



# Courtenay Notes

of the North Merritt Island Homeowners Association



## Next Meeting

Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, 7 pm

St. Luke's meeting hall, 5555 North Tropical Trail

Guest Speaker: Dist 2 County Commissioner Bryan A. Lober

All Meetings are open to the Public.

## NMI Holiday Golf Cart Parade

This year's 11th annual NMI Golf Cart Parade had a record number of 88 brightly decorated vehicles participating, including golf carts, motorized vehicles, some pulling wagons, bicycles, and even a couple of motorcycles. While most were from NMI, there were a few participants from across the river like Port St. John, Canaveral Groves, Palm Bay, and Titusville. Riding in the vehicles and expressing Christmas wishes and playing Holiday tunes were 335 parade participants plus five dogs. Hundreds of observers lined North Tropical Trail and roadways into several subdivisions along the Trail. Couldn't have asked for better weather. A huge thank you to Mike Boucher and family for organizing this year's parade.



## NMI Drainage Model Update

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, on November 1 the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) directed staff to proceed with four of the NMI Small Area Study recommendations. Recommendation #7 was to have FEMA create a detailed survey and mapping model of NMI to demonstrate whether proposed development would pose any adverse flooding impact on neighbors or streets. Funding for this drainage model has been approved and is underway. The BCC also requested a monthly update on the status of this drainage model study. Status Report #1, dated Nov. 28, 2018, in part: 90% of the 67 archived as-built drawings have been entered into Geographical Information Systems (GIS) stormwater inventory database. The team will work one Section (Township and Range) at a time; and over the next 6 months, will collect invert elevations, dimension, and materials of pipes and control structures in each of the 16 Sections on NMI.



Photos by Chris Minerva. See more photos on our website at [www.NMIHOA.org](http://www.NMIHOA.org).





Brevard County employee Anthony has been systematically trimming all excess vegetation from along roadways on North Merritt Island. Looks good Anthony!

## NMI Homeowners Assn., Inc. 2018-2019 Board Members

### Officers

President: Jack Ratterman, 452-9989

Vice President: Chris Cook, 453-7022

Secretary: Betsi Siddall, 684-2392

Treasurer: Cathy Testa 615-1374

Sgt. at Arms: Darleen Hunt 452-8433

Past President: Chris Cook, 453-7022

### District Representatives

Dist. 1: Tamy Dabu, 474-4315 (Barge Canal on both sides of Courtenay to Hall Rd.)

Dist. 2: Phil Bennardo, 266-5135 (W. Hall Rd. to and including W. Crisafulli Rd. and W. side of Courtenay)

Dist. 3: Sandy Pesce, 455-6378 (E. Hall Rd. to and including E. Crisafulli and E. side of Courtenay)

Dist. 4: John Schantzen, 394-6685 and Josh Cox, 863-4951 (N. of Crisafulli to KSC)

### Committees:

Zoning: Kim Smith, 449-0060 & Chris Minerva, 449-4004

Membership: Nancy Minerva, 449-4004 NMIHOA@gmail.com; and Sandy Pesce, 455-6378

Wildlife Sightings: Gina Lindhorst, 720-7783

### Courtenay Notes:

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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 1st Monday during the Association monthly meeting. Past editions can be viewed at the Merritt Island Library, Reference Dept., or downloaded at

<http://bit.ly/1rrotAD>

Webmaster: Chris Minerva, 449-4004

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

## Welcome New Members

The North Merritt Island Homeowners Association is pleased to welcome our newest members: Chester & Annemarie Lovett.

## Sams House Jan. Activities

*Sams House at Pine Island, 6195 N. Tropical Trail. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 9 am-5 pm.. For reservations call 321-449-4720. facebook.com/samshousepineisland or www.eelbrevard.com.*

**Pioneer Story Time** - Tues., Jan. 8, 10:30 to 11:00. "If I were a Whale" by Shelley Gill.

**Last Day of Winter Vacay** - Wed., Jan. 9, 1-2 pm. Nature Hike and Winter Break nature themed craft.

**Right Whale Migration** - Sat., Jan. 12, 1-2 pm. Join Julie Albert of the North Atlantic Right Whale Conservancy - Marine Resources Council for a discussion of this endangered species and the Citizen Science team that you can join.

**Frontier School** - Fri., Jan. 18, 10:30 to 12:00. All about Migration!

**Whaley Awesome Craft Day** - Sat., Jan. 19, 1-2 pm. Right Whales are in the middle of their migration route off the coast of Florida.

**Walking Book Club** - Fri., Jan. 25, 10:30 to 11:30. The Merritt Island Library will be leading a walking book club at the Sams House. This month's book is "H is for Hawk" by Helen MacDonald.

## Elvis at the Moose Lodge

Celebrate Elvis at the Elvis Tribute Dinner and Show, Fri., Jan. 18 at 6 pm. Cost is \$25 a ticket plus cash bar. Call the Lodge for more information at 321-453-8383. The event is open to non-members.

## W. Crisafulli Grove used for Testing Psyllid Traps

Researchers James Snyder and Stefanie Dowling, with the Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, (FDACS-DPI), have been driving from Gainesville weekly during 2018 to place and monitor test traps in the Jerry and Darleen Hunt 5-acre grove on W. Crisafulli, Merritt Island, and one other property in Ocklawaha FL. These tests will establish the most effective psyllid trap. Two types of 3D printed traps and standard sticky cards are placed within test areas. Preservation vials are collected weekly and brought to the laboratory for sorting and analysis. Psyllids are identified and counted to measure a trap's effectiveness.

This type of testing and analysis gives researchers better methods and materials for faster response times in the management of Asian citrus psyllids which carry the bacterium associated with Huanglongbing or citrus greening disease. Capturing and testing psyllids has been a challenge because standard practices of yellow sticky cards to capture psyllids are messy and catch other insects as well. Traps are modeled with design software and printed on commercially available 3D printers and those with the highest success are chosen for field testing. - D. Hunt



Two 3D printed psyllid traps alongside a standard yellow sticky card.



James Snyder and Stefanie Dowling, stand in front of citrus tree with experimental psyllid trap.

## Membership Year - July 1 through June 30

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

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## E. Crisafulli Rd. Zoning Update

A particularly contested zoning request by WK&R Groves, Inc. of Boynton Beach/Chad Genomi, Beachland Mgrs. LCC, was decided by the Brevard County Commissioners (BCC) in December. The original request went through the rezoning hearings process in March 2018, and the applicant ended up requesting a higher density classification in December. Local residents attended several hearings where they voiced concerns about flooding, access and construction problems with a sewer main installation and increased traffic.

The request to change zoning on 110.97 acres on E. Crisafulli Rd. west of Broad Acres from AU to SR for 110 residential units was approved by the BCC on Dec. 6 with a Binding Development Plan (BDP). The BDP states "The Developer/Owner shall limit the project to 110 units and may be responsible for the maintenance of any improvements. ...shall extend the Sewer line from the nearest connection point. If sewer is not installed, it shall limit the number of units to 50 serviced by septic systems capable of reducing nitrogen in effluent by 65% or greater. Developer shall complete a topographical survey prior to site plan submittal."



We had a great turnout at our December Meeting, which included a delicious Pot Luck Holiday gathering, held at the Merritt Island Moose Lodge. Photo by Chris Minerva.

## Recent Wildlife Sightings

Thank you to those who sent in wildlife sightings. Please continue to send your sightings/pictures to Gina at ginalindhorst.77@gmail.com or text (321) 720-7783.

You don't need a photo to submit a sighting. If you saw animal in the wild on NMI, we'd love to hear about it. Send us the date, time, species, and location where spotted.



Gulf Fritillary butterfly by Bill Uttenweiler



Bald Eagle by Steve Phillips



Palm Warbler by Barbara Kovac.

| DATE     | TIME  | SPECIES                   | LOCATION/ACTIVITY       | OBSERVER         |
|----------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 10/2/18  |       | Gopher Tortoise           | Mitchell Ellington Park | Bill Uttenweiler |
| 11/5/18  | 4 pm  | Bald Eagle                | Sunset Groves           | Steve Phillips   |
| 11/19/18 |       | Gulf Fritillary butterfly | Kelly Park East         | Bill Uttenweiler |
| 11/29/18 | 10 am | Palm Warbler              | Cheyenne Trail          | Barbara Kovac    |
| 12/4/18  | daily | Painted Bunting           | Citrus river grove      | Judy Jett        |

## Vintage BMW Motorcycles Rally on NMI

Celia and Shaye Williams, NMI residents who are well known for their community involvement and high adventure activities, recently hosted an Airheads Beemer Club campout rally. Owners of 42 BMW motorcycles from all four corners of Florida spent the weekend at the Williams' rally. Most camped in small tents on their estate. Attendees could be seen in the barn workshop tuning their bikes and sharing mechanical knowledge or just enjoying the hospitality and camaraderie.

Last year the Williams traveled to Gloucester, UK, to purchase their 1970 BMW bikes and then, with spare parts they had brought with them, continued an extensive tour of the English countryside including a biker cafe, a car show in Cheshire, the beach in Cosby, motorcycle shops in Liverpool and an Isle of Man bike event with several thousand bikers.

Airheads is what owners of BMW vintage motorcycles or bikes dating from the mid-1970s to 1980s call themselves. To join the Airheads Beemer Club one must own an Airhead BMW and agree with most of the club Canons like: Airheads believe the simplest engineering solutions are the best. Airheads appreciate function over form, fact over fiction, and friendship over friction. Airheads maintain their own motorcycles...you get the gist. This is an international organization with a fairly active chapter in Florida. Website: [www.airheads.org](http://www.airheads.org)

Celia said she acquired her first motorcycle when she was 16; and Shaye said he was one year old when his photo was taken of him sitting on his first motorcycle.



Airhead Beemer Club poses during NMI Rally.



Celia and Shaye Williams standing with vintage 1970 BMW motorcycles at their NMI home.





## St. Luke's Episcopal Church

5555 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island

The Reverend Peter F. Roberts

Sundays: 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:15 a.m. Christian Education (Nursery)  
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist (Nursery)

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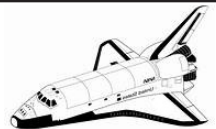
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