



# Town of Melbourne Beach Beach Comber

Quarterly Highlights

October - December 2023 - Issue 4



*From left to right: Commissioner Sherri Quarrie, Mayor Alison Dennington, Commissioner Corey Runte, Commissioner Adam Meyer. Not pictured: Commissioner Marivi Walker.*

Newly elected Mayor Alison Dennington and Commissioner-at-Large Adam Meyer were sworn in at the regular Town Commission meeting on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor and Commissioners may be contacted at the email addresses listed below.

Mayor Alison Dennington – [adennington@melbournebeachfl.org](mailto:adennington@melbournebeachfl.org)

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie – [squarrie@melbournebeachfl.org](mailto:squarrie@melbournebeachfl.org)

Commissioner Corey Runte – [crunte@melbournebeachfl.org](mailto:crunte@melbournebeachfl.org)

Commissioner Marivi Walker – [mwalker@melbournebeachfl.org](mailto:mwalker@melbournebeachfl.org)

Commissioner Adam Meyer – [ameyer@melbournebeachfl.org](mailto:ameyer@melbournebeachfl.org)

## Ongoing Community Activities

- Sunset Flow Yoga in Ryckman Park every Tuesday at 6:00 pm
- Flow and Be Strong Exercise Class in Ryckman Park every Wednesday at 9:00 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. will be 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.

# Upcoming Events

- MBVFA 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Christmas Parade: Saturday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> (9:00 am)
- Golf Cart Parade: Friday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at Orlando Park, Indialantic (line up at 5:30 pm, parade at 7:00 pm)
- MBVFA Christmas Eve Santa Run:
  - Gift Drop Off Dates: Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Gift Delivery Date: Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>
- New Years' Walking Tour presented by the History Center Board: Monday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> (Time TBD)
- Sea Oats Sale: Friday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> (6:30 am) & Saturday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> (6:30 am)
- EAB Sea Oats Planting at Ocean Park: Saturday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> (8:00 am - 11:00 am)
- Nature Day presented by the EAB at Ryckman Park: Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> (9:00 am - 3:00 pm)
- EAB Rain Barrel Workshop & Giveaway at the Community Center: Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> (1:00 pm)
- Parks Board Kids Business Fair at Ryckman Park: Saturday, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> (11:00 am - 3:00 pm)



59TH ANNUAL

La-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la

MBVFA

Children's Christmas Parade

**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 16  
9AM**

1805 Oak St North to Ocean Ave, West to Ryckman Park

Come one, come all to help celebrate the 59th running of the Children's Christmas Parade!! The Firefighter's Association is proud to sponsor this local town tradition. All participants will register online at [mbvfd.com](http://mbvfd.com). Come up with a creative costume, make a float or just grab a spot along the route to watch. Join us after for a pancake breakfast at the fire station!!



**MBVFA  
Pancake Breakfast**

Melbourne Beach Fire Station  
507 Ocean Ave

All you can eat!

10am Saturday,  
December 16, 2023  
following the parade

\$10 Adult \$5 kids (under 12)

Proceeds benefit The Melbourne Beach Volunteer Firefighters Association, a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization.

# Public Works Department

The new bocce court at Ocean Park is now open for use! Shade awnings will be built on each end at a later date. Two benches from Ryckman Park will also be moved to Ocean Park to provide additional spectator seating.



Tamping down the gravel layer



Adding the top clay layer

The Town of Indialantic & the Town of Melbourne Beach

## GOLF CART PARADE

Friday, December 22nd

Line-up starts at 5:30 pm, parade starts at 7:00 pm

Parade begins at Orlando Park in Indialantic

Parade route:

- North on Romona to 7th
- East on 7th to Shannon
- South on Shannon to Andrews
- West on Andrews to Riverside
- North on Riverside, then North on Palm to Miami
- West on Miami to Romona
- North on Romona

Golf Cart judging takes place in Orlando Park after the parade

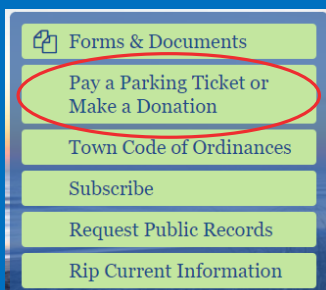


## All Parking Passes Expire December 31<sup>st</sup>!

We are moving to an annual renewal system.

New resident parking passes are available now.

Please bring your vehicle registration when picking up your parking pass.



You can pay parking tickets online at [melbournebeachfl.org](http://melbournebeachfl.org)  
To get started, simply click on the “Pay Parking Ticket” link on the left side of the screen.





# Melbourne Beach Fire Department

**CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SERVICE** – On June 17<sup>th</sup> 1953, six town residents held a meeting and formed what is now known as the Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department. For the past 70 years, through a high level of volunteer commitment, training, and the addition of state-of-the-art equipment, the Department has continually evolved to improve its emergency response capabilities and support the changing needs of our residents and community; all while saving the Melbourne Beach tax payers millions of dollars in salary and equipment costs compared to other local municipalities.



**Presentation of the 1<sup>st</sup> MBVFD fire truck - 1953**

Today, under the direction of a full-time fire chief, the Department has 35 active volunteer members, and is currently rated as an ISO Class 3 Agency, putting it in the top 17% of all fire departments in the United States. In addition to providing top-tier fire protection and emergency services, the Fire Department, through a continued partnership with the Melbourne Beach Volunteer Firefighters Association, provides the residents and visitors of the Town with many beloved community events such as the Haunted House, Christmas Parade, Christmas Eve Santa Run, Fire Prevention Week, and 4<sup>th</sup> of July party in the park.

**RETIREMENT OF CHIEF DAVID MICKA** – After 37 years of service to the Melbourne Beach Vol. Fire Department, Chief David Micka is finally retiring from active duty. Chief Micka joined the Fire Department in 1986, and quickly moved up through the ranks within the Department, serving in many capacities along the way including as a State Certified Volunteer Firefighter, Lieutenant, Safety Officer, Deputy Chief, Fire Marshal, and multiple times as the Town’s Fire Chief. In addition to responding to emergency calls for service, over the course of his volunteer career, Chief Micka has written multiple successful grants for the Town of Melbourne Beach, securing hundreds of thousands of dollars, and providing a tremendous cost savings to our small community. Thank you Chief Micka for all you have done for the Town of Melbourne Beach and congratulations on your retirement after a lifetime of service!



# Melbourne Beach Police Department

## ***New MBPD Officer Sworn In***

Dominic Palmeri was sworn in as a Melbourne Beach Police Officer on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Dominic has 8 years’ experience in Law Enforcement with Brevard County. He has been a Patrol Sergeant, part of a K9 Unit, as well as a Detective. He was also a part of the Community Oriented Police Services Unit (C.O.P.S.), bicycle patrol, juvenile probation checks, and FTO.

**Achievements and Awards:** Lifesaving Award 2 years in a row; Officer of the Quarter in 2015 and 2016; Good Conduct Medal (awarded for 5 years of service without any disciplinary action). Dominic also has multiple training certificates, such as DUI field sobriety testing, advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement, surveillance techniques, firearm instructor, and many more. He was raised in Brevard and is married with a young child.

When you see him around town, please welcome Officer Palmeri to our community!





# Fall Family Fun Day

Our inaugural Fall Family Fun Day was held on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Families joined Town staff in Ryckman Park for carnival games, hayrides, food trucks, and a petting zoo! After the event, the Police Department treated attendees to Cinema Night with a screening of *Freebirds*.



# A Day in the Life of the Indian River Lagoon

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, Central Middle School students met with Florida Tech students to learn about the IRL, collect water samples, and check on the oyster mats attached to our pier.





# Helpful Websites

- Town of Melbourne Beach website: <https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/>
- Town Commission Agendas/Packets/Minutes/Recordings: <https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/home/pages/town-commission-meetings-2020-current>
- Town Board Agendas/Minutes: <https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/boards> (choose Board; agendas and minutes will be listed on right side of page)
- Code of Ordinances: <https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/melbournebeach/latest/overview>
- Facebook pages:
  - Town of Melbourne Beach: <https://www.facebook.com/TownOfMelbourneBeach32951/>
  - Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department: <https://www.facebook.com/MBVFD>
  - Melbourne Beach Police Department: <https://www.facebook.com/Melbournebeachpolice>
- Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department website: <https://mbvfd.com/>
- MBPD emergency alerts: <https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/police-department/pages/get-nixle-alerts>
- Brevard County emergency alerts: <https://www.brevardfl.gov/EmergencyManagement/Alert-Signup>

## Vacation Rental FAQ

- Where can I find Town ordinances related to vacation rentals?
  - On the Melbourne Beach website (<https://www.melbournebeachfl.org/>), click on “Town Code of Ordinances” on the left side of the page. This will open the American Legal Publishing website. Select Florida and then Melbourne Beach. Once you have the Melbourne Beach Code of Ordinances open, you can look for vacation rental topics using the Search button at the top of the page.
- Who can I contact at the State level regarding vacation rental legislation?
  - Senator Debbie Mayfield represents District 19, which includes Melbourne Beach. Her district office can be contacted at (321) 409-2025 or via the “Email the Senator” link on her Florida Senate webpage: <https://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/S19>
- Who can I contact to make a complaint about a vacation rental in my neighborhood?
  - Vacation rental companies usually have customer service departments that can be contacted regarding issues with renters. AirBNB’s customer service line is (844) 234-2500. VRBO has a complaint process detailed at <https://help.vrbo.com/articles/How-can-I-Stay-Neighborly-as-a-community-member>
  - If renters are engaging in disruptive behavior, contact the Melbourne Beach Police Department at (321) 723-4343. Dial 911 in the case of an emergency.



**TOWN OF MELBOURNE BEACH**  
**NATURE DAY**

**SATURDAY**  
**FEB 24**  
**2024**  
**9 AM - 3 PM**

**RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP**  
This cooperative project has been funded in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAY**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKERS & TABLES**

**COMMUNITY CENTER AT RYCKMAN PARK • OCEAN AVE • MELBOURNE BEACH, FL**

**MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!**

For more event info, please visit:  
[Facebook.com/MelBchEAB](https://www.facebook.com/MelBchEAB)

## Old Town Hall History Center

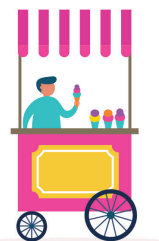
The Old Town Hall History Center is in need of docents. If you enjoy history and interacting with the community this would be a great volunteer opportunity for you. Helping out would involve one Saturday a month from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. This is also a way for students to acquire community service hours to use towards the Florida Bright Future's Scholarship. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Morgan at (h) 321-727-3050 and leave a message, or you can text Bruce at (c) 321-609-7635.

In addition, the center has opportunities for Eagle Scout projects. Please contact Laurie Simmons at 321-984-8357 and leave a message, if interested.



The Town of Melbourne Beach's

**KIDS**  
**BUSINESS**  
**FAIR**  
 Now Accepting  
 Applications



.....  
**March 2, 2024**  
 Ryckman Park | 11AM - 3PM

**\$10 Kid Booth Fee**  
 Kids Ages 6-17 can participate

Register today!  
 Limited Spots Available



.....  
 Give your child the opportunity to sell a good or service!  
**TO LEARN MORE OR REGISTER A BOOTH PLEASE VISIT:**

[www.childrensbusinessfair.org/melbournebeach-fl](http://www.childrensbusinessfair.org/melbournebeach-fl)

# 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	6:00 pm	Community Center
Historical Preservation and Awareness Board	Second Tuesday	4:30 pm	Ryckman House
Parks Board	First Thursday	6:00 pm	Masny Room
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	Masny Room
Police Pension Fund	March, June, Sept., Dec.	5:30 pm	Masny Room

## Town Commission Meeting Highlights

### September 11, 2023 – Tentative Budget Hearing

- Approved Resolution 2023-03 Adopting the Tentative Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
- Approved Resolution 2023-04 Adopting the Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

### September 21, 2023 – Final Budget Hearing

- Approved Resolution 2023-03 Adopting the Final Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
- Approved Resolution 2023-04 Adopting the Final Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
- Approved Resolution 2023-06 Certifying the Annual Stormwater Utility Assessment Roll for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

### September 21, 2023 – Regular Town Commission Meeting

- Presented a proclamation recognizing the month of September 2023 as National Suicide Prevention Month.
- Presented a proclamation recognizing the week of September 17-23, 2023 as Constitution Week.
- Presented a proclamation commemorating 70 years of dedicated service to the Town of Melbourne Beach provided by the Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department.
- Approved the Parks Board special event application for the Veterans Day event.
- Approved the proposed date for the Children’s Business Fair/Spring Festival/Event on March 2, 2023 subject to the final approval of the application, name, and any other conflicts.
- Approved the updated fee schedule under the existing services agreement with Bowman Consulting Group.
- Approved Resolution 2023-05 Vacating a Portion of a Public Drainage and Utility Easement.

### October 18, 2023 – Regular Town Commission Meeting

- Approved the Parks Board special event application for the Children’s Fair.
- Approved Resolution 2023-07 Budget Amendment for Carryforwards and Transfers from Fiscal Year 2022 to 2023.
- Approved moving forward with the stormwater management plan with the focus and prioritization in the following areas in order of importance: Fourth Ave, Poinsettia, South Palm, Banyan, Harland, and Magnolia.

### November 15, 2023 - Regular Town Commission Meeting

- Administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Alison Dennington.
- Administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Adam Meyer.
- Removed from the agenda the item to discuss the purchase of 500 First Ave due to the lack of value.
- Tabled the reappointment of a Board of Adjustment member until next month.
- Tabled the appointment of Vice Mayor until next month.
- Approved Mayor Alison Dennington as the delegate for the South Beaches Coalition.
- Approved changing the Parks Board’s monthly meeting day to the first Thursday of each month.
- Approved Resolution 2023-08 Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Amendment to Close Out Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.
- Approved Resolution 2023-09 Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment for the Carryforwards from Fiscal Year 2023 into 2024.
- Approved the notice of termination of legal services agreement and the extension of services to December 8th.
- Approved keeping Attorney Clifford Repperger on for the active litigations until the appointment of a new attorney.