

# North Brevard District One Summer Update 2019

2019 is proving to be a banner year for Brevard County. I am thankful for the opportunity to represent and serve North Brevard. It is encouraging to see the hope and life in our community. It's a great day in Brevard County and especially in District One.

## **Community Highlights**

Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park and Museum in Mims was added to the U.S. Civil Rights Trail this past January. The trail includes more than 100 sites across 15 states. Florida's Space Coast Office of Tourism sponsored the museum's inclusion in the trail. The museum is open to the public for tours, you can find more information at <https://www.harryharriette.moore.org/>. It is worth the visit.

The American Space Museum & Walk of Fame is located at 308 Pine Street in downtown Titusville. Inside you will discover many items that have been donated by individuals, astronauts, space workers and NASA. Some items have flown in space. The museum has a Space Shuttle Launch Control Center console, Air Force Launch Pad 36A consoles and a Pad 16 Launch Sequencer. You can visit them Monday thru Saturday 10 am – 5 pm.

## **North Brevard Libraries**

Titusville Public Library held a Dedication Ceremony for the Rita Moehringer Children's Room. Rita Moehringer willed \$1.2 million to the Library which was used for a new computer lab and a redesigned children's area. In North Brevard the Titusville, Port St. John and Mims/Scottsmoor Libraries are open all most every day for our citizens convenience. For hours and more information see links below:

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/Branches/PortStJohn>

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/Branches/MimsScottsmoor>

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/Branches/Titusville>

## **Community Projects: Citizen input opportunity**

A Small Area Study was approved by the County Commission and is underway in Port St. John. The study will provide a detailed analysis and planning for smart growth. If you are a resident in Port St. John and would like to serve on this committee please send me your application (resume). For more information call my District One Office (321) 607-6901.

A Community Planning Analysis was also approved by the County Commission for Scottsmeer. This analysis will look at the concerns raised by the residents in an effort to guide smart growth. As a part of the process there will be an opportunity for residents to have input at community meetings. For information please call my District One office (321) 607-6901.

Conex boxes/shipping containers have initial approval by the Board. Residents will be able to use them as storage in residential areas with the required permits. County staff is working on the wording for this ordinance.

A shout out to our Law Enforcement and Fire Rescue

With the responsibilities the Sherriff has in this day, we are thankful that he is working towards resources needed to carry out our safety. Thanks Sherriff Ivey and his faithful Deputies!

Brevard County Fire Fighters have been busy battling fires. First a 300-acre fire in west Port St. John, that threatened homes and horse stables and then a few weeks later a 56-acre fire at Port St. John Parkway and I95. They were able to contain these fires without loss to homes or animals. Thank you, Firefighters!

## **Economy- We are doing well!**

The unemployment rate for Brevard County dropped from 3.8% in February 2018 to 3.5 % in February 2019. This means that many more Brevard residents are employed. In December 2018, the Space Coast was selected by SpaceNews to receive the "Award for Excellence and Innovation" for the Best Turnaround of the year. Rebounding from the economic decline in the early 2000's, NASA has re-established the space presence strength on our Space Coast - *we build rockets* ☐.

Last year Port Canaveral reported a record breaking \$103 million in total revenues. Port Canaveral is currently building a 190,000 square foot cruise terminal and an adjacent 1,800 square foot parking garage. The project has an estimated completion date for June 2020. Port Canaveral is now ranked as the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest cruise port in the world.

Orlando's Walt Disney World is no longer the top themed attraction when it comes to *social media reviews in Florida*. According to TripAdvisor, Yelp, Google and Facebook our Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex under the leadership of Delaware North has become a prime tourist destination with over one million visitors annually. Delaware North is expanding by building a hotel located across from the Police Hall of Fame.

### **Job opportunities**

Merritt Precision Technologies, a manufacturing and tooling company, announced plans to build a new 15,000 square foot facility on a four-acre site in Titusville's Spaceport Commerce Park. Manufacturing products for customers in the marine, aerospace, aviation and defense industries.

Moon Express, an American privately-owned commercial aerospace company, has acquired \$12.5 million in funding which will further their development of its spacecraft for commercial and government customers. There will be 50 new jobs created as this company plans to refurbish Launch Complex 17 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and will be on track for a first lunar launch in 2020.

North Brevard is focused on job creation. If you are looking for employment or to hire employees CareerSource Brevard is a great resource to help connect employees with a job. For more information visit <https://careersourcebrevard.com/>

### **Space Job Opportunities**

If you are interested in employment at Blue Origin visit: <https://www.blueorigin.com/careers>, SpaceX: <https://www.spacex.com/careers/list>, Lockheed Martin: <https://www.lockheedmartinjobs.com/>, NASA: <https://nasajobs.nasa.gov/>, Boeing: <https://jobs.boeing.com/>, United Launch Alliance: <https://www.ulalaunch.com/careers>, OneWeb: <https://www.oneweb.world/careers-opportunities>

## **Housing**

Numerous family home subdivisions in North Brevard are currently under construction. These include Panther Ridge in Sharpes, Summer Breeze in Canaveral Groves, Hickory Ridge in Cocoa, Maronda. Homes on Grissom Parkway, South Carpenter Estates, Indian River Landings on Riveredge Drive, La Hacienda on Country Club Drive, Forest Trace on Sisson Road and Park Preserve on Knox McRae Drive. Projects which include apartments, condominiums and multifamily units are also slated to begin in the near future.

Dream Space Coast Apartments formally known as Bay Towers is under new ownership. One and two-bedroom apartments and studio apartments will be ready to rent this month.

## **Space**

Firefly Aerospace confirmed plans to launch Alpha and Beta rockets from Launch Complex 20 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Firefly will manufacture rockets at their 150,000 square foot facility at Kennedy Space Center's Exploration Park. These rockets will be designed to lift small satellites, and more than 200 new jobs will be created.

Blue Origin's New Glenn rocket won the fifth satellite launch contract. Canadian satellite operator Telesat announced a deal for multiple launches aboard Blue Origin's New Glenn, which will stand 313 feet tall with the first launch from Cape Canaveral in 2021. On March 22, 2019 Blue Origin announced plans to expand and create a "South Campus". The construction of the new facility will provide for the manufacture and provisioning of commercial space launch vehicles. The 89.53-acre site will include a warehouse, with roads to support the transportation of the New Glen rockets.

Manned Space Flight this year! The first crewed launch of SpaceX's Dragon 2 vehicle from Cape Canaveral. This will be the first launch of astronauts from the United States since the final Space Shuttle flight on July 8, 2011. On board will be NASA astronauts Bob Behnken and Douglas Hurley, both on their third spaceflight. We are also expecting a manned flight from Blue Origin at some point in late 2019.

New discovery by NASA scientists show evidence of water on the moon. Three separate spacecraft have reported findings of more water on the moon than anyone first thought. This will make space

exploration easier and the ability to stay longer. It has been 40 years since the last man walked on the moon. Manned flights to the moon will again be in the near future.

This year we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo Program. The Apollo rocket era which we celebrated the first man on the Moon Apollo 11, and the excitement of the entire Apollo missions is a mile stone in our history. I remember it like it was yesterday. The Space Coast has a proud heritage, which includes those of us who grew up in the middle of space launches. *We build rockets* ☐. I can only imagine what the next 50 years will open up for mankind as far as “to see new worlds, new civilizations and to boldly go where no man has gone before”.

## **Environment**

### **Lagoon**

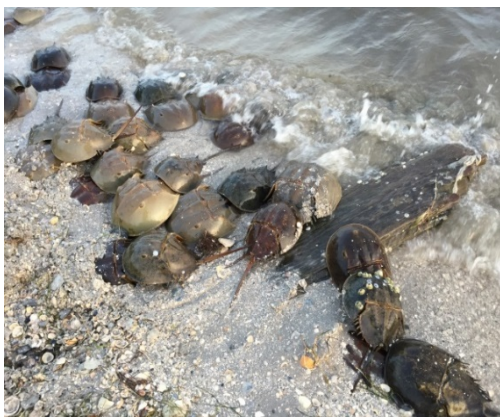
The Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee recommended a plan update that included 23 new projects proposed by the community and reprioritized wastewater, septic and muck removal projects. The 2019 Update includes a \$30 million increase for human waste related projects and a \$27 million increase for storm water projects. Funding for muck removal is reduced from two thirds to approximately half of the available funds while projects that treat human wastewater are increased by more than \$30 million.

North Brevard projects include smoke testing in Titusville which will help locate sewer and storm water leaks in underground pipes. A second-generation baffle box near Titusville High School, a floating island in a pond at Chain of Lakes and several projects to retrofit ditch bottoms and detention ponds with material that will absorb contaminants. In case you were wondering, baffle boxes are installed underground to remove sediment and other pollutants from storm water and floating islands absorb nitrogen from stormwater.

Baffle box projects were recently completed at Isaac Campbell Park and US1 at Ojibway Avenue. Other baffle boxes under construction include La Paloma Lane, US1, State Road 405, and Wagner Avenue. These projects will reduce the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus that enter the lagoon by thousands of pounds each year. A cleaner lagoon!

North Brevard was awarded a grant from the Tourist Development Council which will be used for a Shoreline Stabilization Feasibility Study at the Titusville Causeway. The shoreline has experienced major erosion of the sandy beach and it is important to find a solution to bring back the beach along the lagoon on the west side of the Max Brewer bridge.

Natural Resources is continuing efforts to remove abandoned boats in our waterways. The boats at Marina Park and at Sandpoint Park have been removed. Grant money received from the Florida Inland Navigation District will help supplement the Counties' derelict vessel removal fund. In the future the hope is to determine an effective way to stop boat owners from neglecting their responsibility to dispose of unusable vessels correctly.



Our lagoon restoration has a way to go but it is making progress. Kayakers, fisherman and residents who use the river frequently are reporting clearer water, seagrass coming back and the return of fish. Another indicator of Lagoon health is the horseshoe crabs spawning on the southside of the Titusville Causeway. Volunteers recently counted over 5,000 horseshoe crabs in the area. You can see the horseshoe crabs as they spawn in late spring/early summer on the causeway.

Individually each of us can play an important part in the health of the Lagoon by adhering to the summer fertilizer ban which begins June 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through September 30<sup>th</sup>, pick up after dogs and do not wash grass clipping into storm drains.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Baseball season began in March for Indian River City, Mims and Port St John Little Leagues. This year the Port St. John Little League added a Challenger Division that is designed for special needs children. Mims also has a Challenger Division. Baseball season will wrap up the end of May and North Brevard Youth Softball will begin. Opening day will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Chain of Lakes. I cannot thank you enough to all of you who volunteer your time for our children.

Chain of Lakes: Drainage improvement project on the softball fields will begin immediately after spring softball season is over. The fields have been rolled, sanded and new scoreboards will be installed. A concrete handicap parking area is currently being installed on the east side of the softball fields. New player benches and fences were installed at the soccer fields earlier this year.

Holder Park in Mims: Youth sports is underway and four concrete ADA compliant handicap parking spaces will be installed this summer.

Parrish Park in Scottsmoor: The fields have been seeded, new bases have been installed and the final clay work was completed in March 2019. We are ready for play!

At Sandpoint Park there are plans being drawn up for a new exercise trail. Fit in the Park is a new guide system which allows runners and walkers to equate laps in certain areas with mileage distances. The guides are currently at the Port St. John Community Center and are coming soon to Fay Lake Wilderness Park, Nicol Park and Fay Athletic Park.

Leroy Wright Recreation Area in Cocoa has had picnic tables and signage installed and by this fall, residents will have a covered shelter to enjoy.

Renovations have been underway at Cocoa West Community Center and will reopen June 1<sup>st</sup> just in time for summer recreation programs to begin. Improvements include a renovated meeting room and bathrooms, new gym floor, tile flooring and new air conditioning units. A portico was added at the entrance and the building was repainted. Tennis courts resurfaced and the parking lot was refurbished.

### **Boat Ramps, Docks and Shoreline Repair**



Thank you for your patience on dock repairs over the past few months. The Parrish Park, Mims, Scottsmoor and Port St. John boat ramps have been repaired and are ready to launch! The shoreline has been repaired at William J. Manzo, Nicol Park, Marina Park and Sandpoint Park. The catwalk, boardwalk and sidewalk are now back and open at William J. Manzo Park and

the Titusville Veterans Memorial Pier.

Still under construction in the design and permitting phase are Tom Statham Park, Kennedy Point Park, Titusville Veterans Memorial, Rotary Park and Space View Park. We will keep you updated on the opening.

## **Bike Trails**

Construction on the east side of the Max Brewer Causeway for a section of the Coast to Coast Trail is targeted to be complete this fall. New sign posts for mile markers and ELM (emergency location markers) have been installed along the “Rails to Trails” bike trail. The resurfacing on Garden Street will include bike lanes, improvements to sidewalks, curb ramps and upgrades to pedestrian signals.

## **What's new**

### *Hotels*

Construction of the Hyatt Place hotel is underway at the corner of US1 and Riverfront Center Boulevard. The 5-story hotel has 118 rooms and is slated to open in Fall 2019. Extended Stay America has begun construction on the 124-room hotel located on Helen Hauser Boulevard. A new 152-room Courtyard by Marriott with a 5<sup>th</sup> floor observation deck will be built on the river front property across from the Police Hall of Fame.

### *New Construction / Retail*

A Beachwave Retail Store is in the planning phase and will be at Garden Street and Indian River Avenue opening January 2020. Rio Lago on South Washington Avenue is a new Senior Citizen Community soon to open. A new truck stop on the west side of I-95 at State Road 46, which will include a convenience store with gas pumps, fast food restaurants, tire store and a 120-room hotel. Salsa's Mexican Restaurant will be opening soon at Titus Landing and in Sharpes Woody's BBQ Grill and Bar.

### *New Restaurants Open*

Le Crave at Titus Landing, Tea World, Pier 220, Big Joe's BBQ Rib Shack, and Stoney's Real Pit Barbecue.



### *New Businesses Now Open*

Miracle City Harley Davidson, Titusville Mall Cinema, Titusville Mall Auto Center, Murphy Oil, TownePlace Suites by Marriott, and E3 Tele-Acoustics.

### **Upgrades and Improvements**

Roads scheduled to be resurfaced and reconstructed in District One in 2019:

**Canaveral Groves** - Bahia Street, Fountain Palm Road and Peppertree Street. **Cocoa** - Ann Way, Hess Avenue from Ann Way to Phillis Way and Dalehurst Drive. **Port St. John** - Ann Catherine Court, Bamboo Avenue, Barbara Road, Bartow Avenue, Carillon Avenue, Carter Street, Cinema Street, Dill Avenue, Dodge Road, Doreen Road, Freeport Road, Frisco Street, Kimball Avenue, Mace Avenue, Mayflower Street, Melody Street, Milton Avenue, Miraflores Avenue, Patricia Street, Patrick Lane, Walton Avenue and Falcon Boulevard from Amesbury Avenue to Grissom Parkway. **Titusville** - Buteo Place, Eagles Place, Goshawk Place, Mallard Court, Rambling Acres Drive, Swallow Way, Talcon Court, Buttonbush Drive, Caper Court, Nichols Road, Osprey Court, Pine Cone Court, Pinetop Boulevard, Pondapple Drive, Sand Pine Circle, Sun Valley Street, and Volusia Avenue.

**Mims/Scottsmoor** – The millings project on Coral Avenue and Plumosa Drive are complete. Sunset Avenue is also scheduled to get millings in the near future.

### **Launches 2019**

June 22 | Space X Falcon Heavy | KSC | US Air Force Space test program military satellites.

June 27 | ULA Atlas V | Cape Canaveral AFS | Lockheed Martin extreme high frequency satellite.

July 2019 | Space X Falcon 9 | Cape Canaveral AFS | Starlink network satellites (moved from June 1)

July 8 | Space X Falcon 9| Cape Canaveral | 20<sup>th</sup> Dragon space craft to deliver cargo to ISS.

July 25 | ULA Delta 4 | Cape Canaveral AFS | U.S Air Force navigation satellite for GPS.

July 25 | Space X Falcon 9 Crew Dragon| KSC | First test flight with astronauts on board.

August 17 | ULA Atlas V | Cape Canaveral AFS | Boeings first Starliner unpiloted Orbital test flight.

October 2019 | SpaceX Falcon 9 | Cape Canaveral | U.S Air Force navigation satellite.

November 2019 | ULA Atlas V | Cape Canaveral AFS | Boeings Starline Space Craft with Astronauts.

December 4 | Space X Falcon 9 | Cape Canaveral | 21<sup>st</sup> Dragon space craft to deliver cargo to ISS.

December 2019 | ULA Atlas V | Cape Canaveral AFS | Will carry Orbital Test Vehicle on 6<sup>th</sup> mission.

Brevard County is doing very well overall. We might not be where we are going, but we are not where we came from. Thank you to each of you who make this a great place to live and grow. I am very honored and blessed to serve you as your commissioner.

It is a Great Day in Brevard County!



Rita Pritchett,

Brevard County Commissioner District One



*Rita and Dan Pritchett and grandchildren*