

The Sun Newsletter

City of West Melbourne's Community Publication

May/June 2019

Rainy Season Flood Preparations

Florida's rainy season begins June 1, and preparation for potential flooding is important for public agencies and property owners alike

There are three principal public agencies that maintain canal and public street swale drainages. The largest canals south of U.S. 192 are the responsibility of the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District, a public agency with a locally appointed board whose budgets are approved by the Brevard County Commission. These canals generally flow west and south before eventually heading east to Turkey Creek. The largest canals north of U.S. 192 are the responsibility of Brevard County. These canals generally flow east and south to Crane Creek. A smaller number of canals in West Melbourne are the responsibility of the City and are feeder canals to either the Melbourne-Tillman or the County system. The City works hard to keep our canals clear, and has purchased new equipment to help in performing this important task (see accompanying article).

In addition to the public agencies, many properties have local drainage systems that are the responsibility of the local homeowners association. Homeowners associations are advised to check their key inflow and outflow structures to insure that they are clear of debris, and for those associations with multiple connected retention ponds, keeping the connections between the retention ponds clear is also critically important.

Private property owners also have responsibilities to reduce the risk of flooding, especially in older neighborhoods with local street side swales. While it is the City or County's responsibility to maintain the swales themselves, it is each homeowner's responsibility to maintain the pipe under their own driveway. Not keeping this pipe clear can impact you and your neighbors in the event of a major rainstorm.



New Equipment Purchased

The Public Works Department received delivery of the City's new Menzi Muck M340 in March. The Menzi Muck is an all-terrain walking excavator that allows each leg or wheel to be raised or lowered, extended or retracted, or moved in or spread out. The operator can adjust the working base (chassis) to changes in the angles of the terrain. The Menzi Muck can work up and down on steep slopes, in seven feet of muck and water, in tight spots or in bad weather that would otherwise mire down other equipment.



The Menzi Muck will be utilized by the Public Works Department for work in the City's portion of the multi-agency canal system that serves West Melbourne. The new equipment will be used for brush clearing, demucking the City's canals, grass cutting, and reestablishing swales along City streets.

A representative from Menzi Muck was onsite in March for a week-long training and worked one-on-one with Public Work's employees instructing them on the capabilities of the Menzi Muck. The total cost of the equipment with two mowing attachments was \$367,000, using money loaned to the City's storm-water fund.



Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes frequently threaten each year; knowledge and preparation are the keys to surviving when disasters strike.

Would you and your family be prepared if a tropical storm or a hurricane were to strike? Do you have emergency supplies gathered in case you have to evacuate during a natural disaster such as a hurricane?

If you answered "no" to these questions, you are not alone. Statistics show that many people are ill prepared when a disaster strikes them. To avoid being left unprepared, educate yourself and your family about what steps need to be taken before a disaster occurs.

Brevard County 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 all be found under the Brevard County Management website.

FEMA with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has a Natural Disaster website at www.ready.gov which encompasses information on all natural disasters 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 Brevard County or FEMA websites.



Beautification Award

Mayor Hal Rose and Council Member Andrea Young presented a Beautification award to Shoff Insurance located at 2350 Minton Road to Roland and Michele Shoff on March 5, 2019.



Recreation Activities



Babysitting is a fun job, but it can be challenging! The Babysitting Boot Camp is a great way to learn about handling emergencies, difficult situations, and building your own business.

Participants will become American Heart Association CPR/AED/First Aid Certified as well as receive a Babysitting Certification. The Recreation Department will be holding the Camp on Friday, May 31, from 9 am to 5 pm. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch. The cost for the camp is \$85.

- April 27** 10th Annual Cycle Jam & Family Fun Fest
Field of Dreams at West Melbourne Community Park
- May 4** Brevard Providing Autism Links & Support (PALS) Family Fun Picnic
Field of Dreams at West Melbourne Community Park
10 am to 3 pm
- May 24** Food Truck Friday with Concert in the Park (Band TBD)
West Melbourne Community Park
5 to 9 pm
- May 30** Movie in the Park (movie TBD)
West Melbourne Community Park
Evening
Rain date June 7
- May 31** Babysitting Boot Camp
Veterans Memorial Complex
9 am to 5 pm
- June 1** Best Trick Contest
West Melbourne Community Park Skate Park
10 am to 5 pm
- June 8** Car Boot Sale
West Melbourne Community Park
10 am to 2 pm
Rain date June 15
- June 21** School's Out Dance Party
Field of Dreams at West Melbourne Community Park
7 to 10 pm
Cost \$3 per person
- June 28** Food Truck Friday with Concert in the Park (Band TBD)
West Melbourne Community Park
5 to 9 pm

Contact the Recreation Department at 837-7779 about these and other programs.

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 the future land use and rezoning to industrial for a vacant parcel located on Columbia Lane, west of I-95 and north of U.S. 192.
- Approved the purchase of a property located at 205 Stephenson Drive in the amount of \$94,000 to be used for reducing flood risk in the Melbourne Estates neighborhood.
- Proposed an agreement to be presented to the City of Melbourne to address impacts the Sawgrass Lakes West development would have on the West Melbourne citizenry.
- Issued a proclamation designating March as Irish American Heritage Month in the City of West Melbourne.
- Approved Ordinance No. 2019-01 annexing two single-family home properties located at 1355 and 1370 Garwood Drive
- Approved the future land use and rezoning to single-family residential for the two properties located at 1355 and 1370 Garwood Drive.
- Approved a utility agreement with the developer of the proposed Springs of Hibiscus Crossing for upsizing of the public water main.
- Received the annual report of the West Melbourne-Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2019-06 accepting a deed from John's Landing, LLC conveying a right-of-way along Fell Road.
- Issued a proclamation to Children's Home Society proclaiming April 1 as Children's Home Society of Florida Transformation Network Team (TNT) Day.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2019-07 vacating a utility easement on the Carlton Apartments site located on the west side of Hollywood Boulevard, across from Imagine Way.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2019-08 vacating a portion of a sewer force main easement on the Minton Cove Apartments site located on Norfolk Parkway east of Minton Road.
- Received the Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018.

For more information on Council meetings, visit the City's website at www.westmelbourne.org. View agendas, minutes,

West Melbourne Citizens Leadership Academy

Mayor Hal Rose and City Manager Scott Morgan presented certificates to the graduates of the 2018-2019 West Melbourne Citizens Leadership Academy on February 5, 2019. This seven-week academy ran from November 29, 2018 through January 17, 2019. Participants learned more about the inner-workings of their municipal government and included walking tours of various City facilities.

Graduates of the 2018-2019 West Melbourne Citizens Leadership Academy (not all shown in photo) were:

Bonnie Dauphinee
Michael Dauphinee
William Johnson
Bob Lewis
Dorrie Lewis
Kimberly McGibany
Teresa McKessey
Beverly McLean
Mary McNew-Renfro
George Sanford
Sandra Tibbetts



A Rare Specimen

*From History of West Melbourne Florida
by Fred A. Hopwood*

In 1918, Calvin Platt heard about a large wild bull that had been playing havoc with the homesteaders on North Merritt Island. The large bull evaded capture for years. Being a collector of rare and fancy bovine specimens, Calvin Platt decided to add this one to his collection.

Out on the pastures of Merritt Island, this wild bull had roamed for twelve years terrifying everyone in his path and defying capture. His owner was forgotten or discretely quiet and the beast's lineage was lost in local traditions.

Platt formed a posse consisting of himself and three others. They captured the bull within two days, with much of the time chasing the bull through the piney woods where it was nearly impossible to throw a rope around his head.

Everyone on North Merritt Island breathed a little easier and were thankful to Platt for the successful capture of the bull.

It is said that the Platt cattle strain was greatly improved when the large bull began producing offspring.



(Back L-R) Council Member Daniel Batcheldor, Deputy Mayor Pat Bentley, Council Member John Dittmore, and Council Member Adam Gaffney
(Front L-R) Council Member Andrea Young, Mayor Hal J. Rose, and Council Member Barbara A. Smith.

West Melbourne City Council

Mayor Hal J. Rose
321-768-7518
hrose@westmelbourne.org

Deputy Mayor Pat Bentley
321-724-4255
pbentley@westmelbourne.org

Daniel Batcheldor
321-355-8363
dbatcheldor@westmelbourne.org

John Dittmore
321-837-7774
jdittmore@westmelbourne.org

Barbara A. Smith
321-728-8510
bsmith@westmelbourne.org

Adam Gaffney
321-837-7774
agaffney@westmelbourne.org

Andrea Young
321-480-2770
ayoung@westmelbourne.org

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

The City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for year ended September 30, 2018, is now available on the City's website. The CAFR is the auditor's report on the financial statements to insure that the City is following generally accepted accounting principles.

To view the CAFR, visit www.westmelbourne.org and go to the Finance Department page.

The Sun Newsletter
Published by the City of West Melbourne
Scott Morgan, City Manager 321-837-7771
Write to: City Hall
2240 Minton Road
West Melbourne, FL 32904
Phone: 321-727-7700
Email: info@westmelbourne.org
Website: www.westmelbourne.org

City Calendar

May 2019

1	Police Officer's Retirement Board	9:00 a.m.
7	City Council	6:30 p.m.
8	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	6:00 p.m.
14	Planning & Zoning Board	6:30 p.m.
16	Code Enforcement Board	5:30 p.m.
21	Community Redevelopment Agency	6:00 p.m.
21	City Council	6:30 p.m.
23	Board of Adjustment	7:00 p.m.

June 2019

4	City Council	6:30 p.m.
11	Planning & Zoning Board	6:30 p.m.
19	City Council	6:30 p.m.
20	Code Enforcement Board	5:30 p.m.
24	Business Advisory Board	6:30 p.m.
27	Board of Adjustment	7:00 p.m.