

Property Owners'

Association of The Villages

CHAMPIONS OF RESIDENTS' RIGHTS SINCE 1975

BULLETIN



Vol. II No. IV

October 2000

VOTE

NOV. 7 TH

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

Come one Come all. You are invited to hear the candidates speak. The candidates are running for State House Representative, District 42. This is the seat that Mr. Kelly is vacating. It is in your best interest to hear the candidates so you can determine who will best represent you in Tallahassee.

The following letter was sent to Mr. Hugh Gibson, Republican candidate and Mr. John Martin, Democratic candidate:

Dear Candidate: Mr. Martin/Mr. Gibson,

The office that you are a candidate for, the seat in District 42, is very important to our area. The people in District 42, of which you would represent if elected, deserve the opportunity to hear your qualifications. Therefore, I am taking this opportunity personally to invite you and your opponent to debate publicly your goals and objectives of this office. A public meeting will be held at the Paradise Recreation Center in the Villages, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Property Owners Association of the Villages. Each of the candidates will be allowed five minutes to address the audience. There will be a time set for questions brought from the audience and presented to each candidate to respond to. After the formal meeting there will be time for individual questions from the general public.

This meeting will be held on October 18, 2000 at 7:00 pm.

The following news media will be appraised of the meeting allowing a larger number of people within the district to be in attendance: Daily Sun, 1153 Main St., Lady Lake, FL - Lake Sentinel, 720 W. Burleigh Blvd, Tavares, FL - Daily Commercial, 212 E. Main St., Leesburg, FL - Ocala Star Banner, PO Box 490, Ocala, FL - Sumter Times, 204 E. McCollum, Bushnell, FL

This letter is being sent out by certified mail to both candidates so that there are no misunderstandings of this important meeting.

*Sincerely,
Thomas Poss, President POA*

WHEN IS A PUBLIC SCHOOL A PRIVATE SCHOOL AND VICE VERSA

I firmly believe that our children deserve the very best education possible. I willingly pay school taxes even though I do not have children in school. For those who disagree with this, I want to remind them that when their children were in school, Seniors paid school taxes which helped to finance the public school education of their children. But, I strongly object to my school tax money being used to build and support the Villages Elementary Charter School which in reality is a private school. I do not understand how this can be construed as anything else.

A recent series of two articles in the Daily Sun by Sandy Mott explains that the Villages Charter School is a public school in the Sumter County school system and students do not pay a tuition. However, enrollment is limited to only those children whose parents meet the Villages employment requirements (employees and workers who provide labor and services to the community). She goes on to explain that the cost of the building will be reimbursed from the State Charter School Outlay Trust Fund and funding for the operation of the school comes from the state on a per student basis. She does not mention that the schools the children previously attended will lose state funding for those particular children.

Ms. Mott's second article describes a top notch, state-of-the-art school with many extra facilities and curriculum that regular public schools can not afford. Future plans include a middle school, a high school, and a community education program to offer adult education and college courses. She also explains the numerous convenience benefits for the Villages employees whose children attend the school. All in all, Ms. Mott makes this school sound like "the perfect" school. I would agree, if enrollment was open to all Sumter County students and voucher students from the surrounding schools. But, this is not the case. I do not want my school tax money spent to support what I consider to be a private school built for the sole purpose of providing the developer with an added incentive to recruit and retain employees.

- Carol Kope

CDD ELECTIONS

Sumter County residents that live in CDD#1 and CDD#2 - **please do not forget to vote on November 7th** - this is where we pick our particular CDD Supervisors. These elections will be in a special designated area at the Savannah House. **Look for signs indicating the area.**

The Supervisors that we elect on this day are the people who control the spending of the extra maintenance fee Sumter residents pay (in addition to the maintenance fee all Villagers pay). Again, we have no vote on how they spend this money. Our only recourse is to elect Supervisors we respect and can trust.

The following is a list of the candidates seeking a position of CDD Supervisor.

CDD#1

Two years ago, CDD#1 voted for the first time to elect their Board of Supervisors. This election resulted in removing all developer appointed Board members. Presently the Board consists of five members who are residents of the Villages. The following are the candidates for this year's election.

- Russ Day is running for Seat #3 currently held by Frank Topping.
- Joe Fatebena and Jack Johansson are running for Seat #1 currently held by Russ Day.
- Betty Leech is running unopposed for the Seat currently held by Carl Bell who is retiring from the Board.

CDD#2

Residents of CDD#2 will have a Land Owners election. This is different from the general election which CDD#1 has. In a Land Owners election, residents are allowed only one vote per parcel of land which in effect means only one vote per household. There are three open positions on this Board. The names of the candidates have not yet been announced.

The residents will also be voting on whether or not they want to add another layer of government by incorporating.

- Carol Kope

Note: Candidate John Martin has already accepted our invitation and will stay after the debate for refreshments and general mixing with the members.
TP



Happy Rosh Hashanah to all our Jewish friends.

DO YOU ENJOY THIS PAPER?

We enjoy writing about events here in the Villages, and sending to you. Every month we deliver our POA BULLETIN to 8000 homes in the VILLAGES.

Printing, and delivery, is paid for by Advertisers, and from the yearly dues paid by our members.

This month we are beginning an enrollment drive to win back our members who have not renewed. Our dues have remained at \$6.00 per year, even though prices continue to rise.

Will you help to continue our Bulletin?

Come to our next meeting - bring your checkbook - or mail in you renewal application. We need your help to continue bringing you the news.

Win Shook, V.P.

WELCOME HOME SADIE

Our unofficial POA Chaplain, active member of the POA for many years, and current POA Executive Board Member has finally come home after a long recuperation period from painful knee surgery. **Welcome Home Sadie.**

I said "active POA Member" so watch it, folks. Sadie can now get around good.

-ck

SHAME - SHAME

Senior Citizens we should all be ashamed of ourselves. In the last primary, only 25%-26% of registered voters voted. That is an overall figure. I have not been able to get the percentage of registered Seniors who voted. I am assuming that our percentage would be substantially higher but still not high enough.

We Seniors know the importance of the primary. We know this is the first step in getting qualified candidates on the main ballot in the November elections. We are the generation that sent our young men and women to war to retain this precious right to vote. We must set the example for the apathetic younger voters.

With the passing of our generation who will set the example. We cannot be the only people interested. The young people are our future leaders. They must somehow be motivated now. Our legacy must not be evaporated. In the November elections let's show them and have 100% Senior turnout at the voting centers.

- Alta Gray

NOTICE

Candidates' campaign signs are being vandalized and stolen. If this is being done as a political maneuver, it is a sleazy tactic. If you see anyone fooling around with these signs, please call the police. This is not just a playful joke, it is a crime.

OCTOBER 18 - POA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wed. Oct 18th, 7:00 PM, Paradise Rec Center.

We are tentatively planning an informal debate between the candidates vying for Everett Kelly's current seat in the State House of Representatives.

We have formally invited the two candidates, John Martin(D) and Hugh Gibson(R) as well as representatives of the media.

As of this time, we have had no response from Mr. Gibson. However, Mr. Martin has enthusiastically accepted our invitation.

We certainly hope that Mr. Gibson also accepts our invitation. Such a debate would be of immeasurable information to voters.

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- ★ **Protect & Serve** all citizens equally and fairly
- ★ **Provide 2** trained agriculture deputies, one north and one south end of the county
- ★ **Establish** a plan to patrol and protect businesses during evening & midnight shifts.
- ★ **Evaluate** all areas of the communications division to provide efficient service for all 9-1-1 response calls.

WWW.DANSELLSFORSHERIFF.COM

GOOD-BYE JOE and JOYCE

The POA has lost two very active and productive members. Joe and Joyce Gottfried recently moved into a lovely, small retirement community in Marion County.

Both were very active POA members and will be greatly missed. Joe served as POA President for two years - Joyce was POA Treasurer for one year. Both served on the Executive Board and contributed to extensively to the POA Bulletin.

Good-bye, good luck, and God speed Joe and Joyce. -ck-

SERVICES FOR POA MEMBERS

Charlotte Poss, POA Treasurer, offers the members of the POA the following services: 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-

JFK STARTED IT ALL

I am a Republican and have been my entire voting life. But, I don't necessarily vote a straight ticket. I vote for the person that I think will do the best job. I voted for John Fitzgerald Kennedy in 1960, but not because I thought he was the best man. I voted for John Kennedy because he was a catholic. I didn't vote for him because I am a catholic. I voted for John Kennedy because I felt that it was time to break the stupid unwritten list of qualifications for a president and/or vice president: WHITE, MALE, PROTESTANT, NOT DIVORCED, etc.

John Kennedy broke the stereotype. Since his time we have had black, female, catholic, and divorced candidates for president and vice president. Some made it others didn't. Now Joe Lieberman's (Orthodox Jew) candidacy for Vice President clinches it. Perhaps in the very near future these silly old unwritten qualifications will be completely irrelevant. We'll vote for the person(s) that we feel is the best one for the job.

However, in the meantime, in this coming election, I think I'll be a little more party oriented - at least in the national election. The state and local elections are another matter.

- Carol Kope



Do You Need Ink?

I don't know about you, but often it is in the middle of a printing job that the ink cartridge in my printer runs out of ink. I always keep a spare on hand, and then order a new spare. My printer uses a single cartridge for color printing. Some printers use a different setup. I have found a good, inexpensive source which may be of interest to you.

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ANNUAL DUES: \$6.00
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Due to the overhead of the Bulletin (P.O.A. Paper) any contributions above the amount of membership will be appreciated.

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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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.
Advertising: Call 750-5469 or mail to PO Box 1657, Lady Lake, FL, 32159

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
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BELIEVE IT OR NOT
By Tom Poss

In a span of less than two weeks, Sandy Mott has proven to me once again that the mouth goes before the brain is engaged.

In one column the question was asked, "Why is an individual picked up from work and driven home by the neighborhood watch?" Sandy Mott's answer was that the individual does not drive! But, she didn't mention that the individual works in Mr. Wahl's office. Does this good deed have anything to do with the function of the neighborhood watch?

Several weeks ago, a woman's car was disabled at the post office. She stopped a neighborhood watch vehicle and asked them to either call for help for her or to take her home. The vehicle's driver replied that they were not allowed to do this.

Sandy, it would be a great deal of help to the residents if you printed what the neighborhood watch can and cannot do especially if you are using double standards.

Ms. Mott also alluded to the fact that the U.S. Post Office is responsible for the closing of our Villages' Post Office. She, of all people, knows that it is not the U.S. Post Office but the developer, Mr. Morse. Only Mr. Morse can change the system. So, don't write the Post Office as she suggests. Instead write to Mr. Morse - tell him you want home delivery of the mail.

As always, I welcome your views. Please write or call 750-5640, Fax 750-2320, Email Tcnoss@aol.com. Until the next time, this is "Believe It or Not" -By Tom Poss

The best thing about the future is that it only comes one day at a time.
- Abraham Lincoln

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