



CV

MESSENGER

Shine a light on the news

ISRAEL'S RULES OF ORDER ?

The Advisory Committee Has been busy re-writing the bylaws.

It's obvious the committee is more interested in consolidating and strengthening their authority while diluting the authority of the residents and the delegates.

A discussion took place about removing the clause that enshrines Roberts Rules of Order as the guiding set of rules governing the assemblies and meetings.

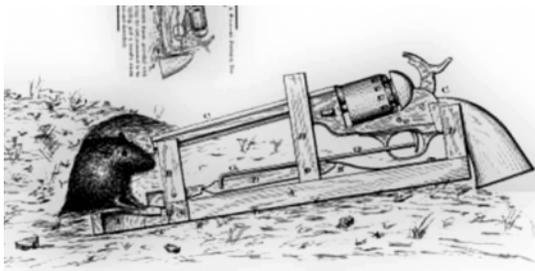
David Israel commented that he felt the rules were outdated, were written a long time ago, and are
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RATS ON THE RUN

Last month we published an article critical of UCO'S inaction in dealing with the growing population of rats. Shortly after the article was distributed, UCO decided to hire an exterminator to tackle the problem with a village wide campaign.

We, at the Messenger Club, are happy to see that UCO decided to act, in spite of the reluctance of

David Israel who voiced objections to Marilyn Pomerantz after she brought the matter up at a committee meeting.



A patent from 1882 for a rat trap...

He claimed that the rat infestation that caused Marilyn to hire a pest controller at the expense of her association was not UCO's business.

The change of mind came about right after we exposed the extent of the infestation and recommended a village wide campaign to control the population.

Waddy mean we can't have a generator?

The clubhouse was without power for a few days after Hurricane Irma. Not having an emergency generator left the clubhouse closed up and in the dark until power was restored.

Some buildings in the village suffered the same fate leaving residents to endure the sweltering South Florida heat. It's a perilous situation for the elderly who run the risk of heat exhaustion with no place to get relief.

Eva Rachesky, said that the clubhouse couldn't be used as a shelter because it is surrounded by water. That makes sense as it could possibly flood if we are struck with a deluge. But there is no reason it couldn't be used as a relief center if it was properly equipped, and that means having emergency power available.

It is possible that the electrical feed could be added to the grid that supplies the fire hall on Okeecho-

Continued on page 3

BRING YOUR OWN CUP AND DO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE.

I've been wondering why there is no coffee shop here in Century Village. I asked around and heard a lot of explanations. I heard: "We have no space" "It is not sanitary" "There is no demand" " We had one, but it just did not work out" " People stole too much sugar and sweetener packs"

It's alleged the customers pocketed handfuls of the sweet stuff, stealthily stuffing handfuls of the little packets into pockets and purses as they sat and drank their morning cuppa joe. The story grew that the costs to the owner were too much to survive, and the CV coffee shop closed it's doors.

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Coffee Shop from page 1

Comparing these and several other reasons, it seems the main cause of the CV coffee shop's demise was because CV owners bought one cup of coffee, swiped too much saccharin and felt entitled to occupy a seat for too many hours.

Yet; with all these reasons, here are coffee shops clustered around the village that don't just survive they prosper! Coffee flows by the gallon every day. Bagels loaded with eggs , bacon, or cream cheese roll out in a continuous parade. Seats in the shops are always occupied by mostly Century Villagers, and the conversation is always so loud you can hardly hear yourself think. If you listen you can hear that most of the conversation centers around Century Village affairs. It's clear that many of the villager customers have great need for an eye opener in the morning and some company with who they can commiserate, They bring their friends and meet others from the village in a daily morning ritual of sipping hot coffee and happily munching on hot toasty bagels every day, there is no time limit imposed, and saccharine is dispensed with gay abandon.

A coffee shop in our clubhouse would go a long way to bringing people back into the village to a friendly spot where they could grab a cuppa' before heading up to the assembly, or a club meeting. That way they could actually voice their opinions and complaints in a venue where it might do some good, instead of sitting around complaining, yet doing nothing constructive.

Let's seriously consider a coffee shop on our own turf.

Heck ! I would be willing to buy the first case of sweeteners to help get it off the ground.

Then I would put a sign over the door that says:

BRING YOUR OWN CUP AND DO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE

Ed Grossman

Scandals by Eduardo hit a nerve in Century Village.

The SCANDALS series of articles are posted on our website and have received around a thousand page views as of this date.

We are hoping this means that once residents are aware of the scandals centered on the UCO administration become well known, they will take action to prevent them from continuing.

SCANDALS is a scathing indictment of mismanagement and illegal actions costing Century Village millions of dollars during the reign of David Israel.

Ed Ross a professional architect is appalled that the administration would be permitted to continue to represent Century Village in light of the revelations he details in his well written and shocking series of articles.

To read SCANDALS by Eduardo: Log on to our website www.centuryvillagemessengerclub.com then click on the Scandals link on the sidebar.

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RULES OF ORDER From Page 1

more suited to the British houses of parliament than they are for Century Village. He went on to say that Roberts Rules are next to impossible to impose under near riot conditions that exist at times in our delegates assemblies. The question of why there are near riot conditions at assemblies should be investigated. To be sure, a lot of angry delegates are seen at assemblies, shouting, jeering and catcalling from the assembly may be the reason that attendance is so low. The inaction of the chair in suppressing bad behavior and the silence from the executive when the chairman steps over the line is encouraging rowdy and unacceptable behavior from the assembly.

Scrapping Roberts Rules leaves CV without any set of protocols for assemblies. What is going to govern meetings if they are abandoned ? Israel's Rules of Order? I shudder to think how that will work if allowed to go forward.

Roberts Rules has served Century Village assemblies well since the beginning. There is no good reason to abandon them now. Without a decent set of rules, the meetings will be more chaotic than they are now.

Neil J. Moore

Generator from page 1

bee Blvd. It has special status and electricity is a first and foremost priority for that facility.

Nursing homes and assisted living facilities are compelled by law to have emergency stand by generators. Though CV is neither, we do have a large complement of seniors who could suffer the same fate as the infamous nursing home where elders died from the heat because they had no way to cool off.

There is a lot of attention paid to preparing for hurricanes, but in CV there is little, if any thought given to preparing for the aftermath.

Making emergency power in the clubhouse a priority would give CV residents some confidence that if a hurricane takes out the power, residents could find some relief in the clubhouse.

Neil J. Moore

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STILL NO TREASURER!

Months and months have passed by and there is no one acting as UCO Treasurer since Howard O'Brien the former Treasurer passed away..

The reasons for the reluctance of qualified people to step up to the plate are not clear to the uninformed.

Is it possible that qualified people don't want to get involved because they don't want to work under David Israel ?

Is it possible that qualified people don't agree with the accounting procedures instituted by the administration?

Is it possible that no one is stepping up due to the questionable actions of UCO in the handling of the finances?

It is possible, but unlikely, that no one really cares.

Meanwhile: there's no one to hold responsible for the treasury.

There's no one qualified to regulate spending in the UCO administration. There's no one qualified to ensure that regulations are enforced.

It's a contravention of our bylaws and not good common sense not to have a treasurer monitoring our assets

We re-designed our website!

Our new website is more interactive, meaning viewers have an easy way to access and comment on content.

Printing articles and copies of the CV Messenger was updated to permit one click printing. Now anyone can share any of our articles by printing them and handing them out.

The new site includes a blog which residents and others can use to have their say and see what others are saying. There is no censorship of anything sent to the blog, but we don't allow cussin' or fussin'

Personal remarks or offensive material will not be permitted.

Each page has a user friendly "Message us" feature, and registering your email so that you can receive updates and the CV Messenger notifications can now be accomplished with ease.

www.centuryvillagemessengerclub.com



*It's YOUR Village!
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*Make a difference
Have your say*



Contact The Messenger Club

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LET'S NOT FORGET IRMA-THE STORM THAT SPARED CENTURY VILLAGE

WERE WE READY, OR WERE WE NOT READY?

A two page Special Pull Out Section "WE WERE PREPARED" was included in the October issue of the "official" newspaper of the village. The section included some nice pictures of fallen trees depicting the superficial damage that the village suffered. In addition, an article by Dom Guarnagia a former vice president and a retired architect recited information on repair codes. And an article by Stew Richland, a current Vice President with an extensive history background, related a bit of history about his wife's actions to alert an agency to possibly help storm victims, and an inspirational word of courage, "don't



despair, just hang in there" etc. Stew's title "THE OTHER SHOE DROPPED, BUT NOT SO HARD" "was probably one of the most factual descriptions about Hurricane Irma in the whole two-page pullout.

The other two articles written by Joy Vestal, a vice president and, Eva Rachesky the village vice president of W.P.R.F. leave much to be desired from many an owner's point of view.

Unfortunately, Joy must not have thoroughly polled those who attended the meeting she described. She failed to mention the many who left the meeting early and those who stayed to the end. Many felt that the information was rudimentary knowledge. They do not

know she concluded what she wrote with: "Our residents left quietly with the knowledge that our **Village was prepared for whatever would come. We left felling resolute and assured—WE WERE PREPARED**"

REALLY! where did you get that information.

Eva Rachevsky's article was at least mostly factual and acknowledged that we missed a "major bullet".

However, Eva missed the point when speaking about the Main Clubhouse, she wrote that the County would never approve the clubhouse as a shelter as it is "surrounded by water".

The real issue for residents left with no power was the lack of air-conditioning and the oppressive heat after the storm. Why does the clubhouse not have a generator to provide relief to the owners after the storm? After checking with engineers, architects and the code enforcement center, we found there is no restriction on having a permanently located generator of any size even one big enough to supply the entire clubhouse.

It is unfortunate that before that when the clubhouse was rebuilt after the disastrous hurricane that wrecked it. No consideration was given to installing a generator in the clubhouse. It is even more disturbing that those who have served on the operations committee and are currently serving have never considered having one installed.

Relocating the newspaper, lighting on trees planting flowers, that's what is on their mind. So sad oh so sad.

Why was Eva's so glib? Does she know what she is talking about? Is Joy Vestal making up fake news like we are all some kind of heroes, when the truth of the matter is that we escaped major damage by the skin of our teeth. We may not be so lucky next time.

The biggest question of all has yet to be determined: **Who is going to pay for a generator.**

Well a new generator is clearly a capital improvement. We know it is clearly a W.P.R.F. expense. BUT ! Judging from the past performance of "Team Dave" that will never happen.

Those who are supposed to protect our interests need to wake up and grow a set of cujones and get the ball rolling to provide the owners real solutions when the next REAL STORM hits Century Village.

WERE WE READY?—I THINK NOT!

ED Grossman

DO WE REALLY WANT TO GO THERE?

An article recently published in that "other newspaper extolled the virtues of hiring Donald Foster as our CAM (Community association Manager), and argued in favor of abolishing term limits. Both perspectives were published in

response to Olga Wolkenstein's initiatives to restore term limits and prevent residents of Century village from assuming paid positions at UCO.

The author praised Mr Foster's efforts in his position and related many of the jobs he has accomplished so far. That's all well and good. Mr Foster seems to be doing a pretty good job, there's no argument there.

The article misses the point. It has been a long standing policy of UCO to not hire residents to work in the village. The reasons for that are multifold, and include the fear of nepotism and favoritism. What is of paramount concern is that when UCO decided to hire a CAM, there was no competition for the job. There could have been an announcement that UCO was open to hiring a resident and invitations to apply for the job could and should have been advertised.

To arbitrarily select a candidate from a list of one just doesn't seem right.

There's a good chance that there are others living in the village who are better qualified and willing to take a shot at the job. And who knows? We could have made an even better deal if candidates were vying for the position.

The policy of non hiring of residents has now been abandoned and it seems that UCO is now willing to hire from the ranks of the residents. In that case there are many other jobs that UCO hires contractors to do that could be filled by residents. Mowing lawns, clipping shrubbery, secretarial work, clearing rubbish, etc. UCO recently hired an outside accountant to manage the finances, Why wouldn't they offer that job to a resident? It would make just as much sense as hiring a resident to act as a CAM.

Can we now look forward to UCO looking for residents to fill those positions now that the non-hiring policy has been abandoned? The policy is either in effect or it's not. To make exceptions to the rule is to set a precedent. Do we really want to go there?

Mr foster was awarded a grant to complete training and testing required for any CAM. Can we expect UCO to foot the bill to train others to perform jobs in the village? CV will have to consider the hidden costs of managing a work force too. There's book keeping and payroll, timekeeping, insurance and workers compensation and the

big elephant: health insurance. then there's the costs of supervising employees. Should we consider all this ? Do we really want to go there?

As for term limits, the argument that imposing term limits on elected officers causes the administration to lose experienced people by their having to step back while others take those positions just doesn't make sense with the CV Situation. Anyone can step up and volunteer their services, they don't have to be elected to do it. If they are as dedicated as they claim, then they wouldn't mind performing in a Volunteer position at all.

It's not what you know



It's who you know.

Term Limits has benefits and safeguards organizations from becoming inbred and dynastic. It also deters criminal behavior and corruption, deletes knowing that they will have to turn over the reins of authority and the access to the inner workings of the organization, are certainly going to mind their P's and Q's.

It all boils down to whether or not the delegates vote to include the resident non-hiring policy in the bylaws.

If they do not want to keep the clause forbidding it, then lets make sure that it is done right with fair and open competition for the jobs, and apply it universally.

BUT : Do we really want to go there?

Olga Wolkenstein