

BEACH COMBER



Town of MELBOURNE BEACH Florida



Welcome to the Official Town of Melbourne Beach Newsletter!

As part of the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget, the Town Commission voted to approve funding to send the *Beach Comber* to every resident in the Town of Melbourne Beach each quarter. We hope you find our newsletter filled with useful information on what's happening in our Town! Look for your next issue in January. Comments are welcome—send to Town Clerk, 507 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951, or townclerk@melbournebeachfl.org.



TOWN COMMISSION ELECTION November 8, 2016

Three Town Commission seats are on the November 8 General Election ballot. The four candidates who have qualified to be on the ballot are:

TOM DAVIS

tldavis1948@cfl.rr.com

MARGOT DORFMAN

www.margotformelbournebeach.com

margot.dorfman@zoho.com

<https://twitter.com/Margot4MelBeach>

GAIL GOWDY

wgowdy@bellsouth.net

(321) 725-7074

WYATT HOOVER

Wyatt Hoover for Melbourne Beach Town Commission on Facebook

October 11th: Voter Registration Deadline

October 24—November 5: Early Voting

BAT HOUSES

Not just for Halloween!



At the August 17 Town Commission meeting, the Town Commission authorized the installation of 8 bat houses throughout the Town of Melbourne Beach in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 and 8 more in FY 2017. The project plan is to eventually have 25 bat houses installed throughout the Town. Bats are often misunderstood, but they're highly beneficial in helping to reduce insect populations—especially mosquitoes. They consume tons of insects every night. Contrary to popular misconceptions, bats are not blind, do not get entangled in hair and rarely transmit diseases. In fact, only 0.5% of bats will ever contract rabies. Inviting bats into the community through the installation of bat houses could reduce the need to spray potentially harmful pesticides to control the mosquito population.

For more information on bats or bat houses, contact Shari Blissett-Clark at (321) 890-6154 or email batbelfrys@gmail.com; www.floridabats.org.

History of Poetry

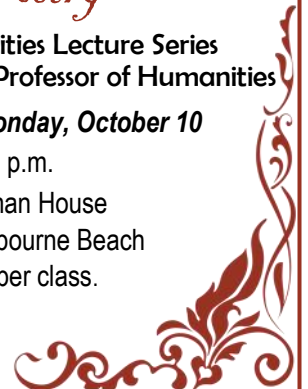
Part of an Ongoing Humanities Lecture Series
by George Richards, Renowned Professor of Humanities

This month's series begins **Monday, October 10**

2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

At the Historic Ryckman House
509 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach
4 week session. \$5 per class.

Visit www.humanitiesforbrevard.com for
information on future topics & dates.



Local Palm Tree Problems

By Teri Graham, ISA Certified Arborist, FL-6526A

Sadly, our local palm trees are under attack, or so it seems. We have lost so many palms in our area over the last couple of years, which has left many wondering why and what they can do to help prevent this.

Top 3 Preventive Measures:

Sanitize your tools. If you prune your trees, even if you do not suspect disease, sanitize your tools after each use. Many fungal and other issues are present before the symptoms are noticed. If you have a service provider to trim your trees, talk to them about using sanitized tools.

Proper nutritional care. Making sure the trees have the right nutrients for which they are deficient will make them healthier and more able to fight off infection.

Proper Irrigation. Most irrigation systems are designed with watering lawns and not so much with attention to trees in mind, even if a soaker is run directly to the tree. Certain Palm trees really do not like being directly hit by irrigation. They do much better by absorbing the water from their roots only and rain. A soaker extension is fine as long as the other heads are not directly hitting the trunk. Finally, proper drainage is a must! If too much water is accumulating around the root ball, the trees can get root rot.

Most Common Local Palm Diseases: While there are additional diseases/insect issues, these are the Most Common Lethal ones in our area. (Not all ISA Certified Arborists know the symptoms of these, consult with one who specializes in diagnostics.)

Ganoderma- Also known as Bud Rot. Lethal and has no known treatment.

Fusarium or Fusarium Wilt- Lethal and has no known treatment.

Thielaviopsis, aka TBR- (Thielaviopsis Bud Rot) this fungus primarily is found to cause Bud Rot, though it can cause trunk rot as well.

Phytophthora- Another fungi that attacks the bud. If caught early enough, this is the only that has some possibility of responding to treatment.

Palmetto Weevil- This insect is responsible for the death of many of our Canary Island Date Palms, Bismarkia Palms and Sylvestri/Sylvestor Palms. Preventative insecticide recommended if you have any of these types of palms. The weevil can attack other palms but these are the most impacted in our area.



Nutrient deficiencies- Nutrient Deficient trees will eventually decline and look diseased, even if they are not. They are also more at risk of become diseased as they are already stressed. Some nutritional deficiencies can be fatal if not corrected in time.

Top 5 nutrient issues in our area (Each deficiency has different symptoms): **Potassium, Magnesium, Manganese, Boron, Iron-** this one is typically caused by poor soil drainage and/or improper depth planting of the palm.

Resources: **ISA- International Society of Arboriculture-** the ONLY accrediting agency for "Certified Arborists."

www.isa-arbor.com you can verify a credential, find a Certified Arborist and more.

Brevard County Extension Services-Local University of Florida - Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension in Brevard County is a partnership between UF/IFAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and Brevard County government. Local Office- 3695 Lake Dr, Cocoa, FL 32926 (321) 633-1702 <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>

Sun Harbor Nursery- Source for quality nutrients, palm weevil prevention treatment, plants, etc. 920 E Eau Gallie Blvd, Satellite Beach, FL 32937 (321) 773-1375

Teri Graham-ISA Certified Arborist-FL 6526A-Tree Service Express, Inc. 321-506-4633 direct; 321-237-3733 office

A Message from the Building Official

Due to several damaged emergency vehicles, utility trucks and school buses, etc., the following guidelines for overhanging trees will begin to be enforced:

Vertical Clearance from roadway to tree line is 16.5 feet per Brevard Department of Transportation.

A 30-day timeline will be given to clear any obstructions. After 30 days, Code Enforcement will begin to enforce any violations regarding overhanging trees. This will include visibility and line of sight issues.

Regards, Rob Perry, Building Official





Police Department Halloween Safety

Each year, Halloween is one of the most exciting holidays for kids. Remembering how to stay safe during the holiday can be a little bit “tricky.” Everyone wants to have a safe and happy Halloween, and remembering some of these simple safety tips can make the holiday safe and enjoyable for everyone!

Adults:

1. A parent or responsible adult should ALWAYS accompany children when Trick-or-Treating.
2. If you are going to be handing out candy to Trick-or-Treaters at your home, turn on your exterior lights.
3. While in your vehicle, be alert and watch for children.
4. Make sure your flashlights have fresh batteries before giving them to your children to use for Trick-or-Treating.

Costumes:

1. Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.
2. Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Treat bags for greater visibility. Glow bracelets and necklaces are a great addition to any costume and help trick-or-treaters see and be seen by drivers.
3. Make sure your child’s shoes fit properly. Big, floppy shoes that are hard to walk in may cause kids to fall.
4. Costume props should be flexible and soft. Costume props can hurt children badly if they fall. Swords, knives, etc. should be made of flexible plastic, rubber, or foam.
5. Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over eyes.

Streets:

1. Drivers should be able to see my child and their costume in the dark. Be original with a glow in the dark costume and add reflective tape and stickers to be visible to drivers.
2. Always Trick-or-Treat in a group. Don’t let your kids go Trick-or-Treating alone.
3. Always cross the street at crosswalks and intersections. Stop at street corners. Look both ways before crossing the street, and don’t cross between parked cars.

Treats:

1. Parents should ALWAYS check your child’s treats before they eat them.
2. Children should eat a good meal before going Trick-or-Treating to discourage kids from filling up on Halloween candy before parents have an opportunity to check their snacks.

Be Safe! Chief Dan Duncan



Check out the MBPD on Facebook!



Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department

Earlier this year the Volunteer Fire Department wrote and submitted a grant application to FEMA under the Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant Program for funds to replace the current air packs that are reaching the end of their service life. That grant was just awarded for \$118,277 with a matching requirement of 5% or \$5913 from the Town. This is the third Federal grant written by the volunteer’s to be awarded for a total of over \$300,000 in savings for the Town toward the purchase equipment such as bunker gear, hose, radios, etc for the Fire Department.

The following is just a reminder of some of the coming events this last quarter of the year hosted by the Volunteer Fire Department:

October

- Fire Prevention Week at schools in town
- Haunted House

November

- Golf Tournament

December

- The Children’s Christmas Parade
- The Santa Run on Christmas Eve

Congratulations!

Recent Town Staff Promotions

Fire Department

Gavin Brown to Fire Department Manager

Police Department

Officer Hinchman to Corporal Hinchman

Officer Kino to Corporal Kino

Det. Corporal Griswold to Detective Sergeant Griswold

Public Works

Brian Vickers to Maintenance I

Town Hall

Terisa Casey to Deputy Town Clerk



Town of Melbourne Beach
507 Ocean Avenue
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Upcoming Town Meetings



Meeting	Dates	Time	Location
Town Hall Closed—Holidays	Nov. 11, Nov. 24 & 25, Dec. 23 & 26, Jan. 2		
Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	Oct. 4, Nov. 1 & Dec. 6	7:00 p.m.	Community Ctr
Town Commission Workshop	Oct. 5, Nov. 2 & Dec. 7	5:30 p.m.	Town Hall
History Center Board Meeting	Oct. 6, Nov. 3 & Dec. 1	5:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
Parks Board Meeting	Oct. 12, Nov. 9 & Dec. 14	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Historic Preservation & Awareness Board	Oct. 11, Nov. 8 & Dec. 13	4:00 p.m.	Ryckman House
Town Commission Regular Meeting	Oct. 19, Nov. 16 & Dec. 21	6:30 p.m.	Community Ctr
Environmental Advisory Board	Oct. 26 & Nov. 30	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Dept.	Every Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
AA	Every Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall

Don't forget!
VOTE
NOVEMBER
8th!

Monthly Meet the Mayor
What: Informal drop-in sessions with Mayor Simmons
When: 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Masny Room, Town Hall
Everyone is welcome!

Get Your House Plans—Last Call!



The Town of Melbourne Beach is purging records that have met State of Florida retention requirements. Among the records are residential building permits that were issued more than ten years ago. If you are a homeowner of a home that was built more than ten years ago and are interested in receiving the building permits or plans for your home, please visit the Town Clerk at Town Hall during normal business hours. You will need to bring picture identification to receive your permit files.

Please note—certain homes are exempt and those documents carry a permanent retention. These files will not be released or destroyed.

BREVARD COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

Presents

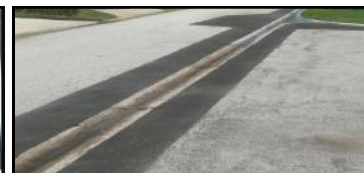


MOVIES IN THE PARK SERIES
South Beach Community Park
500 Old Florida Trail
Melbourne Beach, FL
Friday, October 7, 2016



Recent Accomplishments & Upcoming Projects

- Ryckman Park basketball court resurfacing completed
- "Curtis Byrd Ocean Park Pavilion" Dedication
- Ocean Park BBQ Replacement completed
- Fire Department Floor resurfacing project completed
- Hibiscus/Acacia resurfacing & repair completed
- Eight bat houses installed throughout the Town
- Stormwater improvements on Flamingo & Driftwood to be completed soon!



Check out our newly upgraded Town of Melbourne Beach website!

www.MelbourneBeachFL.org