

The Sun Newsletter

City of West Melbourne's Community Publication

July/August 2018

Hurricane Preparedness

As the height of Hurricane Season approaches, it is always a safe practice to be prepared, have a plan, stay informed and get involved. A few ways to get started on the right track is by knowing your resources and improving your response for your family and yourself.

Brevard County Emergency Management has a website at www.embrevard.com where you will be able to find the current status and updated information on the most recent storm. This website also provides information on school closures, boil water alerts, Alert Brevard notifications, evacuation notices, recovery information and when it's safe to return home.

Information regarding recommendations for a basic disaster supply kit, how to set up a household plan, business plan, plan for your pets, evacuation and shelter plans can also be found under the Brevard County Emergency Management website.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also has a natural disaster website at www.ready.gov which encompasses information on all natural disasters, plus more to include cyber security, active shooter response, and how to get involved in your community when a disaster strikes.

There are many websites and resources online to provide information but please remember to search those that are trusted sources such as the City of West Melbourne, Brevard County, or State of Florida.



Hurricane Shutter Safety

For the safety of those inside, after returning home after a seasonal absence or following the evacuation for a hurricane, the Florida Building Code requires that storm shutters be removed from the front door and from at least one exit door or window for each bedroom. This is so these openings can serve as emergency fire exits, and is extremely important for second story bedroom windows.

If hurricane shutters are installed in the event of an upcoming hurricane and you remain in your home during the storm, please consider alternate sleeping arrangements, such as inflatable mattresses in the common area, especially for multi-story homes with bedrooms on the second floor. This is much safer than being upstairs with no operable window for fire emergency purposes.

Post-hurricane, the required front door and bedroom shutters must be removed within 72 hours of re-occupancy. As a courtesy to your neighbors, other doors and windows on the street side of your home should be the next priority for removal at your discretion during hurricane season and most definitely at other times of the year.



National Night Out

On August 7, 2018 we will be celebrating the 35th Annual **National Night Out**. Residents in neighborhoods throughout the City of West Melbourne and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with Neighbors and Police Officers. Citizens have a unique opportunity to take a stand against crime and promote unity within their community.

Please contact your Neighborhood Watch Captain or Crime Prevention Officer E. Moyer at crimeprevention@westmelbourne.org for more information on how you can participate.



FDOT to Improve U.S. 192 and Minton/Wickham Intersection

Citizens can expect periodic lane closures and delayed travel times through the U.S. 192 (W. New Haven Avenue) and Minton and Wickham intersection starting July 1. The Florida Department of Transportation has let a construction contract for significant improvements to this important intersection, which is the sixth most heavily travelled intersection in Brevard County. Under the category of 'no pain, no gain', the construction will certainly be an inconvenience and slow everyone down through the intersection. Drivers are requested to remain patient and expect longer travel times through the intersection at various times during the course of construction. When the construction project is completed, the intersection will be much improved over the current condition.

Questions about the project may be addressed to the Florida Department of Transportation, the agency that designed and is managing the improvement project. To find out more about this project or other current or future projects occurring in central Florida, go to www.cflroads.com.

West Melbourne Community Park Update

Construction of the final phase of improvements resulting in the complete redevelopment of West Melbourne Community Park is winding down. West Melbourne Community Park, the old Max K. Rodes Park, was donated by Brevard County to the City of West Melbourne in 2011. The City Council, after extensive public, focus group, and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board input, approved a master plan for the renovation of the park in 2012. Phase I construction started in late 2014, and the final Phase II work will be completed in September.

Phase I improvements included new drainage, water, sewer, electrical, parking, and significant Space Coast Field of Dreams improvements. The City contributed \$1.25 million in local funding for this first phase, and the State of Florida contributed \$3,050,000 towards the Space Coast Field of Dreams improvements. For more information on the Space Coast Field of Dreams, visit their web site at www.spacecoastfieldofdreams.org.

Promise in Brevard is constructing the Promise Café, Bakery and Ice Cream Shop, a community gathering place that will become the focal point of the redeveloped park. Promise employs persons with special needs at the Promise Thrift Shoppe in the Metro West Shopping Center at U.S. 192 and Wickham, and has recently opened their new housing and vocational opportunity campus off of Norfolk Parkway. For more information about Promise in Brevard, visit their website at www.promiseinbrevard.com.

Among the improvements under construction in the final phase of West Melbourne Community Park is a skate park, a performance stage, group picnic shelters, a fountain in the large pond and a pier overlooking the pond, a life-size chess/checkerboard, and a children's play splash pad. The City has been awarded a \$1,050,000 grant from the State of Florida to supplement the \$2.75 million in local funding for the final phase improvements.

Look for information on the grand opening celebration of the completed West Melbourne Community Park on the City's web site at www.westmelbourne.org.

2018 General Election

On the ballot for the 2018 General Election on November 6, 2018, voters in the City of West Melbourne will be asked to make a selection for three seats on City Council. Citizens interested in running must be a resident of the City of West Melbourne for at least one year and a registered voter.

The qualifying period for the election is August 9 through August 23. Contact the City Clerk at 837-7774 for more information.

City Council Actions

Your City Council meets twice a month to discuss important issues. Many local issues are studied and decisions are made by your elected officials to make this a better community. Here are a few decisions that your Council has made on behalf of the citizens and businesses of West Melbourne in last few months:

- Approved an agreement with Brevard County for reduced County tax increment funding for the West Melbourne/ Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency, with savings to the County dedicated to County road-way maintenance and improvement within the West Melbourne city limits
- Approved an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Melbourne and the final plat for the Lake Ibis Commerce Park
- Awarded a bid for construction of the Woodland Manor Drainage Improvement project
- Approved an agreement with HydroCorp, Inc., to provide services for the Cross Connection Control Program
- Accepted a quote from a landscape contractor to repair and/or replace landscape trees at the U.S. 192 and I-95 interchange that were damaged by Hurricane Irma
- Selected John Dittmore to serve the remaining term on a seat for City Council following a resignation
- Approved an ordinance for the Town Center Overlay corridor along Minton Road to add design criteria and re-strict some uses
- Approved a resolution to submit a proposed widening of Dairy Road from two lanes to four lanes from U.S. 192 to Hibiscus Boulevard to the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization for possible future year funding
- Approved agreements with Florida Power & Light to re-lamp 135 street lights to energy-saving LED fixtures

For more information on Council meetings, visit the City's website at www.westmelbourne.org. You can view agen-das, minutes, summaries of action, or watch a Council meeting live on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

"Judge" Frank Lester Platt By Peter Morton

I knew Judge Platt over half of my lifetime and I found him to be the most honorable, kind individual you could have had the pleasure of working with or calling your friend.

I believe if you lived anywhere in West Melbourne, his gener-osity had a direct effect on your life.



If you have ever gone to the West Melbourne Post Office, the Library, Meadowland Pri-mary, Secondary, or Central Middle Schools, Calvary Chapel, or any of the five subdivisions of Heritage Oaks, Coventry, Ashford and many others, you can thank "Judge."

He had a dream, especially with the schools, which was the catalyst of the City of West Melbourne.

The Judge loved to go on trail rides and actually raced in horse races on U.S. 192.

How to Have a Good Trail Ride

By Judge Platt

Get together a group of good congenial people, be sure they are civilized.

You need a horse that you like to ride, and they fit good with a bunch of horses... One that don't get on your nerves. You are not there to ride by yourself, although it is permissible.

You need to have all your tack in good shape or maybe some extra.

Try to be jolly and in a good mood at all times. Don't push to be first in line or at gates or on the ride. If something irritates you, try hard to ignore it, just smile and ride on, you have a good trail master, listen to him or her.

You need a good cook, so don't criticize them too much. You need meals on time, if possible, but if it rains you will probably have to wait.

Don't eat or drink too much, nothing but sleep is good on a full stomach.

Attend the recreation and entertainment get-togethers and make out like you enjoyed them.

If anything goes wrong, make out like you expected that smile and ride on.

Have as much fun as you can and keep everything as clean as possible.

Follow the rules.

A Must:

1. Good Group
2. Good Trail Boss
3. Good Cook
4. Good Place to Ride

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judge Platt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Recreation Highlights

New classes being offered with the Recreation Department. Call 837-7779 for more information on these classes or to find out more about other classes being offered.



Instructor for stringed instruments, including cello, bass, violin, viola, guitar and keyboard. Offering one-on-one lessons for beginner and intermediate players who are interested in becoming more proficient musicians.



Chair Yoga
Thursday
11:45 am

Gentle Yoga
Wednesday
5:15 pm

Gentle Yoga
Thursday
10:30 am

Zaira is now offering **Beginner Belly Dance Classes.**

The 2018 Summer schedule includes classes on Tuesday's from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Attire includes: Yoga and tank top; bare feet, socks, or ballet slippers - no tennis shoes.



Did you know that West Melbourne Parks and Recreation has tennis courts, outdoor racquetball courts, a dog park, and a full kitchen community center available for rentals at 2285 Minton Road? Call 837-7779 for information and availability.

The Sun Newsletter
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(Back L-R) Council Members Adam Gaffney, Bill Mettrick, John Dittmore, and Deputy Mayor Pat Bentley (Front L-R) Council Member Barbara A. Smith, Mayor Hal J. Rose, and Council Member Andrea Young.

West Melbourne City Council

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City Calendar

July 2018

4	Independence Day—City Offices Closed	
11	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting	6:00 p.m.
11	Planning and Zoning Board meeting	6:30 p.m.
17	City Council meeting	6:30 p.m.
19	Code Enforcement Board meeting	5:30 p.m.
26	Board of Adjustment meeting	7:00 p.m.

August 2018

1	Police Officers' Retirement Board of Trustees	9:00 a.m.
7	National Night Out	
15	Planning and Zoning Board meeting	6:30 p.m.
16	Code Enforcement Board meeting	5:30 p.m.
21	Community Redevelopment Agency meeting	6:00 p.m.
21	City Council meeting	6:30 p.m.
23	Board of Adjustment meeting	7:00 p.m.
27	Business Advisory Board meeting	6:30 p.m.