

# ELECTION SPECIAL

## Candidates Forum Come One Come All!

The candidates forum for the UCO election of officers, to be conducted at the regularly scheduled delegates assembly, takes place on February 22 at 1.30 in meeting room C of the main clubhouse.

Susan Boucher the Commissioner of Elections for Palm beach County will be moderating as the prospective candidates take to the stage to espouse their platforms.

### HAD ENOUGH ?



The forum will be tightly controlled with strict time limits on candidates. Three minutes for Presidential hopefuls to make their pitch, and two minutes each for Treasurer and Vice Presidents.

### VOTE FOR A CHANGE !

Presidential candidates will be permitted to question each other with a limit of three minutes each for three questions and rebuttal time of three minutes for each question. Questions between Presidentail candidates will be asked by Susan Boucher from questions provided by the candidates in sealed envelopes. But there are no provisions for any other candidates to question each other.

Questions from the floor will be moderated by Susan Boucher with each person being permitted to question on a rotating basis, which means that each person submitting a question will be permitted one question then going to the back of the line if they wish to ask something else.

There are many good questions that should be asked of prospective candidates. The future of the village depends on delegates making wise choices when selecting their candidate and making their vote. But the outcome is not

entirely up to the delegates, they are supposed to bring the wishes of their respective associations and vote according to their wishes,. It is important for owners to consult with their resoective boards and determine which way their delegate votes.

Many residents are unaware of the issues facing the village. The administrations past performance should be critically analyzed, past performance is a good indicator of future performance. Consideration should be given to how the present administration and the future hopefuls intend to move forward.

Term limits is a contentious issue. David Israel, who was a staunch supporter of term limits before he was elected, suddenly made an about face and worked diligently to oppose them despite his statements that not incorporating term limits is un-American.

Term Limits would seem appropriate for Century Village because the notion that we would lose qualified people due to them does not hold water. Anyone can offer their services as a volunteer in UCO and does not have to be elected to serve. In light of the recent legislation requiring that term limits be imposed on Condominium Associations it would seem to be appropriate for the village to return to the term limit policies of the past. Prospective candidates should be questioned about their position on this issue.

The UCO reporter and the cable TV channels 63 and 95) are controlled by Joy Vestal, who serves as a Vice president of UCO , chair of the cable committee and the editor of the newspaper. What is the position of candidates on this matter? Is it appropriate for the administration to control everything that is printed and broadcast?

The policy of non hiring of CV residents has been overthrown by the hiring of a resident Community Association Manager. For what reason was the paid position of CPA not opened for competition among residents? Candidates should be questioned on their position regarding the hiring of CV residents?

## Forum continued

Questions should be raised about the present policy of co-mingling of all the funds in the treasury ?

Investigate the competency of the candidates to negotiate contracts without resorting to the hiring of consultants, as was the case with the Cable TV contract which cost the village close to half a million dollars in consulting fees. According to Jack Adams the cable contract was not the best deal for the village.

The millenium agreement, which defines the relationship between the owners of the village and the residents, expires in a few short years. What are the intentions of the candidates in regards to negotiating a better deal?

The roads are undergoing ongoing repairs despite spending some five million dollars on re-paving. Candidates should be prepared to proffer a financial plan to re-pave again at the estimated cost of fifteen million dollars. Incumbents should be prepared to reveal the costs of the ongoing repairs and the projected costs for more repairs in the future.

An awareness of the changes to the by-laws that are being proposed and supported by the officers is another facet of this election that should be investigated. Some of the changes are not to the benefit of the residents but are aimed at improving the authority of the administration.

The assertions of the administration that in order to serve, officers and committee members must be a "team player" The question is whether or not an officer is prepared to go along just to get along or to stand up for what is right is of paramount importance.

Last but certainly not least there is the issue of the handling of volunteers and the attitudes of the officers in handling residents concerns. There has been a lot of dissatisfaction voiced by many residents who feel that the attitudes of some incumbents is arrogant and uncompromising. It's easy to claim that you, as an elected officer, are more concerned with what benefits the village than your position as an officer. The reality may be the opposite.

We would urge residents to consider carefully just how they want the village to move forward before selecting a candidate.

### **The CV Messenger**

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## Trust but verify

Electronic hand-held "clickers" are going to be used in the March election for the first time.

It's true that the hand held devices make things a lot easier and a whole lot faster than the old method of counting ballots and all that. But we have to ask; How do we verify the results? Is there any way to ensure that the results produced by the electronic gizmo are correct?

If there are any questions or concerns about the outcome, are there any hard copies of ballots stored away just in case ?

How can an Association verify that their delegate voted in accordance with their wishes, or voted at all?

### **One Vote For each Owner !**

Committees have been working to amend our bylaws to include a new initiative to give each and every unit a vote in the election of officers.

It hasn't happened yet as the committee is working on a myriad of new clauses to update the old bylaws. The initiative to change the way officers are elected is stalled in the fog of bureaucracy as the committee churns ever onward.

One vote per unit is an idea who's time has come, there could have been a push to get this particular bylaw amended before this election, but it didn't happen. Now we are relegated to electing officers with an obviously outdated system that puts the fate of UCO in the hands of the less than half of delegates who appear to vote.

This is obviously not a true representation of the wishes of the owners of condos here in the village.

The system should have been adapted before this to conduct a true election that represents everyone and gives everyone a say in the electing of officers.

**Edward R Grossman C.P.A. WELLINGTON A. Running for UCO TREASURER**  
**11 YEARS RESIDENCE IN CENTURY VILLAGE**  
**CV EXPERIENCE**

2010: Elected Board member and UCO delegate for Wellington A Condo Assn.

2012 – present: Elected President and delegate of Wellington A Condominium Association Inc. .

Founder and President of: **The Century Village Messenger Club**, a group dedicated to seeking justice for residents of Century Village, the CV Messenger newspaper, The CV Messenger website and **Justice for Residents Inc.** .

Acted to motivate proceedings to curtail the attempted termination of the Sheffield O association.

Worked to bring an alternative cable provider into contract negotiations that resulted in the abandonment of plans by the administration to institute compulsory WIFI.

Brought the issue of the polluted, algae ridden condition of the lake to light.

### **EXPERIENCE**

**Practiced as a CPA for over 50 years. I am presently working and licensed as a CPA in New York State and Florida**

Chief Financial Officer (Treasurer) of a jointly held Merrill Lynch Inc. and Kay Corporation both public and well-known financial corporations where I Managed over \$ 50,000,000 in credit lines and over 1,000 employees worldwide. I also formulated and instituted a computerized accounting program that is still being used by those corporations today.

President of a national wall covering manufacturer.

President of a successful commodities trading company.

Principal officer (CEO) of my own auditing firm for over 20 years.

Member of The Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York

Co-Publisher of three (3) weekly local Long Island newspapers.

Member in good standing of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the New York State Society of Certified Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

### **EDUCATION**

1960 - Graduated: Bernard Baruch School of Business (City College of New York) B.B.A.

### **SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

Experience has given me a broad based knowledge of the intricacies of financial management. Creative solutions for maximizing earnings and sound financial strategies are my passion.

I have a deep and unwavering commitment to social justice and never fail to stand up and be heard for what is right.

My computer skills are not limited to the spreadsheet. I vigorously pursue alternatives to problems through the internet, but do not confine myself to using it as my only tool. I derive great satisfaction in accomplishing my goals through consultation with others, and have a vast network of experts in many fields that I draw upon.

As a Certified Public Accountant I possess exceptional communication, organizational, time management, and decision making skills. I have a proven track record of consistently meeting and regularly surpassing demanding performance goals.

The most qualified candidate to run for the position of UCO Treasurer, Ed Grossman threw his hat in the ring at the February delegates assembly.

Not just a certified and practicing public accountant, but a tireless advocate for Century Village residents who never hesitates to stand up for what is fair and just.

“I want to bring back our **traditional accounting procedures** where budgeted expenditures and reserves are approved by the delegates and kept in separate accounts.” Says Ed.

“ I also look forward to making your money work for us by using my experience to make safe, US government guaranteed investments in T Bills that yield interest.” “ It’s a tactic that so far has been ignored by the current administration.” “Over the course of the Israel administration we have lost the opportunity to gain over \$200,000.00 in interest earnings”

“I intend to pursue creative means of generating income with the sole purpose of increasing our assets and thereby reducing our monthly condo fees”

## **Pre-Election Messenger Club Meeting**

Learn the facts and have your say  
**Wednesday 28 February  
In the Party Room at the  
main clubhouse 10.00am**

## **ELECT ED GROSSMAN CPA. UCO TREASURER**

**EXPERIENCE  
WHERE IT  
COUNTS**



**Don't Just Hope for a Better Future  
VOTE FOR IT !**

UCO is a million dollar business. It needs a Treasurer who is a professional. Ed is that professional. He is a certified public accountant with many years experience. Being a past Treasurer my self, I know what the job entails. I therefore support Ed Grossman for the job of Treasurer.

George Loewenstein CPA.  
Former Treasurer and Former President of UCO