

Association of The Villages

Vol. II No. IV

OCTOBER 1998

VOTE

Thoughts of the President

My thoughts are concentrated on the upcoming Nov. 3 election. For the residents of Sumter County this is an extremely important election. This is the first time the residents will actually have the chance to get one of their own on the CDD#1 Board of Supervisors. All the previous elections were merely wasted effort on the part of residents. Management created the rules. Votes were allotted by lots whether or not they contained homes (each home was allowed one vote) and all the other plotted lots each carried one vote. The Developer with thousands of plotted empty lots therefore controlled the election.

This year the election is being run by state laws and procedures. I would like to remind the residents that in this election for CDD#1 Board of Supervisors, both husband and wife are eligible to vote - you must be registered voter.

However, in the election for the land-owners seat (which is also a member of the board) and is held on the same date as the general election, but in the tent behind the polls. You need not be a registered voter. Only one vote per household is allowed.

This is the last time before the Election that I can put into print my opinions - so here goes.

All the seats are very important - each candidate's qualifications should be studied carefully. The amendments should also be carefully reviewed. However, the following seats very directly affect all the residents in CDD#1.

CDD#1 Board of Supervisors - Seat #1 Russell G. Day vs Richard Schagheck

Russell Day is the only man who is extremely knowledgeable regarding the State Statutes that allowed the creation CDDs. He has attended practically all the various CDD and VCCDD meetings as well as the Sumter County Commissioners and Lady Lake Commissioners Meetings for the past four years. He knows what is going on and what has to be done. He knows what to do and how to do it. There is no question in my mind that Russell G. Day is the man for this job.

Nov. 3

CDD#1
Board of
Supervisors -
Seat 2
Vernon Gwynne
vs Stephen Wresh

Stephen Wresh is a golf pro and should stay a golf pro. He is an employee of the Villages and should not be put in a position where he must vote a certain way to save his job. Do not put Stephen in this kind of a spot. Vote for Vernon Gwynne a true resident of this retirement community.

CDD#1 Landowners' Seat

A special CDD#1 meeting will be held on Oct. 6 at 9:00 am in the Sumter County Annex Building on Rt 466 to nominate two people to run for this seat. All CDD#1 residents are invited to attend and nominate a name. As of this printing, we know of one man who is willing to run for this seat. Frank Swenton, a Village resident who is concerned about the conduct and activities of the current board.

House Representative - Dist. 42

Everett Kelly vs Doris Mattingly

We have requested help from Everett. He wouldn't listen and simply said, "if you don't like it here, move". So there is no question at all - Doris Mattingly is the right one - she will at least listen to us. - Joe Gottfried

ISSUES AND POLICIES

by Russ Day

Don't let your mind be distracted by a propaganda expert. I have cast my hat in the ring for Seat #1 in the District of CDD#1 because I do not have the experience to put the residents in debt for over 12-1/2 million dollars.

I decided to run for Seat #1 of the Board of Supervisors of CDD#1 when I, as a resident of CDD#1, attempted to speak at one of the CDD (special taxing district) meetings about policies and procedures. I was told that if I did not like their policies and procedures that in the next election, I could run for a seat on the Board (which I interpreted to mean - if I won I could attempt to change the policies and procedures). So this is what I am doing, running for Seat #1 of CDD#1 Board of Supervisors.

When I first discovered this "quasi" government meeting in a desolate farm house outside of the district, I became very interested in Statute #190 which they call a CDD (special taxing district). The word CDD does not catch your attention as much as a "special taxing district" (which it is). Like a lot of residents here, I have not been thoroughly "discovered" on what is happening, even though I have graduated from Pete's "school".

The non ad-valorem portion of your tax bill contains a maintenance charge plus a bond issue adjustment (if you have not paid it off) and this maintenance charge has no cap so even the present board represents a special interest group, leaving residents in a very vulnerable position.

Since June of 1994, I have been attending CDD (special taxing district) meetings (have missed very few). I have yet to hear any actual discussion on an issue. All issues are passed with 100% approval. The game here is "what the Developer wants the Board Members approve as long as the District's residents pay for it". When they talk about redesigning something in District #1 and you ask what is wrong with the present design? You are told that it is inadequate. Why should we residents pay for the mistakes of the Developer's engineers?

The Developer and Management cannot explain why there is no conflict of interest when their Attorney is also the Attorney for the Sumter County Commissioners. As a member of the Board, I will try to improve our working relationship with the Sumter County government. One of the problems here is that the Developer has ignored many aspects of the County D.R.I. (Development Regional Impact) order.

One example of this is the DRI called for a gas station to be built in Sumter County within two years of the completion of the Villages' development in CDD#1. This would enable Sumter County to obtain some gas tax revenue. After the gas station has been in operation for two years, CDD#1 would receive a portion of the gas tax revenue from Sumter County. This portion of the gas tax could be used to lower our maintenance fee. However, so far, the Board of Supervisors of CDD#1 have failed to lobby the Developer for this gas station.

... con't on page 2

ISSUES AND POLICIES - con't from page 1

It also looks like CDD#1 residents are building half the roads in Central Florida. Well over \$5 million has been spent on roads outside of the Villages.

I do not belong to any special interest group. As a CDD#1 Board Member, my allegiance will be, as it has been for the last four years, completely to the residents. I believe that CDD meetings should not be conducted without input from the residents. I am not a malcontent. However, I do want to try to ensure that our tax money is spent wisely. I know how to say NO.

If anyone would like to discuss some issues or my views, please do not hesitate to call me - 750-3108.

We're stuck with CDD#1 - whether or not we like it. Shouldn't we have some say on how they spend our money? If you agree VOTE FOR RUSS DAY - FOR BOARD Pd Pol Ad SUPERVISORS - CDD#1

FLASH

LATEST FLEECING OF RESIDENTS
Residents of CDD#1 and CDD#2 are going to have to pay \$350,000 to build a golf cart tunnel which will run between two pieces of commercial property on El Camino Real to the Villages Wellness Facility and the medical center.

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VILLAGES HEALTH CARE SCAM

Last year I went to the Villages Health Care facility for a routine health examination. Dr. Frank LoFiego ordered several tests and prescribed two new medicines for blood pressure control, both of which resulted in severe side affects. He then decided that the old blood pressure medicine I had been taking for the last ten years would be best for me.

When the prescription ran out, around the first of this year, I called in to obtain a refill but was told that because Dr. LoFiego was no longer with the Villages Health Care, I would have to come in to see Dr. Rina Vollmer and pay \$60 for a consultation before a prescription could be made available. This I did. No other test was made. A prescription for a 90 day supply (with one refill) was provided.

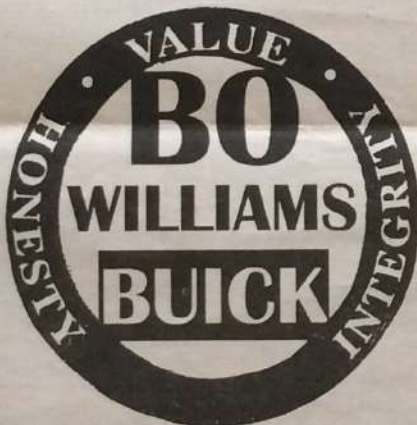
Today, I called the Villages Health Care for a renewal of this prescription and was told that I would have to come in again to see another doctor as Dr. Vollmer was no longer with the Villages Health Care. Another \$60 consulting fee for nothing.

Needless to say, I will not be going to the Villages Health Care to see their revolving medical team again.

If anyone out there knows of a General Practice Doctor that they can recommend and who plans to be available for more than a year, please call me or drop a note.... Thanks

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I'd like to tell you about a customer, Mrs. Dickens. Mrs. Dickens lost her husband. She decided to move back to her home state of Michigan. When the time for her to goodbye to the community that she had been active in for 12 years, the one person that Mrs. Dickens insisted on saying goodbye to was not her doctor or her minister, but her friends here at Bo Williams. In talking to her on that last goodbye, I asked her why she felt the way she did about us. Her response: Bo Williams treats every visitor to their dealership as an honored guest in their own home. In a fast growth-filled, changing world, I hope we never change.

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CDD ACTIVITY

by Joe Gottfried

VCCDD - Village Community Center Development District - **AFFECTS ALL RESIDENTS - THIS IS WHO SPENDS YOUR MAINTENANCE FEE**

At the beginning of the meeting, Sadie Woollard asked that the notice of the meetings be posted in the Daily Commercial as they used to be or in both the Commercial and the Sun. PETE WAHL responded by saying that would be too expensive (\$50 bucks in an \$11 million budget!!!) and publishing it in the Sun fulfilled their legal obligations. Why is Pete Wahl answering questions?? He is supposed to be the Administrator who administers policies as set forth by the Board of Supervisors!!

Village resident, Russ Day, was the only one to question the budget. He remarked that he thought the budget was top heavy with administrative expenses. (Note: Out of a 5-1/2 million dollar operating budget, almost half, or 2-1/2 million dollars is appropriated for administrative fees.) The board made no comment of any kind. They simply went on with the meeting and unanimously approved the budget of \$11 million dollars.

(Note: Do you people really believe these CDDs were created for the benefit of the residents?)

CDD#1 - SUMTER CO. RESIDENTS

The \$721,874 budget went through without any questions or problems. Now all we have to do is pay for it.

CDD#2 - SUMTER CO. RESIDENTS

Budget of \$672,900 approved which is \$988.51 per acre with 771.77 acres.

CDD#3 - SUMTER CO. RESIDENTS

Budget of \$79,975 approved. There are no building lots yet. The bond money is 28 million dollars and will have 2757 homes on 685 acres of land.

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DORIS MATTINGLY

The POA had the pleasure of hearing Doris Mattingly at our September 16th General Membership Meeting. Mrs. Mattingly is the Democratic Candidate running against Republican incumbent Everett Kelly for the State Representative District 42 seat.

Doris' manner exuded tremendous enthusiasm, energy, determination, and a sincere desire to work on behalf of her constituents. She announced that when she is in Tallahassee, she will take off her Democratic name tag and not be just another democrat but will represent all the people. (She certainly will not be a wall flower in the Legislature). She is a Village resident and understands the many concerns of senior citizens.

Doris has been an active life long Democrat. She expressed her disappointment in Mr. Kelly's legislative record and the fact that three months after being sworn in, he abandoned all his Democratic principles, jumped ship, and joined the Republican Party.

During her campaign travels, Doris has concluded that most people - young and old alike - are extremely concerned about future health care, security, and education. These are the three areas in which she will be a very active State Representative.

Mrs. Mattingly warned the audience of the many scams that are perpetrated against seniors. She said, we must also be extremely diligent about our health care and insist that we the patient must be listened to.

Candidate Mattingly closed her speech with a question and answer period. She remained for the remainder of the meeting and many members had additional discussions with her after the meeting.

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EAST SIDE

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RUSS DAY'S ALLEGIANCE

As you all know, I am a staunch supporter of Russ because I believe that his extensive knowledge of CDDs, his integrity, and his diligence in attending all CDD meetings as well as the Sumter County and Lady Lake Commissioners meetings makes him the best man for the CDD#1 Seat 1.

I have a little story to tell about Russ. (Forgive me Russ - but I think this relevant.) Russ was a Teamster Union member representative. Higher officials asked him to investigate and recommend a new health care carrier (subtly indicating their choice) for the members. Russ's final recommendation was not that carrier. He arrived home a few times with bruises which he said were accidents unloading his truck. He determinedly stuck to his original recommendation. The officials relented and accepted his recommendation.

To this day Russ does not know why. Maybe the issue was not that important and they thought his determination could be useful in negotiations. Whatever, that was what he did thereafter - on the Union negotiating teams with company management.

Allegiance - what do you think now?

- Carol Kope

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VOTE FOR RUSSELL G. DAY
CDD#1 - BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 Russ is the best man for the job. He has more knowledge of the State Statutes under which the CDDs are supposed to operate than anyone else outside of the Developer. The CDDs are even unfamiliar with them.

Pd Pol Adv

P.O.A. MEETINGS
 Board of Directors- 7:00 PM - 1st Tuesday
 Charlie Chapman Rm - Rec Center
 (all POA members welcomed)
 General Meeting- 7:00 PM - 3rd Wednesday
 Paradise Recreation Center
 Refreshments Served
(ALL RESIDENTS WELCOMED)

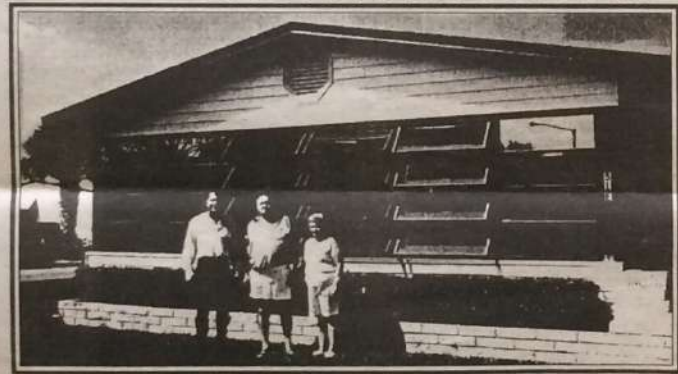
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