

HISTORY LEADING TO THE 25th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF
MADEIRA BEACH, FLORIDA

1. Prior to August, 1951, the area now known as the City of Madeira Beach, consisted of two Towns. The Town of Madeira Beach extended from the middle of 155th Avenue to 140th Avenue. The Town of South Madeira Beach extended from 140th Avenue to John's Pass.
2. On June 6th, 1951, the Charter for the City of Madeira Beach was approved by the State of Florida. The original Charter is in the officer of the City Clerk.
3. On August 7th, 1951, the voters of the two Towns had an election to vote for or against the merger of the two Towns into one City.
4. On August 8th, 1951, the votes were canvassed.
5. On August 9th, 1951, the results of the election determined that the two Towns were now the City of Madeira Beach as set forth in the Charter mentioned in item 2. The form of government was Mayor - Commissioners.
6. There were ten employee's on the payroll consisting of a City Clerk, City Attorney, three in the Police Department, three in the Fire Department, the Librarian and City Judge. There was no Public Works Department.
7. City Hall was located at 14509 Gulf Blvd., and housed the Police and Fire Departments.
8. The Mayor was _____
and Commissioners consisted of _____
9. City employees were as follows; POLICE DEPARTMENT - Carl W. Schneider, Chief. Douglas Rodenbaugh, Sergeant, Charles J. Gallagher, Patrolman. FIRE DEPARTMENT - John Robbins, Chief. Mathew Murphy (now deceased), 1st Assistant. Frank Worth, second assistant. CITY CLERK AND CLERK OF COURT - Richard Maduro. CITY ATTORNEY - Lawrence Childs. CITY JUDGE - Judge Brown (now deceased). LIBRARIAN - Edith Mariani.
10. The City had two cruisers for the Police Department with two-way radio. These units were dispatched by the St. Petersburg Police Department and the identifying call was " Car 86 ". The Fire Department had one truck. In addition to fire calls, the truck had to respond for rescue calls as well. The truck was equipped with a resuscitator.
11. The Library was located on 140th Avenue (now the Jack Armstrong residence).
12. Harbor Drive and Bay Point had just been " pumped in " and were ready for development as residential areas. The area now known as the Crystal Isle " Fingers " were only mangroves.
13. The American Legion Hall was in the building now occupied by " The Deck "
14. Gas. oil and service on the three City owned vehicles was done by contract through bid with local service stations.

15. The closest community to the South with Fire and Police assistance was St. Petersburg Beach. To the North, it was Indian Rocks.
16. Ambulance service was provided by Beach Memorial in St. Petersburg Beach.
17. Wrecker service for accidents and disabled vehicles was provided by " G.I. Joe's" in St. Petersburg.