

Property Owners' Association of The Villages

CHAMPIONS OF RESIDENTS' RIGHTS SINCE 1975

BULLETIN



Vol. II No. IX

Approximately 12,000 Homes Within the Villages

March 2000

PRESIDENTS THOUGHTS

Over the last two months the meetings of CDD1 have been very enlightening to me. On the agenda of CCD 1 workshop meeting held on January 14, item number seven "discussion of how to better communicate with residences", the conversation between the board members varied. Then one of the residents in attendance at the meeting asked why the agenda could not be published in the paper, therefore letting everyone know what was going to be discussed. After several comments from the board members on how to accomplish this one of the board members made the comment that he is not willing to spend any amount of money to advertise the meetings when only a few people attend. **Is this what you call, "don't let anyone know what I am doing?"** Don't forget that the people who sit on this board are spending your money you the residents in November will have the opportunity to elect people that will represent YOU. One of the major issues that was brought before the CDD-1 board, was the reconstruction of the roads in the Villas. The first option was that the roads would have to close for two days. The CCD 1, committee is going to look into different options, of getting the job done in a shorter time period. Now, how are the property owners within this affected district to be notified about the road reconstruction coming before the board with out the proper notification on a agenda.

Remember in November you will be voting for three representatives on the CCD1 Board. The members you vote for should represent your interest at all times and not self serving. Do your Christmas shopping early, and get yourselves good representatives.

- Tom Poss-

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Sure now you've heard of St. Patrick's Day? Some call it the Wearing of the Green.

AH! The Irish Jigs and the many stories of the Wee Fairie Dancers in the Forest in the Moonlight, and the Bag of Gold, at the end of the Rainbow. 'Tis nice to have these memories of fantasy to reminisce over. 'Cause they bring a smile to your face and a twinkle to your eyes, and when Irish Eyes are Smilin' sure they steal your heart away. I think that's a Song. 'Tis that.

- SAW-



BELIEVE IT OR NOT

by Tom Poss

After reading Pete Wahl's article last month about the comparison between the Villages' and Disney Land, I personally felt that this was a ridiculous statement. You cannot compare an apple with a grapefruit. I received telephone calls and met with various people who by the way live both on the East and West sides. Their statements were, what the #S#@, did he mean.

It is true Mr. Wahl. I did enter into a contractual agreement when I bought here. I was told that I would pay an amenity fee each month, but I was not told anything about part of my money paying off millions of dollars in Bonds.

When a person purchases a ticket at Disney, that ticket gives the person the right to go from one attraction to another. If, for some reason that attraction does not function properly, there is not a special assessment added to that ticket. Disney does not sell off the attraction after you enter the park to a third party, as you go from one attraction to the other.

I have been involved with zoning issues in many different phases. Common sense tells everyone, when a developer builds up an area, the developer is the person responsible for the construction of the streets, lights, etc., etc. Therefore, the prices for items are included in the price of the home. Not so in the Villages, that is made a special assessment to the home owners.

One example is: The people, that are buying higher priced lake front property. Isn't the right terminology a retention pond? I will not discourage anyone from buying in the Villages because I feel that this is an enjoyable place to live. All I would like to see happen, is a bond of communication and trust between the Developer and the residents. Let the people know and have a say in the happenings in their area. This is the United States of America, and not a sovereign nation, all you have to do is tell the people the truth.

I would like your views, 750-5469, e-mail Teposs@Aol.Com Until next time this is Believe it or not by:

-Tom Poss-

QUESTIONS!!!

I agree with Sandy Mott's thoughts on education as expressed in her Daily Sun column of February 18. But, I believe that **every** child should get the best possible education available, not just a choice few. They are our future leaders. And, I vehemently disagree with the admittance policy of the new Villages Charter School.

The Sumter County Commissioners eagerly approved the Villages' plan for a Charter School in Sumter. The Lake County Supervisor of Schools, Jerry Smith, enthusiastically endorsed the plan. So, several months ago, school building construction began. In February registration for the fall semester started.

From everything that I have read in the Daily Sun, only children of Villages' workers, contractors, subcontractors, etc. are eligible to attend this new school. Therefore, this is, in reality, a **private** school (without any tuition fee) and discriminatory attendance requirements. In addition, this school will receive from the state, the same amount of money that our public schools receive for each student.

Question: If this Charter School receives state funds, will not the schools that these children ordinarily attend, receive that much less from the State?

Question: If this is the case, are not the citizens of Sumter, Marion, and Lake Counties paying taxes to help support a **private**, discriminatory school?

Question: Many of the Villages workers' children currently attend the Villages Elementary School. Will not the transfer of these children to the Villages Charter School add to the current underutilization of this public school?

Question: Why cannot any other children in these counties attend the Charter School?

Question: What happens to the children attending this school when a parent is terminated from his job with the Villages?

I strongly disapprove of my tax money being used to support this **private Charter School that only a select few can attend.**

- Carol Kope

COMPUTER FILING

Your computer is a marvelous device for saving your important files, but less than useful if you cannot easily find that letter to Uncle Joe or to the Insurance Co. Here is how to organize your information.

Right click on the START button. Left click on EXPLORER. On the left side of the page, scroll to MY FILES. If you click on MY FILES, it will "highlight", and all your files will show on the right side of the page.

Left click on FILE (upper left corner). Move arrow to NEW, then click on FOLDER. A new box appears with the highlighted words NEW FOLDER. Type in the name for the new folder (Uncle Joe). Now, every time you write to Uncle Joe, you can SAVE AS in this folder.

Getting to your folders can be done easily. The most current documents are automatically saved in the START menu DOCUMENTS. If the file you want to access is older, you can create a MY FILES icon on your desktop by going to the EXPLORER page per above, and dragging the MY FILES folder to your Desktop. Then a simple click on the icon will open the folder to all of your saved data.

Win Shook, V.P.

I don't exercise at all. If God meant us to touch our toes, he would have put them further up our body.

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INVESTOR'S BEWARE

For your information today, I will try to inform and educate you, on one of the most important items in your life, and mine, OUR MONEY.

I have lived here going on six years, and have always used and trusted the local banks to be the keeper of my funds, and to trust them entirely to send me all the correct statements that I need. Especially at tax time. I have gone back repeatedly to correct statements at a certain bank, year after year, and with statement in hand, and tax forms, to prove my doubts. I have a collection of statements now, for five years running that all had to be corrected. I never complained going back there for five years in a row, correcting their errors. What a fool I was. Well, lo and behold, it has happened again. Tax form #1099 seems to have that bank buffaloed. There is a several thousand dollar difference in the amount of tax that should be paid. Now, the form has to be made out again, and mailed out to me for a third time. This year I took my IRA out in nine months (instead of 12 months) because of the past errors, and again, their figure was for the tax that I would have to pay the government is for the full twelve months. Now, come on, isn't there a machine in that bank that can "go figure?" I guess not. So, I made the trip down again, gave my version of the multiplication and division, and after many minutes, asking for the bank President, the manager or the clerk to re-figure. They all agreed that I was right.

I am waiting for the new 1099 form to appear, will it be correct? Will I have to make another trip to that bank? Probably.

Message here to all residents, DO NOT depend on anyone else's figures. Do it yourself or get a friend to look your account over. WHO CAN YOU TRUST, NOT EVEN A BANK ...WOW..... - Joe Gottfried-

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HODGE PODGE

On February 11, Pete wrote an article about the contract we signed when we bought in the Villages.

Let me make a short dissertation on this statement: Many of the people signed an agreement to buy a lot, in Orange Blossom Gardens. Our agreement mentioned a maintenance fee to keep our roads and lighting in good shape. We were told that the Gardens would be a community of thirty five hundred to four thousand homes. The restrictive covenants were not given until you moved in. Then, it was only a 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper with fourteen items of few words on it.

Six months after we moved in we went to the sales office to get the full covenants 4 pages 8 1/2 x 17 with many enlightening paragraphs like: If you fail to pay your maintenance fee a lien will be placed against your home. None of these statements were given to you at closing so they actually are not part of a contract. My 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper which I still have is part of my closing.

An eleven hundred dollar, Developers impact fee was made at closing. Lady Lake had no impact fee.

Our name was changed to the Villages not by vote of the residents, but the will of the developer.

Our community is going to be fifty thousand residents in the future, the size of a major city.

Our maintenance fee was changed to amenities for the recreation facilities, retention ponds, vacant land and signs.

The Saturday Fiesta day went to Monday evening, and now is every night on the square. Originally the residents were the only participants. How many residents now go to the free entertainment?

Pete's article said, we should just pay our amenities, our maintenance fees and not worry how it is spent.

Many of the residents have been managers, supervisors, individual businessmen and women, etc.

I do not believe that many of the residents ever paid for something they didn't know what they were paying for.

I remember when studying business law, that a contract covered all details of a transaction and parties were allowed to study it prior to signing. Details were made fully to both parties. How the monies were being spent, and for what, was described "up front." Amenities are not the same as maintenance.

I remember when I first moved here everybody knew everyone. We walked the streets with our friends and visited with Uncle Harold. We talked about our problems and got solutions. We left the doors unlocked.

What happened to this community and where is Mr. Schwartz? We have not seen him in the community for a couple of years.

- Charles M. Harvey-

A FAREWELL TO ONE OF THE MEN IN BLUE

February 3, 2000, was a very sad day for Orlando and all the Law Enforcement Officers across the State of Florida and the Country.

On that day two police officers, were shot by a felon on a normal routine stop. George Stefan DeSalvia, 29 years old and father of three, was shot in the head and expired. Edward Diaz, the other officer, was shot several times, but survived.

Let us remember, that when a Police Officer leaves his home and goes out on the street, to protect us, he is putting his life on the line, because he has no idea what to expect.

So, when you feel like saying something unkind about a Police Officer, remember he's out there for you. Say a prayer for him and please he is a Police Officer, Policeman not a Cop.
-SA Woollard-

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.
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WHAT A SHOT!!!

Jesus and Moses were golfing with a friend with long hair. Moses hooked a shot into the water. He parted the water and hit the ball onto the green. Jesus got up and hit the ball slicing it and it went into the water. He walked out onto the water, hit the ball and put it on the green. The third man hit a tremendous drive, hit the club house, bounced down and hit a golf cart and went into the water landing on a lily pad. A frog came along and picked up the ball. Just then a hawk came by and grabbed the frog. As the hawk was flying over the green, the frog dropped the ball into the hole - for a hole in one.

Moses turned to Jesus and said, "Jesus, I hate to play golf with your father".

- unknown-

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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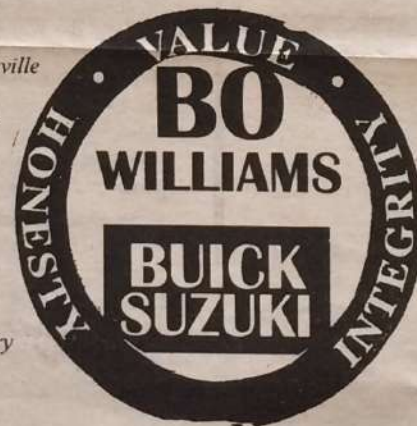
FAREWELL TO CHARLIE BROWN

Saturday February 12, 2000, Charles M. Schulz the creator of my favorite cartoon character Snoopy, went home to be with our Creator - Farewell and thanks "Charlie Brown".
- SA Woollard-

Now that I am older, I've discovered: It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

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MARCH 15 POA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 pm. Paradise Rec Center. Our guest speaker will be Ms. Walz from the Social Security Administration. Ms. Walz will speak on Medicare.

COME AND JOIN US--- MARCH 15 TH ALL RESIDENTS WELCOMED

SCHEDULED CDD MEETINGS

All CDD Meetings are held in the room adjacent to Pete Wahl's office on the 2nd floor of the Citizens First Bank Building

VCCDD - Villages Community Center
 Development District - last Friday of the month at 9:00 AM

CDD#1 - Meets on the last Friday of the month at 11:00 AM

CDD#2 - Meets on the first Friday of the month at 9:30 AM

CDD#3 - Meets on the first Friday of the month at 9:00 AM

WAR ON DRUGS

I am sure that people have noticed the huge number of TV commercials and full page ads in the most popular magazines that pharmaceutical companies sponsor. I strongly resent these ads for two reasons.

First, why are manufacturers of drugs diagnosing the entire general public? I thought this was the doctors' job. They promote their wonderful drugs that cure all. But, in very fine print or fast talk, tell of side affects and who should not take them.

Second, I feel that this advertising money should be used to reduce the price of drugs. I have read that 50% of their research budget is spent on advertising, and that we can expect at least a 20% increase in the current price of drugs.

Recently, a visiting priest at my church told us he was recuperating from a kidney transplant. The medicine that he must take to repress any rejection of the new kidney costs \$1200 a month. Additional medicine associated with his new kidney costs \$800 a month. His insurance will not pay the \$1200 because they say it is too expensive. However, the state he is from will pay the \$800. Now, do you think these are reasonable charges for drugs????

The government has had a war on "illegal drugs" for many years. Maybe, we citizens should start our own "war" on drugs with the pharmaceutical companies. We certainly can not boycott them, but why don't we start writing letters to them, our state representatives, federal representatives, anybody we think that could help us in this cause. Let's bombard them all with our complaints. Let's tell them that we are victims of the pharmaceutical companies' greed and that we need help.

- Carol Kope

PINOCCHIO

A long time ago I read a story about Pinocchio. He was a wooden dummy and every time he told an untruth (a lie) his nose grew. As I understand it, some 'computer wonder kids' of the new century are working on a computer chip that could be inserted into all politicians and 'wanna be' politicians. Every time a politician accepted a contribution (bribe) and/or every time he told an untruth (a lie), his nose would grow longer. With such a scenario, I would consider starting a stretch limo business because all those long-nosed politicians would not be able to fit into a sedan.

Maybe the media and public speakers should be implanted with the same chip. When they tell an untruth (lie) and/or fail to tell the full story (biased), their noses would also grow. I realize that at least 99.6% of the residents accept what the media says regardless of the fact that only one-side of the issue is addressed. Apparently, they don't understand that something must be wrong with this type of reporting.

In the end of the Pinocchio story, he was turned into a real, warm, honest boy. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the same would happen to our politicians simply by implanting this wonderful computer chip?

Well, so much for dreaming. From now until November, the politicians will be coming out in full force. I urge all people not to be believe everything they see on TV or read in papers. Remember, they may be biased or untruthful, and they don't have an implanted computer chip to warn us.

- Russ Day-

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)



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