



EMICA COMMUNITY NEWS

April 14th Speaker:

Larry Lallo of the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency (MIRA)

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All hail to the people! The decision by the Port Canaveral Commissioners to refuse the sale or lease the property along the Barge Canal for a proposed LNG facility was the direct result OF community pressure against the proposal. We thank those who spear-headed efforts to make residents aware of the proposal and surged attendance at recent public meetings to make their voices known to Commissioners. It made a difference!

The Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency (MIRA) has real influence in the direction of development for central Merritt Island. All of us can see the desires & pressures of development in our community. MIRA has been an integral part in developing a longer-term vision for this area and we are delighted to have them provide a review and update at our upcoming April 14 meeting. We have also confirmed our speaker for the May 12th meeting, State Representative Tyler Sirios, to provide an update on issues from Tallahassee that will be impacting our state district.

Finally...GET INVOLVED – IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Sincerely, Richard Cripps, EMICA President



ARE YOU LAGOON LOYAL?

Join the movement to protect the beautiful Indian River Lagoon right from your own home! Lagoon Loyal has tips and simple actions you can take in your everyday life to help reduce excess nutrient pollution to the Indian River Lagoon. Plus, you can earn rewards by reporting your actions. Let's speed up the Lagoon's recovery together. Visit Lagoon Loyal to learn more

Join us at our monthly meetings (excluding June, July, August & December)

MEETING TUESDAY, APR 14 @ 7pm, Lighthouse Church, 1250 N Banana River Dr

APRIL 2026



EMICA

VISIT WWW.EMICA.ME

SPACECOAST E-BIKE SAFETY PAGE

We're starting to see E-bikes everywhere. What are the laws of the road so everyone can be safe?

Not all bicycles with motors are considered E-Bikes. There are different categories and requirements, but in general they are treated the same as bicycles.

Space Coast TPO has a new page on their website that "serves as a central hub for e-bike safety information, including Florida law, local municipal ordinances, educational materials, and shareable safety messaging to help everyone safely share the road and shared-use paths." www.spacecoasttpo.com

PLANT LOCALS - NOT INVASIVES!

Florida is named for all the beautiful native flowers that used to cover the state. Unfortunately our tax dollars now go to removing many of the exotic plants that were brought from places like Asia and Africa. Many cause economic harm to the state, mostly by taking over the native and horticultural areas. 'Invasive species can decrease your ability to enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, boating and other outdoor recreational activities.' invasives.org

As you replant after the freeze, be careful and review the Florida invasives list before buying. Here's a site with photos of many category one invasives and other resources. <https://www.fnai.org/species-communities/invasives/invasives>

Planting Native Florida plants can help the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem. This site can help you choose the right plant for each area of your gardens <https://www.fnps.org/plant> Choose Brevard and this site can help you locate Florida nurseries <https://www.plantrealfloida.org/>

Call us for a free market analysis of your home.



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APRIL 7

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APRIL 18

Enchanted Forest Festival
Titusville, Columbia Dr., 10:00 - 3:00
April 25 - Master Gardener Spring Fling



Brevard Discovery Garden

4th Annual Spring Fling

In Partnership With Brevard Backyard Beekeepers

Bees, Butterflies & Blooms
Festival

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, April 25, 2026

9am - 3pm Free Entry 3695 Lake Dr, Cocoa, FL



Shop for Plants, Gardening and Beekeeper Supplies

Educational Workshops, Presentations & Exhibits

Family-Friendly Activities and Food Vendors

Stay Connected! Follow our Facebook pages for event updates:

- Facebook.Com/BrevardDiscoveryGarden

- Facebook.com/BrevardBeekeepers



Scan the QR
Code for
event details
& updates

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OFFICER LEWIS: OUR LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER

Officer Lewis, our speaker for the evening, who is a thirteen-year veteran of the police force. Having worked with all ages, her specialty now is Cyber-crime. She described, in detail, many of the different methods people are being scammed with Internet crime. It seems that many of the apparently innocent computer activities can be the source of many problems.

Examples follow:

Chatting online with people who may or may not be who they say they are. Snapchat is commonly used because of its claim that the conversations disappear. They do NOT.

Texting, use of Tik Tok, and facebook, may involve communing with friends who may not be who they claim to be. Exploitation from gleaned information can lead to demands for money, sex, and /or stalking. It is best not to divulge any

personal information because individual safety can be compromised. Grooming comes from building trust with an unknown person.

Even apparently innocent things such as posting photographs can allow a person to track your location. Your phone always shows your location unless that function is turned off. On facebook, your friend list should be marked private. We all should be aware that our Smart TVs, Smart Phones, and Alexa listen to us all the time. If you look at something online for a while, you will see information about that subject appear online – unsolicited and unrequested.

Lynne Freund suggested that all members of a family should know their family password that will be known only to those family members.

By Laurie Crooks

Earth Day Lagoon Cleanup!

Sat. April 25, 2026

[GreenSpaceWaterAlliance.org](https://www.GreenSpaceWaterAlliance.org)

Earth Day efforts in our area
will take part at
Kiwanis Island Park



LOCAL CATCH
is our thing.

Merritt Island's hidden gem
under the palms

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BREVARD VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER & PARK




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400 S. Creek Pkwy, MI • 321.453.1776

STAY UPDATED: regarding our community by joining our facebook  page:
EMICA
(East Merritt Island Community Association)
and visit our new website emica.me

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