



O Z O N A
C O M M U N I T Y N E W S



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Halloween Open House at the Hall

Halloween will soon be here. There will be many scary little and big characters walking the streets of Ozona. They will be trick-or-treating door to door. And as you know it is quite common these days that golf carts are used to transport them and their booty. If you find yourself on Bay Street stop by the Village Hall. It will be open that night for trick-or-treaters. There will be craft activities at the Hall, if the trick-or-treaters want to visit a while. The Hall should be open around 6 PM for this open house.



Village Hall Improvements

The Ozona Village Hall on Bay Street is one of the oldest buildings in the County and is the oldest in continuous use since it was constructed. Construction was completed in 1900 and was the product of volunteer labor and donated materials. As with any structure over time, improvements need to be made to maintain the Hall. This year OVIS obtained a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) community grant from the County to do a package of improvements to the Hall. These improvements included on the outside repairing and replacing a number of siding panels and then painting the outside of the Hall. Inside the Hall, the floor was completely refinished. This work included a major section of the floor, where wood had to be replaced.

In addition to that work, the interior of the Hall was repainted, including the ceiling. As a final touch, the overhead fans were also replaced. The total cost for these improvements was \$20,568.04 with the County grant covering \$18,762.50 of that. Therefore, the cost to OVIS for this project is \$1,785.54. Todd Guarino did an excellent job managing this project for OVIS. The project companies that did the work were very cooperative and very knowledgeable. The three companies were: Freedom Flooring & Refinishing, Honycutt Siding, and Painting by Defazio’s.

Planting Canopy Trees



OVIS plans to continue the tree planting program that was started last year. There are currently conversations about how to carry the program out. There are many areas in need of more tree cover. There are such questions as should this be a donation program or one based on grant revenue, or possibly a combination of the two approaches. The program had a slow start. Last year, right after the plantings effort there was a major dry spell, presenting a real challenge to maintain the trees that had been planted. However, most of the trees did survive due to the help from the community. OVIS does plan to continue this program due to its environmental and community importance.

President's Message...

Now that school is in session and we move into the Fall, we begin to plan our community activities for this year. During this past summer, we have been focused on the Village Hall.

We have just completed some significant improvements there. They come under the heading of maintenance, but they are very important to the preservation of the Hall. These improvements include painting the outside of the hall, painting the inside of the hall, and refurbishing the hall floor. It is amazing to think that the Hall, which was built in 1900, still functions as a facet in the community for meetings and gatherings. We are lucky to have such a fixture for our community. We really couldn't have done these significant improvements to the Hall without the assistance of the County with its community grant program. So, thank you to the County for support of the community!

— *Brian Smith, OVIS President*

Schedule of Events

OVIS regularly meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Hall on Bay Street. The 2024-2025 schedule along with other community events are as follows:

OVIS Meeting — September 23 7PM

OVIS Meeting — October 28 7PM

Halloween Open House — October 31 6PM

Community Clean-up — November TBA

OVIS Meeting — November TBA

Holiday Golf Cart Parade — December 8 6-8PM

Holiday Potluck — December 10 6:30-8PM

OVIS Meeting — January 27 7PM

OVIS Meeting — February 24 7PM

OVIS Meeting — March 24 7PM

OVIS Annual Meeting — April 28 7PM

Neighborhood Watch Workshop — TBA



2024-2025 OVIS Board Members

President—Brian Smith•781-8472

Secretary—Julie Longen•656-5154

Vice President—Todd Guarino•251-9333

Treasurer—James Wiesner•871-6901

Board Members:

Connie Rieben—787-9777

Dave Ennis—743-7041

Susan White—793-8299

Diane Williams—951-283-5035

Steve Krout—771-8650

Standing Committees:

Neighborhood Watch—Open
Hall Oversight—Dennis Green•741-2903
Hall Rental—Donna Green•741-2904

Membership—Open
Historical/Records—Terry Fortner•786-2837



Molly Goodhead's 39th Anniversary

Molly Goodhead's is celebrating their 39th Anniversary with a party on **Wednesday, September 18th** from **6pm-10 pm**. There will be live music, food sampling, Happy Hour all day, drink specials, & lots of giveaways. They are thankful for the support of their customers over their many years in business in beautiful Ozona.

Location: 400 Orange Street, Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Visit us on **Facebook** and online at **Mollygoodheads.com**

Get an Ozona Mailing Address!



Have you thought about what a unique place we live in, here in Ozona? It's nice to be able to identify with our small town, village-ambience by having an Ozona address. Of course, the only way to use Ozona as your mailing address is by renting a PO Box from the Ozona Post Office across from Ozona Pig.

It's a cost well worth not only the name recognition of your mailing address supporting the Village of Ozona, but also for the security you gain by having your mail delivered to a staffed office. You have 24/7 access to your PO Box at the Ozona Post Office. You can also have packages sent there, so you have the added security of someone signing for your package. When a street address is required, you can use the address of the Post Office along with your PO Box number.

Our Post Office is at the center of our village. It's a great place to run into neighbors and meet new people! Stop by the Post Office and get started using an address that reflects the unique Village of Ozona!

Safety Improvement to Alt US-19

The Florida Department of Transportation FDOT will have a public meeting on proposed changes to Alt US-19, south from Curlew Road to Wilson Street in Dunedin. The purpose to these changes is to make the road safer for both pedestrians and vehicle drivers. Four mid-block crossings are identified in that segment of Alt US-19. The improvements will include a raised median in the middle of the road. This will provide a safe haven for pedestrians crossing the road. Another feature at these crossings will be a push button to activate an amber colored flashing beacon, which will permit pedestrians to cross the road.

There are two ways to find out more information about these changes. There will be a public meeting on Tuesday, September 17th from 4:30 to 6 PM at the Dunedin Community Center, which is located at 1920 Pinehurst Road, Dunedin. This meeting will be hosted by FDOT, and there will be drawings on display along with FDOT officials to answer questions.

The second way to find out about the project is to participate virtually online. The date for that event is Wednesday, September 25th from 11 AM to 12:30 PM. To register for that webinar event, you can register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2287162747312590687>.

You may also provide comments to the project manager following the meeting to Omar Chehab at Omar.Chehab@dot.state.fl.us or call at (813)975-6468.

OVIS Membership and Sponsorship



Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS) functions primarily from funds obtained through membership dues and sponsorships. OVIS membership is \$20 annually and a sponsor donation is \$100 annually. It is noted that if you are a Waste Connections' customer you will receive a discount if you have an OVIS membership. Also, if you are an OVIS sponsor, your business card is included in the newsletter and on the community website.

The membership and sponsorship run from January 1 to December 31, but OVIS begins open enrollment in September to allow for the logistics of the program. It should be noted, however, that membership or sponsorship actually start from the time of enrollment (there is no delayed effective date). The last page of the newsletter is devoted to an enrollment form, or you can go to the OVIS website and enroll or renew there using PayPal. The website is <http://www.ozonavillagefl.us/membership>.

OZONA VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY 2025 MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

BENEFITS:

1. Get to know your neighbors.
2. Preserve the historic Ozona Village Hall building on Bay Street.
3. Participate in fun activities for families – golf cart parades, seasonal parties and potluck dinners.
4. Support the unique community identity of Ozona and our nature preserve.

PLEASE SELECT:

Society Membership

Individual & Family Membership - \$20.00/year

Would you like to be more involved in the Ozona Community activities?

YES

NO

Donations

Additional Donations help maintain the Ozona Village Hall, do special projects, and host village events

\$10.00

\$25.00

\$50.00

\$100.00

\$ _____

Ozona Newsletter Ad Sponsorship

Business Sponsorship – 3 business card ads/year plus a listing in the website “Sponsors” section

\$100.00/year

Additional donations are GREATLY appreciated!

Note: OVIS is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Your contact information will not be shared, but enables us to keep you informed regarding news and events.

Please make your check payable to:
Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS)

Mail to: PO Box 81 • Ozona, FL 34660

To Join/Renew Online, Go To: <http://www.OzonaVillageFL.us/membership>

Rent the Village Hall



The Ozona Village Hall is a perfect spot for all different types of special events.

For more information, call Donna Green at (727) 741-2904.

Book Your Special Events & Family Reunions Today!

The Village Hall in Ozona is located on Bay Street and has served as the facility for community events over the years. The Hall is owned by the Ozona Village Improvement Society (OVIS), which uses the Hall for community events and meetings during the year.

In addition to that, OVIS does make the Hall available for rental for private events as well. While the Hall has a heritage and appearance of its vintage construction of 1900, the Hall does have the modern conveniences of central heat and air conditioning, restrooms, and a kitchen area (without a stove).

Folding tables and chairs are also included in the Hall rental. The Hall rents for \$500 for a private event. If someone is an OVIS member, there is a reduced rate of \$250. If you wish to rent the Hall, the contact information is available above or on the OVIS website: <http://www.ozonavillagefl.us>.

Events Around the Community

Friends of the Island Parks

A Citizen Support Organization serving Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks



Honeymoon Island
**Bluegrass
Festival**

Date: Dec 7, 2024
Time: 11 am to 5 pm

Honeymoon Island State Park
Dunedin, Florida



Friends of the
Island Parks

[Find us on Facebook](#)

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<https://www.friendsoftheislandparks.org/events>



Honeymoon Island State Park

- 6 hours of continuous music
- Early Bird Tickets at \$18 [Buy Tickets](#)
- Music Tickets: \$25 at the Picnic Area
- Park entry not included in Ticket price
- Park entry \$4 - 1 person in vehicle, \$8 for 2 to 8 people in car
- Music tickets will be collected at the stage area.
- If you have prepaid, please bring your proof of purchase.
- The Stage is at North Beach in the Picnic Area
- Advance On-Line Tickets \$18: [Buy Tickets](#) May 1
- Children Under 12 Free
- Local vendors will offer food, beverages, and water
- Lawn Chair Seating
- Handicapped Parking at the Picnic Area
- Children's Activities Area
- Alcohol Free Event
- Dog Friendly
- Coolers allowed



ANNUAL ISLAND FEST
at Honeymoon Island

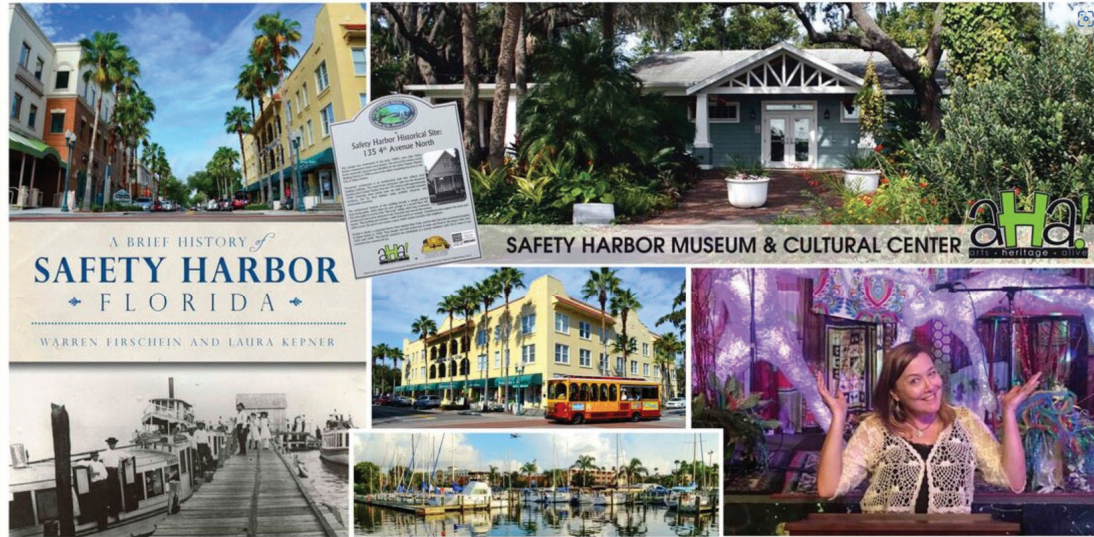
October 12 10am-5pm & October 13 10am-3pm
Oasis Beach Area

FREE With Park Admission

Events Around the Community

Palm Harbor Museum Presents:

<https://www.palmharbormuseum.com/palm-harbor-museum-presents.html>



Wed., Oct 2nd, Palm Harbor Museum Presents Author/Historian Laura Kepner

Safety Harbor—Land of Whimsey, Waterfront, Wellness, and Natural Wonders (Images courtesy Safety Harbor Historical Society & Museum & Laura Kepner)

Palm Harbor Museum is excited to bring you their next 2024 Family Intergenerational Discovery Day on Saturday, December 14th from 11 AM to 2 PM.

<https://www.palmharbormuseum.com/family-discovery-days.html>

Palm Harbor Museum's
2024

*Show your support
to the museum
on this vintage night!*



<https://www.palmharbormuseum.com/wine-around-palm-harbor.html>

Ozona Village Improvement Society, Inc.
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OVIS Website Information

The official website of OVIS can be found at www.OzonaVillageFL.us. On the website, you will find updates to current community initiatives, such as OVIS Programs, the Annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade, the Holiday Potluck Dinner, Community Cleanups, Community Workshops, and notice of upcoming events or other such community interests.

You'll also find:

- A link to OVIS membership information and how you can join, renew or be a sponsor.
- A page on the Village Hall and how to reserve the Hall for your upcoming event you might be planning.
- Historical photos of Ozona.
- OVIS meetings and downloads of previous Ozona News newsletters.
- You'll also find a link to our sponsor section where you can find contact information to our wonderful sponsors.

This website also offers a way to communicate comments you would like to make to OVIS concerning the community.





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