

Proclamation

HONORING THE VERO BEACH ART CLUB & JUDY BURGARELLA FOR THE MURAL CREATION & RESTORATION

Whereas, the Vero Beach Art Club, a long-standing art organization with a proud tradition of service to the community, generously gifted to the community two monumental murals: The History of Indian River County and The Habitats of Vero Beach, each spanning thirty feet in length and eight feet in height, to visually record and celebrate the rich cultural and environmental heritage of our region; and

Whereas, these murals, painted by dedicated artists including Judy Burgarella, Dawn Mill, Merana Cadorette, and Christine Thomas, portray a sweeping story of our county's past—from prehistoric discoveries and native cultures to Spanish exploration, pioneer settlement, and the natural beauty of our diverse ecosystems, so that residents and visitors alike may reflect upon our history and identity; and

Whereas, over the years the murals endured damage from environmental conditions and, most recently, from Hurricane Milton in October 2024, when a tree limb broke through a window of the Vero Beach Community Center and damaged one of the Habitat panels; and

Whereas, through the commitment, vision, and artistry of Judy Burgarella and fellow artists, the damaged mural was carefully restored, ensuring that these cultural treasures remain preserved for future generations to enjoy; and

Whereas, the restoration and relocation of these murals to the County Administration Building provides a lasting legacy of community pride, artistic excellence, and historical preservation, allowing residents and visitors to appreciate their beauty in a safe and prominent public setting.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, we recognize and extend our deepest appreciation to Judy Burgarella and the contributing artists of the Vero Beach Art Club for their extraordinary dedication, talent, and generosity in creating and restoring these magnificent murals, which will continue to inspire and enrich the lives of Indian River County residents for generations to come.

Adopted this 18th day of November 2025.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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