



TOWN OF MELBOURNE BEACH
BREVARD COUNTY'S OLDEST BEACH COMMUNITY • ESTABLISHED 1883

BEACH COMBER

Vol. 23 Issue 1

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Town Commission

Mayor Jim Simmons
Vice Mayor Jean Marshall
Commissioner Sandy Wilson
Commissioner Margot Dorfman
Commissioner Gail Gowdy

Town Staff

Town Manager

Bill Hoskovec
**

Town Clerk

Charmagne Manning, CMC
**

Town Attorney

Paul Gougelman

Police Chief

Dan Duncan
**

Fire Chief

Jim Hunter
**

Public Works Director

Daniel Rocque
**

Finance Director

Jennifer Howland
**

Interim Building Official

Robert Allgood
**

Town Planner

Jim LaRue

Town of Melbourne Beach
507 Ocean Avenue
Melbourne Beach
Florida 32951

Town Hall
724-5860

www.melbournebeachfl.org

SEA OATS

Volunteers work towards defense of the Dunes



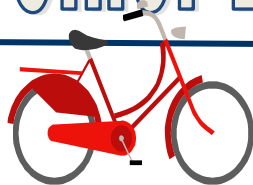
On February 8, 2014 the Town of Melbourne Beach partnered with Surfrider Foundation, Sebastian Inlet Chapter to plant sea oats. Volunteers in coordination with Surfrider Foundation led by Jason Hyder, planted 16 trays of 96 sea oats.

Sea oats also known as *uniola paniculata* is a species of grass that grows along the Eastern and Gulf Coast of the United States. The purpose of sea oats is to combat the erosion of the sand dunes. Sea oats catch the sand when blown by wind and help to form small mounds which trap and save the golden sand. Sea Oats are pictured on the right.

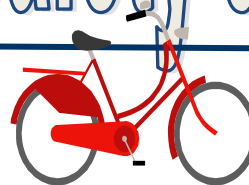




Chief Duncan's Safety Junction



Bicycle Safety



Florida State Bicycle Laws:

In Florida the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. Bicyclists have the same rights to the roadways; they must obey the same traffic laws as the operators of other vehicles. These laws include stopping for stop signs and red lights, riding with the flow of traffic, using lights at night, and yielding the right-of-way when entering a roadway.

With few exceptions, there is only one road and it is up to bicyclists and motorists to treat each other with care and respect. Strict adherence to the law is the foundation for this respect.

Traffic Law Highlights:

Bicycle Regulations (Section 316.2065, F.S.)

A bicyclist must obey all traffic controls and signals.

A bicyclist must use a fixed, regular seat for driving.

No bicycle may be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped.

At least one hand must be kept on the handlebars while riding.

Helmets (Section 316.2065(3) (d), F.S.):

A bicycle rider or passenger who is under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted and fastened securely upon the passenger's head by a strap.

Parents and guardians must not knowingly allow a child or minor to violate any provision of this section.

Equipment (Section 316.2065 (14), F.S.):

Every bicycle must be equipped with a brake or brakes which allow the rider to stop within

25 feet from a speed of 10 miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement.

Sidewalk Riding (Section 316.2065, F.S.):

When riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks, a bicyclist has the same rights and duties as a pedestrian.

A bicyclist riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and must give an audible signal before passing.

Lighting (Section 316.2065, F.S.):

A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from 500 feet to the front and both a red reflector and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from 600 feet to the rear.

Additional lighting is permitted and recommended.

Roadway Position (Section 316.2065, F.S.):

A bicyclist, who is not traveling at the same speed of other traffic, must ride as closely as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway. A bicyclist may leave the right-most portion of the road when passing, making a left turn to avoid hazards, or when a lane is too narrow for a bicycle and a car to share it safely.

A bicyclist operating on a one-way street with two or more traffic lanes may ride as close to the left hand edge of the roadway as practicable.

Riding in single file is required except on bike paths or parts of roadways, set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, or when two people riding side-by-side within one lane will not impede on traffic flow.

Left Turns (Section 316.151(1) (b) (c), F.S.):

A bicyclist intending to make a vehicle left turn is entitled to full use of the lane from which the turn is made. After scanning, signaling, and moving to the center of that lane, the bicyclist must check the signal, and then proceed when it is green and safe to do so.

In addition, to the normal vehicle left turn, a bicyclist may proceed through the right-most portion of the intersection and turn as close to the curb or edge as possible at the far side. After complying with any official traffic control device, the bicyclist may proceed in the new direction of travel.

Another option available to a bicyclist is to dismount and walk through the intersection in the crosswalk like a pedestrian.

Signaling Turns (Section 316.155(2) and 316.157(2), F.S.):

A signal of intention to turn must be given during the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning. If a bicyclist needs both hands for control, the signal needs to be given continuously.

A bicyclist may signal intent to turn right either by extending the left hand and arm upward or by extending the right hand and arm horizontally to the right side of the bicycle.

Headsets (Section 316.304, F.S.):

A bicyclist must not wear a headset, headphone, or other listening devices other than a hearing aid when riding. Wearing a headset blocks out important audio cues to detect the presence of other traffic.

Why Wear a Helmet?

There are many good reasons to wear a helmet besides the most important one-that of preventing head injuries:

Climate Protection: A helmet will help keep your head dry in the rain. If you do have to cycle in bad weather, this will help to make your riding much more enjoyable.

Bicycle Safety Tips:

Ride with Traffic: Wrong way riders get hit by cars. One out of every five accidents is caused by wrong way riding.

Look Before You Ride Out of the Driveway: This is the truth, almost half of the young children killed on bicycles die when they ride out of a driveway without first stopping or looking. Stop at the end of the driveway. Look both ways for traffic. Go when it is safe.

Check for Traffic Before You Make a Turn: Many children do not look for traffic before they turn left or right, or turn around. Always look back, signal, check for traffic before you make any turn. Otherwise, you may get hit!

Stop Signs Mean Stop: It is hard for children to judge the speed and distance of an oncoming car. Often adults ignore the law and run stop signs, too. Children will follow the examples of adults, and will not obey the law unless adults do. Please STOP at all signs, and

look for traffic before proceeding.

Bicycle fatality statistics:

Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes.

The following facts are based on analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Transportation Fatal Accident Reporting System (figures are from 2011):

677 bicyclists were killed in crashes with motor vehicles in 2011.

Bicycle deaths are most likely to occur in summer. The peak time is 3 - 6 p.m.

94% of bicyclists killed reportedly weren't wearing helmets.

34% of bicycle deaths were riders younger than 16.

Four states (California, Florida, New York, and Texas) accounted for 46% of bicycle deaths.

More bicyclists were killed in urban areas (64%) than in rural areas (33%).

52% of bicycle deaths occurred on major roads, and 37% occurred on local roads.

As of January 1, 1997, Children in Florida Under Age 16 Must Wear a Bicycle Helmet that Is properly fitted.

Make sure the helmet fits snugly on the head and doesn't slip around! Is Fastened with a Strap.

The helmet won't work if it comes off your head. Use the strap and wear the helmet in the correct position.

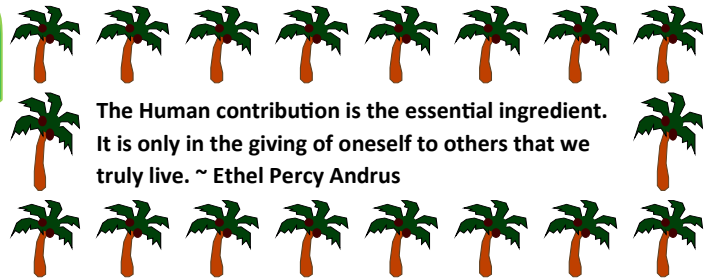


Road Construction

Detour on Riverside Drive at Hibiscus. Due to construction of storm-water utilities road traffic is expected to be detoured through March 31, 2014. Please use caution when in the area.



Volunteerism



The Human contribution is the essential ingredient. It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live. ~ Ethel Percy Andrus

Stop by Town Hall and get your application today!

This is your Community and we need you. There are many opportunities available. Let your voice be heard!

Board of Adjustment

The Board of Adjustment is a five-member body plus two alternates established by the Town Commission. When reasonably available the board consist of one architect, one engineer, one member at large from the building industry, one building contractor and one member at large from the public. The alternates will have a voice but not a vote in all Board of Adjustment deliberations unless one or more regular members are absent, in which case the alternates are authorized to vote in accordance with their designation.

Civil Service Board

The Civil Service Board is responsible for reviewing applications for the hiring of Police Officers. Board suggestions are submitted to the Chief of Police.

Code Enforcement Board

The Code Enforcement Board was established to promote, protect and improve the health, safety and welfare of the town. The Board has the authority to impose fines and other non-criminal penalty when residents are found in violation of the Code.

Environmental Advisory Board

The Environmental Advisory Board advised the Town Manager and Commission on matters such as Ordinances, Resolutions, the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, Stormwater retention and protection or environmentally sensitive properties.

Historical Preservation and Awareness Board

This Board is responsible for the coordination of the Town’s historical preservation program.

Parks Board

The Parks Board hears and reviews event request, analyzes park projects and submits recommendations to the Town Commission that maintain the safety and enjoyment residents as well as visitors.

Planning and Zoning Board

The Board studies the resources , possibilities and needs of the Town. The Board also prepares plans and maps for systematic future development and betterment of the Town.

Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees

The Police Pension Board oversees the activities of the Police Pension fund.

Commission's

Order



Pictured from left to right. Commissioners Margot Dorfman, Vice Mayor Jean Marshall, Mayor Jim Simmons, Commissioner Sandy Wilson and Commissioner Gail Gowdy



In February 2014 the Commission voted to hire a new Town Clerk. The new Town Clerk is available Monday—Friday from 8:00 am—5:00 pm at Town Hall.

The Town Clerk holds her Certified Municipal Clerk Designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and brings ten plus years of municipal experience.

Join the Commission the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm for the Commission Meeting. If you have an issue you would like to bring to the Commission’s attention they can be reached via email. You can also call the Town Clerk, Charmagne Manning and leave them a message. To contact the Town Clerk call (321) 724-5860.

Mayor Simmons is also available for meetings each week at Town Hall. The Mayor’s monthly office hours are available on the website at www.melbournebeachfl.org or on the Town bulletin board.



Charmagne Manning, CMC

A look ahead.....Citizen Interest

Date	Time	Event	Location	More Information
March 3	5:30 PM	Police Pension Board Meeting	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
March 4	7 PM	Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
March 6	7 PM	History Board Meeting	Old Town Hall	(321) 724-5860
March 8	8 AM—10 AM	Beach Clean-up	Coconut Point Park	(321) 676-1701
March 8	11 AM—1PM	Anti-bullying Program for Children &	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
March 11	4:30 PM	Historic Preservation Advisory Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
March 12	7 PM	Parks Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
March 13	2:30 PM—3:30 PM	Melbourne Beach Book Club	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
March 19	6:30 PM	Regular Town Commission Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
March 20	6:30 PM	Board of Adjustment Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
March 26	7 PM	Environmental Advisory Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
March 27	10 AM—12 PM	New Neighbors Book Club of S. Brevard	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
April 1	7 PM	Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
April 3	4:30 PM	South Beach Coalition Meeting	Town Hall Conference Room	(321) 724-5860
April 3	6:30 PM	Code Enforcement Board Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
April 3	7:00 PM	History Board Meeting	Old Town Hall	(321) 724-5860
April 5	10 AM—12 PM	Beach Writers	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
April 5	8 AM—10 AM	Beach Clean-up	Coconut Point Park	(321) 676-1701
April 8	4:30 PM	Historic Preservation Advisory Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
April 9	7 PM	Parks Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
April 12	11 AM—1 PM	Family Fun Bingo	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
April 16	6:30 PM	Regular Town Commission Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
April 17	6:30 PM	Board of Adjustment Meeting	Community Center	(321) 724-5860
April 23	7 PM	Environmental Advisory Board	Masny Room	(321) 724-5860
April 24	10 AM—12 PM	New Neighbors Book Club of S. Brevard	Melbourne Beach Library	(321) 956-5642
May 3	8 AM—10 PM	Founders Day	Ryckman Park	(321) 724-5860



Health Minute

Sharps Collection Program



The disposal of sharps (including needles and lancets) in the trash or sewer is prohibited by law. Brevard County Household Used Sharps Program offers an approved method for the safe disposal of sharps generated by people who inject medication at home. All residents who administer medication by injection at home should participate in this program for the safety of all citizens and visitors to Brevard County.

Participation in the program is available at no additional cost to the home user. However, the use of proper sharps containers is required to participate in this program.

The following pharmacies have new, empty, approved sharps containers available at **NO CHARGE** for use in the Household Used Sharps Collection Program.

- Saver's Drug Mart

Where to take your full sharps container for safe and proper disposal.

Collection Sites in Melbourne Beach.

- Melbourne Beach Station # 58, located at 507 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951.

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9 am– 3 pm, Call prior 724-1736

- Brevard County Fire Station # 64, 2550 S. A1A, Mel-

bourne Beach, FL

Hours: Sunday—Saturday 7 am– 7pm

- Brevard County Fire Station # 65, 7400 S. A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL

Hours: Sunday—Saturday 7 am– 7pm

How the program works:

1. Pick up an approved sharps container available at NO COST from any of the pharmacy listed above.
2. Coffee cans, laundry detergent bottles, soda bottles, etc. will not be accepted for disposal.
3. Do not overfill the container.
4. A new, empty container will be provided for each container disposed.
5. If no one is available at the site to assist you, please go to another collection site. Do not leave sharps containers unattended.
6. Securely seal the container.
7. If no one is available at the site to assist you, please go to a different collection site or return at another time. Do not leave sharps containers unattended.

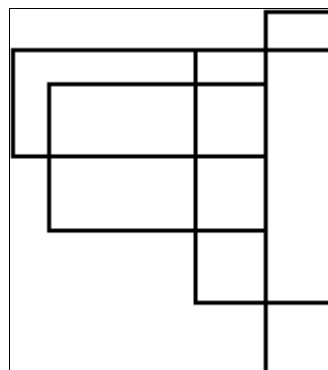
For more information or other container pick-up or container collection sites call (321) 633-2042

Brain Teasers

1. There are 1200 elephants in a herd. Some have pink and green stripes, some are all pink and some are all blue. One third are pure pink. Is it true that 400 elephants are definitely blue? Yes or No
2. Four years ago, Jane was twice as old as Sam. Four years on from now, Sam will be 3/4 of Jane's age. How old is Jane now?

Questions from Mensa International

3. How many four sided figures are in this diagram?



Select one:

10

16

25

28

Answers: 1) No, 2) 12. 4 years ago Jane was 8, Sam was 4. In 4 years from now, Jane will be 16 and Sam will be 12. 3) 25



As we welcome the transition from winter to spring we have supplied some gentle reminders regarding your stormwater system for the better treatment of the Indian River Lagoon:

§ 27-58. MANAGEMENT OF GRASS CLIPPINGS AND VEGETATIVE MATTER.

In no case shall grass clippings, vegetative material, and/or vegetative debris, either intentionally or accidentally, be washed, swept, or blown off into stormwater drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies, wetlands, or sidewalks or roadways

- Please abstain from placing lawn debris on stormwater access ports—storm drains or in the roadway.
- Landscape contractors are required to remove any waste that they prune or cut; it is not a portion of the Waste Pro contract to remove waste that has been placed on the side of the road by private contractors.
- Everyone is reminded not to blow or distribute lawn clippings into the roadway or in the stormwater sewer. These continue to the lagoon and cause additional pollutants.
- **REMINDER:** Ordinance Number 2010-03 expressly states; “No Applicator shall apply Fertilizers containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus to turf and/or landscape plants during the Prohibited Application Period.” Typically it is recommended that, during the period from June 01 – September 30, the rainy season. Fertilizers applied to turf and/or landscape plants with the Town shall be formulated and applied in accordance with Rule 5E-1.003 (2), of the Florida Administrative Code. ”In other words, the fertilizers should be Eco-friendly.”
- **PROHIBITED APPLICATION PERIOD.** The time period during which a flood watch or warning, or a tropical storm watch or warning, or a hurricane watch or warning is in effect in any portion of the town, issued by the National Weather Service, or if heavy rain is likely.

HOT TOPICS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Fertilizer Ordinance

In 2010, the Town of Melbourne Beach became the first municipality in Brevard County to adopt an ordinance regulating the application of fertilizers. The Town had adopted the State of Florida's model for the control of nutrients that impact our waterways. At that time of the adoption of the ordinance was considered watershed legislation.

With the advent of recent developments regarding the overall health of the Indian River Lagoon, the Town's Environmental Advisory Board in conjunction with the Town Commission is reviewing the potential changes to the language in an effort to strengthen our Fertilizer Ordinance. You may possibly see more progress regarding this highly important issue this spring with the Town Commission.

Medical Marijuana

In the wake of the issue of Medical Marijuana reaching the General Election ballot in November of this year members of the Town Commission have requested that Town staff review our zoning and land development codes in a proactive approach to dealing the possibility that this may be affecting our community in the near future.

Special Events

Each year, the Town receives numerous requests to hold their special events, (races, the Iceman's Ball, and etc.). The Commission is reviewing our standards in an effort to determine just what is considered to be an appropriate number of events that should occur in our community. The Town does require that these events cover the cost of Town resources utilized by the event; these include: the Police and Fire Departments as well as our Public Works personnel. This issue will be discussed in coming Commission meetings.

Founders Day

A reminder that it is not too early to think about our 31st Founder's Day celebration, held in Ryckman Park, the Historic Town Pier, Ocean Park, and the street dance held in the 500 block of Ocean Avenue. This year's Founder's Day will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. We look forward to seeing you there.