

BEACH COMBER



Town of MELBOURNE BEACH *Florida*

Vacancies

The Town currently has key staff openings:

TOWN CLERK

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

RESERVE OFFICER

Interested persons should visit the Town website at www.melbournebeachfl.org for more information on how to apply.

The Town Clerk is also currently accepting applications for various volunteer positions:

File Clerk	Volunteer for filing & inventory
Board of Adjustment	1 member & 1 alternate member
Civil Service Board	1 member & 2 alternate members
Historical Preservation	2 members
History Center Board	1 member & 1 alternate member
Parks Board	1 alternate member
Planning & Zoning	2 alternate members

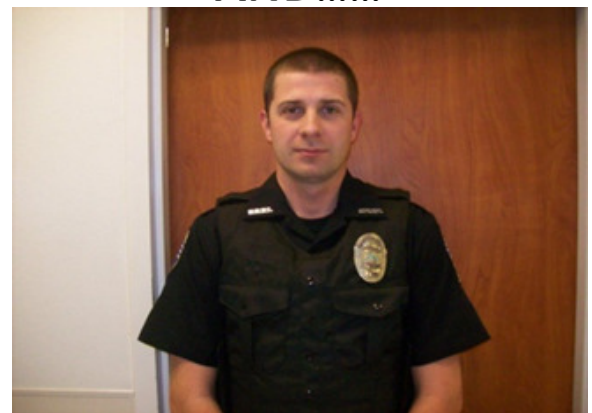
Interested citizens should stop by Town Hall and see the Town Clerk, or visit the Town website at www.melbournebeachfl.org. The volunteer application is located on the Boards/Committees page of the Town website.

WELCOME!!

to our new Town Manager
TIMOTHY DAY



AND.....



Please welcome our new Part Time Police Officer, Alex Vila. Officer Vila has prior law enforcement experience and comes from a family of law enforcement officers. Officer Vila is a newlywed and excited about becoming a part of our Police Department Team.

507 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

Phone: (321) 724-5860 ♦ FAX: (321) 984-8994 ♦ Website: www.melbournebeachfl.org



Sample Ballots for the March 15th Presidential Preference Primary Election are Now Available at



www.VoteBrevard.com



Supervisor of Elections Lori Scott announces Sample Ballots for the March 15th Presidential Preference Primary Election are now available online at www.VoteBrevard.com.

It is important to remember that Florida is a "Closed Primary State". During a Primary Election, voters receive a ballot listing only the candidates associated with their political party affiliation, as recorded on their voter registration record. This election is open to all registered Democrat and Republican voters. Voters can preview and print their Sample Ballot for the upcoming Election by selecting their voting precinct number on the www.VoteBrevard.com website. "Although Sample Ballots will be mailed to voters prior to the start of Early Voting, the on-line version is an early preview to your March 15th ballot," said Supervisor Scott. Voters are encouraged to pre-mark their Sample Ballot and bring it to the polls to use as a guide when marking their official election ballot.

Through the www.VoteBrevard.com website, voters can also: verify their voter registration status and party affiliation; request a Mail (Absentee) Ballot; view candidate Campaign Treasurer Reports; get a map to their polling location; and review the list of candidates and Early Voting locations. "I encourage voters to take advantage of the many useful tools on the [VoteBrevard.com](http://www.VoteBrevard.com) website," said Supervisor Scott.

Voters have until 29 days before the Presidential Preference Primary Election (February 16th), also known as book closing, to register to vote or change their party affiliation should they wish to do so prior to the March 15th Election. Florida Voter Registration Applications are available online at www.VoteBrevard.com.

For more information regarding this year's Presidential Preference Primary Election or registering to vote, please visit: www.VoteBrevard.com or call 321-633-2124.



Crime Prevention for Parents

Safety in our Town:

Melbourne Beach is regarded by many as one of the safest cities in Florida, but that's no reason for parents to let their guard down. Common sense tells us that the streets of any city are not entirely safe - this is particularly true for children. The Melbourne Beach Police Department will always be available to respond to crime, but we need your active participation to help prevent crime. The police can't do it alone - get informed, get involved and make crime prevention part of your everyday life. Together, we can continue to build a safer Town for all.

Would your child know what to do if...

- She got lost at the shopping mall?
- A friendly stranger offered him a ride home?
- She's being bullied at school or online?
- The babysitter, a neighbor or relative wanted him to play a secret game?
- A friend dared her to drink some beer or smoke a joint?

He came across some offensive material on the Internet?

These are some of the most common concerns voiced by parents and guardians. While it's difficult to teach children how to handle the following safety tips provide a good start for creating awareness and building the self-confidence your child may need to handle an emergency.

Start with the basics:

- Make sure your children know their full name, age, address and telephone number with area code. Always have

- Be sure they know how to contact you in an emergency, as well as how and when to call 9-1-1 to reach emergency services (police, fire or ambulance).
- Provide your children with a secret password and tell them never to accompany any stranger, to any place, unless the stranger provides them with this password. This will ensure that the stranger has acquired your permission to pick up the child.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk, security guard or police officer if they are lost in a store or on the street.
- Set a good example with your own actions - always locks doors and windows and see who's there before opening the door.

Listen carefully to your children's fears and feelings about places, people or experiences that make them feel scared or uneasy. Encourage them to trust their instincts.

At school and play:

- Encourage your children to walk to and play at school with friends - not alone. Make sure they are taking the safest routes and that they know where to go for help.
- Teach your children to settle arguments with words, not fists, and to walk away when others are arguing. Remind them that taunting and teasing can hurt friends and make enemies.
- Tell your child to stay away from strangers - especially those who hang around playgrounds, schoolyards or public restrooms.
- Always check out daycare providers, babysitters, after-school programs, etc. and discuss your child safety and crime prevention expectations.
- Teach your children that no one - not even a teacher, coach or close relative - has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable, and that it's okay to say no, get away and tell a trusted adult.

Encourage kids to be alert and to tell a trusted adult - you, a teacher, a neighbor, a police officer - about anything they see that doesn't seem quite right.

At home:

- Teach your child what to do if they're home alone (e.g., to never let anyone in without your permission, never tell someone they are alone, etc.), and agree on rules for having friends over or for going to a friend's house when no adult is present.
- Talk to your child about the challenges they will face in the community (e.g., drugs, alcohol, vandalism, etc.) and help them develop strategies around saying no to peers or bullies.
- Monitor your children when they're on-line and monitor the amount of time they spend on-line. The best tool your child has for screening on-line material is his or her brain - teach them what is acceptable and how to deal with matters such as exploitation, pornography, excessive violence, hate literature and any other issue of concern to you.
- Let your child know that he or she can tell you anything, and that you'll be supportive.
- It's important that kids know it's okay to keep telling if they are uncomfortable - it may take more than one telling for parents or guardians to understand that inappropriate behavior is occurring and take appropriate action.

Be alert for changes in your child's behavior that could signal abuse, such as sudden secretiveness, withdrawal from activities, unexplained cash or expensive items, refusal to go to school or a favorite activity, increased anxiety or unexplained hostility toward a particular person or place.

Other tips and resources:

If your child is a victim of any crime - from stolen lunch money to sexual abuse - don't blame him or her. Listen, offer sympathy and report it to the proper authority.

If your child goes missing:

1. Carefully search your home and surrounding properties;
2. Check favorite play areas;
3. Phone friends and relatives;

Call police and be prepared to provide a full description.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

February & March

<u>Meeting / Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	Feb 2 & Mar 2	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
Town Commission Regular Meeting	Feb 17 & Mar 16	6:30 p.m.	Community Center
Town Commission Workshop	Feb 3 & Mar 2	5:30 p.m.	Community Center
Town Commission Special Meeting	Feb 3	6:00 p.m.	Community Center
History Center Board Meeting	Feb 4 & Mar 3	5:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
Police Pension Board Meeting	Mar 7	5:30 p.m.	Town Hall
Historical Preservation & Awareness Board	Feb 9 & Mar 8	4:00 p.m.	Ryckman House
Beach Gardeners	Feb 16	6:00 p.m.	Community Center
Beach Gardeners	Mar 15	6:00 p.m.	Masny Room
Board of Adjustment Meeting	Feb 18 & Mar 17	6:30 p.m.	Community Center
Environmental Advisory Board	Feb 24 & Mar 23	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Town Hall Closed for President's Day	Feb 15		
Code Enforcement Board Meeting	Feb 4 & Mar 3	6:30 p.m.	Community Center
Parks Board Meeting	Feb 10 & Mar 9	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Island Garden Club Meeting	Mar 9	12:00 p.m.	Community Center
Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Dept.	Every Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Election Primaries			
AA	Every Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
2016 Presidential Preference Primary Election	Mar 15	All Day	Community Center

Embrace Civility

HISTORY QUIZ

test your knowledge of Melbourne Beach's past

1. How many property owners voted unanimously to incorporate our town in 1923 ?

- a.22
- b.52
- c.2

2. How much was our first Town Marshall paid annually?

- a. \$50.00
- b. \$500.00
- c. \$1500.00

3. The first census in 1930 showed how many permanent residents?

- a.72
- b.172
- c.372

4. When World War came , the Town Commission voted to buy this to defend our beach:

- a. machine gun and ammunition
- b.a cannon and shells
- c.a mortar and shells

5. Oak Street south of Ocean Avenue was established in?

- a. 1943
- b.1953
- c. 1963

Stay tuned for the answers in our next edition of BeachComber.

Test prepared by Frank Thomas

