



# Merritt Island News & Views

January 2012



## ***A Word From Chuck Nelson District 2 County Commissioner***

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

As I reflect on 2011's many successes and challenges, I am continuously reminded of how grateful I am for the privilege of serving our community as your District 2 County Commissioner. Some of the most important accomplishments of last year include:

- The start of construction on drainage improvements that reduce flooding potential on North Merritt Island, West Cocoa and Melbourne.
- Improvements at the last working waterfront on the Indian River in Brevard County at Griffis Landing with replacement of an existing bulkhead and deck and securing grants that will provide for design and engineering of future improvements.
- Resurfacing of over 100 miles of District 2 roads and replacement of aging drainage pipes continues.
- Start of construction on the storm water portion of the Veteran's Memorial Park Project which will treat runoff before it is released into the Indian River Lagoon. In addition, Brevard County has received a \$800,000 Florida Communities Trust Grant for recreation improvements at the park.
- Historical Exhibits were completed in the newly opened Sams House on North Merritt Island.
- New sidewalks are nearing completion on North Tropical Trail north of the Barge Canal and other sidewalks have been repaired or replaced throughout the District.
- A major ditch was piped on Fortenberry Road and a new sidewalk constructed to improve safety and the appearance of this business area.



Veterans Memorial Park Phase I



Griffis Landing



Resurfacing on South Tropical Trail and  
New Signage

In 2012, our efforts will include:

- A median landscape project and mast arm replacements on 520 from the Indian River to the Banana River.
- Veteran's Memorial Park Phase II will start, providing for the treatment of additional storm water from the Merritt Square Mall area.
- Major Intersection improvements at Fortenberry Road and Plumosa Street.
- Phase II of the Pine Island Storm water project will begin along with the resurfacing Pine Island Road.
- Major Intersection improvements will be started at Martin Boulevard and North Banana River Drive and will include traffic signals and an improved pick up and drop off Loop at Stevenson Elementary School.
- Issues of overgrown and dilapidated properties caused by foreclosures will be addressed by creating an ordinance that requires them to be registered, enabling the County to identify the owners responsible to keeping the property in good condition.
- The Kings Park Trailheads on North Merritt Island will be completed in March.
- Continuation of efforts with the Economic Development Commission of the Florida Space Coast to bring quality businesses to Brevard County creating new jobs.

I'm optimistic about the upcoming year and look forward to working together with each of you in this great community. Whether you have a problem or thoughts you'd like to share, I encourage you to give me a call or attend one of my biweekly walk-ins at the Cocoa or Cocoa Beach libraries.

I and the District 2 staff, Liz Alward, Melissa Renninger, Jessica Hart wish you a Happy New Year!