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# City announces Grand & Parade Marshalls

**Dec. 12, 2011**—The City of Deltona has chosen two members of the University of Central Florida Football program as Grand Marshalls for the City first Christmas Parade which begins at 6 p.m., Saturday, on Providence Boulevard. Long-time members of the Deltona Civic Association who organized the Deltona Day Parade for many years will serve as the Parade Marshalls.

Manny Messeguer, special assistant to UCF football coach, George O'Leary, and UCF linebacker, Willie Mitchell will ride in the parade as Grand Marshalls. Messeguer, who served the U.S. Air Forces as a pilot during the Vietnam era, became a fan of the UCF football program in the late 70's. He spent 18 years as general manager and vice president of Tropical Ford Inc., one of the largest Ford dealerships in Orlando. He became one of the leading donors to the UCF Football program and also served the program as a radio networks sideline reporter and as personal pilot to former head coach Gene McDowell. Recently Messeguer was inducted into the UCF Athletics Hall of Fame as an "Honorary Letterman: For his dedication to commitment and service to the UCF Athletics Program."

Mitchell, was an outstanding four-sport athlete at Pine Ridge High School, Deltona, before accepting a football scholarship to join the UCF Golden Knights. As a Pine Ridge senior, he was named to the "Orlando Sentinel All-Central Florida Defensive Football Team." He was the Sentinel's 15<sup>th</sup> ranked player in their Central Florida Super60. He was also ranked nationally by Rivals and ESPN at his linebacker position. Mitchell is looking forward to his sophomore season where he is expected to be a major contributor to the Knights' defense.

John Hernandez and Barbara Willey are some of "Deltona's Founding Fathers" and worked with a group of residents who were responsible for incorporating Deltona. Hernandez is one of Deltona's first real estate agents, selling homes for the Mackle Brothers. Both have served the Deltona Civic Association throughout the years and have worked hard on the Deltona Day Parade for the past 18 years. They have shared their advice and parade expertise with the committee of City staff who are working on the City's first Christmas Parade.

At 3:30 p.m., Providence Boulevard, from Tivoli Drive to Fort Smith Boulevard, will be closed to motorist to allow for parade staging. During the parade staging time, motorists will not be permitted access to businesses from Providence Boulevard between Tivoli and Fort Smith via Providence. Providence Boulevard along the parade route from Fort Smith Boulevard to Eustace Avenue will be closed at approximately 5:30 p.m. and will remain closed for the duration of the parade which will be between 2-3 hours. Once the parade route is closed, businesses along with residential streets that only have an outlet to Providence will be inaccessible.

There will be a free Christmas Concert, an "Old Fashioned Christmas," and photos with Santa following the parade in the Courtyard at City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd.