not allow them to roam freely. Keep cats indoors. Free-roaming cats are at a high risk of being preyed on by coyotes. Walk small dogs on a short leash, especially at night, dusk or dawn. Be extra careful if you are going to walk your pet in wooded areas or areas that have heavy foliage, where coyotes could hide. If pets are kept in a fenced yard, be sure the fence is high enough (about 6 feet) to prevent coyotes from jumping over it and check the bottom of the fence regularly to ensure there are no holes where coyotes can get underneath.

Remove other attractants from around your home, such as pet food and unsecured garbage left outside. Problems with coyotes can be significantly reduced if residents remove attractants and secure trash.

How can I prevent problems with coyotes?

Never feed coyotes either intentionally or unintentionally. Do not place food outside that will attract wild animals. Clean up pet food, fallen fruit and seed around bird feeders – coyotes will be drawn to and eat all of these potential food sources, since they are opportunistic feeders. Coyotes that associate places where people live as an easy place to find food will gradually lose their natural fear of humans. Secure garbage cans and compost in animal-proof containers. Close off crawl spaces under porches and sheds to prevent coyotes and other animals from resting or raising their young in areas around your home. aware of unusual coyote behavior. Unusual behavior could include a coyote that has lost its fear of humans and is approaching people, chasing joggers and bikers, or attacking leashed pets. Unusual coyote behavior can be reported to FWC's Wildlife Alert number at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

For more information visit: <http://myfwc.com/conservation/you- conserve/wildlife/>



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