

**I**ndian  
River  
Neighborhood  
Association, Inc.

**NEWS**

*Dedicated to Quality Growth*



*The Indian River Neighborhood Association is pleased to send you our fourth newsletter and to present our accomplishments and many challenges.*

**Vol. 2 No. 1 – January 2005**

## IRNA 2004 SCORECARD

### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS-MANY CHALLENGES

*The Indian River Neighborhood Association, established in 2004, has built a membership base of 5,200 in 93 identifiable neighborhoods. Indian River County has always been a unique place to live because of its charm, character, stability and quality of life. The tradition of controlled growth has made Indian River County the envy of the Treasure Coast. But will that tradition continue? The Indian River Neighborhood Association believes that growth CAN BE CONTROLLED! With strength in numbers, we in the IRNA will continue to work for quality growth and improvement for all neighborhoods in our county. Your membership, participation and support has been the key to our accomplishments so far.*

## 2004 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 43<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- Supported the new County Tree Ordinance which has been adopted.

# 2005 CHALLENGES

*With your support we can face the serious challenges ahead of us. Our goals for the new year are to:*

- Build the Indian River Neighborhood Association to 10,000 members. We know that we speak for the vast majority of residents of the County. We want their interests represented. PLEASE JOIN NOW !
- Expand our committees so that more people become active in the organization and have a role in the future of the County.

- Document the ACTUAL population growth of the County and the ACTUAL number of buildable lots. The County's planning is based on projections that are significantly out of line with reality. This results in allowing more building than our infrastructure can support.
- Support those County Commissioners and members of the Planning and Zoning Board who boldly face up to the problems of the County, particularly rapid and uncontrolled growth.
- Support the Visioning process in the County as it goes forward.
- Support the proposed results of the year-long Visioning process in the

City of Vero Beach.

- Review impact fees to be sure they are realistic and in line with surrounding counties. We must ensure that new development pays for the increased infrastructure needs that rapid growth causes.
- Promote IRNA members to positions on County committees.
- Stay on top of County issues to be sure that the will of the people is represented.

## ***GEORGE CHRISTOPHER APPOINTED TO PLANNING AND ZONING***

George Christopher has been appointed to the County Planning and Zoning Board. Christopher, the IRNA's first President and the person who had the energy and leadership to build the IRNA into a County political force will take his talents to the Planning and Zoning. Next to the County Commissioners, the members of the Planning and Zoning Board have the most influence on County growth and we can expect that George will have a strong impact on that Board.

## ***COUNTY "PIPELINE" WILL BE CHALLENGED***

The County acknowledged a pipeline of 14,000 units a year ago and now admits to over 18,000 in spite of very strong building growth in the past year. The IRNA has researched this very important backlog of potential buildable units and will soon issue a report that documents a pipeline of at least 50% greater than the County's estimate and possibly double.

## ***GROWTH WITHIN COUNTY MUCH GREATER THAN ACKNOWLEDGED***

The County population growth estimates, on which the County depends for infrastructure planning, projects yearly increases of less than 2% through 2010. IRNA research shows that the actual growth in County population is currently running double this projection and may be higher. The IRNA will soon release its findings. Either the County will have to significantly change its planning for infrastructure needs or somehow cut back considerably on building growth.

Membership  
 Fundraising  
 Communications/Advertising  
 Vero Beach Issues/Elections  
 County Elections

## ***MORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED***

The IRNA organizational structure includes a number of committees that have considerable autonomy and have room for County residents to directly contribute. If you would like to become more involved please indicate your committee of choice on a piece of paper and enclose it in your renewal envelope.

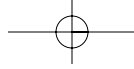
Neighborhood Membership  
 Legislative/Regulatory/Meetings  
 Membership Database  
 Sebastian Issues/Elections  
 Research

## ***HURRICANES, CONTROLLED GROWTH AND JOBS***

Builders and developers are opposed to any restriction on County growth and cite lost jobs as the primary reason. As one of our builder friends said recently, "Any new approval for housing diverts labor from hurricane cleanup and repair and drives up prices. The best thing that could happen to people who were hurt in the hurricanes would be to have a 6 to 12 month moratorium on new housing so that they could get people to repair or rebuild their homes and at fair prices."

## ***THE IRNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

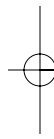
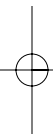
Grant Beadle	Rick Donnelly	Ralph King	Bob Smith
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Anne Booker-Burleson	John Flagg	Bill Luke	Bill Sullivan
Bill Case	George Gonzalez	Bob MacGowan	John Vanderzee
George Christopher	Ted Gordon	Diane MacGowan	John Williams
Andrea Coy	John Harreys	Karl Mahler	Grant Withers
Adrienne Cuffe	John Higgs	Ted Michael	
Vic DeMattia	Robin Honiss	Sal Neglia	
Jan Demko	Dick Kennedy	Don Ryce	



# RENEW YOUR IRNA MEMBERSHIP

## NOW is the TIME to renew your IRNA Membership.

Your support is KEY ! The 2005 IRNA membership is \$10 per person or \$20 per family. It is extremely important that everyone renews his or her membership so that we can continue to represent the vast majority of the citizens of the County. LET!S KEEP OUR COUNTY BEAUTIFUL AND MAINTAIN OUR QUALITY OF LIFE. We welcome additional contributions up to \$500 per person. If you would prefer to send extra money to the IRNA for political advertising, coinsider supporting our Political Committee. Mail your contribution, made out to the IRNA and/or to the IRNA Political Committee, in the enclosed envelope, as soon as possible !



**I**ndian  
River  
Neighborhood  
Association, Inc.  
P.O. BOX 643868  
VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32964-3868

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