



# Courtenay Notes

of the North Merritt Island  
Homeowners Association, Inc.

[www.nmihoa.org](http://www.nmihoa.org)



Issue No. 347

Serving the North Merritt Island Community since 1986

March 2016

## Living With Coyotes On N. Merritt Island

Guest speaker at the March 7 general membership meeting will be Susan Carroll-Douglas, of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. She will educate us about coyotes and provide tips on how to deal with their presence in our community.



NMI residents are sighting and experiencing the presence of coyotes with increased frequency. Many pets and livestock continue to be taken.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in the St. Luke's meeting hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 7.

## Events Calendar



Mon., Mar. 7, 7:00 p.m.

General membership meeting.

Guest speaker: Susan Carroll-Douglas, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, will talk about coyotes on NMI

Monthly Meetings at St. Luke's,  
5555 N. Tropical Trail  
All meetings are open.

*This newsletter was mailed to members only. Please share the information with your neighbors and encourage them to join the NMIHOA.*

*Information affecting North Merritt Island residents is also available at [www.nmihoa.org](http://www.nmihoa.org)*

## Letter from the President



Dear Friends:

We would like your feedback on changing the name of our North Merritt Island Homeowners Assoc. to avoid confusion with a legal HOA. Changing names is a large and costly step, and we want to know what you think.

The Port Rail through NMI is still being planned by the Port Canaveral Authority, although they are at least looking at other routes.

A plan to regulate the commercial kayak companies at Manatee Cove and Pine Island Conservation Area to ease overcrowding and protect natural resources was approved by a 4-1 vote, with Commissioner Infantini voting no.

Lots of construction and developments are being planned and we will try to keep you informed on what is going on.

Please remember this is your NMIHOA. If you care about our unique area and want it to remain a place you want to live, please become involved.

Best regards,

**Chris Cook**  
President, NMIHOA

## Pioneer Day Drew Record Crowds

For the past five years Pioneer Day has been celebrated at St. Luke's and Sams House. This year a record 1903 guests were counted visiting the Sams House festival. Organizers attempt to improve each year by retaining some from the past plus adding new exhibitors and vendors. This year St. Luke's featured a Native American theme for speakers, and Sams House added five wool spinners and children learned to make their own corn husk dolls, among other new attractions. For additional Pioneer Day photos visit [www.nmihoa.org](http://www.nmihoa.org)

*Photos by Chris Minerva*



Five spinners demonstrated the art of spinning wool.



Confederate soldiers display weapons and related historic memorabilia.



NMIHOA members distributed information and answered current questions about NMI.



Inside the Sams House vintage children's items were displayed. Diana Sagaser looks in antique stereoscope. Photo by Diane Stees

## MI Community Garage Sale

The Kiwanis Club will hold a community garage sale on Saturday, March 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Kiwanis Island Park on SR-520. This annual event is open to community organizations, non-profits, and individual sellers. Fee is \$25 per table for vendors. Set up begins at 8 a.m. The Kiwanis Club of Merritt Island is a charitable organization serving local youth. Vendors should register early to be sure of getting a table. For more information visit [kiwanisclubofmerrittisland@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanisclubofmerrittisland@gmail.com) or phone 321-430-6630.

North Merritt Island Homeowners Assn., Inc.

### 2015-2016 Board Members

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Dist. 3, Sandy Pesce, 455-6378, and Cathy Testa (718) 309-9880 (E. Hall Rd. to and including E. Crisafulli and E. side of Courtenay)

Dist. 4, John Schantzen, 394-6685 (N. of Crisafulli to KSC)

#### Committees:

Zoning: Kim Smith, 453-3323, & Chris Minerva, 449-4004

Membership: Nancy Minerva, 449-4004 [NMIHOA@gmail.com](mailto:NMIHOA@gmail.com)

com; and Sandy Pesce, 455-6378

Beautification: Ted Balke, (908) 917-6769

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Published monthly for residents of North Merritt Island

from the Barge Canal to the Kennedy Space Center.

Deadline for input is first Monday during the Association

monthly meeting. Past editions can be viewed at the

Merritt Island Library, Reference Department.

Webmaster: Chris Cook, 453-7022

Website: [www.nmihoa.org](http://www.nmihoa.org)

## A Toast to All Things

There's a unique business on this end of the Island that might be of interest to residents or visitors who have gourmet tastes...or want to acquire them. Kimberly Spurlock, a local homeowner, has recently opened a new shop that stocks all manner of imported olive oils, balsamic vinegars, teas, spices, and other cooking accessories. Her shop, A Toast to All Things, is located at 6141 N. Courtenay Pkwy., Suite C, next door to her other business, QUAL-TECH Inc., a consulting and training firm for aviation, space, and defense.

Spurlock's newest venture was born out of a passion she developed in her world travels. As she discovered international products that struck her fancy, she began bringing them home to Merritt Island to share with friends and family. Opening this new store seemed the next logical step, and a labor of love.

Now as she travels she seeks to bring back one-of-a-kind items that can't be found anywhere else in the area. She offers imported cheeses, salamis, chocolates, tea mugs, and hand painted pottery, as well as custom gift baskets for special occasions. Part of her mission is to educate her clients about products with which they might not be familiar. Her website, [www.atoasttoallthings.com](http://www.atoasttoallthings.com) offers recipes and nutrition information.



Kimberly Spurlock in her NMI shop, A Toast to All Things.

## Sheriff Dept. Stats for NMI

The quarterly statistics below were provided by Brenda Krieger, Admin. Assistant to East Precinct Major John Mellick. The data represents calls received, not actual disposition of the call.

Sheriff Dept.: Non-emergency: (321) 633-7162; Emergency: 911 or cell phone E911.

### North Merritt Island, Zones 20 & 21 October, November, December 2015

CATEGORY	CALLS
911, E911, Hang-up/misdial/open line/information	169
Accident, Traffic	24
Alarm, residential/business	63
Animal complaint	62
Assist citizen, other agency	35
Attempt to contact	24
Aviation response	3
Battery	7
Burglary- residential, vehicle	7
Civil matter	11
Criminal mischief	34
Deceased person	1
Disturbance-domestic, fight, noise, verbal	45
Drunk driver, person	2
Fire	5
Fraud, Forgery	11
Illegal dumping	2
Injured/ill person	85
Investigation, Pvt investigator in area	18
K-9 Response	8
Motor assistance/disabled vehicle	24
Vice Crimes-narcotics	5
Obstruction, road	4
Open Door	1
Patrol area-Agricul/business/foot/Res/water	169
Persons Search	4
Process Service Civil	16
Property-lost/found	6
Reckless driving-vehicle	15
Sex offense, address verify	23
Shooting in Area	9
Standby Pick up belongings, keep peace	15
Stolen property	15
Suicide	5
Suspicious person/vehicle/incident	82
Threat call, obscene, harrass	10
Traffic complaint/enforcement/stop	70
Trespassing	2
Vehicle repo/tow/abandoned/stolen	8
Wanted Person	7
Miscellaneous	43

### Membership Year - July 1 through June 30

Mail \$10 per individual to: North Merritt Island Homeowners, Assn., Inc.,  
P.O. Box 542372, Merritt Island, FL 32954-2372

PLEASE PRINT:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ I prefer to receive the newsletter by Email, rather than U.S. Postal Service.

☐ Please check here if you would also like to receive Emails about topics of interest to NMI residents.



The following letter is reprinted with permission from Letters to the Editor in the Florida TODAY, Feb. 11, 2016.

### Cargo deal not good for Brevard

The Port Canaveral Authority just doesn't get it.

Residents overwhelmingly do not want a heavy industrial port with its associated environmental and safety issues, as well as conflicts with a beautiful, profitable and job-creating passenger cruise port. They do not want to be forced to pay taxes when tens of millions of borrowed dollars need to be paid when the risky cargo venture fails to generate the extremely optimistic projections.

Cargo does not rent hotel rooms, eat in restaurants, rent cars or shop and enjoy local venues. It gets unloaded in a few hours by efficient automated equipment. It sits and rusts until it is picked up and put on a truck or a train to be delivered miles away. It falls off ships and washes up on our beaches. It catches fire and explodes. It falls off derailed trains. It can be toxic and cause evacuations. Cargo is only about 1/3 as profitable as cruise business and creates minimal local jobs. Why should residents be on the hook to pay for this when folks outside the county get all the benefits? The Port can levy a tax on us with no public oversight, input or say.

This is a great deal for Orlando/Central Florida, but not so much for Brevard. Cargo scares away cruise business. Why dock across from an ugly, hazardous area? It demonstrates they do not care about cruise business by investing in cargo instead of upgrading cruise infrastructure, and passenger boats will go elsewhere.

Chris Cook, Merritt Island

**There are no zoning issues for North Merritt Island for the month of March.**

**Welcome New Members**

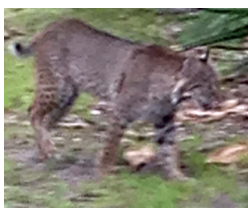


The North Merritt Island Homeowners Association is pleased to welcome the following new members who recently joined: Julie and Lou Colombo; David and Meryl McCormick; Greg and Kristie Powell.

## Wildlife Sightings on North Merritt Island

Thanks to all who took the time to email their wildlife sightings and photos. Photos below (L to R) were taken by: John Schantzen, Mary Boykin, Darleen Hunt and Ted Balke. Additional white pelican photos were taken by Darleen Hunt and Susan Katnik.

Please send wildlife sightings to Jim Wolff at wolffw@cfl.rr.com



Date	Time	Species	Location/Activity	Observer(s)
1/24/16	1:00 p.m.	Dove	E. Crisafulli Rd.	Ted Balke
1/29/16	4:00 p.m.	White Pelicans	North Lake, PICA	Susan Katnik
1/29/16	1:00 p.m.	Woodstorks	SR-3, N. of Pine Island Rd.	Darleen Hunt
1/29/16	1:00 p.m.	White Pelicans, thousands	North Lake, PICA	Jerry & Darleen Hunt, John Schantzen
2/10/16	12:20 p.m.	Bobcat	5390 Judson Rd.	Kim Smith
2/11/16	noon	Roseate Spoonbills, 3	5334 Judson Rd.	Steve Smith
2/11/16	5:30 p.m.	River otters	6275 Judson Rd.	Kim Smith
2/14/16	4:00 p.m.	Bobcat	N. Trop. Tr. near Sams House	Noel & Mary Boyken

## Mosquito Control Works to Ward off Zika Virus

Residents on North M.I. are acutely aware that this area is a haven for mosquitos. Brevard County has an active program with mosquito control inspectors spreading the word on preventive measures to avoid the mosquito-borne Zika virus. The most important measures are to remove standing water and when outside wear repellent with DEET and cover up with clothing. For additional information visit <http://www.brevardcounty.us/MosquitoControl/Home>

### Sams House March Activities - Water, Earth, Fire, Air

The Sams House at Pine Island, 6195 N. Tropical Trail, is open Tuesdays through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Programs are free. Call for reservations 321 449-4720. [www.facebook.com/samshousepineisland](http://www.facebook.com/samshousepineisland)

**Pine Island Conservation Area (PICA) Stormwater Project** - Saturday, March 5, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.. Robbyn Spratt, P.E., Watershed Management Engineer for Brevard County, will discuss how removing nutrients from stormwater helps restore the Indian River Lagoon.

**Geology of PICA** - Sat., March 12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Randy Parkinson, PhD, will discuss geological surveys, fossil finds, and land restorations, and lead a site visit. Prepare for off trail hiking. Wet areas will require proper footwear.

**Ecology of Fire** - Sat., March 19, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Tim Kosusko will discuss the importance of fire in natural systems and the work done by trained fire crews to protect habitats. A short hike to observe land management will follow. Close toed shoes are advised.

**Trail Hike** - Sat., March 26, 10:30 to noon. Meet at the Sams House for a quick overview, drive to the PICA on Pine Island Rd., take a guided hike along the Sierra Trail to the Indian River Lagoon. Close toed shoes are advised.



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