

TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA CELEBRATES ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Town of Indian Shores, Florida, which I not only have the privilege to represent but also call my home, this week celebrates the 60th anniversary of the signing of its town charter.

Although I was not be able to be there today as the House is in session, my friends and neighbors gathered at The Pub Restaurant to celebrate their 60 years of progress, development and success.

Indian Shores, first known as Indian Rocks Beach South Shore, is a small but beautiful island on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Its sandy white beaches and crystal clear water made it a favorite summer retreat dating back to the late 1800s. It was on September 16, 1949 that 42 registered voters and freeholders met at the Beach Park Restaurant, where The Pub is now located, to incorporate the Town of Indian Rocks Beach South Shore.

At that meeting, the residents of the newly established town elected their first town leaders: Edward Fitch Taylor as Mayor, Bernice Pitt as Town Clerk, Emory Boyd as Town Marshall, and as Aldermen: Mrs. E. Boyd, Harry Gooding, Russel West, H. Tinman, James Roesler, Hubert Tipton, Estelle Harper, Pearl Cook, and Arthur Goble.

The town held a special referendum in July 1973 and voted to rename itself the Town of Indian Shores, as it is known today. From the early leadership that established this beautiful beach haven, new leadership has led Indian Shores into this new century and into a thriving community. Mayor Jim Lawrence, Vice Mayor Joan Herndon, Councilor Steve Sutch, Councilor Bill Smith, and Councilor Carole Irelan are the town's elected leaders.

They oversee a staff headed by Town Administrator Chief E. D. Williams, Town Clerk Marcia Grantham, Deputy Clerk Elaine Jackson, Building Official Larry Nayman, Administrative Assistant Joyce Ciccarello, Director of Finance Mary Karayianes, Public Service Supervisor Jim Jeeter, and Assistant to the Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau.

They govern a town of 1,800 permanent residents and 2,600 homes that swells to a town of 6,000 during the peak winter months. Although only 2.6 miles long, this town remains one of Florida's most beautiful beach communities. From its early history when legend has it that an elderly Indian Chief was brought to its shores to be healed by its special water, to its time as an Indian campsite, Indian Shores has grown and prospered yet retained its small town charm.

Madam Speaker, the Town's motto says it all—"Indian Shores—A Great Place to Live." I am proud to call Indian Shores my home and I join in celebrating its rich history and its bright and sunny future along Florida's most beautiful beaches.