



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 9, 2010

Community Pulls Together for Special Events

Sanford, FL - June 9, 2010 – Just a week after funding the only Memorial Day Parade in Central Florida, the City of Sanford announced that it is developing new strategies to finance future events. The City will focus on raising revenue for community events from creating partnerships with and receiving donations from other municipalities, civic organizations and private individuals rather than applying taxpayers dollars. The City has created a Special Event Sponsorship Account from which all donations received will be used exclusively for funding events which were previously funded from tax revenues.

Referencing Sanford's historical support of the Memorial Day Parade, S.C.A.V.A.C. President John Sterling asks for "each community to give a little toward Memorial Day events so we can continue this grand tradition of showing our support to all Veterans in Seminole County while honoring those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom". S.C.A.V.A.C., an Advisory Counsel of representatives from all Seminole County Veteran Groups including Disabled American Veterans, VFW, AMVETS and others, sponsors the Memorial and Veterans Day Ceremonies at Sanford's Veterans Memorial Park.

Officials foresee building partnerships with other municipalities and the community to co-host regional events such as the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Sanford's Interim City Manager, Tom George, explained "We are very aware of the public's outpouring of gratitude and support for our Military. I cannot imagine Sanford not having this event next year, but we have to reach out to the community, our business partners, our civic organizations, our fellow cities and Seminole County to ask for their support and participation."

Mayor Linda Kuhn is encouraged by staff's successful fundraising efforts for the Star Spangled Sanford event and believes that support for other community events will grow when the community realizes that they are at risk of being cancelled. "Like our residents, the City is also scaling back and ensuring that every dollar is spent wisely and where it will have the greatest impact. This year's Star Spangled Sanford event on July 4th will be funded strictly from donations and sponsorships and will still feature the same outstanding fireworks display of which we are so proud." Sanford is promoting an old-fashioned, family-friendly 4th of July event on the scenic Riverwalk which hugs the shore of Lake Monroe with activities in the newly renovated Fort Mellon Park. Picnic tables, pavilions, basketball courts, the splash pad and playground will be available for everyone's enjoyment.

For any and all interested in helping Sanford continue it's long standing tradition of celebrating Memorial Day, 4th of July, Martin Luther King Day, Christmas lights and Christmas parade we encourage you to step up and make a difference. Information concerning the various methods in which donations may be submitted is available on the city's website at www.sanfordfl.gov listed under Events.

ABOUT SANFORD, FLORIDA:

Sanford, Florida is a city of brick-lined streets, beautiful parks, excellent schools and a mix of nineteenth-century Victorian homes and new, upscale communities on the shore of Lake Monroe on the St. Johns River in Central Florida. The vibrant downtown showcases elegant boutiques, specialized antique shops, wonderful restaurants and art galleries and has become a destination point for Special Events in Florida.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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