

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on some issues of significance in the City of Orlando.

First, there are some great events taking place in the City of Orlando during the month of April that are both enjoyable and educational.

On April 16th, the Annual IOA Corporate 5K evening race will have a new course around Lake Eola. This great annual event will benefit local charities such as the Parramore Kidz Zone and the Christian Service Center. For more information about how to sign up for this evening of fun and fitness, visit The Track Shack's website at www.trackshack.com. And on Sunday April 19th, the WMMO Concert Series brings Joe Cocker to City Hall Plaza for a free concert at 4 p.m.

The City will host its Earth Day Celebration at Bill Frederick Park at Turkey Lake on April 25th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy environmental activities for the kids, educational booths, and hiking tours. Also, there will be on-site collection of tires, motor oil and vehicle batteries. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call the park at 407-299-5581.

For those residents with children, the City of Orlando Families, Parks and Recreation Department is once again offering its full and part-time summer camp programs as well as swimming lessons at our community center pools. Registration for our full-time summer camp at our City community center locations, including Rosemont and College Park, begins this Saturday, April 4th. On-site registration will begin on Saturday at 9 a.m. for City of Orlando residents or you can sign up on-line at www.cityoforlando.net/funexpress.

I am excited to announce that the City of Orlando Stormwater Section has created a program to address citizens' ongoing concerns related to water quality. *Lake Alert* will provide seasonal as well as localized warnings and updates for City lakes. With this system you can find information related to lakes where short-term water quality is a

concern, as in the case of a sanitary overflow or following an atypical rainfall. There are three ways to check for any notifications:

- 1) Call the Lake Alert Hotline: 407-246-2220. This message is updated regularly with the latest information.
- 2) Visit the Lake Alert website: www.cityoforlando.net/lakealert. This website is updated during City of Orlando normal business hours.
- 3) Join the Lake Alert Notification Email List. This will provide direct updates from the Lake Alert system to your inbox, and can be customized to provide information on lakes within the zip code(s) of your choosing. To join, visit www.cityoforlando.net/lakealert and follow the instructions to the sign-up page.

Please use one or all of these tools to stay informed about warning updates, including the type of water quality hazard and severity of the issue as well as to find out when the water body is safe again for recreational purposes.

And under his new economic action plan entitled *Strengthen Orlando*, Mayor Dyer recently announced the specifics for the Buy Local Orlando component. Buy Local Orlando is a program geared toward incentivizing our City residents to utilize the goods and services of our local businesses. Why Buy Local? According to an economic analysis, for every \$100 spent at a locally-owned business, \$45 goes back into the community and local tax base, and for every \$100 spent at a non-local chain store, only \$13 comes back to the local area. To find out more about Buy Local Orlando as well as the other 5 pillars that make up Strengthen Orlando, please check out the website at www.strengthenorlando.com.

Thanks for listening and I look forward to seeing you around the district this month.