



July 2010

Greetings,



Summer brings back fond memories of being a kid... no school, hanging out with my friends, Kool-Aid, popsicles, swimming and playing. I don't ever remember having to think about my safety, crime or being abducted. It is a different world now, requiring us to teach our kids what to do in case of danger. This summer, we launched "Buddy Up", a child safety campaign that empowers kids to make decisions that will keep them safe. I need your help with this campaign. I'm asking our neighborhood organizations to share these safety tips with parents and kids in your neighborhood:

- Y Stay Together** – children should travel in groups of two or more.
- Y Use Your Voice** – children should say, "NO" when they feel uncomfortable or scared. Children should be taught to yell or scream when they are in danger.
- Y Be Aware** – children should be able to identify if a situation is dangerous.
- Y Check In** – children should call their parents to let them know they are on their way home or if their plan has changed.
- Y Map It Out** – children should have a clearly defined route home from school and should be able to identify landmarks and safe places that they can go for help.
- Y Know Your Info** – children should know their full name, address, home and parent's work and cell phone numbers.

It takes the collective effort of a community to keep our children safe. Thank you for supporting this important initiative. If you would like more information, visit CityofOrlando.net or call the Orlando Police Department's Community Involvement Section at 407.246.2461.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

My regards,

Mayor Buddy Dyer

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Celebrate the 4th of July at **Fireworks at the Fountain** - A patriotic celebration of fun, food and fanfare at Lake Eola Park in Downtown Orlando. Enjoy live entertainment and an area just for kids featuring Ben 10: Ultimate Alien Invasion characters, prizes and giveaways presented by Cartoon Network and Bright House Networks. Take advantage of free health screenings and

back massages at the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida mobile health display unit. Festivities begin at 4 p.m., so get there early for a great viewing spot of the fountain and the fireworks! The finale of fireworks will begin at 9:30 p.m. For more information, please visit cityoforlando.net.

A Message from OPD Chief Val Demings – The Orlando Police Department (OPD) has made great strides in reducing violent and property crimes over the last two years. As we continue our efforts, we need your help in reducing vehicle burglaries. You can reduce your chance of becoming a victim by following several easy tips. First, always lock your doors. Leaving a car unlocked creates an easy opportunity for a burglary to occur. A majority of vehicle burglaries occur at night. Often times, thieves will go into a neighborhood and look for unlocked cars. They then move from car to car and remove anything from spare change to electronics. If your car is equipped with an alarm, please use it. Thieves do not want any noise to draw attention to themselves and their activities.

Next, do not leave ANYTHING of value inside your car. This includes GPS's, purses, cell phones, computer cases, etc. Thieves will not care about causing you hundreds of dollars to fix a broken window to retrieve the GPS in your windshield. Lastly, call 911 when you see suspicious activity in your neighborhood. You are the best judge as to what belongs in your neighborhood and what is out of place.

Report all crimes to the police and encourage your neighbors to do the same. Neighborhood Watch is a wonderful program to get started in your neighborhood and is proven to be very effective in reducing crime. If you are not a member, I urge you to join. For detailed information about OPD and crime prevention programs, log on to cityoforlando.net and click on "Police."

National Night Out 2010 (NNO) is coming!!! August 3rd is your night to shine!!! How will you support Safe Neighborhoods in the City Beautiful? Call 407.246.2369 to receive your registration material or visit Cityoforlando.net/police. All registered parties are eligible to receive a Block Party Package that will aid in your NNO celebration. Your Party Package will contain, tshirts, a banner, stickers, coloring books and many other goodies for you and your neighbors to enjoy. For more information about upcoming events, please visit cityoforlando.net.

Get involved in stopping and preventing crime:

Reporting Crime & Suspicious Activity – call 911

Neighborhood Watch – 407.246.2369 - For more information about starting or joining Neighborhood Watch please contact:

Kea Council	Commission Districts 1, 2, 6	407.246.3773
Georgeanna Butler	Commission Districts 3, 4, 5	407.246.3628

Crime Prevention Presentations/Residential Crime Prevention Surveys – 407.246.2461

Operation Identification – 407.246.2369 – Marking or taking pictures of your property to prove ownership.

Crimeline – 1.800.423.8477 - Available 24 hours a day, taking anonymous tips on any felony criminal activity. Spanish speaking operators available. (If you witness a crime in progress, you should call 911)

Drug Hotline - 407.246.CRAK (2725) – An anonymous hotline for citizens to report drug activity to the Orlando Police Department.

Illegal Gun Bounty Program - call CRIMELINE at 1.800.423.8477. CRIMELINE, along with the City of Orlando, sponsors the very successful Illegal Gun Bounty Program. You are eligible for a **\$1000.00** reward for information that leads to an arrest, a gun recovery and a weapons charge. You can also remain anonymous.

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING

July 2010

Leadership Training – Community Connections Workshop



"Connecting Neighbors and Neighborhoods"

A PARTNERSHIP OF:
Orange County Neighborhood Services Division and the
City of Orlando Office of Communications & Neighborhood Relations

Hosted by City of Orlando and Orange County Government

Topic: **Creating a Neighborhood Website**

Date & Time: Saturday, July 10, 2010, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

(Note: starting time is 9 a.m.)

Location: Orlando City Hall, 400 S. Orange Avenue, 9th Floor Princeton Room

(Note: change of location)

Overview: Join the 21st century to keep your neighborhood organization members engaged...take advantage of the Internet as a communication tool to deliver your organization's messages. This will be a hands-on workshop, utilizing computers to view resources and create an actual neighborhood website. Experts will provide technical assistance and answer questions; however, basic computer skills are a pre-requisite. **See enclosed flyer for details.**

Registration: To register for this workshop, please call Orange County Neighborhood Services at 407.836.0035 or register on-line at ocfl.net/CommunityConnections.

Florida Neighborhoods Conference July 8-10, 2010 in St. Petersburg - Take advantage of this conference to learn what other neighborhood organizations are doing throughout the state. This year's Florida Neighborhoods Conference (FNC) will be co-hosted by the Florida Design Out Crime Association. The conference will be held at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 First Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-4342, 727.894.5000. The FNC is designed to assist communities in building strong neighborhood foundations by offering workshops, tours, speakers and opportunities for neighborhood advocates from small towns to large cities to network and share information. To register and make hotel reservations go to stpete.org/fnc. For more information or a copy of the registration booklet, contact Susan Harris at 407.246.2779 or susan.harris@cityoforlando.net.

City Hall Public Parking Surface Lot Closing – Effective Tuesday, July 6, the City will be permanently closing the surface parking lot directly across from City Hall at the corner of South Street and Orange Avenue. The reason for closing this lot is to make way for the construction of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. City Hall visitors will need to park in the City Commons garage located on Boone Avenue behind City Hall.

Historic Photo Competition - Local photographers of all skill levels can once again compete in the popular Historic Preservation Board Calendar photo contest. For the 2011 calendar, the Historic Preservation Board is seeking photographs of the Holden-Parramore Historic District, Orlando's newest National Register of Historic Places District. The Board encourages day or night photographs that capture the unique architectural characteristics of historic structures in the district. Please remember to be respectful of people and their property. Entries are due by July 12 at 5 p.m. Visit cityoforlando.net for previous calendar photos, rules and submission details. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Richard Forbes at 407.246.3350 or Diane Rivera at 407.246.3416.

Keep Informed about your City – Subscribe to "City News" – *City News* is the City of Orlando's weekly electronic newsletter delivered to your e-mail every Friday. *City News* keeps you up-to-date on what is happening in Orlando by featuring a message from the Mayor, City Council updates and information on City programs, services and events. If you would like to receive *City News*, please go online to subscribe at cityoforlando.net/elected/subscribe2/index.htm.

Hurricane and Disaster Preparedness Information – The Office of Emergency Management has produced a short video titled “Disaster Preparedness...A Way of Life”. This video contains a lot of great information and tips to make sure you are prepared in case of a Hurricane or another natural disaster. The video is available on-line at cityoforlando.net/emergency. You may also obtain a copy to show at your association meetings, ball calling the Office of Communications and Neighborhood Relations at 407.246.2169 or emailing susan.harris@cityoforlando.net. The City encourages you to share this important information with your members and neighbors. For more information about Hurricane preparedness visit cityoforlando.net/emergency or call the Office of Emergency Management at 321.235.5437.

Spring Cleaning? We Can Help - Are you ready to part with that old couch or the refrigerator that makes a rattling noise? We are happy to take them off your hands. The City of Orlando Solid Waste Division will collect appliances, lawn mowers, furniture and other large household items. **The best day to place a large item at the curb is your yard waste day.** To find out your yard waste day, visit cityoforlando.net/solidwaste and click on residential garbage for the yard waste map. You can also contact our office at 407.246.2314 and a customer service representative will be happy to assist you. If you have more than one large item, try to plan ahead and put one out each week to avoid incurring an additional charge if a claw truck has to be sent out. For safety reasons you are required to remove the doors from refrigerators and freezers before you put them curbside to ensure that children will not become trapped in them.

2010 Tree Adoption Program - City of Orlando residents who want to receive two free trees to plant in their landscapes should register upon arrival and provide proof of Orange County residency (such as driver’s license, photo I.D., or utility bill). Trees are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. The give-away supply is limited to two 7-gallon trees per household. Trees may not be planted on public property or retention ponds. Orange County/University of Florida IFAS Master Gardener volunteers will be on hand to answer landscape questions. **The next Tree Adoption Program is July 24 at Bear Creek Park located at 1600 Bear Crossing Dr., Orlando FL, 32824.** For more information about the program or other dates, please contact the Orange County/University of Florida IFAS Extension Education Center, 407.254.9200.

Graffiti Hotline: 407.254.GRAF (4723) - Residents can call in and report graffiti to 407.254.GRAF (4723). This information clearinghouse, managed by Keep Orlando Beautiful, streamlines the process for graffiti removal by working in tandem with City departments and the OPD Gang Enforcement team to aggressively locate and remove graffiti. Residents can also report graffiti online by going to cityoforlando.net/public_works/graffiti/Graffiti.aspx.



Buy Local Orlando - Connects Orlando's businesses with the buying power of our local community. Visit buylocalorlando.net to register for and print your **FREE Buy Local Orlando** consumer card and start saving money through special offers and discounts offered at **Buy Local Orlando** merchants. For more information, visit buylocalorlando.net or call the City’s Economic Development Department at 407.246.3109. **Strengthen Orlando**

is the City’s comprehensive economic action plan to sustain our community and ensure Orlando remains in position for future growth and prosperity. It is a uniquely local effort designed to work within and alongside the federal economic stimulus plan. The **Strengthen Orlando** plan focuses on enabling residents to better connect with vital information and much-needed resources during tough economic times. To help Orlando’s families gain access to critical resources, the **Strengthen Orlando** plan also serves as a clearinghouse. For more information visit StrengthenOrlando.com.



Building Citizenship in the Community: Back to Basics

Increasing civic awareness and participation in the City of Orlando in partnership with the Florida League of Cities.

Tours of Downtown

The Downtown Development Board (DDB) assists educators and business stakeholders in planning Downtown trips. Allow the DDB to show your students or potential clients and new employees how they relate to Downtown Orlando. The DDB adapts their tours to meet your specific needs. At the Downtown Orlando Information Center we provide an interactive game where students identify buildings in Downtown. It is a learning experience in order to aide students to connect to our Downtown, showcase points of interest related to targeted industries and provide new Downtown employees a comprehensive view of the area.

Downtown Lymmo Bus Tour

The Downtown Lymmo Bus Tour allows you to learn firsthand at the ground level the available amenities in Downtown.

Downtown Skyline Tour

Downtown Skyline Tours showcase our area from some of the most noted buildings in the Downtown core.

Downtown Historic Tour

Starting at the Downtown Orlando Information Center you will have the opportunity to experience Downtown history with Richard Forbes as your historian. The tour will end at the Orange County History Center where you will have the opportunity to see the Orlando Remembered exhibit for free and experience the complete History Center at a reduced rate. Historic Tours are available bi-monthly starting October 1st.

To schedule a Lymmo, Skyline or Historic Tour, please contact Char Midkiff, 407.246.3753.

Orlando Ghost Tour

Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m., contact Emilio San Martin, 407.246.0452. For more information visit the following website: <http://www.hauntedorlando.com/orlando.html>.

Update on Community Venues

Amway Events Center, Citrus Bowl and The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

Looking for Information - Go online to the City's website – cityoforlando.net and click on the "Community Venues" icon in the center towards the bottom of the page or here is the direct link - cityoforlando.net/elected/venues/. If you have questions that are not addressed on the City's Community Venues web pages, or would like to have a Community Venues presentation at your association meeting, please contact Susan Harris by phone at 407.246.2779 or email susan.harris@cityoforlando.net.

JOBS – The Community Venues BLUEPRINT Employment Office is located at 1200 W. South Street, Orlando (corner of Orange Blossom Trail and South Street.) - 407.246.3721. Anyone interested in finding a job with one of the Venues, should go to the BLUEPRINT Employment Office for registration and referral. The office will also provide supportive services to eliminate barriers to employment, if needed. Examples of supportive services are resume writing, bus passes, childcare, tools and mentoring.



Come one, come all to experience some of Orlando's best streets!!! The City of Orlando recognizes the important role neighborhood commercial districts play in the overall health of the City's neighborhoods. Sound neighborhood commercial areas contribute to a good quality of life. It can be a positive attraction and a competitive advantage in retaining existing neighborhood residents and attracting new ones. To meet this need, the City created Orlando Main Street. For more information, go to cityoforlando.net/economic/mainstreet.

Orlando Main Street Programs -

Audubon Park Garden District - APGardens.com and facebook.com/GardenDistrict

College Park Partnership - DowntownCollegePark.com

Downtown South Main Street - DowntownSouthOrlando.org and facebook.com/DowntownSouth

Ivanhoe Village Main Street - IvanhoeVillage.org and facebook.com/IvanhoeVillage

Mills/50 - Mills50.org and facebook.com/Mills50

Please come support our local businesses by participating in upcoming events:

Audubon Park Garden District

Community Market – Every Monday, 6 – 10 p.m. – Organic produce, fresh prepared foods, handmade goods from local artists and live music are featured at the Audubon Park Community Market in Stardust Coffee & Video's parking lot, or indoors if raining. Stardust is located at 1842 East Winter Park Road, Orlando. Phone number is 407.623.3393.

Second Annual Bastille Day – Put away your powdered wig and break out the champagne, Orlando's largest Bastille Day celebration returns July 10, 2010 and will take place in the Audubon Park Garden District (apgardens.com) along the Corrine Drive corridor from 2 - 10 p.m.

College Park Partnership

College Park Farmer's Market – Every Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. 2807 Edgewater Drive.

Ivanhoe Village Main Street

4th Fest 2010 – Sunday, July 4th from 1:30 to 9 p.m. at Gaston Edwards Park on the shores of Lake Ivanhoe. 25+ bands on two outdoor stages on the lake.

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING

July 2010

Invitation to Upcoming City Events & Meetings:

To stay on top of City events, visit the City's web site at cityoforlando.net and click on calendar tab at the top and then click on the calendar you want to view. For Harry P. Leu Garden's event information go to leugardens.org. Please share this information with your neighbors.

Every Sunday	Orlando Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., southeast corner of Lake Eola Park.
Every Sunday	College Park Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See page 6.
Every Monday	Audubon Park Garden District Community Market, 6 to 10 p.m. See page 6.
July 4	Fireworks at the Fountain, 4 p.m., See page 2.
July 4	4 th Fest 2010, See page 6.
July 8-10	Florida Neighborhoods Conference, See page 3.
July 10	Second Annual Bastille Day, See page 6.
July 10	Community Connections workshop, See page 3.
July 24	Streetscape Tree Adoption, 8 a.m., See page 4.