



# Courtenay Notes



of the North Merritt Island Homeowners Association, Inc.

Issue No. 218

Serving the North Merritt Island Community since 1986

March 2005

## Record Numbers Attend Meetings About Zonings

Concerned citizens have turned out in record numbers at this Association's meetings at St. Luke's, the North M.I. Zoning Advisory Board in the M.I. Service Complex, and the County Commission meetings in Viera. A Pine Island Road residents initiative, many wore green shirts that read "Smart Quality Growth" to the County Commission meeting.

The recent flurry of zonings to increase residential density and a proposed Conditional Use Permit for alcohol near an established residential area has caused citizens to voice their opinions loud and clear. So far, after much deliberation, the County Commission has denied the requests to increase residential density, and the CUP for alcohol at the Duval Street entrance to Sunset Groves.

Florida TODAY had a front page article by Jeff Schweers which continued to another full page where area residents were quoted and impact of development was outlined. Other articles followed including an editorial and letters to the editor.

There are still more zonings in the pipeline to increase density or change the character of an area. If ever there was a time when folks need to pay attention to what is being proposed and give their input, it is now. Below is an editorial cartoon by Jeff Parker, Florida TODAY, reprinted with his permission.



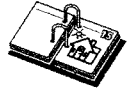
Florida TODAY, Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005. Reprinted with permission.

## Next Meeting

Monday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting only. No speakers planned. Upcoming zoning issue will be discussed.

St. Luke's Meeting Hall, 5555 N. Tropical Trail. All meetings are open.



## Mitchell Ellington Park Development Will Take Place in Phases

A citizens group that makes input to the County for the 114-acre Mitchell Ellington Park met on Feb. 2. NMIHOA representative, Rose Plummer, reported the following update: All permits have been obtained, culverts will begin to be placed on Hall Road. Delays and rise in construction costs are causing portions of the project to be phased until later.

Planned Amenity	Status
6 soccer fields	As planned
2 football fields	May be revised for flag, pee wee football
2 baseball fields	As planned, only one lighted
4 softball fields	None at this time
2 tennis courts	As planned
Playground	As planned
Dog park	May be delayed
400 parking spaces	Reduced to 200
Maintenance area	As planned
Pedestrian trails	East side (a boardwalk) delayed
Wildflower St. 9' berm	As planned

## North Courtenay Parkway Citizen Resource Group To Review Recommendations

A seven member Citizen Resource Group (CRG) appointed by Commissioner Pritchard in 2003 will meet on March 2, 2005, 6:30 p.m. at the M.I. Service Complex, to review a draft summary of their recommendations for the North Courtenay Parkway from the barge canal to KSC. The group met for 18 months to discuss landscaping, signage, land use, access management, pedestrian paths, and lighting. The final report will be presented to the County Commissioners for their consideration.

## Association By Laws Being Reviewed

A NMIHOA By Laws review committee has been appointed by President Mary Hillberg. They were last revised in February 1997. Committee members are: Darleen Hunt, Ron Penn, and Rose Plummer. They will make recommendations to the Board, and eventually bring forth recommendations to the general membership.

## NMIHOA Secretary Position Filled

Rose Plummer, past secretary of the NMIHOA, has agreed to serve again as secretary for the remainder of this term. She was appointed and approved at the February Board meeting. Rose was heartily welcomed by the current board, who have been sharing the task of meeting minutes. Three cheers for Rose!!!

## Residents Report Plenty of Wildlife on North M.I.



Photos by: Sharon Burridge

*The warm winter months have brought out plenty of wildlife in our rural community. A big thank you to those who take the time to share their sightings and photos with all of us through this newsletter.*

*Please report your sightings to a board member listed on this page, or call Sharon at 452-5278.*

Photo to left is Eagle flying at end of Pine Island Road., and right is Osprey nesting on power pole at salvage yard on Pine Island Road.

### North Merritt Island Homeowners Assn., Inc. 2004-2005 Board Members

#### Officers

President, Mary Hillberg, 453-0220  
 Vice President, Jack Ratterman, 452-9989  
 Secretary, Rose Plummer, 455-6635  
 Treasurer, Laurie Bonasera, 453-4304  
 Sgt. at Arms, Ron Penn, 452-5592

#### District Representatives

Dist. 1, Celia Williams, 453-5452 (Barge Canal on both sides of Courtenay to Hall Rd.)  
 Dist. 2, Barry & Jeanne Hoy, 449-9519 (W. Hall Rd. to and including W. Crisafulli Rd. and W. side of Courtenay)  
 Dist. 3, Kathy Bryant, 454-2375, and Mark Page, 455-9800 (E. Hall Rd. to and including E. Crisafulli and E. side of Courtenay)  
 Dist. 4, Chris Cook, 453-7022 (N. of Crisafulli to KSC)

#### Committee Chairs:

Beautification: Mary Hillberg, 453-0220  
 Hike and Bike Trails: Jack Ratterman, 452-9989  
 Publicity: Darleen Hunt, 452-8433  
 Newsletter mailings: Debra Dannels, 453-5341, and Simone Spiess, 453-6662  
 Membership: Laurie Bonasera, 453-4304  
 Zoning: Celia Williams, 453-5452

#### Courtenay Notes:

Editor, Darleen Hunt, 452-8433, DHunt125@aol.com.  
 Published monthly for residents of North Merritt Island from the Barge Canal to the Kennedy Space Center. Deadline for input is first Monday of the month during the Association monthly meeting. Past editions can be viewed at the Merritt Island Library, Reference Department.

**Web Site:** currently being redesigned

Date	Time	Species & description	Location	Observer(s)
1/14/05	5:00 p.m.	Bobcat	Grove, W. Crisafulli Rd.	Tal Webb
1/26/05	Mid day	Sand Hill Cranes, pair	Off E. Crisafulli Rd.	Barbara Moore
1/27/05	4:00 p.m.	2 pigs, 35#, light brown, & black & white spotted	Orange grove, W. Crisafulli Rd.	Jerry Hunt
1/27	9:00 a.m.	Otter	Pond, W. Crisafulli Rd.	Jerry Hunt
1/28	9:00 a.m.	Eagle in tall pine	W. Crisafulli Rd.	Tal Webb
1/28/05	7:00 a.m.	Red-bellied & Pileated Woodpeckers	Red-bellied on power pole, Pileated on Palm tree, W. Crisafulli Rd.	Darleen Hunt
2/4/05	12:25 p.m.	Painted buntings, several pair	Bird feeder, Kings Way	Barbara Moore
2/4/05	All day	Painted buntings, 4 or 5 pair	Bird feeder, 5595 Broad Acres	Sandra Cembrinski
2/6/05	Afternoon	Roseate spoonbill	Overhead, Patti Dr. Sun on pink wings. "Gorgeous spectacle"	Bob Wright
2/11/05	6:15 p.m.	Pigs, mother black, and 2 grey spotted piglets	Walking down W. Crisafulli Rd.	Jerry Hunt
2/13/05	All day	Painted Buntings, Cardinals, Gray Catbirds, Blue Jays, a Red-bellied & Pileated Woodpecker, Grackles, & Doves	Bird feeder, garden pole, and power pole in yard at 6220 N. Tropical Tr.	Jim & Marjorie McCollum
2/12,13/05	Afternoon	Eagle	Flying, end of Pine Island Rd. near Watson's pump	Sharon Burridge
2/12/05	Daily	Osprey	Nesting on power pole near salvage yard, Pine Island Rd.	Sharon Burridge
2/14/05	4:00 p.m.	Scrub Jays	Patti Dr. (not seen here for years)	Bob & Jean Wright
2/19/05	11:30 a.m.	Otter	Crossing road at 125 W. Crisafulli Rd.	Denise Christopher

Members joining after Mar. 1 will be credited through June 30, 2006.

### 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

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE PRINT

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address if different from residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New member  Renewal

I own a residence and reside on Merritt Island north of the Barge Canal.

Associate member. Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Welcome New Members

The North Merritt Island Homeowners Association extends a warm welcome to the following new members who recently joined: **Carol and Sterling Bragg; Steve Bussey; Tracy Cornell; David Diamond; Marie Gartley; Steven and Joy Huff; Mike Jandreau; Julian Jones; Julian Lindenauer; Tonya Marks; Dawn Ramgren; David Ricouard; Verna J. Sloan; Patti M. Smith; Richard and Belinda Snedeker; Jack Szymkuc; and Steven Townsend.**

## March Zoning Issue

The following zoning item affecting North Merritt Island will be heard by the N.M.I. Advisory Board on Thurs., March 10, 2005, 6 p.m. at the N. Courtenay Service Complex, M.I. and again by the County Commissioners on Thurs., April 7, 2005, 5:30 p.m. at the County Government Center, Bldg. C, Viera.

D. 1. (NMI50301) NAJJAD, INC. – (Noel Droor) requests a change of classification from AU (Agricultural Residential) to SEU (Suburban Estate Use Residential) on property described in Section 11, Township 24 South, Range 36 East (27.7 acres). Located on the north side of Smith Road, approx. 640 ft. east of North Courtenay Parkway.

### N.M.I. Zoning Agenda Items Will Not Always Be Last

As Celia Williams, NMIHOA board member and zoning representative, spoke before the commissioners at the February 3 Zoning meeting at Viera, she suggested that agenda items rotate with each District getting an opportunity to be first, so that NMI would not always have to be last.

Commissioner Pritchard promptly responded with the following information: The Board has requested that we insert Port St. John and North Merritt Island zoning items into the regular rotation of other district zoning items on the agenda. We have a system that will accomplish this and will begin implementation with the May Commission zoning hearing (The March and April agendas are already set under the old system).

**This issue of Courtenay Notes has been mailed to members only. Feel free to share information with your neighbors who are not dues paying members and encourage them to join. Much is happening on North Merritt Island and it is important to be informed.**



Mary Hillberg

## Letter From the President

*Hello Friends & Neighbors,*

*It is with great pride that I thank everyone for the outstanding support that was shown for the residents of North Merritt Island during our recent zoning experiences. Residents from Pine Island to Chase Hammock and all the way up to the Barge Canal attended the February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> County Commissioners meetings (in person and with their calls and letters) to support the family values and quality of life we all hold dear in our North Island home. Over 100 concerned citizens attended the February 7 meeting of this NMIHOA. Their message was quite clear.*

*The Brevard County Commissioners are also to be applauded for recognizing the overwhelming desire of the people and voting in support of the facts and feelings of this rural community. In this time of population "push," without the infrastructure to support proposed intense development, we are wisely obliged to slow it in order to maintain a quality and balanced growth for our unique area.*

*I can't tell you how proud I am of all of you...and to be a member of the NMIHOA. This is how a healthy community blooms and grows...it all starts with "supporting our neighbors, as we want to be supported." A quote from a great community leader says it all, "In order to protect my property, I must protect the property of others."*

*I am very proud to be affiliated with the North Merritt Island Homeowners Association. See you at the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting!*

*With Great Appreciation,  
Mary E. Hillberg  
President, NMIHOA*

## Recycling Tips and Awareness



More and more people are becoming aware of the need to recycle for environmental and economical reasons. Try to incorporate another item into your recycling repertoire. Following are a few tips.

For a comprehensive list of other items and locations for recycling, see Brevard County Solid Waste Management website at <http://www.brevardcounty.us/swr/recydir.cfm>.

☺ Styrofoam meat and produce trays and egg cartons, paper bags, and plastic bags to Publix.

☺ Corrugated cardboard & magazines to M.I. Service Complex parking lot (west of Mr. Ni's). In April & May phone books may also be recycled at this location.

☺ Used clothing and other reuseable items to area thrift shops.

☺ Newspapers to Divine Mercy Church, N. Courtenay Pkwy.

☺ Aluminum cans donated to Divine Mercy Church. Several recycling locations in Cocoa will pay by the pound

☺ Yard trimmings can be recycled as mulch or compost in your own yard. Start a pile today.

☺ Glass bottles and plastic bottles with a neck, newspapers, and aluminum and steel cans in green recycle bin on Mondays.

☺ Computer ink cartridges to Office Depot for free paper or \$2.50 off on ink cartridge purchase.