



The Indian River Neighborhood Association is pleased to send you our 5th Newsletter and to present our endorsements for the March 8 Election. Please remember to renew your membership.

Vol. 2 No. 2 – February 2005

IRNA Endorses

The IRNA is pleased to endorse the following candidates. The IRNA Mission Statement provides the guidelines by which the IRNA Executive Committee has selected and endorsed candidates to fill positions on the City Councils.

SEBASTIAN CITY COUNCIL:

NATHAN McCOLLUM – Everyone knows Nate – Mayor of the city of Sebastian and maybe better known in the county as Coordinator of Emergency management.

BRIAN BURKEEN – EMS Chief of the Indian River County – longtime resident of Sebastian, in favor of low density and against annexations.

ANDREA COY – A newcomer to the political scene, Coy has actively participated in favor of low density and against annexations.

SAL NEGLIA – President of the Sebastian Neighborhood Association. Strong advocate of low density and conservative budgets.

VERO BEACH CITY COUNCIL:

LYNNE LARKIN – Vice-Mayor of the city of Vero Beach, dedicated to maintaining the character of Vero Beach and in favor of the Vision Plan.

DONALD RYCE – Practiced arbitration law in Florida for over 30 years, dedicated child protection advocate. Believes in preserving the special charm of Vero Beach by enacting the Vero Beach Vision Plan.

We urge IRNA residents in the cities of Vero Beach and Sebastian to vote for these candidates on Election Day, March 8th.

Early voting will be Mon. – Sat., Feb. 21 – March 7
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Election Office in Vero Beach • 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sebastian City Hall

INDIAN RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Linda Bolton Succeeds George Christopher as Head of IRNA

The IRNA was established just over a year ago by county residents who are concerned by the rapid growth in the county. It now has a large dues paying membership and has endorsed and supported four candidates who have won seats on the Vero Beach City Council and the Indian River Board of Commissioners.

For 15 years, Ms. Bolton has been President of Bolton Associates, Inc., a Wilson Learning management-consulting group. She serves as the Governor's appointee and Vice Chair of the Child Care Executive Partnership [CCEP] representing the State's business community and which allocates \$19 million in matching funds to its business partners. She also

serves on the Advisory Board for the Arthur R. Marshall Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving and restoring the Everglades.

Based on her experience as Vice Mayor of the fast-growing village of Wellington, Florida Linda Bolton has strong views about the IRNA and what it can do for Indian River County.

A LETTER FROM IRNA'S NEW PRESIDENT

January 30, 2005

Dear IRNA Members: Current and Future

I am honored to have been elected by IRNA's Executive Committee to serve as your president. IRNA's many achievements under the leadership of George Christopher set a bold agenda for us to follow. And, I am committed to not only continue, but to expand the important work of preserving our quality of life in Indian River County.

Understanding the effects that overcrowding, poor planning and low impact fees have had on communities to our South, IRNA's leadership recently reconfirmed our mission:

To act on our beliefs that:

- a) Density is the enemy**
- b) Development should pay for itself**
- c) We must elect public officials who share our beliefs**

Our efforts and emphasis will be to meet with and organize the neighborhoods and communities on the mainland – as that's where most of the new development is occurring – that's where the roads are being expanded – and the residents are being most impacted.

While we recognize and respect property rights – we're also keenly aware that if the impact fees for new development fail to cover the true costs of providing land for additional schools, parks, public safety, libraries, and childcare centers – and fail to cover the true costs of expanding water, sewer, roads, signalization and underground utilities – those costs will be borne by the existing residents through higher taxes.

Although IRNA has been successful in electing two new county commissioners and several municipal candidates who support these issues – they still do not represent a majority and are frequently outvoted.

Our work is not done. Join us today, through your new or renewed membership.

Future generations will thank you.

Linda Bolton, *President*
Indian River Neighborhood Association

BEES TO HONEY

In the book "Cities-Ranked & Rated", last year, Vero Beach was the only Florida city with a top ten designation for best small cities. With over 80% of the County having a Vero Beach postal address the entire county shares this reputation. As real estate people have said forever – "it's location, location, location." We arguably have the best address in all of Florida!

What we have in Indian River County is an unbeatable "quality of life". That means parks, good schools, the ocean with free and adequate parking, the Riverside Park and Theater, museums, the Dodgers, good restaurants,

McKee Gardens, the Indian River, quality health care and first rate doctors, plenty of sports and recreational facilities, not yet overcrowded conditions, live oaks, canopied streets, proximity to airports and reasonable travel times from one part of the county to the other. It just doesn't get any better than right here but we have been discovered.

Four of the largest U.S. home developers have recently begun work in our County. Now we are finding that our current building ordinances no longer promote and protect the quality of life Vero Beach is known for. One of

these ordinances your IRNA is really focusing on, deals with impact fees (the amount developers pay to provide the infrastructure for the project being built). It falls far short of providing 100% of the costs of adequate new roads, schools, parks, medical facilities and the like. As a result, current residents must pick up the shortage through taxes. And it's not just the impact fees that are out of date; density (number of dwellings per acre) and height need new controls.

Builders are swarming here like bees to honey.

2004-5 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In less than one year we have all accomplished much. The IRNA has:

- Become a strong political force because of its size and the dedication of its members to preserving the quality of life in the County.
- Raised money and campaigned for Vero Beach City Council candidates, resulting in the election of two council members.
- Raised money and campaigned for County Commission candidates, resulting in the election of two strong commissioners.

- Played a key role in the drafting of a Vero Beach Visioning Report, which promises to establish the standards for the future of the City.
- Actively participated in County Board, Committee and Staff meetings on issues related to community planning, zoning and growth.
- Supported the \$50 million bond issue to purchase land for public use or conservation. It passed with a strong majority.
- Supported the 43rd Avenue Coalition to prevent

expanding the road to five lanes. Mission accomplished!

- Supported the Growth Task Force that made over 150 proposals for smarter growth. IRNA members worked hard on this County Task Force.
- Because IRNA pushed for a building moratorium, the Board of County Commissioners created the Growth Awareness Task Force – and got developers to reduce densities and pay impact fees earlier. We are going to monitor this closely as it passes into law.

IRNA Executive Committee

Grant Beadle	Ralph King
Hugh Beath	Bill Luke
Harry Blynn	Diane MacGowan
Linda Bolton	Ted Michael
Bill Case	Bob Nicholas
George Christopher	Bob Pickett
Adrienne Cuffe	Don Ryce
Vic DeMattia	Bob Smith
Ted Gordon	Norm Stewart
John Higgs	John Vanderzee

Did You Know

Did you know that building permits for all new housing units were up 26% in 2004 over 2003?

Did you know that building permits for new housing grew at 18% per year from 2000 through 2004?

Did you know that building permits for new housing units in 2004 were over two times the permits in 2000?

Community Development Report January 2005

RENEW YOUR IRNA MEMBERSHIP

THE IRNA BELIEVES THE COUNTY ESTIMATES OF THE "PIPELINE" AND THE POPULATION GROWTH RATE ARE UNREALISTIC AND THE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE CROWDED PUBLIC BEACHES, ROADS, PARKS, SCHOOLS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR SHORTAGES OF WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE IRNA TODAY-WE ARE YOU. NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! If you have already renewed your membership, we thank you.

Your support is KEY! Membership dues can be paid to the IRNA or to the IRNA POLITICAL COMMITTEE. We will use your money to fight to save our county and we will back the candidates who support our mission and priorities.

The 2005 IRNA membership is \$10 per person or \$20 per family. We welcome additional contributions up to \$500.

If you want our literature, wish to talk to someone about our mission, voice an opinion about growth or volunteer to help us save the county, contact us:

Web site – www.indianriverna.com

Telephone – 794-IRNA (4762)

FORMER IRNA MEMBERS – RENEW NOW, WE NEED YOU!
NEW MEMBERS – WE NEED YOU AND PAC CONTRIBUTIONS!



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