

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Residents of Indian River Shores:

During 2008, the Town completed the renovation of the Public Safety complex. A primary changes was to reposition the garage and redesign the entrance doors to significantly improve the safe handling of our emergency vehicles. A new public entrance offering a secure lobby for residents and visitors to the Station, a training facility for internal and outside public safety agency use, and greatly improved work areas for staff and living quarters for the officers have also been added, making this facility one of the finest Public Safety complexes in all of Florida.

The Public Safety Department is nearing completion of a certification process that will establish the department as one of the few fully accredited departments in the State of Florida.

Staff from the five municipalities and the county continued to work on an Interlocal Urban Service Area Boundary Agreement. While a final agreement has not been established, the interaction of the staff as they discussed the land use needs within the County has been very beneficial. Although there is not unanimous agreement on every issue, the discourse is serving to establish the various needs of the governmental groups. This discourse should prove to be of great value in the future.

Statistics reveal increasing usage on the Town's website, which has become a valuable tool for two-way communication with our residents and other agencies. It has been improved this year with a separate area for FEMA and flood information; the ability to register for cell or e-alert links; more emergency contact links; frequent news updates; expanded Community Center information; more details on the Town Council and Attorney; and a growing Photos, Facts & Miscellany section. Please check <http://www.irshores.com> and let us know what you think.

Everyone has been acutely aware of the increasing financial turmoil in the world, the nation and the state. Thankfully, the Town's financial condition has remained stable. The operating budget for FY08/09 is \$4,457,205, which represents a decrease for the second year of over 2.5%. We were able to maintain the millage rate of 1.3923 per thousand of assessed value. An increase in property value by almost \$50 million, or 1.5%, to \$2,582,984,861 is anticipated in the Town of Indian River Shores for the current fiscal year.

The Town's estimated population of year-round residents increased by 155 to 3,829, according to the Bureau of Economic & Business Research at the University of Florida. As of August 2008, the Supervisor of Elections Office showed 3,436 registered voters in our Town, or 90% of our estimated population.

We are pleased to offer the convenience of the Postal Center, the facilities of the Community Center, and the services of our Public Safety Department to our residents. When the atmosphere of the Town is accented with amenities such as these, it creates the type of environment that draws us here and compels us to stay in the Town of Indian River Shores. As Chairman of the Town Council, I again would like to thank all of our Town employees and volunteers for their continued loyalty and dedication. These individuals make our Town one of the premier communities in the State of Florida.



Thomas W. Cadden
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas W. Cadden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas W. Cadden

Mayor