

Property Owners' Association of The Villages

CHAMPIONS OF RESIDENTS' RIGHTS SINCE 1975

BULLETIN



Vol. II No. II

Approximately 9,000 Homes Within the Villages

August 2000

PRESIDENTS THOUGHTS

Last week I was contacted by an individual who is running for a political office, requesting to speak at one of our meetings. This person had first contacted the President of the VHA, and was told that no political candidate can speak to the VHA membership because their by-laws state so.

As president of the property owners Association, I encourage any person running for a political office to contact me and set up a date that they can address our membership. The P.O.A. firmly believes that the people have the right to hear from their candidates, regardless of their political affiliation. The P.O.A. will always take the position of not endorsing any candidate, but you the electors have the right to hear their views.

Is the position of the VHA so narrow minded that you the electors can only hear one view, one opinion? The opinion of the Developer only. This is not the American Way. — Tom Poss, President—

COMMENTS

I had a fax from a gentleman questioning my article last month on the restrictive covenants.

First to clarify my article. The covenants were quoted verbatim from unit twelve's covenants as registered in Lake County.

Each unit has their own restrictive covenants covering any where from five to fourteen pages.

These covenants were supposed to be given to you prior to your closing or earlier.

In many communities prior to your depositing any money they are given to you to make you aware of any regulations or assessments prior to your commitment to purchase.

Here in the Villages many people have closed before they were aware of these regulations.

The item I mentioned on TV aerials and TV Disc's are as I quoted, I know that some people were given special permission on the Disc's as long as they were in a secluded area. Nowhere has this restriction been lifted and people who have them supposedly have gotten permission. — Charles M. Harvey—



WHO RATES?

Well on Friday, July 21st, we were discussed that all the palm Fronds were thick all over Silver Lake on the roads and no one cleaning them up.

But when we went over across the street they had groups of workers all over cleaning them up and hauling them away. So we called the VCCDD office but as usual Pete was not there but I left word with his secretary and they finally got around to cleaning them up later.

— Rose Harvey —

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE BUT NOT A DROP TO DRINK.....

.....Is this going to be our future legacy? Florida is encircled on three sides by huge bodies of undrinkable salt water. We are fortunate (at least in our corner of the tri-county area) to have an ample supply of drinking water. But as a result of the last few years of drought like conditions, our aquifer (drinking water) is well below normal as are all lakes, streams, and rivers.

Some communities have been severely restricted in water consumption. And we have all been asked to conserve water use. Yet, even with all these conservation methods and a fairly decent amount of recent rains, all the water levels are still below normal. Some experts predict that it will take a few years of heavy rains to replenish our water levels.

All this makes me really question the recent promise by the St. John's Water Management to the allow the Villages access to millions of gallons of water a day from the aquifer (drinking water) to water proposed golf courses in their area development in Sumter County. **Drinking water used for watering golf courses. Unbelievable.**

— Carol Kope



DEVELOPERS ALWAYS WIN

In the matter now coming to the surface on how much power the developers have compared to the residents who have purchased property from them, the power will always be with the developers.

Who gives money to the coffers of the people running for elected offices?

Who builds bridges and names them after the person who helped get the bills passed allowing a bridge to be built over Highway 27-441 ?

The people living in the Villages of Lady Lake and who own their home do not have a say about anything. They have no vote.

The developer wants to build something that will attract more people to buy his product, he builds it, and then sells it to the CDD (Community Development District), maybe even for a profit. Guess what? Everyone who has a house now pays for it with something called "amenity fees".

There have been times when people have asked for reports on how the money collected from amenities is being spent, but the answer has been there is no law that says we have to.

A commissioner from Marion County said that it may still be difficult for residents to find out how their money is being spent. Right! As far as politicians helping in this fight, see whose name is on that bridge and also who owns the plane the Jeb Bush used to fly around the state while running for governor.

If you have money, you don't have to worry about using up all of the water, because you can just pack your bags and go. It would be nice to see the homeowners win, but is isn't going to happen.

— Dale Lamb, Lady Lake —

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

By: *TOM POSS*

I have participated in every election regardless if it was for the highest office or lowest office since I was of voting age, one of the most important freedoms that we have in the United States, is the right to Vote. We can vote for anybody or any issue we wish. A couple of months ago the people in Russia for the first time in history, voted for their president. The past election in Mexico, the Mexican citizens living in the United States went by bus loads to vote for a new president.

The other day I ran across a back issue of the Village Sun dated October 28, 1999, page 3. In bold type the article started out "Take time Nov. 2 to fulfill right of citizenship: Vote." The article goes further to say: "Some of you will have the opportunity to go to the polls this coming Tuesday, Nov 2, and exercise one of the most precious rights that you are granted in this country --- the right to vote." This article was written by Mr. Pete Wahl, who is the Administrator, etc., etc., etc., of the Villages.

Under Public Law 190, which the Developer operates under and Mr. Wahl administrates, takes that right of freedom to, Vote away. The Villages, at the present time is more than two hundred million dollars in debt from their bond issues. We the people who live under State Statute 190, which was enacted by the Legislature in the State of Florida, does not allow us the right to vote under the VCCDD structure. People all over the world fight, for the right to Vote, we send representatives all over the world to foreign countries to assure that the people have the right to vote. But, yet here in Community Development Districts, the people who live with Florida State Statute 190, are deprived the right to vote. I personally have taken on the task to amend State Statute 190, which will once again give back the right to vote to the people.

Your right, is to go out and vote and no one can take this right away from you, other then here in the Villages under State Statute 190, under which the Developer hides.

If you have any doubt about these statements, ask Mr. Wahl, that when an issue arises about spending the money which is appropriated by the bonds do you have the right to vote on how that money is spent?

I like to hear your views, 750-5640 Fax: 750-2320, e-mail: Tcposs@aol.com. Until next time this is Believe it or not,

By, *Tom Poss*



OH WHAT A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

We have the right of freedom of speech. The right to stand up and fight for our rights and others.

The Property Owners Association believes in these rights and everything we have fought for and won benefits the whole community.

One example is the Golf Cart Bridge across 441- 27. We had obtained more than 5200 signatures in the first two weeks of the petition out of 7000 when DOT approved the building of same.

Ninety percent of the improvements for the community have been a direct result of the POA.

Let us all thank God that we have the privilege to fight for the residents.

-Charles M. Harve-

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR WATER QUALITY?

If you have a continuing problem with the quality of your water and cannot get an answer, Mr. Lott may be able to help you. Call him at 407-894-7555 ext. 3325

HELP BUILD A PARK

The town of Lady Lake needs your help to build a park. Let us all chip in by backing this worthy cause.

Purchase a brick paver for only \$20 each! Each paver will be imprinted with your name, business, or a name of your choice. This is a great way to remember a deceased family member or friend. The Pavers will outline the park pathways, throughout lovely gardens, and will lead to a beautiful Victorian gazebo. Help with this project by buying a Brick. We will have purchase applications available for you at our meetings. Your help in this very good cause will be appreciated. — Tom Poss —

UPDATE ON Rx's

We have obtained additional information about pharmaceutical companies that will discount or give free medications. The list is just to long to print out and distribute. If you come to our next meeting or call me with the name of the medication you are taking I can give you the phone number of that particular company. Tom Poss, President 750-5469.

BEST WISHES

The POA wants to send our best regards to Millie Mitch who is in the hospital. Hope all goes well. Our prayers are with you.

MEN & WOMEN WANTED

Election time is coming, election time is coming. Our country needs good qualified men and women to hold offices. The best words are those of, Ralph Waldo Emerson. "Not gold, but only men can make a nation great and strong; Men who for truth and honor's sake, stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men, who work while other's sleep, who dare while other's shy. They build a nation's pillar's deep, and lift them to the sky".

With election time around the corner this quote seemed appropriate. —CP—

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WINTER WONDERLAND

Do you want to hear about "winters"? I grew up in a little town in the middle of the Adirondack Mountains in upper New York State that had winters. It was nothing for the temperature to dip to 30deg below zero (wind chill factor was not measured in those days) and stay there for several days. To go outside, everyone covered their entire face, head, neck. Cars driving by and people walking made a crunching sound. Breathing came out of mouths like hissing steam. It was cold!!! But it was beautiful. The air was crisp and dry. The sky a beautiful blue with floating clouds.

Back in those days, snow was not removed, plows merely pushed the snow into huge banks. My cousin and I used to walk on the top of them and could almost touch the telephone lines. My mother's house was very close to the sidewalk. One year we couldn't get out the back door. She had to fight with the town to get them to move the snow (they just shoveled it onto one of the big snow banks) but at least we could open the door.

I can't remember ever having the school close because of snow or cold. We wore long underwear, folded the legs and pulled long brown stocking over the folded underwear legs. We didn't have snow boots. We simply put a couple pairs of wool socks over our shoes and pulled rubber galoshes over them. We trudged off to school in snow sometimes waist high (depending on how tall you were).

Oh, but we had fun! The little children as well as the teenagers. We went skiing down driveways, made angels in the snow, made snow forts and had snowball fights. When the snow got packed down, we sledged down streets (a couple of streets that were hilly were officially closed to traffic so that the kids could slide on them). Every year the town officials made a huge ice skating rink where we spent hours skating (ice hockey, whip lines, racing, just horsing around). I remember the skating shack - an old wooden, 4-sided, structure with wooden floor and a pot-belly stove. We'd go in the shack for a few minutes to warm up and then go back out to skate. This was the most popular activity for teenagers during the evening hours. Our parents never worried about us. Towns were very safe in those days.

You know, reminiscing like this makes me realize that I had a wonderful childhood. Regardless of freezing temperatures we had many activities. Summer activities were just as much fun.

Sadly times change. Life is too fast for children today. They are such in a hurry to grow up. My home town does not offer many of these activities anymore either. Today children do not have a childhood. What a pity!!

-Carol Kope

WHO IS NUMBER ONE?

Report from CDD #1. You are hurting my heart. (Jealous) is a better word for it.

I was looking over the flowerbed at the Rio Grande Village section. Poor little flowers. All I see are four rows of very dead flowers. Looks as though no one watered them. That's the section I live in.

Now take a good look at the thirty something rows of beautiful, colorful flowers located at the Hacienda South (Soleday Way) entrance, that is where Frank Topping lives. The water must have run for hours. I guess it pays to know someone, or is P.W. playing favorites?

With gas prices being what they are, I did not bother driving over to where Carl Bell lives; he is another flower child promoter. I believe he too is a favorite son of you know who.

All I can say is election time is upon us. You know what to do! The right person for the right job. -J.Gottfried-

NOTICE

Villages Sub Station Phone # 352-259-1016, for Sumter County Sheriff Dept. Will service Leesburg, Fruitland park and Lady Lake.

-SAW-

CHUCKLE FOR THE DAY

Preparation H used to be a denture creme, ---Until Ralph Nader told them what to do with it.---

My Mother taught me HUMOR...

"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

--CLASSIFIED--

FOR SALE

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NOTARY SERVICE - FREE -bring to POA meeting or call Charlotte, bring to her home.
FAX SERVICE - Incoming/Outgoing

50 cents a page - must be dropped off and picked up

COPIES - limited number are FREE

CLASSIFIED ADS in POA Bulletin - FREE

If members are house bound, arrangements can be made for Charlotte to visit your home. For additional information or service, call Charlotte Poss - 750-5640. -ck-

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HOW CAN WE BETTER SERVE YOU

The POA is trying to solve some minor problems.

Would you be willing to help? How? Suggestions - bringing a neighbor or resident friend to the meetings - signing up a business ad- pay your dues - contribute your comments to the Bulletin-

Let's hear from you. Thank you -SAW-

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM
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Completion of this form constitutes acknowledgement of the P.O.A. as your representative

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ANNUAL DUES: \$6.00

Donation: \$ _____

Due to the overhead of the Bulletin (P.O.A. Paper) any contributions above the amount of membership will be appreciated.

The P.O.A. Bulletin
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Articles are the opinion of the writer and must be signed. Articles may be edited for length, grammar and clarity. Mail Box letters must be signed by the writer, thus, giving the Bulletin permission to print the letter with signature. These letters will be edited only for inflammatory language.

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AUG 16 - POA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wed. Aug. 16, 7:00 PM. Paradise Rec. Center. Our guest speaker will be: **JOHN MARTIN, CANDIDATE FOR FLORIDA HOUSE DISTRICT 42**

YOU WILL FIND THAT JOHN MARTIN IS A VERY DYNAMIC SPEAKER.
 There will be a question and answer session.

**COME AND JOIN US--- Au 16,
 ALL RESIDENTS WELCOMED**

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

SCHEDULED CDD MEETINGS
 All CDD & VCCDD Meetings are held at the Savannah Center.

VCCDD - Villages Community Center Development District - last Friday of the month.
CDD#1 - Meets on the last Friday of the month.
CDD#2 - Meets on the first Friday of the month.
CDD#3 - Meets on the first Friday of the month.
CDD#4 -
 Call Pete Wahl's office for Time & Day

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