

THE CARDINAL



Official Publication of the Town of Melbourne Village

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October 2021

HURRICANE SEASON 2021 SPECIAL PULLOUT INSERT — PAGES 6 & 7

A Message from Mayor Niemann

Dear Residents,

It has been a very busy few months since my tenure began. Though I had experience working in the government sector previously, it has been a great learning experience. I know that there is still much more to learn and I am excited about the opportunity. We have had some great mayors and commissioners set the groundwork and a team of current commissioners, staff, and volunteers that are equally invested in this town.

The early summer saw our 2020 audit completed. Though we did not perform as well as we had hoped, we have made corrections and are already on pace to be ahead of schedule for the 2021 audit year. The Commission also recently presented and passed the proposed 2021/2022 budget and set the millage rate at 9.8103. This rate is on par with our tax rate last year. Doing this allowed the Commission to put funds aside into reserve accounts and begin planning and saving for future infrastructure and equipment upgrades.

Your Public Works department has stayed extremely busy working on a variety of continuing projects within the Town. They recently completed some major projects on the Hester Wagner Community House. They replaced and expanded the rear deck as well as replaced all entry steps and ramps. There was also some additional work done to the inside of the structure that was necessary after the foundation was stabilized last summer. The next project they will be undertaking is the replacement of the termite damaged wood siding. Additionally, they have been continuing to maintain the ditches and clearing roadways of low lying branches. Following the unfortunate crash into the old Live Oak tree that happened at the intersection of Live Oak and Hammock, they will be undertaking a more intense trimming regimen and reshape some of our beautiful canopies to allow for safe travel of all vehicles that use our roadways. The goal is that this will eliminate the need for weekly trimming to low branches and turn this into a yearly maintenance project.

In public safety news, I am pleased to share that Chief Loos recently secured a grant in the amount of \$90,000 to be used towards replacing two of our patrol vehicles. The targeted vehicles for replacement have been a source of many repairs over the last few years and hopefully this grant will allow the Town a fleet of reliable vehicles for the foreseeable future. Though our police

force is small, it is important that we have a small fleet so that no one vehicle is used exclusively as it creates undue wear and tear on the vehicle. The additional vehicles also allow for shifts when there are two officers on duty and when vehicles are down for repairs and maintenance, the police are not without a vehicle. I am grateful for Chief Loos continued dedication to finding additional funds to supplement their budget.

Another important note, we have an election in just a few weeks! There are four seats open and we currently have 7 candidates vying for a chance to serve. Please turn to pages 2 and 3 for more on the candidates.

In closing I want to share a little about myself and my family. We moved into this Town a couple years ago, though we had spent years before driving through the sleepy, tree lined roads dreaming about what life might look like here. This is the type of place we had always wanted to raise our kids and after over a decade in a townhome community, we know that we made the right decision when we watch the kids run and play in the yard, on nightly walks when we stop and talk to neighbors, and at dinners in front yards with friends. This place is something special, and I think that most of you know that too. I honestly care about the health and longevity of this place, I want it to be a town that thrives. To do so, we will need to plan for the future, we will need to look and explore all potential streams of revenue, we will need the rally of neighbors who long for the same thing. We are a small town essentially supporting itself, with only a handful of commercial properties to supplement our tax revenue. If anyone has ideas, please feel free to share at our monthly commission meetings or email me at mayor@melbournevillage.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Blessings,
Tabitha Niemann, Mayor



TMV ELECTION 2021 * TMV ELECTION 2021 * TMV ELECTION 2021 — PAGES 2 & 3

On November 2, Villagers will vote for Town Commissioners. There are seven candidates running and you can vote for up to four.

Valerie Calenda—When my family and I moved into Melbourne Village in 2005, we were so excited about living on a larger piece of property with lots of trees. It didn't take long to figure out that those were only a few things that make Melbourne Village so special. This town feels like a hometown should feel. Part of what makes it feel like home is the sense of community and volunteerism. We villagers get out and participate. It's a great way to contribute and build that sense of community. That's why I volunteered to be on the



commission when an opening came up. I want to contribute to our town. I've learned a lot while serving as a commissioner. I've learned patience and to listen to what our neighbors say but I've also learned that there's a lot of work involved in running our community. With such a small town and budget, we don't have the luxury of hiring people to run our town, but I think that is also a good thing. We are invested, we care, we know our neighbors, and we are willing to put in the time to keep our town running. That is why I am proud to have served as a commissioner for the past 14 years and would be honored to continue serving our community as a Town Commissioner.

Jonathan Cronkhite—Growing up on the New England shore, I appreciated nature from a young age. That's why, when I met my wife, Carrie, in Florida 25 years ago, we knew Melbourne Village was going to be the perfect place to raise our 5 children. A decade of ice cream socials, Founders' Day events, Independence Day parades, Easter in Deerhead Hammock, movie nights, family adventures on the trails, and community living, have not disappointed. Now that two of



our children have flown the nest, my time is a bit more free and I want to give back to the wonderful place that has given so much to us. I have a B.A. in accounting. I operate my own business, repairing and renovating homes that people love to live in. I also own and manage a few rental properties. Prior to this, I worked as a Youth and Family Pastor which gave me decades of experience leading teams of volunteers, budgeting and raising funds. My skill sets and passions have prepared me well to serve my community.

I am running for town commissioner because I enjoy working with others to reach common goals. I will find ways to increase revenue (without raising taxes) and decrease expenses. I will help maintain the historically unique and tranquil aspects of Melbourne Village as we move into the future. I will improve the roadways, making them more aesthetically pleasing and safer for our citizens.

I love Melbourne Village, it's our home. I want to take the best place to live and make it even better.

Sue Ditty—Hi Neighbors! I'm running for Melbourne Village Commissioner in November's election.



I've been an active town resident and AHF member for almost 18 years; served on the TMV Board of Adjustment and am currently Volunteer Coordinator and leader of the Street Captain program. I chair the AHF Nutting-Wood Green and Credentials Committees, and was a member of the Erna Nixon Committee for several years.

I believe I can be an effective and beneficial commissioner based on my working knowledge of the town's business and issues due to regular attendance at meetings. I am passionate about following our Charter and Ordinances; the guidelines that help us govern fairly. I know that responsible fiscal oversight will be crucial as we address upcoming infrastructure challenges such as a new Town Office roof, road maintenance, and culvert replacements.

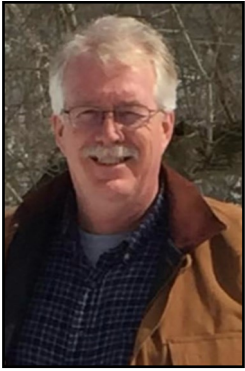
I will improve communication between the town and residents. I am hopeful better transparency of town issues results in more participation and productive discussions instead of last minute controversies that divide us. I will listen to your concerns because I know that collaboration and compromise are critical to mutually beneficial results.

Before retirement, I was the Global Biologics Training Leader for an international company servicing the scientific community with revenue over 30 billion dollars. I worked with a wide variety of customers and colleagues and came to appreciate their unique insights based on different experiences and cultures. Melbourne Village is my forever home. I love that we have an actual community of residents, a Village, a community that cares for each other.

Commissioners are the voice of the people, the protectors of our town and the leaders we depend on to make the right decisions to get through the difficult times. I would be honored and humbled to be a member of our town's leadership and serve as your commissioner. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns at (321) 626-7554 (leave a message) or email, sditty@yahoo.com.

**Are you registered to vote?
[https://www.votebrevard.gov/
Voter-Information/Florida-
Online-Voter-Registration](https://www.votebrevard.gov/Voter-Information/Florida-Online-Voter-Registration)**

Gary Ingram—Melbourne Village is a great town which has been our home for over 23 years and is anticipated to be our forever home. We clearly live in a unique, wonderful, and charming community. My goal if elected to serve is to keep our historical charm while navigating the requirements of future changes and challenges.



My career has been spent working in the Space/Defense industry in Brevard county as a Contracts Manager and a Finance Manager where my areas of expertise are negotiations, contract management, and support of governmental audits.

For the past 20 years I have served our town as a member of the Finance Committee. Additionally, I have served our community as a youth coach in basketball, soccer, and baseball. I have also served on numerous church committees. Educationally, I graduated from UCF with an MBA.

In summary, I believe that we need to keep our TMV charm, maintain the infrastructure, and keep our citizens safe, while understanding the financial impact and implications of our limited financial resources.

On a personal note – if you see me out walking my Airedale Hank, please be sure to honk and wave!

Peter McCharles—Our elected commission in the small town of Melbourne Village has the ability to give all residents the individual attention and respect they request and deserve.



Fairmindedness, honesty and persistence for the entire town are the qualities I can bring to our commission. Each resident should be able to understand the regulations, ordinances and procedures established by the commission, past and present. I do not believe this can be

accomplished unless the residents of town become involved by asking questions attending meetings and making suggestions.

My goal for our town is to simplify our government, making it easier to understand the established rules and regulations through more communication and transparency by the town commission. In turn the residents of our town of Melbourne Village can and should become more involved. I feel this joint effort will keep our town as safe and beautiful as it is.

****One additional candidate was unable to provide information prior to the printing of this newsletter. All qualified candidates listed at right.****

Gerda Murphy—I have lived in Melbourne Village since 1986, prior to my Flamingo road address, I lived in the historic house at 6524 Sheridan Road. I quickly became involved with the American Homesteading Foundation, serving on the Board for 12 years, 8 of which as treasurer. Presently I am serving as a commissioner. This community is unique in that the AHF owns the parklands and volunteers from the town maintain them. It is my belief that the AHF and the Town of Melbourne Village should work together on various projects.



My philosophy is “We can do more together than we can apart.” Volunteers supporting the Administrative Department, Police Department, and Public Works is essential to keep the town thriving.

Through this challenging Covid time, volunteering continues. We added Zoom for meetings and actually increased participation. Residents always have access to the office. The police Department is available 24 hours, 7 days a week.

My educational background is as follows: I have a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology from the University of Florida and a Master’s degree in Clinical Social Work from Florida State University. I have spent 40 years in a field that requires listening, communicating, and problem solving. I believe it’s an asset for serving the Town of Melbourne Village.

I love my dog, Lily, and all my cats and native wildlife. Also, I am an avid football and basketball fan. I have always served my community and profession in various organizations.

**Don't Forget!
Polls are open on
November 2, 2021.
Get out and let your
voices be heard!**



<p>Town of Melbourne Village Commissioner Municipio de Melbourne Village Comisario (Vote for up to 4) (Vote por hasta 4)</p>
<p><input type="radio"/> Valerie J. Calenda</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jonathan Cronkhite</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Susan Ditty</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chris Haley</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gary Ingram</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Peter H. McCharles</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gerda Murphy</p>

UPDATE: West Melbourne Water Main

West Melbourne is in the process of a large infrastructure project that will eventually provide their city and residents with water. This project has had some impact on the Town of Melbourne Village, as they have had to utilize the banks of the M-1 Canal along Canal Road to run the piping needed for this project.

We began seeing equipment in the Town in May with a majority of the work completed in the following months. If you walk or drive down Canal Road often, you will notice that the work is incomplete. The next phase will involve the contractors opening up the ground between each set of exposed pipes to connect them and bury them. The final phase will be testing. Here, contractors

will be opening up the valves and testing the process and making any changes as needed. The project is estimated to be completed in February 2022.

We have stayed in contact with West Melbourne throughout the project and voiced our concerns regarding the wildlife and trees within the construction area. We have also spoken to Brevard County, as this land is owned and maintained by them. We are happy to report that the way that the majority of the work was completed, there was limited disruption to the land or wildlife.

Following the completion of the project, they are tentatively planning to resod all affected areas.

Watch Us Grow: Beautification Committee

By Kathryn Merry



The Town's Beautification Committee has been busy with a number of projects. We have landscaped the Pedestrian Bridge and are creating a Monarch Waystation in Don Willis Park for your enjoyment!

During the summer months we have landscaped the walk from South Drive to the pedestrian bridge. Kim Zarillo and Laura Parkel, members, did the landscape design creating an area to encourage native pollinators, as well as, adding colorful groundcover bordering the walk. The plants along the walk include: Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*) with yellow flowers. Dune sunflower seeds are eaten by birds and small mammals. Primarily pollinated by bees. When full grown, provides a thicket for protection of small birds and animals. Blue Porterweed (*Stachytarpheta-jamaicensis*) with blue flowers. Porterweed is a larval host for tropical buckeye (*Junonia genoveva*) butterfly and nectar plant for many butterflies and moths. Sandcord Grass (*Spartina bakeri*) is interspersed adding visual interest. This is a long-lived perennial, evergreen grass which grows to about 3-4' with interesting foliage.

Trees added include Hercules Club (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*) and, its cousin, Wild Lime (*Zanthoxylum fagara*). These long-lived trees are both are larval host for Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*) while

providing food for birds and other wildlife. These trees have been positioned away from the walk as both are quite thorny. Closer to the walk and in front of the fence, we are adding Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia Grandiflora*) trees. These long-lived perennials are evergreen with showy large white fragrant flowers. The fruits are eaten by wildlife and birds.

The 2nd project is creating a Monarch Waystation in Don Willis Park by adding native Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) near the bench. This is a short-lived perennial which has a winter dormancy but returns in the spring to produce showy pink flowers. The growth habit of the native milkweed makes them available for migrating Monarchs during spring and fall. The Swamp Milkweed is a larval host to the monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), queen (*Danaus gilippus*) and soldier (*Danaus eresimus*) butterflies. It attracts many pollinators, especially native bees.

All Villagers are invited to attend our meetings as a guest, serve as a member and/or support our beautification efforts by being a Friend of the TMV Beautification Committee. Members are Kathryn Merry, Chair, Laura Parkel, Secretary, Marcia Rader and Kim Zarillo. Contact the Town Office for additional information.



STREET CAPTAIN PROGRAM: Ready if Needed

By Sue Ditty



The Street Captain program was established in 2018 with the purpose to ensure all residents of the village are contacted pre and post storm and identify those that need help. If there is a significant event, such as major power outage or significant flooding, then the Town and/or the AHF Hall will be available for respite. I will coordinate volunteer response, such as providing water, batteries, ice, laundry or possibly generators to those with health issues and the greatest need. Once power is restored to the AHF Hall, that will be "Central Command" as the Town Office will be busy with storm response.

If you have any questions about the Street Captain Program, or would like to volunteer; please contact me on NextDoor, email or phone. We could use a few more volunteers to be Street Captains for the dead end of Flamingo Road, Blue Jay, Ibis Ct, and Dayton area.

Thank you to all who volunteer and help make Melbourne Village a special community. For more information: sditty@yahoo.com, 321-626-7554

Here we are, past the peak of Hurricane Season and yet there are still storm systems churning up in the Atlantic. Don't worry; the Street Captains are on standby in case a major storm threatens our area.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

DON'T FORGET!

Clocks change on November 7, 2021!

That's a great time to change out your batteries in all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors (if you have them). Watering changes also go into effect, please see the chart from St. John's River Water Management below for reference.

Time of year	Homes with <u>odd</u> numbered or no addresses	Homes with <u>even</u> numbered addresses	Nonresidential properties
Daylight saving time	Wednesday/Saturday	Thursday/Sunday	Tuesday/Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

- Daylight saving time: Second Sunday in March until the first Sunday in November
- Eastern Standard Time: First Sunday in November until the second Sunday in March
- An odd numbered address is one that ends in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9.
- An even numbered address is one that ends in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8.
- Water only when needed and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Water for no more than one hour per zone.
- Restrictions apply to private wells and pumps, ground or surface water and water from public and private utilities.
- Some exceptions apply.

BE PREPARED

HURRICANE SUPPLY LIST



Check Boxes

- Prescription Medicine (two-week supply)
- Camera and Film
- Books, Magazines, and Games
- Ice Chest and Ice
- Disposable Plates, Glasses, and Utensils
- Manual Can Opener
- Battery-operated TV/Radio and Clock
- Spare Batteries
- Flashlights / Lantern
- Toilet Paper
- Diapers and Wipes
- Baby Food/Formula
- First Aid Kit
- Plastic Sheeting / Tarp
- Duct or Masking Tape
- Nails, Rope, Lumber, Tools
- Plastic Garbage Bags
- Insect Repellent, Sunscreen
- Disinfectant
- Soap and Detergent
- Bleach for Sterilization (unscented with hypochlorite, the only active ingredient)
- Tincture of Iodine, or Water Purification Tablets
- Rain Gear
- Fire Extinguisher
- Fuel for Generators and Cars
- Propane Gas (for grills)
- Charcoal and Lighter Fluid
- Waterproof Matches / Sterno
- Cash (ATMs may not work after the storm)

- Non-perishable FOOD
- Powdered Milk, Evaporated Milk
- Canned Meats / Fish (tuna, ham, etc.)
- Canned Fruit and Vegetables
- Dried Foods (spaghetti, rice, etc.)
- Canned Soups / Chili
- Dried Fruit and Nuts
- Cereal
- Crackers and Cookies
- Coffee and Tea
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Pudding
- Pet Food and Medicine

TIP

During hurricane season, supplies are key to protecting your family. Set aside at least one gallon of water per person - per day. For a family of four that would be 28 gallons to see you through one full week.



DURING & AFTER STORM

DURING THE STORM

- ▶ Stay inside until the hurricane passes. Make sure the storm has completely passed before going outside your house.
- ▶ Stay tuned to WESH 2 News for updates.
- ▶ Turn off circuit breakers if the power goes out. Leave one circuit breaker on with a lamp so you will know when power is restored.
- ▶ Do not use candles or kerosene lamps during the storm.
- ▶ As winds become more intense, go to your safe room and do not expose yourself to the hurricane's winds.
- ▶ Keep windows closed. It is a myth that opening a window on one side of the house will equalize pressure.
- ▶ If your house begins to sustain damage, cover yourself with a mattress and pillows. If your safe room is a bathroom with a bathtub, get in the tub under a mattress.
- ▶ Use the phone for urgent calls only. Don't use a land line phone if you hear thunder.
- ▶ If you're in a tall building, avoid the top floors as wind speeds are stronger the higher you go. Go to a safe room.



AFTER THE STORM

- ▶ Use extreme caution. There may be dangerous situations all around you!
- ▶ If your house is damaged, move carefully to get out. Do not return until inspected by officials.
- ▶ Always supervise children.
- ▶ Do not drink the tap water until officials have announced it's safe.
- ▶ Avoid driving if possible because of debris and road blockage.
- ▶ If power is out, gasoline will be in short supply and filling stations will have long lines.
- ▶ At intersections with traffic lights out, treat it as a 4-way stop and use extreme caution.
- ▶ Phone lines and cell towers will be damaged or overloaded. Try making calls at "off peak" times.
- ▶ If power remains out for an extended period, FEMA will set up relief stations to provide free ice, water and other necessary items.

TIP

When hurricanes strike Central Florida there is an increased risk of tornadoes. Be alert to these fast moving weather changes by keeping your weather radio turned on and tuned in. Also, rely on the WESH 2 First Alert Weather Team, WESH.com, and the WESH 2 App.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By Bradley Ward, Town Superintendent

We welcome our new residents and would like to thank all volunteers for your service and dedication to the community. It is almost time to say goodbye to hot summer days and hello to cooler weather and our snowbirds.

We are now in the height of hurricane season.

Sandbags are available for residents at the Town Office and there is a sandpile at the end of Hall Road at the north end of the shop. Please bring your own shovel as it is self-serve. If you have a generator, make sure it runs correctly and that you have plenty of fuel. Make sure you are stocked up on candles and batteries. Have a first aid kit in case of emergency. Have enough canned foods and bottled water for a couple days in case the power goes out. Secure loose or light yard furniture/ornaments. Please don't wait until a storm is days away to clear yard of dead limbs/branches as they are not always picked up prior to the storm and can become a hazard—regular yard maintenance is key.

If you need to evacuate: Grab your emergency supply kit and only take what you really need with you. If you have time, turn off water and gas to your house.

Never drive through flooded areas—cars and other vehicles can be swept away or may stall in just 6 inches of water. Let our police department know if you plan to leave.

If you need to stay home: Keep your hurricane supply kit in an easy to access location. Listen to the radio or TV for updates. Stay inside and wait until you see or hear an official message that the hurricane is over. Stay away from windows and doors as debris can blow out glass and cause injury. Be ready to evacuate should emergency authorities order you to leave or if your home is damaged. For more information: www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/before.html

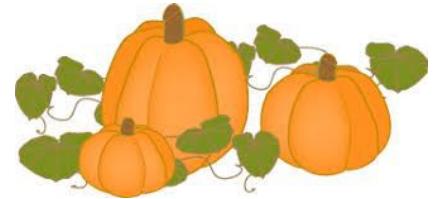
Stormwater Maintenance While our open ditch drainage system is environmentally friendly and was less costly to install than a system of concrete storm drains and pipes, it is more maintenance intensive. The ditches and swales must be cleaned and regraded periodically to maintain the correct elevation. We have spent much of the past 9 months working on our restoration plan and will finish with the front of Melbourne Village during the next few months.

Stay in the Loop!

Our website and bulletin board are the main ways that we as a Town get information to our residents. We are planning a couple changes to make that process more effective. We will be installing a small bulletin board outside the Town Office to share important meeting information—this same information will still be posted on the main bulletin board on Dayton. We have also made allowances in our budget to update our website which will make it more user friendly and accessible.

Over the last few months, in an effort to be more transparent, the Town has begun posting the Monthly Mayor's Report (previously shared at monthly Commission meetings) as well as an occasional Mid Monthly Update on the website. These reports are just a snapshot of some of the major issues impacting our Town. At this time, there is not a mayor's email blast, but we are working on that as well.

Website: www.melbournevillage.org



Save the Date!

October 30, 2021

4pm-6pm

AHF Parking Lot

Join us as we celebrate

fall in the village!

Trunk-or-Treat

Photo Booth

Games

Costume Contest (12 & under)

Candy & more!

*Sponsored in partnership
with the AHF.*



**Melbourne Village
Police Department**

EMERGENCY Dispatch - 911

Non-emergency Dispatch - 639-7532

(for response from officer on duty as soon as available)

Select Option 4 (press 4)

Office - 725-7224 (for administration, records requests, etc.)

We Still Make House Calls and House Checks

Monthly Commission Meetings

Your Town Commission meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm, unless noted. All changes can be found on our town website, posted in the office, or on our bulletin board on Dayton.

Over the last year, we have been implementing the use of ZOOM and residents are able to log on and take part that way as well.

We hope that you will consider joining us!

DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR THAT?

The Town of Melbourne Village issues and requires permits for a variety of activities. Reasons for permits range from ensuring that codes are met to making sure that the Public Safety department is aware of planned activities. Insurance companies and prospective home buyers check to see if permits for roofs, electrical work, air conditioner replacements, etc. were issued. All required permits are provided for by Town Code and adopted by the Melbourne Village Town Commission.



Types of Permits Issued

Building Permits — Almost all construction, from pouring a patio to building a new house, requires a permit. A good rule of thumb is that anything electrical, structural, or requiring a wind load factor/requirement for Hurricanes will need a permit and an inspection. Construction in the Town is governed by the Florida Building Code and Town Codes, (See Ordinance 2012-01). Building permits are valid for one year and may be renewed. Fees depend on the type and value of construction. Time for review and issuance ranges from one day for a simple air conditioning unit replacement to several weeks for major construction. In addition to those for new construction, permits are required for, but not limited to, the following:

- **Additions to your home, additions to or a new garages/carports***
- **Any electrical or plumbing work which relocates outlets or fixtures or runs new lines**
- **Arbors or Trellises (large ones require a permit to verify that wind load and anchoring meet State code)**
- **Electrical service upgrades**
- **Fences**
- **Replacement of air-conditioner/heater units**
- **Re-roofing**
- **Sheds***

- **Windows, exterior door, and garage door replacement**
- **Septic and drain field replacement and repairs. You will also need a permit from Brevard County before applying for a Town permit.**
- **Slabs, patios, decks and driveways* (Note: Paver driveways and walkways, if set in sand, not concrete, do not need a permit.)**

***Please note:** any time you are increasing your properties overall building (roofed) or other impermeable (non-roofed) "footprint", (i.e. as decks, concrete, pavement,) you may have to meet our Responsible Growth Ordinance 2012-01 provisions at www.MelbourneVillage.ORG or contact the Town Office for details.

Tree Removal Permits — A permit is required for the removal of any tree. This includes pines, palms, dead trees, and trees on the State Pest Plant list. Tree removal permits are either \$25 or no-cost, depending on the tree and reason for removal, and are valid for one year. A replacement tree may need to be planted. The permits require 2 to 7 days for review and can only be approved for reasons stated in Ordinance 2008-01, which can be viewed at www.MelbourneVillage.ORG

Garage Sales — Each household may hold up to two garage sales per year, for two days each. The fee is \$5 for the first and \$10 for the second within 12 months (calendar year). Garage sale permits can be issued on application with no delay and are valid for any 2 day period within 15 days of issuance.

Business Tax — A Business Tax Receipt is required by any person engaging in or managing any business, occupation, or profession in the Town. This includes businesses operated from a residential address, for which the fee is \$20. Commercial business tax fees vary depending on the type and size of the business. Business Tax Receipts are renewed annually in October.

Signs — Unless exempted, (Town Code chapter 16.5) signs require a permit approved by the TRB and is no cost in residential zones. Commercial zone sign permits are governed by a separate code. *Political Signs must be placed in your yard, not in the Town Right of Way.*

What Happens If I Don't Get A Permit?

Penalties for failure to obtain a required permit in advance range from a doubled permit fee to fines of up to \$500 per day or occurrence. Other penalties, costs, and requirements may be imposed, depending on the nature of the offense. The Building Official can require that un-permitted work be torn down or exposed for inspection, in addition to fines. If you are not sure whether a permit is required for something you are planning, please contact the Town office.

Police Department News *By Gary Loos, Chief of Police*

This has been another great year in our department and I'm thankful to work alongside some great and dedicated officers.

We are in some ways in better shape than some of the other police agencies around us since we are fully staffed. Many other departments are facing great challenges in recruiting and retaining officers. With that said we have a new officer named Steve Smith. He comes to us after retiring from Palm Bay Police Department. He brings with him more talents for us to use such as being a firearms instructor. This will be an added benefit for our agency.

Talking about firearms once again Vern Goding has stepped forward with his generosity and donations. Not only with his time but also with his money. Vern Goding has purchased for the police department Glock hand guns and leather gear so that all officers now have department issued firearms. He further donated money for the purchase of ammunition for training that will last several years. His generosity didn't stop there he also purchased new tasers for each officer on the department. Our old tasers were wearing out and several officers didn't even have them until Vern Goding made his donation for the purchase of 10 tasers.

I was asked to remind residents of certain state guidelines in regards to pedestrian and bicycle regulations that we tend to forget, ignore or are just not aware of. I wrote on this subject once before but some of the issues are still occurring. I can place all of the traffic laws here that apply but it would make for a lengthy complicated reading. Instead I am going to hit the highlights of violations that are most commonly misunderstood. There are traffic safety laws that relate to persons on bicycles and pedestrians alike. The state FINE for pedestrian / bicycle violations is \$67.50 civil penalty and add another \$52.50 if a cited person takes it to court and is found guilty as court costs.

316.2065 Bicycle regulations:

(1) Every person propelling a vehicle by human power has all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special regulations in this chapter, and except as to provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

What the above means is that every bicyclist must obey the traffic laws that apply to the driver of a motor vehicle. Stop at stop signs, stay to the right of the

center of the road, yield to pedestrians etc. There are additionally more laws that are bicycle specific some of which are copied below.

(5)(a) Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride in the lane marked for bicycle use or, if no lane is marked for bicycle use, as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of the following situations:

(6) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway may not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreast may not impede traffic when traveling at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing and shall ride within a single lane.

(7) Every bicycle in use between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and a lamp and reflector on the rear each exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 600 feet to the rear.

316.130 Pedestrians; traffic regulations:

(4) Where sidewalks are not provided, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall, when practicable, walk only on the shoulder on the left side of the roadway in relation to the pedestrian's direction of travel, facing traffic which may approach from the opposite direction.

(10) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

I have just provided excerpts from the bicycle/ pedestrian laws that are the frequently misunderstood or overlooked. There are of course many more laws concerning juveniles and helmets, crossing roads at intersections or at right angles to name a few. I hope that the information that I have provided will help in understanding the laws as they are applied and help people to understand when they are stopped in the Village by the Police officers when the laws are ignored.





Town Committees Need Volunteers

Did you know that the Town has many active Boards and Committees that rely on resident volunteers, many of which are in the need of new members? Some meet regularly and others only as needed. Please contact the Town Office to learn more or if you are interested in volunteering. They are:

Beautification Committee reports on methods, concepts, and specific plans to improve the general appearance of the planting and landscaping of public property in Melbourne Village. Meets as needed.

Board of Adjustment is established to hear appeals of decisions rendered by zoning administrators. Interpret unclear provisions in the zoning ordinance. Decide on applications by landowners to permit buildings or land uses which vary from the zoning regulations.

Code Enforcement Committee enforces town codes, including, but not limited to, occupational license, fire, building, zoning, litter, environmental, animal control, abandoned property, land use and sign codes and ordinances. Meets as needed.

Finance Committee provides **financial** analysis, advice, and oversight of the Town budget. Their sole responsibility is to ensure the organization is operating

with the **financial** resources it needs to provide programs and services to the community. Meets monthly.

Permit and Inspection Committee is responsible for reviewing applications for permits, issue permits, works with the building official. Meets as needed.

Planning & Zoning/LPA conducts the comprehensive planning program and prepare the comprehensive plan or elements or portions thereof for the Town of Melbourne Village. Meets as needed.

Town Review Board is designed to maintain those features of residential neighborhoods specifically identified by Town residents and the Town Commission as core community value. They were recently merged with Planning and Zoning and fulfill those duties as well, including conducting and preparing the comprehensive planning program or portions thereof for the Town. Meets as needed.

We currently have the greatest need for volunteers on our Finance Committee and the Town Review Board.
If interested, please contact the Town Office.

IMPORTANT TRAFFIC CHANGES AHEAD

Over the last couple of months, the Commission has been actively looking into a way to mitigate the traffic that continues to cut through our Village. There are three current routes that we are looking to implement:

1. Pass an ordinance that would prohibit large commercial trucks from cutting through our neighborhood if not actively serving a resident. The signage that we currently have is not enforceable without an ordinance.
2. "Squaring off" the intersection at Sheridan and West Pine, as well as Dayton and South Drive. This would bring the stop signs forward where needed and eliminate the wide turns and frequent rolling stops. This change would encourage complete stops, allow for better enforcement, and make it safer for all residents who bike/walk/run through these areas. This process is approved by the DOT and would not hinder emergency or service vehicles. We are planning to implement this in a way that can be reversed and the majority of the work can be done in house and with limited cost.
3. Lowering the speed limit to 20MPH. This has been a highly debated topic with a lot of time and consideration made by both the Town Commission and the Police Department. This decision would make it safer for all residents and non-residents who use our roads. This change would make it less appealing to cut through traffic as they would be forced to adhere to a lower speed. It would also make it much safer for all people who walk/run/bike our roads and use golf carts as many of our roads lack a shoulder or sidewalk and we must share the roadway. Currently, when people are stopped for speeding, officers must wait until they are at least 5 over the posted speed limit to account for state law, this means that vehicles are consistently going closer to 30 or higher before being stopped.

It is felt that these changes will continue to foster the type of neighborhood that we have all come to know and cherish, it is what sets us apart from so many other towns in the area. The Commission will continue to discuss and move forward with these items throughout Fall 2021. We ask residents to please feel free to email the town or come to our monthly meetings to share your input.

Please check the bulletin boards often as we will post important meeting dates, including the vote to approve/reject the proposed speed change.

Town of Melbourne Village
555 Hammock Road
Melbourne Village, FL 32904



Solid Waste Collection Information

Monday Recycling and yard trash. Place yard waste in containers or cut to 4-foot lengths.

Wednesday and Saturday Regular garbage, household rubbish.

Large Items If large appliances (stoves and refrigerators, with doors removed) and furniture are not picked up within a few days, call Waste Pro at 837-0055 or contact the Town Office at 723-8300.

Reminder Do NOT place large piles of yard waste directly beneath power lines or next to mail boxes. The clam truck cannot be operated under power lines. If you must place yard waste in plastic bags, do not seal them (leave them so they can be easily opened). The best option is to containerize small items whenever possible.

Contacting Town Officials

Written communication (including email) with Town Officials pertaining to Town business is considered public record. Letters should be addressed to the Mayor, Vice-Mayor, Commissioner, or Commissioners:

Town of Melbourne Village
555 Hammock Rd
Melbourne Village, FL 32904
Office hours: M-F 9:30am-3:30pm
Phone: 321-723-8300
Website: www.melbournevillage.org

Contact the Office and Commissioners at
Deputyclerk@melbournevillage.org

Regular Town Commission Meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the Town Office unless noted.

The Town Commission

MAYOR	Tabitha Niemann mayor@melbournevillage.org
VICE MAYOR	Valerie Calenda
COMMISSIONERS	Fred Anderson Gary Ingram David Jones Peter McCharles Gerda Murphy