

News from Town Hall

February 2019

Town Hall

Town Meetings:

February 11 - Southern Oaks - 6:30 p.m. (HTH)

February 12 - School Advisory Committee - 4:00 p.m. (HTH)

February 12 & 26 - Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

February 12 - Winters Landing HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (OMH)

February 19 - P & Z Meeting - 6:30 p.m. (OMH)

February 28 - Johns Landing HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

HTH = Historic Town Hall OMH = Oakland Meeting Hall



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 13 for the Town's 5th Annual "Celebration Among the Oaks" Spring Event! Come for a day filled with family fun, including pictures with the Easter Bunny, an Easter Egg Hunt, bounce houses, petting zoo and pony rides, balloon artist, face painting, food trucks and more! There will be a lot of fun carved into one fantastic day!



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 27, 2019, as HAPCO Music Foundation and the Town of Oakland present **Wine and Dine for the Arts**, to be held at the Oakland Meeting Hall. It's an evening of fine wines and the best cuisine of land and sea, presented by Chef Anthony Fothergill. This event supports Central Florida programs that connect young people with music and the arts. Grab your tickets now and get the "Early Bird" rate! <https://hapcowedinejazzmonth2019.eventbrite.com>

Town Hall Closure

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, February 18, in observance of Presidents' Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, February 19 at 8:00 a.m.

Around Town



Did you know that you can sign up to be notified when alerts, news flashes, bid postings, newsletters, employment opportunities, calendar items and agenda items are posted on the Town's website? Signing up is easy! Just go to the Town of Oakland website at www.oaklandfl.gov and at the top under the "How Do I" tab, go to "Sign up for Notifications/Email Blasts". You can enter your e-mail address and sign up to receive the updates of your choice by e-mail or by text message. You can also go to the "Notify Me" icon on the main page of the website and this will take you to the same sign-up page. The Town of Oakland also has a Facebook page you can follow at <https://www.facebook.com/OakTownUSA/>. Both are excellent tools to keep you informed about our Town!

Oakland Avenue Charter School

Our Spring fundraiser, "Boosterthon", kicks off with our student pep rally on February 12 and culminates with the "Fun Run" on February 22. As we head into the next few weeks, we will be distributing important details regarding state testing. Please be on the lookout for this information.

January 7 - March 31 is our open enrollment period for new families that want to be placed in the lottery for the 2019-2020 school year. All applications must be submitted electronically using the online application found under the enrollment section of the school's website. Visit <https://oaklandfl.gov/241/Enrollment> for more info.

Police Department

Tax season is upon us, and for the past several years there has been an increase in the number of income tax scams. These are perpetrated most often either online or over the phone and the elderly seem to be among the most likely victims. Identity theft is often used to receive fraudulent refunds. Another method of crime is convincing victims that they owe back taxes and/or



Congratulations to former Town Manager Dennis Foltz for being nominated as one of the recipients in the 2019 Big Orange Awards! Mr. Foltz will receive the "Sam Hovsepian Award" on Friday, February 1, 2019, in recognition of his contributions to the betterment of the West Orange business community.

interest from previous year's filings. The IRS has set up a website for you to check to ensure that you do not become a victim. We strongly recommend that you visit www.irs.gov/uac/tax-scams-consumeralerts, as it provides great information and also has additional links directing you back to the IRS website. Being informed is the best possible way to ensure you do not fall victim to any income tax scam!

Public Works Department

SPECIAL NOTICE!

Fire Hydrant/Water Main Flushing

Public Works and Utilities staff have begun the process of flushing and flow testing all 150 of the Town's fire hydrants. This is a requirement of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and is performed on an annual basis. The purpose is to remove any accumulated sediments from the water mains and to identify any fire hydrants that may need repair or maintenance. On the days that your neighborhood is being tested, signage will be posted along the streets as a reminder. In some cases, you may notice a slight discoloration of the water when you initially turn on your faucet. And while it may look bad, it is harmless, and you simply need to let the water run for a few minutes until it clears up. If you have questions, please contact Town Hall at 407-656-1117, or in the case of an after-hours emergency or question, 407-427-8835.

Arts & Heritage Center at Oakland

It's now officially under construction! Located directly across from Oakland Town Hall, the facility will become a beautiful new addition to the Town Center. It will provide a new civic venue that will be used primarily as a local history center and will also be used as a location for other art and cultural purposes. Additionally, it will provide much needed public restrooms and possibly a concession area for use by visitors to the West Orange Trail, as well as by our own residents.

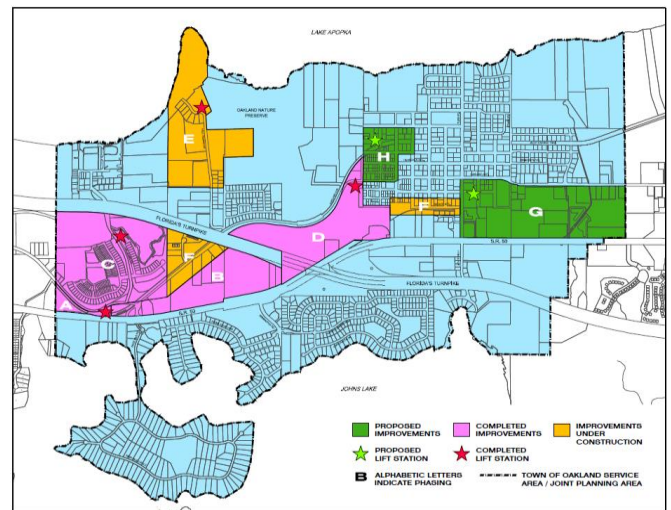
Who is paying for all of this? To begin with, in June of 2016 the Town was the recipient of a \$225,000.00 financial assistance grant by United Arts of Central Florida. Since then, additional funding has been secured by the collection of Impact Fees being paid by developers of our new subdivisions. Orange County Government is also providing \$182,000.00 to assist us with the construction costs.



Sanitary Sewer Initiative

The Town's Sanitary Sewer Initiative continues to make progress. On the map shown below, areas of town having sewer service now available are shaded in pink. Areas shown in orange are either under construction or are currently in the design stage. The green shading depicts the areas where we plan to provide service soon.

All phases of the initiative are dependent on available resources. We have been fortunate to have had several development partners, as well as the State of Florida helping us to get this far along. Staff are working hard to identify and secure new funding sources, and new partnerships to continue the momentum. The two primary goals of the initiative are enhanced environmental stewardship and increased economic growth, both of which are beginning to take place.



Oakland Nature Preserve

Happenings

Open House - Feb 16

You are cordially invited to our **Open House** on Saturday, February 16, featuring food, exhibits, nature programs, guided hikes, and some very special encounters with some of our ambassador animals. Admission is free, donations are gratefully accepted. All proceeds from this event will help fund our education and conservation programs here at the Preserve.

Save the Date

Night at the Preserve - April 13 - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

This year's Night at the Preserve will include heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts, wine and beer selections, great music, exciting chance drawings, and a lakeside champagne toast at sunset. Sponsorship opportunities available for this exciting event. Contact Jennifer Hunt at director@oaklandnaturepreserve.org for more info.

Upcoming Events

- Feb 1 - Registration open for "Spring Break Art in Nature Camp"
- Feb. 2 - Insect Safari
- Feb. 9 - Growing Up Wild
- Feb. 16 - ONP Open House
- Feb. 18 - Presidents' Day Archery Camp