



# Town of Melbourne Beach Beach Comber

Bimonthly Highlights

March - April 2024 - Issue 6

*Mayor Alison Dennington, Vice Mayor Sherri Quarrie, Honorable Commissioners Marivi Walker, Corey Runte, Adam Meyer, and Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro are pleased to announce the following additions to our team:*



Ryan Knight has accepted the position of Town Attorney for Melbourne Beach. He assumed the role in January of this year. Ryan was born and raised in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. He received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of North Florida and graduated from Florida Coastal School of Law. After graduating from law school, he served as an Assistant Public Defender, Felony Division, for the 7th Judicial Circuit where he served as lead trial attorney. In 2013 he began practicing in insurance defense where his practice focused on complex construction defect litigation. Ryan joined Shepard, Smith, Kohlmyer & Hand, P.A. in June 2023 and currently assists in the representation of all the firm's municipal clients and in commercial and complex litigation. Due to his background in complex litigation, he is heavily involved in all the firm's litigation and appellate matters for private and public clients. Ryan is a member of the Florida Bar Association and the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association. He and his wife, Ashley, live in Winter Garden along with their four children – Finn, Sailor, Navy, and Crew.

Tim Zander has accepted the position of Chief of Police for Melbourne Beach. Chief Zander will be sworn in on April 1, 2024. Tim is a Brevard County native who graduated from Melbourne High School before joining the US Army. He served 4 years in Field Artillery, Air Assault, and Rappel Master in Fort Drum, NY. After earning his Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, Mr. Zander was hired by the Palm Bay Police Department in 2000. During his 24 years of service to Palm Bay, Tim has held numerous positions including patrol officer, drug agent, and trainer before being promoted to Commander in 2013. Mr. Zander holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Barry University and is a graduate of the Certified Public Manager Program through Florida State, as well as numerous additional leadership schools and programs. Mr. Zander's wife, Holli, is the Principal at Bayside High School and they have two children: Carson, who goes to FAU, and Payton, who is a Junior in high school.





**HOP ON OVER FOR AN  
Easter Celebration**

**Ryckman Park**  
**9-11AM**  
**MARCH 30, 2024**

- EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT
- CRAFTS & GAMES
- FREE FACE PAINTING

**LET'S BE CLEAR...  
Go Fertilizer Free**

**JUN  
»  
SEP**

Summer is rainy season in Florida. When rain washes fertilizer into our waterways, it fuels algae. Go fertilizer free this summer!

*What else can YOU do to save our lagoon?*

ORDINANCE 12-37

 **LAGOONLOYAL™.com**



**MOON 5K  
& Dolphin Dash at Spessard**

Don't miss this **FUN Family Event** at Spessard Holland Golf Course!  
**May 3, 2024 - 7:00 PM**  
[www.runsignup.com/ccsmoonlight5k](http://www.runsignup.com/ccsmoonlight5k)

**Save the Date!**

**Founders Day 2024**  
Saturday, May 4th

## Old Town Hall History Center



Photo (above): the Ais Maiden statue at the Old Town Hall History Center was recently installed on a new pedestal as part of an Eagle Scout project.

Celebrated local artist Barbara Struttmann and Dayle Hinman Farrell (DAR member/local history buff) will be working together again at the Old Town Hall History Center on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. After the museum closes, Dayle will proceed to Ryckman House and provide tours there from 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

In the late 1800s when the first settlers arrived in Melbourne Beach, they were met with the same prolific vegetation that we see today. Have you ever considered how they would have used local plants in their daily lives? Please join Dr. Marcie Adkins on our porch on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm as she talks about and makes baskets and children's toys using locally foraged plant materials.

Would you like to spend a few hours each month meeting new and interesting people? Would you also like to contribute to our town and help keep our local history alive? If this appeals to you, please consider becoming a volunteer docent at the Old Town Hall History Center. Located at 2373 Oak Street and open every Saturday from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm, our beautiful little Melbourne Beach museum attracts visitors both locally and from around the nation. There's also a live music jam on the porch every Saturday afternoon. You could be part of the fun! If interested, please visit the Old Town Hall History Center or contact Bruce Morgan at 321-609-7635 or [bmorgan93@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bmorgan93@cfl.rr.com).

# MBVFD Vehicle Extrication Training

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, Melbourne Beach Volunteer Firefighters practiced vehicle extrication techniques for various scenarios that they may encounter on calls. MBVFD would like to thank Melbourne Beach resident Tony Presti, owner of A&M Auto, for the donation of the vehicles and space to work. We would also like to thank Rickey McLester from Municipal Emergency Services and Chris Childs from Palm Bay FD for their assistance.



# Nature Day

The Environmental Advisory Board's Nature Day event at Ryckman Park on February 24<sup>th</sup> was an outstanding success. The EAB worked diligently in securing speakers, food trucks, and entertainment to make this first-time event one of the best environmental events in our county. \$500 worth of native plants were given away at the EAB's table. The native plants were paid for by the "Sunshine Jim" funds given to the EAB for environmental projects in Melbourne Beach. The Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department gave out 30 free rain barrels. Before the barrels were given away, a representative from the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (UF/IFAS) gave an educational talk on how the rain barrels worked and how to properly install the barrels.



# Spring Fest & Kids Business Fair

We had 58 fabulous kid businesses on display at Spring Fest! Our community showed up and supported our local youth. A huge shout out to all the kid bosses for all of their hard work. Kids and adults participated in a community art mural which is now proudly displayed at Gemini Elementary. It was a fun-filled day and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year! Thanks to all of our sponsors, especially our platinum and gold sponsors who financially made this possible: Djon's Steak & Lobster House, Epic Bait Molds, Melbourne Lawn & Landscape, Burton Asphalt, and Dawn Barlow Real Estate Advisor.



# Town Meetings

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Planning and Zoning Board	First Tuesday as needed	6:30 pm	Community Center
History Center Board	First Wednesday	5:00 pm	2373 Oak Street
Town Commission Workshop	First Wednesday as needed	6:00 pm	Community Center
Code Enforcement Magistrate	First Thursday as needed	2:00 pm	Community Center
Historical Preservation and Awareness Board	Second Tuesday	4:30 pm	Ryckman House
Parks Board	First Thursday	6:00 pm	Community Center
Regular Town Commission Meeting	Third Wednesday	6:00 pm	Community Center
Board of Adjustment	Third Thursday as needed	6:00 pm	Community Center
Environmental Advisory Board	Fourth Wednesday	7:00 pm	Community Center
Police Pension Fund	March, June, Sept., Dec.	5:30 pm	Masny Room

## Town Commission Meeting Highlights

### February 21, 2024 – Regular Town Commission Meeting

- Tabled the discussion on paving and concrete curbing on Riverside Drive to a special meeting
- Approved looking into the Beach Ambassador Program
- Approved the six-week Spanish Together Class provided it is held outside
- Failed for a lack of motion – discuss Commission term lengths related to off-year/odd-year elections
- Tabled Resolution 2024-01 – providing access to public records by remote electronic means and approving the Town’s record (master) copy documents on electronic media
- Removed agenda item - consider changing the date for the Regular Town Commission Meeting in March, April, and May
- Approved the ordinance language changes proposed by the Building Official related to sheds
- Approved drafting a repeal for the second kitchen ordinance
- Tabled the rules and procedures of the Parks Board to a workshop
- Approved removing both stop signs on Riverside Drive
- Tabled discussing traffic calming devices to a workshop

## Ongoing Community Activities

- Mayor’s Hours in the Community Center every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Mayor’s Hours (Vacation Rentals discussion) in the Community Center: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- Sunset Flow Yoga in Ryckman Park every Tuesday at 6:00 pm
- Flow and Be Strong Exercise Class in Ryckman Park every Wednesday at 8:30 am
- Gentle Yoga in Ryckman Park every Thursday at 6:00 pm
- Qigong in Ryckman Park every Friday at 9:30 am
- Tai Chi in Ryckman Park every Friday at 10:30 am
- Old Town Hall History Museum at 2373 Oak St. is open every Saturday from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Front Porch Jam at 2373 Oak St. every Saturday from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- My Musical Tree Class in Ryckman Park the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 10:30 am - 11:15 am
- Self-Guided Outdoor Native Garden at 2373 Oak St. is always open

MBPD Non-Emergency Admin: (321) 723-4343 | MBVFD Non-Emergency Office: (321) 724-1736

**Call 911 for Emergencies**

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Brevard County’s Oldest Beach Community - Established 1883