



City Commission Members

Mayor Fred Costello

Zone 1 Lori Gillooly

Zone 2 Troy Kent

Zone 3 Ed Kelley

Zone 4 Bill Partington

City Attorney
Randy Hayes

City Manager
Joyce Shanahan
22 S. Beach St.
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

Ph: 386-676-3200
Fax: 386-676-3384
Email:
shanahan@ormondbeach.org
www.ormondbeach.org

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City of Ormond Beach

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The CASEMENTS REOPENING

In his day, Christmas parties at Rockefeller's home became an annual celebration. Then and during the year, he entertained such notables as his partner Henry M.

Flagler, the Firestones, Vanderbilts, Astors, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford and Will Rogers. He also befriended race car drivers in the era when many records were set on the sands of Ormond Beach.

Uniting the old and new, overcoming challenges and maintaining integrity were all important factors during the renovation. Before moving here, John Davison



to search the world for the best place to live. From 1918 when he purchased the mansion, until he died there in 1937, Rockefeller celebrated having chosen Ormond Beach and The Case-

ments as that 'perfect place to live.'

At the reopening, Rockefeller's tradition of giving out dimes to people he met was carried on by Mike Fisher, a stately gentleman volunteer, garbed in black top hat and tails, who chooses to honor history and culture in this manner.

The dime became Rockefeller's

tradition when he went to the course for a round of golf with

Rockefeller had asked a friend

THE CASEMENTS REOPENING



friend and avid golfer, Harvey Firestone. When Firestone executed an amazing shot, JDR retrieved a shiny new

dime from his pocket and placed it into the hands of his friend. From then on, a dime became a trademark of the industrialist.

Years ago, at age 16, Rockefeller had taken his first job as an assistant bookkeeper. He was paid fifty cents a day. From then on, the man who would become a founder of Standard Oil kept his eyes on two things...progress and a ten percent tithe to his church. He advocated 'starting wherever you are, keeping an eye on even the smallest improvement and never being deterred by unexpected circumstances.' When he died at The Casements at the age of 97, this philosophy had made John D. Rockefeller the nation's first billionaire.

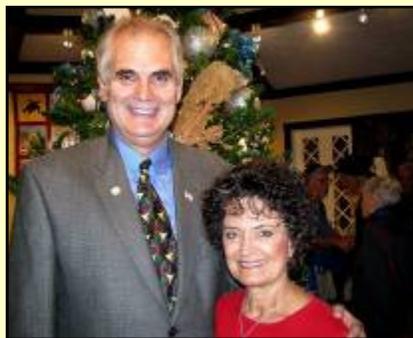
The recent renovation transformed a threatened treasure into one compliant with complete

additions and a complete upgrade of elevator facilitate the ability of those on walkers and wheelchairs to enjoy all areas of the building. Basement flooding no longer places the building and its contents in jeopardy.

The cost of preservation and improvements was quoted at \$1.2 million dollars. A Volusia County ECHO Grant funded \$500,000 toward The Casements and the Rockefeller Gardens renovations.

Someone recently asked, "Who owns The Casements?" When I replied, "I am one of the owners," the caller said, "I'm serious." "So am I" was my answer. The City purchased The Casements from the Ormond Hotel Corporation in the 1970s and the residents are 'the City.'

In 1939, the Rockefeller family sold the property and among other things, it became a girl's prep school and a home for the elderly.



Today, Ormond Beach's Cultural Center is thriving because people who care, stayed focused, persevered, pursued grants and worked

through obstacles to restore a treasure. History is not lost and thousands will tread the halls for decades and leave with broadened knowledge and a brush with history that could have disappeared.

With minimal staff of three part-timers, Siobhan Daly, Coordinator of The Cultural Center, along with the talented team of 60 hard working volunteers known as The Casements Guild, keep The Casements a respected place for things to see and do.

Many others had similar opinions before the special three hour visitation and entertainment ended. One of them was heard to say, "The whole evening was"...and searching for the right word, she added, "PERFECT."



building code, life safety and other modifications designed to preserve The Casements for decades. Improvements include a new fire alarm system, ADA compliant toilet room



Transportation Planning



MAKE Your MARK in 2035

The Planning Department has arranged with the MPO to sponsor a **Make Your Mark in 2035** workshop where participants are allocated funds and decisions are made by the participants to place as a priority a range of improvement projects ranging from new roads to transit and trails. **The workshop is planned at the Performing Arts Center on January 11, 2010 beginning at 6:00 pm**

(with a 5:00 pm set-up) and lasting until 9:00 pm. The Director participated in one on December 8, 2009 and it was informative as well as fun. **Make Your Mark in 2035** is designed by the MPO to educate the public about transportation planning, funding, and project development. The end goal is to develop the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP.) Attachment

YOU ARE INVITED TO A FORM BASED CODE WORKSHOP



The City is proposing a revised Downtown Overlay District Code that will be form based and designed to implement the 2007 adopted Downtown Master Plan. As a property owner in the Downtown, you are receiving an invitation to attend and learn about the code and how it may affect your property.

Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 5:00 pm
City Hall Training Room
(Enter through the breezeway between City Hall and the Library)

YOU ARE INVITED TO
City Hall
22 South Beach Street
Ormond Beach, FL 32175-0277



For more information:
Call: Phone: 386.676.3343
E-mail: gos@ormondbeach.org



Cold Snap Brings the Fun Inside



With the cold weather setting in, visitors at the South Ormond Neighborhood Center have been pouring in to utilize the indoor facilities such as the basketball courts and the weight room.

The playground and picnic areas have been rather desolate, but as soon as the warmer weather returns, the sound of laughter will appear once again outside.



Young Skaters Perfect Their Skills

Nova Community Park's skate court is frequently enjoyed by the younger skate board enthusiasts during the day. Parents and spectators watch as the three to eight year olds practice their technique. Several of the skaters exhibit talent even with the difficult skills.



Break Time!

Nova Community Center hosted the annual Winter Holiday Day Camp during the school break. The children had a wonderful time hamming it up for pictures, as well as making arts and crafts, watching movies, playing in the Magic Forest Playground, playing dodge ball, basketball and soccer and participating in various other recreational activities. All were ready to come back for more fun each day!



The Nova Community Center offers Teacher Professional Development and Holiday Day Camps for children throughout the school year. For more information, please call 676-3252

Airport Lights

During routine inspection, the Leisure Services Building Maintenance Department staff discovered a malfunctioning light at the Ormond Beach Municipal Airport and promptly had the light back in service.



Cassen Park

A new park bench was recently installed at Cassen Park located at 1 South Beach Street. Cassen Park is located at the corner of Granada and Beach Street across from City Hall and offers picturesque views of the Halifax River in addition to walking trails, picnic facilities, a fishing pier and boat ramps.



Riviera Park Improvements

Several improvements were made recently by the Leisure Services Building Maintenance Staff to Riviera Park including repair to the sign and installation of a new park bench. A sidewalk was also marked because of hazard to pedestrians. The Streets Department quickly responded to alleviate the problem.

Riviera Park is a beautiful waterfront park located at 901 South Beach Street directly on the Halifax River. There are several amenities available at the park including a playground, picnic area, outdoor grills, fishing pier and walking paths.



Ormond Beach Police Officers Recognized for Outstanding Service

At the January 5, 2010, Commission Meeting, five Ormond Beach Police Officers were recognized for outstanding service in the line of duty. Officer Lloyd Cornelius and Officer Gregory Stokes were presented Letters of Commendation for their outstanding efforts in planning and coordinating events for 2009 National Night Out. The Chief's Letter of Commendation was awarded to Officer Mina Armanious and John Borzner for disarming a subject

who had stabbed his sister. Officer Michael Shane Jarrell received the Medal of Honor for his heroic efforts when he placed his patrol car between the car of a fleeing suspect and the vehicle of an unsuspecting citizen in order to protect them from harm. These Officers are a fine example of the quality of protection given to the Citizens of Ormond Beach. Our congratulations to them and the entire Ormond Beach Police Department.



Bubbles, Bubbles Everywhere!

It certainly has been cold out, but that isn't snow in the fountain at Bailey Riverbridge Park. Unfortunately, vandals put soap bubbles in the fountain

and the Leisure Services Building Maintenance staff had to spend several hours disassembling the fountain to clear the liquid.



21st Annual Starry, Starry Night!



Every year in January, The Casements Cultural Center along with the Ormond Memorial Art Museum and The Ormond Historic Society, sponsor a gallery walk between both facilities.



This year is no exception. On Friday

night, January 8th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. guests will be invited to view the gallery exhibits, take a historical walking tour and take a trolley ride to the Ormond Memorial Art Museum and Gardens.

The Casements will feature the East Coast Plein Air Painters with their exhibit titled "Celebrating Green." Guests will be able to see the newly renovated facility while enjoying chamber music, viewing the exhibit and enjoying light refreshments.

A Fond Farewell!



Rockefeller Gardens has seen many events since its reopening and renovations, but last Sunday marked the first memorial service. Crowds gathered at two o'clock despite the cool weather and wind to say a fond farewell to the Port Orange couple, Renee and Brett Gerken, who were tragically killed on Christmas Eve by a drunk driver.

The family wanted to remember their loved ones in a beautiful setting with the river and nature surrounding them. Both of the deceased were nature lovers and enjoyed the water.

It was a heart warming experience to be told that our venue turned a tragic moment into a beautiful day to remember.

*Upcoming
Events/
Workshops/
Special
Meetings*

January 8th

◆ *Legends of Doo - Wop (PAC) 7:30 p.m. \$30-\$50*

January 9th

◆ *Bill Bailey's Southern Gospel (PAC) 7:00 p.m. \$10*

January 15th

◆ *CMT Krazy Kamp & Update Earth (PAC) 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$12*

January 16th

◆ *CMT Krazy Kamp & Update Earth (PAC) 1:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$12*



**WyoTech Graduates
Fly Like Eagles
Into Their
New Professions!**

The PAC hosted the WyoTech graduation services on stage Friday with Kenny Carter, Director of Education, giving the commencement speech to over 74 graduates of this nationally recognized, post secondary school. Mr. Carter's speech focused on graduates who have gone before and made great strides to make their marks on the industry.



WyoTech's Daytona campus was established in January 1972, imagined as a school that would be "private" in its structure and "public" in its impact. Using this basic concept, classes began in a one building classroom-shop. WyoTech's

Daytona campus (originally named American Motorcycle Institute, Inc.) grew from this small physical structure to what it is today. Boasting the largest facility of its kind, WyoTech is a proud resident of Destination Daytona which is located in a soon-to-be-annexed section of Ormond's outlying area.

The Motorcycle Division of WyoTech currently offers advanced specialized training on BMW, Ducati, Harley-Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki and Yamaha motorcycles.

Weekly Police Stats

**Calls for Service - 1,152 Arrests - 13
Citations Issued - 277
Reports Written - 113 Traffic Stops - 179**



Weekly Fire Operations Stats

109 - INCIDENTS

**79 - EMS 6 - Motor Vehicle Accidents 2 - Fires 8 - Fire Alarms
12 - Public Assists 2 - Hazardous**



Public Works in Action

.....And another Holiday Banner Season Comes to an end.



Stormwater crews repair a "Head Wall" on Santa Ana Avenue after a traffic crash.



Concrete crew remove sidewalk and apron in preparation for replacement on Foxcroft Run in Hunters Ridge.

