

NEFLRIC

Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council November 2005

"The 2005 Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Awards Issue"

This issue of Council highlights puts the spotlight on the outstanding work done in the region and the people and projects making the greatest impact on our corner of the world.



Representative Richard Kravitz was the recipient of the 2005 Harry Waldron Regional Leadership Award. Kravitz accepted the award by a previously taped speech that aired at the Award Ceremony.

The St. Johns County Convention Center at the World Golf Village provided the backdrop on November 11, 2005, for an evening of good food and fellowship among key players in the Northeast Florida region. Elected officials, sponsors, citizens and other special guests from throughout the region mingled for an event that has become a popular social occasion for many who are acquainted with the Northeast Florida Regional Council.

For the past five years the Council has taken great pleasure in hosting a reception for elected officials and friends to enjoy a time of networking and socializing. 2005 marked the third year the reception was coupled with the Council's Regional Leadership Awards Ceremony. The Awards Program was designed to recognize Regional Excellence in a variety of critical arenas essential to positioning our Regional Community as a model of cooperation and coordination. The outstanding nominations submitted this year truly reflected the diversity of programs and projects, the quality of these efforts and the leadership demonstrated by the nominees. The awards program continues to build momentum with a strong number of nominations submitted each year. Each nomination is deserving in its own right.

Television personality Angela Spears of First Coast News served as the emcee for the event which was also a time to honor and reflect on our country's veterans, as the event was held on Veterans' Day.

The awards were presented by the newly elected 2006 Council President Karen Stern. The awards and their recipients were as follows:

- 1) **Regional Award for Excellence in Economic Development/Tourism**, presented to *Ginger Barber*.
- 2) **Regional Award for Excellence in Public Safety**, presented to *Linda Stoughton*.



(continued)



3) **Regional Award for Excellence in Transportation**, presented to *Boyd Thompson and Ride Solutions, Inc.*

4) **Regional Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing**, presented to *Tom Crawford*.

5) **Regional Award for Excellence in Education**, presented to *Florida Community College at Jacksonville*; accepted by FCCJ Trustee, Emily Smith.

6) **Regional Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship**, presented post humously to *MaVynne Betsch*; accepted by Carlton Jones.

8) **Regional Award for Excellence in Planning and Growth Management**, presented to the *Branan Field Master Plan*; accepted by Thad Crowe (left) and Clay County Commissioner, Harold Rutledge.

7) **Regional Quality of Life Award**, presented to *Dr. Milton Russos and the FCCJ Artist Series*.

The Harry Waldron Regional Leadership Award, which remains the anchor of the awards program, was presented to Representative Richard Kravitz, who accepted the award via a pre-recorded video.

