

# BEACH COMBER



## FOUNDER'S DAY 2016 MAY 7TH 8AM-8PM

A LOT OF ENTERTAINMENT AWAITS ALL WHO ATTEND THE EVENT THIS YEAR, SUCH AS:

GEMINI ELEMENTARY CHOIR & GEMINI CHEERLEADERS—GAZEBO'S

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT—OCEAN PARK

HISTORICAL TALK BY FRANK THOMAS—COMMUNITY CENTER

SCAVENGER HUNT FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

ROTARY CLUB NOMINATIONS FOR THE "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR", "JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" AND "BUSINESS OF THE YEAR" - ROTARY TENT

TV'S FOR WATCHING THE KENTUCKY DERBY AND A RELATED FANCY HAT CONTEST WILL BE HELD WITH A PRIZE GOING TO THE PERSON WITH THE BEST HAT—ROTARY TENT

BLUEGRASS AND JAZZ MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

THERE WILL BE FUNNY FACE CUTOUTS THROUGHOUT THE PARK TO ALLOW ATTENDEES TO TAKE PICTURES.

### MELBOURNE BEACH BABY OF THE YEAR

UNIQUE TO FOUNDERS' DAY THIS YEAR WILL BE NAMING A BABY OF THE YEAR. YOUR TOWN HISTORY BOARD WANTS TO RECOGNIZE ALL OUR YOUNGEST CITIZENS AND THEIR PARENTS, BUT HAVE DECIDED THAT THE PARTY TO RECOGNIZE THEM MUST BE LIMITED TO BABIES BETWEEN 3 AND 12 MONTHS OLD. THE GATHERING IS FROM 11 TO 12 NOON IN THE AIR-CONDITION COMMUNITY CENTER. NO PREREGISTRATION IS NEEDED. THE BABY OF THE YEAR WILL BE CHOSEN BY A DRAWING AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TOWN AWARDS CEREMONY.

THE AWARD RECOGNIZES JOHN ALDEN BEAUJEAN, OUR FIRST BABY, BORN HERE IN 1917. THE BEAUJEAN FAMILY CONTRIBUTED ENORMOUSLY TO OUR COMMUNITY.

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## Have You Used the BlueTube at your Beach Yet?

BlueTube makes it easy for people to keep beaches clean and keep plastic out of the ocean. They are bright blue containers at dune crossovers that are filled with clean, used plastic bags. Next time you head to the beach, grab a bag, pick up trash and throw it away. Donate your used bags to the BlueTube, and the cycle continues.

Some of our beach trash is fresh, probably left by careless visitors, but most washes ashore from far off places. The next time we get Sargassum seaweed on our beaches, look for bottle caps, plastic forks and a lot of weathered pieces of plastic mixed in. More and more of our trash is plastic, and this doesn't decompose like organic trash. It lasts. That weathered plastic on our beach could be part of a bleach jug that washed out to sea in the Caribbean years ago, was carried by currents, fragmented into small pieces and came ashore here.

The good news is that plastic is much easier to remove from the beach, especially with a bag and a gentle reminder from a BlueTube. With many people picking up a little trash up and down the coast all the time, we will keep our beaches beautiful and put a dent in ocean plastic.

So far there are BlueTubes at sixty dune crossovers including those at Ocean Ave., Spessard Holland, Coconut Point, Ponce De Leon and Bonsteel Beach. BlueTubes are funded through sponsorships, and a portion of sponsor money goes towards scientific research on ocean plastic.

Questions? Comments? Visit the website ([www.BlueTubeBeach.org](http://www.BlueTubeBeach.org)), email ([info@BlueTubeBeach.org](mailto:info@BlueTubeBeach.org)) or call (321 265-4604).



## POLICE INTELLIGENCE



### If an aggressive dog approaches, what's the best course of action?

It can depend upon the breed and where you encounter the animal.

Some dogs like pits have a strong prey response, when you run from an aggressive dog they will chase down their prey.

#### Recommendations:

- Dog walkers, Joggers or strollers with child can carry a walking stick or golf club, baseball bat or PVC pipe to make a barrier against the dog.
- Stomp your feet or make noise.
- Carry pepper spray but make sure it's properly dispensed. I'm not a big fan of it, because I've seen a lot of accidental exposures where the shooter sprays themselves. If you carry it, practice with it. Some sprays are more direct, others put a cloud out and it depends which way the wind is blowing [it could end up in your eyes].
- Carry a noisemaker or air horn/Pet Corrector spray. People carry them and you can get people to pay attention who may come to your aid, if you're in your car, bang the horn, and don't get out.

Carry a legal hand held Taser.

So if a dog attacks you, what should you do? Run? That's the worst thing you can do in such a situation. Surrender? That's another no. You could be badly bitten. You have to defend yourself. Here, are three tips on how you can defend yourself from a dog attack:

## How to Defend Yourself against a Dog Attack – 3 Action Steps to Take

### 1. Take precautions:

Dog attacks occur usually because of inadequate training of the dog (*by the owner*) or insufficient restraint of the dog. So, whenever you see any unchained dog, always prepare for the worst so that you won't be caught unaware. A safe move is to take another path (*if available*). When you meet a stray dog, avoid eye contact with it, as most dogs see this as a threat. Also, avoid smiling at the dog. Though this may show that you are friendly, an aggressive dog would assume that you are baring your teeth in readiness for a fight.

### 2. Never underestimate a dog:

Whenever you see a "*Beware of dog*" notice, be very careful. Underestimating a dog is the worst thing you can do. Never judge a dog by its size or looks. A small dog could inflict terrible bites. And a seemingly calm dog could be aggressive. A dog is a dog and should be regarded as one – irrespective of its size, age, color, looks, and so on. Having this in mind would help you stay away from dogs when you should.

Once you see a dog approaching you with its body straight and stiff and its head, shoulders, and hips aligned, it is most likely coming for an attack. Don't wait till it gets closer before you think of what to do. Prepare for it. But don't run.

### 3. Be calm, then act fast if (*you are attacked eventually*)

When a dog approaches you, **DO NOT RUN!** I can't emphasize this rule enough, because it's just natural for anyone to run away from imminent danger. But doing so in this case would cause more problems, as the dog would chase you like a prey (*and you can never outrun a dog*).

Rather than running away, remain calm. Then try to command the dog with words like "*down*" or "*go back*". Such words may cause the dog to retreat temporarily, giving you ample chance to get away. But if your commands fail to work, remain calm. Avoid facing the dog directly and avoid making eye contact with it, as doing these would signal to the dog that you mean no harm.

To further convince the dog that you are not trying to attack it, fold your arms tightly to protect your fingers. Better yet, keep them still by your sides with your fists clenched tightly to protect your fingers. Then remain in a still position. Dogs have very short attention spans. So, it may lose interest and go away after seeing that you mean no harm.

If the dog comes closer, remain still and calm. Some dogs would only sniff you and go away without biting. But if the dog is biting, try to grab its neck if it is a small dog that you can overpower easily. If it is a larger dog, find something hard or pointed that you can either force into its mouth or use to block its teeth each time it tries to bite you.

If there is nothing you can protect yourself with, and the dog is a large one that you cannot overpower, quickly place your clenched fists at the side of your head and your elbows by your sides. This will protect your vital organs, as the dog can only bite at your legs and other parts of your body that are less vital. If the dog knocks you down with its weight, roll yourself into the fetal position and protect your head, neck, and belly with your fists and elbows. This way, you will have minimal injuries – if any at all.

These are just some ideas to keep you and your pet safe. If all else fails and the aggressive dog continues then you have no other choice put to use any weapons you have with you.

Be Safe!

Chief Dan Duncan

**NEWS  
YOU  
CAN  
USE**

There's a one day effort in Indialantic providing the public with a place to safely dispose of expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. This effort addresses an important public safety and public health issue .

WHEN: Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 10am—2pm  
WHERE: Indialantic Police Department, 220 Fifth Avenue  
QUESTIONS: Call Sergeant Michael Casey 321-723-7788

The disposal of sharps (including needles and lancets) in the trash or sewer is prohibited by law. Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department offers an approved method for the safe disposal of sharps generated by people who inject medication at home. For the safety of all citizens, drop off your used sharps any Wednesday between 9:00am—5:00pm at the Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events - April and May

| <u>Meeting / Event</u>                    | <u>Date</u>       | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u>  |
|---|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Planning & Zoning Board Meeting           | April 5 & May 3   | 7:00 p.m.   | Community Center |
| Town Commission Regular Meeting           | April 20 & May 18 | 6:30 p.m.   | Community Center |
| Town Commission Workshop                  | April 4 & May 3   | 5:30 p.m.   | Masny Room       |
| History Center Board Meeting              | April 7 & May 5   | 5:30 p.m.   | Old Town Hall    |
| Historical Preservation & Awareness Board | April 12 & May 10 | 4:00 p.m.   | Ryckman House    |
| Beach Gardeners                           | April 19, May 17  | 6:00 p.m.   | Community Center |
| Environmental Advisory Board              | April 27 & May    | 7:00 p.m.   | Town Hall        |
| Parks Board Meeting                       | April 5 & May 11  | 7:00 p.m.   | Town Hall        |
| Island Garden Club Meeting                | April 13          | 11:30 p.m.  | Community Center |
| Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Dept.      | Every Tues.       | 7:00 p.m.   | Town Hall        |
| AA  | Every Wed.        | 7:30 p.m.   | Old Town Hall    |

### **HISTORY QUIZ - ANSWERS**

1. How many property owners voted unanimously to incorporate our town in 1923? **22**

2. How much was our first Town Marshall paid annually? **\$50.00**

3. The first census in 1930 showed how many permanent residents? **72**

4. When World War II came , the Town Commission voted to buy this to defend our beach: **a mortar and shells**

5. Oak Street south of Ocean Avenue was established in? **1953**

### **OLDEST NATIVE TREE CONTEST**

Your Environmental Advisory Board wants you to find and photograph the most impressive native tree in Melbourne Beach. Bring the photo by town hall identifying its location, along with your name and address. You may also bring your entry to the Ryckman House on Founders' Day. The winner will be announced at noon and will receive a valuable prize.

***Stay tuned.....The June/July issue will contain very important emergency preparedness information. PREPARE TO BE PREPARED.***