

FRIDAY LETTER
August 6, 2010

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Good Friday to the City of Oviedo and its fine staff and dedicated City Council. At the City Council meeting on August 2, 2010, Mayor Persampiere was sworn in to office. The swearing in ceremony was attended by his entire family and supporters. Welcome and Congratulations to Mayor Persampiere and to his family members who were in attendance. Council then moved on to the business of selecting a Deputy Mayor. Council voted to select Steve Henken as the new Deputy Mayor. Accordingly, Welcome and Congratulations are also in order to Deputy Mayor Henken and his family.

With a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor in place, Council moved on to establishing a procedure for the temporary appointment of a member to fill the Councilman Member IV position. It was noted that there is no formal procedure in place for the application process. Accordingly, Council determined that letters of interest for the vacant Council Member IV position are to be submitted to the City Clerk's office by no later than the close of business on Friday, August 27, 2010. Thereafter, Council will consider those letters of interest and Council may make an appointment to fill the vacancy at its meeting of September 9, 2010. In the interim, the City Clerk's office will be posting notices of the open seat on the City's website, TV station, and Bulletin Board at City Hall.

My sincere appreciation to new Mayor Persampiere and new Deputy Mayor Henken, as well as Councilman Schenck and Councilman Britton. We have weathered particularly difficult, tumultuous, and trying times but have emerged with a defined sense of purpose, direction, and statesmanship. Finally, my sincere thanks to former Mayor Andrews for her public service, commitment, and dedication to the City.

Some of my activities this week included:

- Executive Session (Masci)
- Council Meeting
- Executive Session (Police)
- Budget Work Session
- Staff Meeting

Please see the informational items for the week as reported by City Departments:

FIRE/RESCUE SERVICES:



Fire Rescue participated in this year's National Night Out in cooperation with the Oviedo Police Department. Each Homeowners Association designated site was visited by either a Fire Engine or Rescue Vehicle. Chief White also participated in the event by visiting each HOA site.



The mid season Hurricane forecast was received this week which still suggests an unusually active hurricane season ahead of us. The “adjusted” seasonal forecast indicates 18 named storms, 10 hurricanes, and 5 major hurricanes. This updated forecast is almost identical to the pre-season forecast as it is anticipated that conditions will continue to become more favorable for tropical storm development as we progress towards the “peak” season time frame. Stay tuned!



The Seminole County Health Department provided a presentation to the Fire Chiefs’ & Emergency Managers concerning the mosquito borne diseases under surveillance throughout the State, including Seminole County. Much media attention has surrounded the Dengue virus which is impacting the Florida Keys and has not emerged in Central Florida. Of greatest concern in the Central Florida region is the increase in Equine Encephalitis. Notifications are being provided to horse owners of this deadly disease.



Chief White attended the City Council meeting, City Manager staff meeting, City Council budget work shop, national night out community event, and a county wide emergency management meeting.



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced the following recalls:

- Bed Bath & Beyond recalls Solar Lighted Cantilever Umbrellas due to injury hazard. Plastic connector may fail posing a risk to the consumer. Sold between Feb 2010 to June 2010. Manufactured in China. Contact 800-462-3966 for recall information.
- Pottery Barn Kids recalls Madeline Bunk Beds due to entrapment hazard to young children. Manufactured in Vietnam. Contact 888-779-8692 for recall information.

POLICE:

The 2010 “National Night Out” crime prevention and community cooperation celebration was held in the City of Oviedo on Tuesday evening, August 3rd. Fifteen neighborhoods participated and 22 crime prevention events took place citywide. Mayor Dominic Persampiere attended and traveled to events with Chief Chudnow, Fire Chief White and the police command staff. Various police officers, fire personnel and police volunteers and equipment appeared at the events. It is estimated that this year’s attendance exceeded the 1,000 people at last year’s event, but the night certainly was a great success due to more community organizers and neighborhoods participating than ever. A final attendance count will be included in the next Friday Letter. (More about NNO 2010 is included below under *Community Relations & Volunteers.*)

Chief Chudnow attended a meeting on updates to current Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission requirements for Florida law enforcement personnel. Commanders Jacobs and Coleman and Chief Chudnow attended a training session on the amendments to the Police Officer Bill of Rights as established by the State.

The Chief held a mandatory meeting for all dispatchers to discuss Communications Center operations. Commanders Jacobs and Coleman were in attendance.

Commander Beaulieu and Lt. Egert attended the monthly City/County Investigations Bureau executive meeting to address cases and joint efforts.

Bryan Cobb and the Chief met with City Attorney Lonnie Groot regarding red light cameras.

The Department held a retirement luncheon for Officer Debra Jacobs. Friday, August 6th was her last workday, as well as her retirement date. She has accepted a full-time position with Valencia Community College teaching in the Criminal Justice Technology Degree program. Congratulations on your next career, Debbie.

The week of August 2nd thru August 8th has been “National Stop on Red” week. On Wednesday, August 4th the Community Traffic Safety Team—comprised of agencies across Seminole—focused on the traffic signal confirmation lights throughout the county. Oviedo traffic officers did their part by conducting Red Light enforcement at the four intersections in our City that have confirmation lights (the intersections of SR434 & Chapman Road; SR434 & SR 419; SR434 & Mitchell Hammock Road; and CR 419 & Lockwood Boulevard.

On July 30, CRT executed a drug search warrant in the 100 block of Wood Street with the assistance of our Special Response Team (SRT), the Winter Springs Police Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Oviedo uniform patrol. Two individuals were arrested on felony charges for Possession of Controlled Substances (marijuana and crack cocaine).

Early Thursday evening, August 5th, Patrol officers, the Fire Department and detectives responded to a death of a 21 year old female at a residence in the 1400 block of Twin Rivers Boulevard just south of Bay Club Road. The victim was deceased on arrival as a result of traumatic injuries, the crime scene was secured and the roadway closed. Detectives initiated their investigation and began a multi-agency search for the victim’s missing vehicle and the boyfriend who had been with the victim. During the evening, sixteen (16) Oviedo police officers were on scene or working the case off site. Two (2) uniformed Community On Patrol members volunteered to respond from home to direct traffic at the road closures, which released sworn officers to handle other calls citywide. By mid-evening, the boyfriend was located at his mother’s Winter Springs home with assistance from Winter Springs Police. The stolen vehicle was located at another location and seized. Following an interview of the boyfriend by detectives at the Oviedo Police Department, he was arrested. Scott Allen Myers, age 25, was booked into the Seminole County Jail by detectives, charged with Homicide and Vehicle Theft.

This week, the Grant Contract Oversight Team from the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence notified Chief Chudnow and staff of the findings of their recent on-site monitoring audit of Oviedo’s Domestic Violence Grant. The grant pays the costs for Oviedo to dedicate the detective to work domestic violence cases without using budgeted funds. The on-site monitoring team found Oviedo in full compliance with the grant. Detective Lieutenant Heather Capetillo recognizes the current domestic violence specialist, Detective Heather Regan, as well as Corporal Kelly Edwards and Officer Mikee Thompson for all of their hard work in establishing, implementing and advancing the dedicated domestic violence detective program in Oviedo.

Oviedo Criminal Investigations has been asked by the Casselberry Police Department for information on the duties and responsibilities of our Domestic Violence Detective. All Oviedo homicides during the past 10 years have involved domestic violence or dating violence, including this week’s homicide. Therefore, in recent years the Police Department has committed increasing investigative resources to follow up on all cases of reported or suspected domestic violence in our city. The goal is to prevent future cases of domestic violence from recurring and becoming lethal. Casselberry Police are interested in training a member of their agency for a role similar to Oviedo’s domestic violence detective.

“National Night Out” participation was organized by Officer Grace Robertson, who devoted many hours to coordinating neighborhood organizers, sponsors and department members to make the event a resounding success. Neighborhood organizers and Oviedo Police volunteers with our uniformed “Community On Patrol” (COP), “Volunteers In Policing” (VIP) and Police Explorer programs were instrumental in making National Night Out so successful by taking on-site responsibility for the individual events in the neighborhoods or by assisting with other tasks. Thank you all for another great National Night Out!

Local sponsors that supported National Night Out 2010 include: Ashton Photography, Merry Minstrel, Marco’s Pizza, ADT Security, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Courtesy Towing, Pilar’s Party Play Houses, Publix (Alafaya Square), Bruster’s Ice Cream, Back Street Pizza, Randy Anderson Entertainment, Planet Fitness, Sara Lee Food & Beverage, Tijuana Flats Burrito Company, Harry P. Leu Gardens, Walgreen’s Pharmacy, Stefano’s Trattoria Italian Cuisine and Takeyama Sushi.

The Oviedo communities and neighborhoods that held National Night Out 2010 events were: Worthington Estates, Easton Park, Chapman Oaks, Chapman Groves, Chapman Cove, Alafaya Woods, North/West Twin Rivers, South/West Twin Rivers, South/East Twin Rivers, Little Creek, Johnson Hill/Washington Heights, Lake Charm Estates, Waverly Woods, Riverside at Twin Rivers, The Sanctuary and Live Oak Reserve.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Public Works has begun Development Review responsibilities. Plot plans, final surveys, lot grading, building permit reviews and development site plan review duties have been phased into the Engineering Division’s operation. The entire engineering staff has been incorporated into the process to ensure redundant timely responses.

Clonts St., from Forest Trail to Central (SR434), was hard-topped last week. A 25-foot section was left unfinished adjacent to Central due to an equipment need by the subcontractor. Staff anticipates completion of the improvement within the next couple of weeks. Also, staff has been contacted by one of the three residents living along that section who is concerned about traffic calming. Due to the nature and location of the road with consideration to cut through and speeding traffic, staff has communicated with the resident and discussed our traffic calming procedure. The most effective means of speed control will be by use of speed tables; should improvements be initiated. Police and Fire will be included in any potential modifications.

RECREATION AND PARKS:



The site work for Friendship Park Phase II is approximately 95% completed, with the contractor having to perform minor cleanup and one concrete pour around the swing set. Parks staff, over the next three weeks, will begin to install and repair irrigation lines for new landscaping and renovate all current landscaping in and around Friendship Park. Parks staff will also be installing new site furnishings as well as a cantilever shade structure over the stage area in the near future. Due to cost savings achieved during the construction process, the City is able to install the cantilever shade structure as an additional amenity and still remain within the budgeted funds for this project.



This week, Club Riverside campers took field trips to Deleon Springs and Disney Quest, and the Middle School campers took field trips to Gatorland and Typhoon Lagoon. On Friday, all campers remained at Riverside Park and participated in the

Riverside Olympics. The summer has passed so quickly, with one week of summer camp remaining.

Good luck to the Oviedo Babe Ruth 12U Softball All-Stars, who are competing in the Softball World Series this weekend in Alachua, Florida! Registration is now open for the Fall 2010 Adult Softball season, with leagues offered on Monday (ASA men's), Wednesday (ASA men's), Thursday (USSSA men's) and Friday (ASA coed) nights. The cost is \$425 per team and registration is taking place at Riverside Park.



Open registration for the fall 2010 Adult Flag Football season will begin on Wednesday, August 11th, with games taking place on Sunday mornings at Long Lake Park. The cost is \$400 per team and games are scheduled to begin on September 12th.

Fall Youth Flag Football registration is also now ongoing at Riverside Park. Oviedo NFL Flag is the premier youth football league for boys and girls ages 5-14 (age as of October 2nd, 2010). This recreational program provides young players a fun and exciting opportunity to engage in non-contact, continuous action while learning lessons in teamwork. Four age groups are offered: 5/6, 7/8, 8-11, and 12-14. The cost is \$75 for Residents, \$112.50 for Non-Resident Members, and \$135 for Non-Residents. Games will take place on Saturday mornings, beginning October 2nd. We are always looking for energetic volunteer coaches to lead our teams. Do not miss this rewarding opportunity!



Parks staff continues to complete routine maintenance, regular work requests and daily activities. The transfer of sod for renovations of field #1 at Shane Kelly Park is ongoing. Preliminary meetings have been held with Director Dru Boulware to discuss sprucing up the landscaping at Friendship Park in preparation for the re-opening of the park.

Please note the following meetings and work sessions.

Upcoming Meetings

Monday, August 16, 2010	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 9, 2010	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Gestrich".

Richard Gestrich
City Manager