

# INDIALANTIC *RECORD*

August 2007

## CAUSEWAY RE-VEGETATED



*Gumbo Limbo trees, Silver Buttonwood trees, sea grapes and Sabal palms were added to the Melbourne Causeway in late June. Florida Green of Oviedo installed the plants for \$33,825.46*

*Council requested money from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in February, 2005 after hurricanes Frances and Jeanne damaged the south side of the causeway. FDOT contracted to harden the causeway and relocate the damaged bike path after the hurricanes resulting in the removal of those Australian pine trees not initially damaged by the hurricanes.*



*FDOT contracted with a registered landscape architect in accordance with state requirements to distribute those trees desired by the Town. The trees were situated outside of the US-192 clear zone and the bike path*

*The Town also applied to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer*

*Services for monies for this same project not knowing if either grant application would be approved. Both applications were funded so Council secured approval to reallocate the Urban and Community Forestry grant monies from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to provide trees in Sunrise, Nance, Orlando and Douglas parks*

## **SR-A1A/US-192 Intersection To Be Widened**

SR-A1A will be widened to provide two dedicated left turn lanes at US-192 for northbound motorists. Most of the construction activity will be on the west side of SR-A1A between Fifth and Sixth avenues. Fluted mast arm signals are to be installed to replace the span wire traffic signals at the intersection. Improvements will be made within the existing Florida Department of Transportation right-of-way.

The additional lane will be added in September 2007 to move traffic through the SR-A1A/US-192 intersection more quickly thereby lessening the frequency of motorists taking short-cuts through the residential streets south of US-192.

**RECENT COUNCIL ACTION**

**NEW FACES IN TOWN**

### June 19, 2007 Meeting

- awarded a contract in the amount of \$15,760.70 to Florida Green to install trees in Town parks (\$10,050 Urban & Community Forestry Grant)
- authorized Deputy Mayor Benevente to attend the Florida League of Cities' 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference as the Town's voting delegate
- approved budget adjustment #1 for FY-07
- approved the purchase of 4 laptops to be installed in Town police cars
- agreed to have staff conduct the necessary investigation into the speed limit on Miami Avenue
- adopted Ord. 07-10 amending Sec. 13-53 relating to the Melbourne Causeway
- adopted Ord. 07-11 creating a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for Police/Fire Pension members
- agreed to have each Council person appoint three members to the Fifth Avenue Task Force in July

### July 17, 2007 Meeting

- agreed to change the regular Council meeting in September from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> to comply with state requirements for public hearings on the budget
- approved the FY-08 budget calendar
- approved agreements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for Florida Recreation Assistance

Boardwalk Burrito– 2 Fifth Avenue - Restaurant

The Sweet Spot – 113 S. Miramar – Candy Shop

Curves – 201 Fifth Avenue – Health studio

Nancy McMillan James – 340 Fourth Avenue – Massage therapist/facial specialist



*Public Works personnel install a swale at 125 Eighth Avenue*

#### **The Indian River Lagoon – How You Can Help**

The Indian River Lagoon is long and narrow like a river but it is really a saltwater lake connected to the ocean at the inlets. Salinities range from completely fresh in some of the tributaries and canals to up to 3.5 percent near the ocean inlets. The concentration of salt in the Lagoon is critical for the plant and animal species that live in it. Wide seasonal variations are becoming more the norm than the exception and increase the stress on our diverse and delicate ecosystem. What can you do to help?

- Use ground covers such as composted leaves and wood chips on areas with exposed soil to keep the soil from washing into the lagoon. Areas susceptible to sediment erosion are drip lines under roof eaves and downspouts.
- Don't blow grass clippings into the street or dump them down storm drains. Leave the clippings on your lawn after mowing; nutrients in the clippings make the best and cheapest fertilizers.
- Use environmentally friendly alternatives to pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Call the University of Florida Extension Service – 633-1702 - to obtain a free copy of the Florida Yardstick Workbook.
- Whenever possible choose plants that require little

Program (FRDAP) funds in the amount of \$50,000 each for improvements to Nance and Riverside parks

- approved an agreement between Space Coast Emergency Medical Services (Dr. John McPherson) and the Town for medical direction for Fire-Rescue
- adopted Ord. 07-12 amending Sec. 6-129 and Sec. 8-12.1 relating to occupational licenses
- agreed to lower the speed limit on Miami Avenue from 30 mph to 20 mph
- set proposed millage rate for FY 07-08 at 4.3313; set date for first public hearing on the millage rate and budget for 7 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2007; set date for second public hearing for 7 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2007; set tentative budget workshop for 6 pm on Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2007

or no fertilizer. When fertilizing choose a fertilizer that has nitrogen in a slow-release insoluble form; fertilize during the dry months (Oct. to May) and use the least amount of fertilizer necessary. Wash your car on your lawn and then let the nutrient rich, soapy water fertilize your grass at the same time.



## **POLICE BEAT**

Summer is here and it's time to get out and enjoy those beautiful central Florida summer days. You may have plans to spend the day at a park, catch a movie or leave town for a few days. Whatever your plans, please remember a few simple steps that will help protect your personal property.

**When leaving your house** – Be sure to lock your doors and windows. Indian River County enjoys the luxury of having a lower crime rate than some of her sister cities, but crime and criminals do exist. More often than not, burglars are opportunistic criminals. They look for easy targets, such as houses with unlocked doors and windows, or garage doors that are left open over night. Whether leaving the house for an hour or for the evening, take the extra minute to make sure your house is secure. If you have an alarm on your house, don't forget to arm it before leaving.

**When leaving town for a while** – The Police Department has a house check program. If you will be leaving town and your house will be unattended, please stop by the police department and request a house check

## **PUBLIC WORKS NEWS**

*It's time to trim your trees again. With summer growth and our latest rains, trees and bushes are growing rapidly. If you have branches extending over the road pavement or sidewalks, you will need to prune them. Overhanging branches cause hazardous conditions for motorists and pedestrians. Trees and bushes should be trimmed back to at least the edge of the road pavement or curb line and sidewalks so as to not restrict pedestrians or cyclists. Residents with corner lots need to ensure that motorists have clear sight at intersections and that stop signs are not obscured.*

**Ron Cassidy, Public Works Director**

form. It will only take you a few minutes to fill out and it will provide us important information, such as lights that may be left on, telephone numbers to contact in case of an emergency, or people who may be on the property (lawn maintenance, friends, family members, etc.). Officers will periodically check your house (as manpower permits) while you are away. Don't forget to call the police department upon your return and let us know that you are back.

**When parking your car at the beach –** Vehicle burglaries at the beach (Indialantic Ocean Beach, Nance, Sunrise, Tampa Beach) usually increase during the summer. If you will be parking at the beach, make sure that your vehicle is secure before you leave it. Roll your windows up and lock your doors. Do not leave valuable items such as purses, wallets or cell phones in open view. Conceal those items under seats or in trunks. Take only as much money as needed for lunch or drinks and leave the rest at home. We have taken burglary reports where several hundred dollars at a time have been stolen from wallets inside vehicles. **Do not** hide keys in wheel wells or under bumpers. Burglars prowl the beaches and watch people who do this. In less than a minute they can retrieve your key, enter your vehicle, take what they want and walk away.

Taking a few minutes to ensure that your property is safe can save you hours or days of misery and the frustration of having to deal with police and insurance reports. Don't forget to lock up and have a safe summer!

Detective Michael Connor

*Cliff Notes:*

*The appearance of Fifth Avenue continues to improve. In the 100 block on the south side of Fifth one strip center has completed some major repairs and painted the building. Plans have also been received from the owner of 225 Fifth Avenue for a new build-out in one of the suites and a facelift on the building.*

**INDIALANTIC FIRE RESCUE**



Seventy three percent of all firefighters are volunteers. Most of these volunteers are located in rural communities where the call load is low and taxes non-existent to support a paid fire department. Most people in this country would not have fire protection if it weren't for the dedication of the volunteer firefighter.

Florida has strict training requirements for volunteers, making it difficult to find people willing to give up their personal time to become trained.

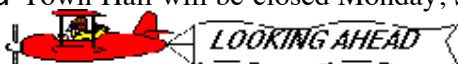
Indialantic Fire Rescue is a combination fire department, meaning we have volunteers and paid personnel. Our staff consists of six paid personnel who work 24-hour shifts with 48 hours off. This is a 56-hour workweek. There is also a fire chief who is paid and works 40 hours per week. This allows for two on duty people to provide fire protection and advanced life support for our community.

We also support a volunteer organization of about 10-20 volunteer firefighters. Most times the number closely hovers around 10. There is always an ongoing need for new volunteers in the department. Many of our existing volunteers go on to receive additional training and hire on as professional firefighters with other departments. Our volunteers do a lot of public service events and always make themselves available for other agency's events within the town. A dinner auction in September will help support such events as Halloween, the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Easter Egg Hunt. The volunteers offer smoke detectors, community license plates and provide fire safety programs for the youngsters.

Our only requirement to become a volunteer is that you give us 24 hours of stand-by time per month to respond on calls. If you have an interest in becoming a volunteer firefighter, have a clean background and can provide us with 24 hours per month, please consider becoming a member of the Indialantic Volunteer Fire Rescue Association. We could really use your assistance.

Jon Macdonald, Fire Chief

ü Town Hall will be closed Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, for



Labor Day

ü Qualifying dates for the November 6, 2007

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

AUGUST

7	5:30 PM	Board of Adjustment
8	6:00 PM	Code Enforcement
21	8:00 AM	Heritage Committee

election will be August 19 through September 2, 2007. Seats to be filled are Seat 1, currently held by Councilman Bogert, and Seat 3, currently held by Deputy Mayor Benevente. Packets will be available by August 15<sup>th</sup> in the Town Clerk's office

ü Volunteers are needed to help with the Halloween Party scheduled for Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – anyone interested should contact Gabrielle Strand, 956-3113, or Jan Acker, 723-7788

21	8:00 AM	Heritage Committee
21	6:00 PM	Budget Workshop
21	7:00 PM	Town Council
28	5:30 PM	Zoning and Planning
SEPTEMBER		
5	7:00 PM	Council budget hearing
18	8:00 AM	Heritage Committee
19	7:00 PM	Council budget hearing
24	9:00 AM	Parks/Recreation
25	5:30 PM	Zoning and Planning

The Volunteer Fire Department meets every Wednesday at 7:00 PM at the Fire Department, 216 Fourth Ave

### ***NATIONAL NIGHT OUT***

*Indialantic and other municipalities throughout the country will again participate in this year's "National Night Out." From 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 the Police Department is asking the residents of Indialantic to turn on their front porch lights and spend the evening outside with their neighbors and members of the police and fire departments. "National Night Out" is designed to heighten crime awareness and drug prevention along with strengthening police and fire community partnerships. For more information, please contact Community Policing Officer Terry Tenpenny at [tenpenny@indialantic.com](mailto:tenpenny@indialantic.com)*



Don Bo, Inc. installs a concrete pad for a park bench in Orlando Park. The Parks, Recreation and Beautification Committee requested to have two additional park bench pads installed in the park

*The Indialantic Record is published every other month by the Town of Indialantic, 216 Fifth Avenue, Indialantic, FL 32903 at an outside cost of \$.22 per resident. Robert L. Cochran, Jr., Mayor; Vince Benevente, Deputy Mayor; Councilmembers Dave Berkman, Bruce Bogert and Loren Goldfarb; Christopher W. Chinault, Town Manager; Laura Eaton, Town Clerk – [www.indialantic.com](http://www.indialantic.com) - 321-723-2242*