



Community and Local Events

ARC Meeting

Architectural Review Committee meetings on Zoom every Monday night at 6:00 pm. The ARC encourages all owners to join the conversation especially if an application has been submitted for Committee review.

Food Truck Thursdays

Food Truck Thursdays are pausing for the rainy (and potential hurricane) season. They will resume in November.



Community Yard/Garage Sale

Community Wide Yard/Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday October 28th and 29th. The planned hours are 8-4. November 4th and 5th are the back-up dates if there is a weather issue on the original weekend. Crafters and entrepreneurs interested in promoting their wares may want to take advantage of this opportunity! The Artemis Portal Discussions page is a great place to find each other and pool their merchandise at a few addresses in the community on the days of the sale.

Boo! On Broadway

BOO! On Broadway is Friday, October 27, from 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. Downtown Kissimmee's BIGGEST Halloween street party shuts down Broadway to trick or treat, dance in the streets, and so much more! With a spooky lineup of performances, entertainers, vendors, activities for all, and of course... CANDY, we are expected to bring in an estimated 10,000 visitors this year! You do not want to miss this activity that is fun for kids!





Jim Trautz
Secretary

New Board Member

"Originally from Chicago, my wife Cindy and I moved from North Virginia to Florida to take advantage of the great climate, the wonderful people, and the fabulous community we all know as "The Oaks." Service" is in my blood. By way of background, I served more than 20 years in the United States Navy, having worked my way through the enlisted ranks and retiring as a decorated Naval Officer.

Upon retirement from the Navy, I worked for a major Defense corporation, where I led the efforts in support of a \$75 million dollar contract in Foreign Military Sales, overseeing 10 subcontracted companies in various worldwide locations, who supported 40 different countries in the execution of more than 140 tasks. Beyond "work life," I've served on numerous civic and non-profit committees, including various PTSAs, Athletic Associations, Disaster Relief Teams, and Church groups. I've also served on Civic Building Committees, provided input for Capital Improvement plans, and most recently, my wife and I were instrumental in founding the non-partisan, Osceola County Voter Integrity Group.

My HOA background includes serving homeowners as President and Vice President of the Lowe's Island Homeowners Association, President and Treasurer of the David's Mill Civic League, a voting member of the Cascades Master Homeowners Association, an appointed member of the Westgate Resident Advisory Board, and an active member of the Aspen Meadows Homeowners Association. I serve at your pleasure and consider it an honor and privilege to do so. My pledge to you is to honor the trust you've put in me; to represent YOUR interests and the interests of OUR community – ALWAYS!"

- Jim Trautz, Secretary

HOA Committee Volunteers Needed

HOA Committees are made up of homeowner and resident volunteers that live in the community and are appointed by the Board of Directors. Homeowner association committees help keep their communities safe and thriving by taking on tasks to help your volunteer Board of Directors. Each committee has a charter that outlines the roles and responsibilities the committee and its members are expected to uphold.

We are currently looking for volunteers for the following committees:

1. Events Committee
2. Communications Committee
3. Governing Documents Rewrite Committee
4. Architectural Review Committee

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

If you would like to volunteer please contact ycruz@artemislifestyles.com

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Hello to all my fellow Floridians! I can now say with pride and pleasure that I am a Floridian. Originally from New York, we moved our family here to the Oaks community 6 years ago to live a better life. Full of greenery, sunshine, and action parks, we fell in love with the change in our lifestyle. I am sure that many of you have also moved here from another state seeking to make a change. As a matter of fact..... did you know that we have received a total of 68 new home owners in our community since August of 2022? I didn't know that fun fact either until I did the research.

Some of you may say....68.....that is a lot of movement out of the community..... and to that I respond.....yes! However, I prefer to look at the half full glass..... when people move out, new people move in, and we get to share our love of our community with each one of those 68 new families. Each family has had the opportunity to meet the family next door, down the block or across the golf course. We not only have new owners who have joined us, but we must also acknowledge the residents who may not have purchased their home here, yet they have chosen to live here.Hooray for our neighbors that have joined our community family (owner or renter).

What's the big deal, you ask? Well, the big deal is all of you, all of us! We have the power to make our place we call home, a warm and inviting, and inclusive place to live. The Oaks wants to open the doors to better communication, and celebration for all that live here. How can we serve our neighbors and care for our neighborhood like families do? We can begin the process of communication by letting you know that in our next newsletter, we will be highlighting some of our neighbors. We want to hear from you. Please tell us about someone that you know in the neighborhood, who may be a teacher, and a great friend, for example. Tell us about the doctor who cares for their patients, as if they were family. What about sharing grandma's recipe with us, so we can bring some of her great cooking into the homes of others this upcoming holiday season. Whomever you choose to spotlight, please feel free to submit a paragraph or two to our communication committee email: communicationcom23@gmail.com.

It's been fun talking to you all, and I can't wait to hear from you via email!! Wishing you a happy and safe summer.....we are your volunteers on the communication committee, but more importantly, we are your neighbors as well.

- Michelle Ruiz, The Oaks Communications Committee

Safety Tip: Stay Safe in the Summer Heat

Summer months, especially in Florida, can mean extra dangers when you work outdoors. It's important to protect yourself against heat, sun exposure and other hazards. Follow these tips to stay safe when working in hot summer weather.

Dress (and accessorize) for the heat

Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing when possible. Light colors reflect the sun's heat away from your body.



Water, Water Everywhere

Carry water with you and drink small amounts often. Eating a big meal increases your metabolism, which can raise body temperature.

Eat for the heat

Eat small meals and snacks more often. Eating a big meal increases your metabolism, which can raise body temperature.



Timing is Everything

Do difficult outdoor tasks in the coolest part of the day, usually early morning, when the sun and heat are not the strongest. During the hottest part of the day, take frequent short breaks in the shade.

Recognize and Treat the Signs

Know how to recognize and treat the signs of heat cramps and heat exhaustion, before they lead to more serious problems, like heat stroke. Someone suffering muscular pains, cramps, headache, nausea, dizziness, or whose skin is paler or more flushed than normal might be suffering from the heat. Have him or her rest indoors or in a shady spot and drink a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Call 911 if he or she refuses water, vomits or loses consciousness.



Sunrail

For Commuters that live in The OAKs Sunrail may be an alternative to help with High gas prices. SunRail is a rail service moving people throughout the region by providing work and leisure travel opportunities and connecting communities. SunRail can make the daily commute fast, easy and affordable, as well as less stressful.

The system currently operates over 49 miles with 16 stations through Volusia, Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties. There are plans in the works to add another Station in DeLand. To learn more about the Sunrail please visit <https://sunrail.com/map/>.

Tips for Hurricane Season

Hurricane season is here and we wanted to share some Hurricane preparedness tips!

1. Build an Emergency Kit

- Water – 1 gallon per person per day for 3 to 7 days.
- Food – non-perishable and canned food supply for 3 to 7 days.
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio with extra batteries.
- Cell phone with charger.
- First aid kit and first aid book.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Manual can opener for food.



2. Know your evacuation route - Evacuation route information is available on the Florida Division of Emergency Management's website, <https://www.floridadisaster.org/>.

3. Have a plan to prepare your home and/or business with storm shutters or plywood. Bring items that could be picked up by the wind and break windows - like lawn furniture, toys, or trash cans - inside.

4. Make sure you know where your home's safe room is located. Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) website details what a safe room should look like.

5. Keep your automobile fully fueled; if electric power is cut off, gas stations may not be able to operate pumps for several days.

6. Be prepared to survive on your own for at least 72 hours. Assemble a disaster kit with a battery-powered radio, flashlights, extra batteries, a first-aid kit, blankets, clothing, food, water, and prescription medications and needed medical supplies. The Florida Division of Emergency Management provides a good list of items to have ready. Be sure to have enough food and water for your pets.

7. Know how to shut off utilities. Know how your water, heating, and air-conditioning systems work and if you have natural gas appliances, where pilot lights are located. If you have any questions, contact your local utility company.

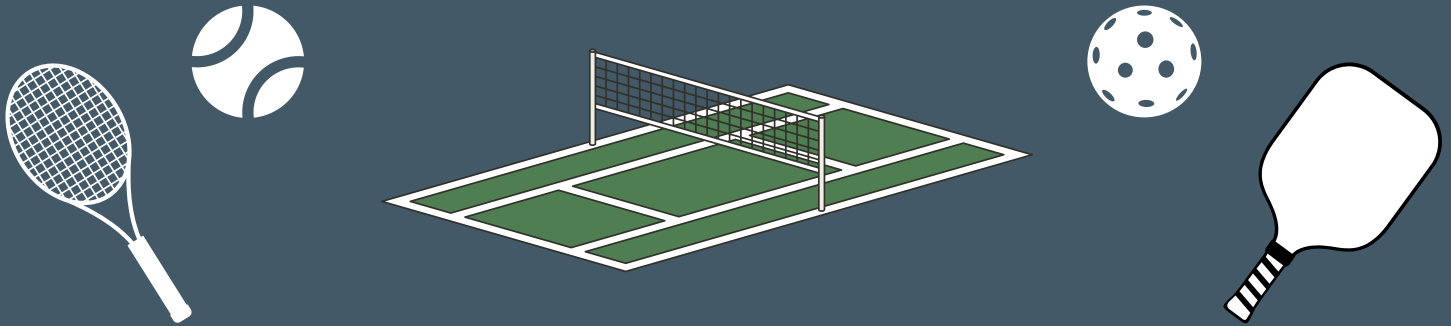
8. Gather your personal documents - insurance policy information, emergency contact information, and any other vital documents - and have them somewhere they can be easily located and ready to take with you should you have to evacuate your home.

KPD Calls for Service, Jan 1 - June 11, 2022 vs 2023

CALL TYPE	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	OAKS		SHINGLE CREEK		EAGLES NEST	
Alarm Burglary	9	10	9	6	1	0
Baker Act	5	2	0	0	0	0
Physical Violence	4	4	1	1	1	1
Larceny/ Theft	0	0	0	1	0	0
Noise Complaint	2	5	3	3	3	3
Parking Enforcement & Violations	43	42	16	13	2	1
Reckless Operation of Vehicle (Sheriff Calls)	0	2	0	0	0	0
Traffic Stop	42	82	5	15	1	1
Vehicle Accident	3	3	3	1	1	0

Tennis Court Update

Tennis anyone? The tennis courts reopened for use by residents on June 16, 2023. Both courts are painted for singles and doubles play. In addition, one court is painted for pickleball. A few remaining issues will be discussed at the July 26th BOD meeting. This may include final placement of benches as well as posting of rules for use. Tennis court operation hours are from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Ideas for finding partners and opponents in the community would be welcome on the Artemis Portal Discussions page.



Wildlife in The Oaks

Florida Sandhill Cranes are iconic members of our community here in the Oaks. While 25,000 Sandhill's will join the Florida subspecies in the winter months, there are 4000-5000 permanent residents and quite a few of them live in our neighborhood. Unfortunately this number has been reduced by as much as 20% over the last ten years. As they mate for life, Florida Sandhill's generally move through the community in pairs. If you see one as you're driving through the neighborhood take care as the other is likely



Photo By Jo Kennell

somewhere out of view. Although they are nearly 4 feet tall, their gray plumage can blend into the shadows of our sprawling Oak trees. Their mating ritual includes intricate dancing and tossing small branches or moss. They make their nests in rough grass and shrubs near water



and will take turns keeping their eggs warm. Sandhill cranes have only one or two chicks and are very protective of their young, so it is unwise to approach. Florida Sandhills are a protected species and it is illegal to intentionally feed them. A fine as large as \$15,000 may be levied at anyone deliberately harming one of these beautiful birds. Florida Sandhill Cranes rely on our stewardship of the environment we share and certainly our community would be far less picturesque without them in it.

CDD Landscaping Complaints

Many of you may not know that the majority of the common areas in The Oaks is NOT maintained by the HOA. The medians, ponds, boatlift, nature trail, overlook and playground in Shingle Creek all belong to the OverOaks Community Development District. Please forward any District landscaping or maintenance complaints to cddmaintenance@inframark.com. The 2024 budget meeting will be held on August 8, 9A at the Golf Clubhouse.

Communications Committee Members

The Board of Directors would like to give special thanks to the Communications Committee Members: Ian Budha, Charles Coslett, Kathleen Carney, and Michelle Ruiz for producing the Summer edition of The Oaks Newsletter.



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Excluding Major Holidays and Weekends