



*The Indian River Neighborhood Association is pleased to send you our second newsletter and to present our platform of endorsed candidates.*

**Vol. 1 No. 2 – July 2004**

## IRNA ENDORSES BOWDEN, WHEELER, BAKER

*On June 29, June 30 and July 1, a twelve-person interview team, drawn from the IRNA's membership across the county, exhaustively interviewed the fifteen candidates running for a seat on the county commission. Based on the results of the interview process, and the candidates' past record on key issues of importance to IRNA, the interview committee recommended three candidates for endorsement. On July 2, the 34 member Board of IRNA voted in person, and by conference call, to unanimously accept the recommendations of the interview committee. IRNA endorsed candidates are:*

### SANDRA BOWDEN

#### *Republican-District 5*

Sandra is a 37 year resident of Vero Beach with a long and distinguished background of public service in many key leadership roles. She served on the Indian River County School Board from 1987 until 1991. She was Vice Chairman from 1988 until 1989 and served as Chairman in 1991.

In 1997 she was elected to the Vero Beach City Council and served as Vice Mayor for 2 terms and Mayor in 2000-2001, 2003-2004.

She has played an active role on the Florida League of Cities as a member of the Executive Board, the International Relations Board, the Nominating Committee, Intergovernmental Relations Committee and the Constitutional Committee.

Locally, she serves on the Indian River County Council of Public Officials where she was a former Chairman. She is a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Airport Study Committee, Emergency Services District Advisory Committee, and a

number of Republican Party organizations.

Sandra is a supporter of low rise, low density developments with open green space, preserving the integrity of residential areas, and conservation of the Indian River lagoon. She also believes development should pay its own way and is in favor of acquiring environmentally sensitive land for conservation and recreational use. She has an excellent voting record as a City of Vero Beach councilor on matters of concern to the Indian River Neighborhood Association.

### GARY WHEELER

#### *Republican-District 3*

Gary has had a long career in law enforcement, starting with the police department in Horsesheads, New York in 1966. He is a graduate of the Law Enforcement Executive Development Program at the FBI National Academy and was elected Indian River County Sheriff in 1992, continuing in that role until 2001. Prior to that, he was elected to the Indian River County Commission in 1986 where he served as

Vice Chairman and Chairman. He has had an extensive record of community involvement, including serving on the Vero Beach Airport Development Commission, the United Way Board, Council on Aging, and the Indian River County Public Safety Commission where he was a past Vice Chairman. He is a past President of the Vero Beach Rotary Club and has been a member for 22 years with a perfect attendance record.

In addition to our endorsement, Gary has received the endorsement of the Indian River Firefighters Association.

Gary has already served prior terms as a County Commissioner, knows the county's political structure well, and is a strong advocate of controlling county growth.

### DICK BAKER

#### *Democrat-District 1*

Dick has had a diverse and accomplished career. He holds B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from University of Illinois. He has 28 years of experience as the Director of