



Our County Commissioner

By Ed Grossman

Gregg Weiss and I had a very good meeting this past week. He has been coming to the Village for a long time and is supportive of the residents and is willing to help them any way he can. In discussing some of the issues in the country, he said that there are no sanctuary cities in Florida but if a city arrests an illegal, it must house that person in a facility outside and pay for the



privilege. We also discussed the structure and function of UCO and how it functions for the residents. As the Commissioner is a Democrat, he has been coming to the meetings of the Democratic Club for a long time. There he became acquainted with Marlene Schnitzer who is the Secretary of the Club and a friend of mine. She is also the past national president of The United Order Of True Sisters. I took him copies of "The Messenger" and he asked me to add him to our e-mail list. He looks forward to a continuing relationship with Century Village. I can say that his staff made me feel welcome and comfortable. They were extremely nice and I look forward to an ongoing positive relationship with a very nice, very intelligent county commissioner

Niels Heimeriks, Gregg's administrative assistant also attended the meeting..... Editor

Lennar homes is out and Waldman is back !

Despite an outcry from many residents there is still no fence planned to replace the broken down sections adjacent to the Haverhill gate. Lennar homes just announced that they are not interested in the property at this time and referred us to Mr Waldman to discuss the fence.

Don't ever take a fence down until you know why it was put up

Robert Frost

Claims have been made that so far it's not a problem as no intruders have been discovered sneaking into the village in the golf course area. This in spite of reports from residents who have seen intruders entering through the golf course.

But really, just because no one has been caught does not mean that it's not happening. The broken fence is an open invitation to an assortment of prowlers and who knows what else, and it should be fixed. Now that Lennar Homes is out of the picture, We have to deal with Mr Waldman. We know that we are not going to get anywhere with him. It's now up to us to get our own fence as we should have done at the beginning.

718 or 617 which is best?

Florida statute 718 is designed to protect condo owners. Statute 617 is designed to regulate not for profit corporations like UCO.

A point of contention is the assertion by UCO that they don't have to comply with 718 . This is a fallacy that the administration wants you and everyone else to believe. It's a fact that 718 trumps 617 when it comes to a master association. A fact that is backed up by rulings from the courts. We consulted our lawyer and she is in agreement with us. UCO is governed by Florida Statute 718 whether the administration likes it or not.

718 contains a lot of regulations that are beneficial and protect the rights of condo owners while 617 is silent on many of the issues.

Continued on Page 2

What Boorish Behavior!

Coffee and donuts were supplied to residents interested in the meeting of the garbage men and CV residents in Room C of the clubhouse shortly after the delegates assembly of March the first.

Most of the residents politely lined up at the table loaded with coffee and donuts, and patiently waited their turn.

Not so with David Israel who butted into the front of the line in a rush to help himself to the refreshments. That in itself is bad enough. But it gets much worse. He stepped in front of another resident who is disabled and narrowly avoided being bumped into by the man's scooter. Loud words were exchanged and David Israel was heard to say in a loud angry tone that if he had been bumped into, he would overturn the man and his scooter and dump them on the ground as he retreated to eat his donut.

Really ? acting like that for a donut? Is this the way the man who is supposed to represent the village acts?

It's bad enough to cut into a line, but to threaten a disabled man with violence is something that should never be tolerated. It's a clear demonstration of a lack of empathy.

But hang on , there's more. The refreshments were there for the people who were attending the meeting about the garbage. Looking around the room when the meeting started David Israel was nowhere to be seen. Neither was the donut.

An elected official enjoying the confidence of the majority should respect the the dignity of the minority. Using the temporary authority of an elected position to humiliate or dishonor members of the minority inevitably leads to friction at first, then future revenge and escalation of disagreements.

Our system of management in Century Village is designed to include disagreement and dignified debate on the issues. The process is undermined by contempt. Our President's style of governing is rooted in contempt for opponents. There can be no doubt that this weakens us as a community and erodes our morality as individuals.

Residents who are not in power should be protected from authoritarian abuse by the recognition of their inherent value by those in authority. All residents are equally important and should be afforded the respect they deserve. Cruel remarks and unconsidered contempt like the utterances by David Israel at the garbage handlers meeting do nothing more than cultivate an environment of hostility and contempt for each other. we deserve better than that.

Messenger Club joins Cyber Citizens for Justice.

We joined a very active group dedicated to seeking justice for condo owners everywhere. Their website is loaded with articles about the problems condo owners face with disagreeable boards.

Follow this link or type it into your browser to see just what they are doing and what we are supporting.'

<http://www.ccfj.net>

There are fights over amendments, fights over selling common property -- and recently a fight over the audit, demanded by homeowners according to FS 720.303(7). So far no audit, but excuses that owners find unbelievable. There is a court ruling where a President of an association was successfully sued personally for continually calling others horrible names. That's a very interesting case that you can study by copying this link into your browser.

<http://www.ccfj.net/HOAFLDietzSCC.html>

We are pleased to join this group of activists who are fed up with the treatment they have been getting from their respective boards.

718 or 617 from page 1

Despite court rulings asserting that associations like UCO do fall under the auspices of 718 our administration is digging in their heels when it comes to compliance. The only recourse for anyone who wants to enforce the regulations is to institute a lawsuit . The expense alone is enough to deter anyone from instituting a lawsuit to clarify the situation.

It's not in the best interests of residents to ignore the protections and the oversight afforded by the statutes.

It's up to the residents of Century Village through the power of the delegates to insist that the regulations under Florida Statute 718 be recognized.

One vote for every unit owner is not as difficult or expensive as the administration claims .

Olga Wolkenstein submitted a proposal to institute one vote for each unit/owner. Her bid was met with excuses about the difficulty and the expense of conducting an election where all unit owners have the opportunity to vote. She responded with instructions that show just how simple and inexpensive it could be :

Editor

Purpose of of petition: **One resident unit owner to be allowed to vote in UCO elections for officers.**

The person voting must be an owner with a Resident pass and live in the unit — full or part time.



Voting will take place one day each year in the clubhouse party room. Approximately 25 — 30 volunteers will be set up at tables with the building signs posted for the buildings they will sign in to.

Each volunteer will have a sheet with the name of the building, and a lined list of each unit number. The voting person shows their ID, prints and signs their name next to their unit number. The volunteer then hands the person a ballot. When 2 or more people occupy a unit, the first person to sign in gets to vote. Owners who rent their unit do not vote because they do not live in the unit and have an ID. I do not believe that we need to make ONE VOTE complicated.

BYLAWS

If you haven't read our White Paper on the proposed amendments to the bylaws you should. It's published on our website for all to see. Type this link into a browser and you can read the full white paper.

<https://centuryvillagemessengerclub.com/CV-bylaw-amendment-proposals/>

Amending bylaws is one thing, but since the administration embarked upon this initiative it has become apparent that they are in favor of achieving the authority to kill any proposed amendments at the committee level without bringing them to the delegates assembly for a vote. This is something that should never happen.

At the top of the list of changes we would like to see is universal voting in the election of officers This issue has been bandied about for years and despite overwhelming support is being stonewalled by the administration. The way it works right now, only the delegates vote . But many associations have not fielded delegates for a long time. That leaves many people without a voice. If a building has 24 units in it then each unit should in all fairness get a vote. Of course some people will vote one way and others will vote the other. At the very least with universal voting everyone gets a say in who runs the village and who handles the money.

Increasing the number of signatures to propose an amendment to the bylaws tops our list. 25 signatures are required as of today. If the proposed amendment passes muster 100 signatures will be needed. The same increase in signatures is proposed for a recall of an officer of UCO. If these two pass, it's going to be much more difficult for residents to propose new bylaws or remove an officer.

The re-instatement of our village website is another issue that needs to be dealt with under the proposals. The village website was abolished and replaced by David Israel's blog. We have heard many complaints that residents are unable to publish opposing views or criticisms of the administration as David Israel has complete control over content. It should be re-instated with an impartial, unbiased body to manage it. Under Chapter 718 of the Florida statutes a website that is available to all residents that publishes specific information mandated by the statute is required. The administration maintains that the UCO Reporter has a website that will serve as a website for all. It has a link to David Israel's blog , which is not now nor ever has been an unbiased forum for residents. If the website is managed like the

