



2016 VOTER GUIDE GENERAL ELECTION

Lake County, Florida



Welcome to the League of Women Voters of The Villages / Tri-County Area 2016 General Election Guide

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization of women and men whose purpose is to engage voters in the political process by promoting informed and active participation in government. The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates or political parties. Through education and advocacy, the League of Women Voters promotes good governance.

The Voter's Guide was created by the League of Women Voters of The Villages/Tri-County Area. The purpose of the Guide is to assist voters in their ballot choices.

All qualified candidates were contacted and asked to complete a questionnaire.

Candidate responses are included as submitted. They have not been edited, nor have spelling and grammar corrections been made.

If a candidate completed the questionnaire, the *What's on My Ballot* section contains a link as well as the page number where the responses are located. If a candidate chose not to respond, "No Response" will appear next to the candidate's name in the *What's on My Ballot* section.

The candidates' views expressed within do not represent those of the League of Women Voters of The Villages/Tri-County Area.

To contact the LWV of The Villages / Tri-County area, go to

www.lwvtrifl.org

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

Click on candidates' names to go to their responses.

NOTE: "WRI" after a candidate's name designates Write-In. The names of these candidates will not appear on the ballot; you must enter the name in the space provided.

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PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

Donald Trump (REP)
Hillary Clinton (DEM)
Gary Johnson (LIB)
Jill Stein (GRN)

UNITED STATES SENATE (Vote for One)

*For information on this statewide race click on
<http://thefloridavoter.org/us-senate-candidate-guide/>*

Marco Rubio (REP) (*Incumbent*)
Patrick Murphy (DEM)
Augustus Sol Invictus (LIB)
Paul Stanton (LIB)
Basil Dalack (NPA)
Jon Friend (NPA)
Tony Khoury (NPA)
Steven Machat (NPA)
Bruce Nathan (NPA)
Charles Tolbert (NPA)
Howard Knepper (WRI)
Robert Kaplan (WRI)
Bradley Patrick (WRI)
Angela Marie Walls-Windhauser (WRI)

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DISTRICT 6 (Vote for One)

*NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if
you live in Congressional District 6.*

Ron Desantis (REP) (*Incumbent*)
William McCullough (DEM)

No Response
No Response

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DISTRICT 11 (Vote for One)

*NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if
you live in Congressional District 11.*

Daniel Webster (REP)
David Koller (DEM)
Bruce Ray Riggs (NPA)

No Response
No Response
No Response

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

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REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DISTRICT 15 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Congressional District 15.</i>	
Dennis A. Ross (REP)	No Response
Jim Lange (DEM)	No Response
FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 12 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in FL Senate District 12.</i>	
Dennis K. Baxley (REP)	9
Elizabeth Kathryn McNutt (WRI)	No Response
FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 22 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in FL Senate District 22.</i>	
Kelli Marie Stargel (REP)	No Response
Debra S Wright (DEM)	11
FLORIDA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 31 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in FL House District 31.</i>	
Jennifer Sullivan (REP) <i>(Incumbent)</i>	No Response
Robert Rightmyer (NPA)	13
SHERIFF (Vote for One)	
Peyton C Grinnell (REP)	15
Charles L. Broadway (NPA)	No Response
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS (Vote for One)	
Alan Hays (REP)	17
Christopher James Flint (DEM)	19
Scott Kirlin Larson (NPA)	21
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 3 (Vote for One)	
Wendy R. Breeden (REP)	23
Kiley Anderson (WRI)	No Response

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 5 (Vote for One)	
Josh Blake (REP)	No Response
Peter E. Tarby (DEM)	25
Steven Avery Sullivan (WRI)	No Response
SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2 (Vote for One)	
Kristi Lee Burns	27
Sandra Wells Moore	29
SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4 (Vote for One)	
Sandy Gamble	31
James Andrew Myers	33
COUNTY COURT JUDGE GROUP 2 (Vote for One)	
Cary Frank Rada	35
Brian J. Welke	36

MERIT RETENTION: Florida law requires Florida Supreme Court and Court of Appeals justices to be placed on the ballot every six years so voters can determine whether the judges should remain on their courts for another term. The appearance of a judge on the ballot does not indicate anything about his or her performance or actions as a judge.

FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

NOTE: Because these justices are on all ballots in Florida, they appear in the Florida LWV's Voter Guide, not this guide which only covers local candidates. Click on the following link to see that information.

<http://bereadytovote.org/voter-guide-to-supreme-court-justices/>

(RETENTION: Vote "Yes" or "No" for each of the following justices)

Charles Canady (Incumbent)
Jorge Labarga (Incumbent)
Ricky Polston (Incumbent)

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

Page

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS, 5th APPELLATE DISTRICT

(RETENTION: Vote “Yes” or “No” for each of the following incumbents)

Jay Cohen (Incumbent)	38
James Edwards (Incumbent)	No Response
Brian Lambert (Incumbent)	No Response
Vincent G. Torpy, Jr. (Incumbent)	No Response

ARLINGTON RIDGE CDD SUPERVISOR SEAT 3 (Vote for One)

NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Arlington Ridge.

Stewart Kaplan	40
Howard W. Sechler	No Response
Ronald L. Worrich	No Response

EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2 (Vote for One)

NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Eustis.

Brandon Avallone	41
Anthony Sabatini	43
Michael Strong	45

EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 3 (Vote for One)

NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Eustis.

Marie H. Aliberti	47
Charles “Chuck” McMaster	No Response

GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 (Vote for One)

NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Groveland.

George L. Rosario	No Response
James Smith	49
Glen C. Wilson	50

GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 (Vote for One)

NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Groveland.

Ralph W. Morris	No Response
Dina P. Sweatt (Incumbent)	52

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

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GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Groveland.</i>	
Eunice Garbutt	No Response
John Griffin	No Response
LADY LAKE COMMISSION WARD 2 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Lady Lake Ward 2.</i>	
Tony Holden (Incumbent)	54
Andrew Lo Faro	55
MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Mount Dora.</i>	
Cathy Hoechst	57
Susan Nemec	59
MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Mount Dora District 3.</i>	
Jim Murray	No Response
John E. Tucker	61
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 1 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Tavares.</i>	
Diana Aten	No Response
Amanda Boggus	No Response
Ben Johnson	No Response
Lisa Johnson (Incumbent)	62
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 3 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Tavares.</i>	
Bob Grenier (Incumbent)	No Response
Gary Koerner	64
Derek Zappitello	66

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

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TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 5 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Tavares.</i>	
Lori Pfister (Incumbent) Melanie Vachon	67 No Response
UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL SEAT 1 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Umatilla.</i>	
Brian Butler Dale Minich	69 No Response
UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL SEAT 3 (Vote for One) <i>NOTE: This race will appear on your ballot only if you live in Umatilla.</i>	
Eric Olson (Incumbent) John Schlachter Sr.	No Response No Response
FLORIDA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS <i>NOTE: For information on the following amendments to the Florida Constitution click on</i> http://bereadytovote.org/2016-florida-constitutional-ballot-amendments/ (Vote “Yes” or “No” on each amendment)	
No. 1: Solar Energy	
No. 2: Medical Marijuana	
No. 3: Tax Exemption for Disabled First Responders	
<i>NOTE: Amendment 4 was on the Primary ballot.</i>	
No. 5: Homestead Exemption for Low-income Seniors	

FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 12



DENNIS BAXLEY (REP)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

City of Residence: Ocala
Occupation: Funeral Director & Consultant
Spouse: Micheline "Ginette" Begin of Québec, Canada
Child(ren): Micah, Justin, Damon, Jeffrey, Renée
Grandchild(ren): Jacob, Joshua, Martha, Katherine, Hazel, William, Makayla, Kate Lynn
Education: Central Florida Community College, A.A., 1972; Florida State University, B.S., Sociology/Psychology, 1974; Miami-Dade

Community College, A.S., Funeral Service Degree, 1975

Born: August 22, 1952, Ocala, FL

Religious Affiliation: Southern Baptist

Recreational Interest: fishing, listening to Gospel music, reading

Elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2010, reelected subsequently

Florida House of Representatives, 2000-June 26, 2007

Speaker pro tempore, November 21, 2006-June 12, 2007

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

First Avenue National Bank, founding Chairman

Florida Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, board member

Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys

Gideons

Lions Club

Marion County Children's Advocacy Center, Kimberly's Center for Child Protection, board member

Marion County Children's Alliance

Bellevue Rotary, past President

The Vine Community Church, Elder, 2010

An estimated 300,000 people in the United States have died from gun violence, between 2004 and 2014. Here, at home in Orlando, the June 12 nightclub shooting saw 49 people killed, and 50 more wounded. Do you support or oppose a state ban on assault weapons and/or more thorough background checks? Please explain your position.

Oppose any more gun laws

Since over 500,000 working poor Florida citizens remain without health insurance, would you support tapping Federal dollars to cover these people? If not, what kind of plan do you support?

No. I favor private market solutions.



FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 12

DENNIS BAXLEY *(continued)*

What is your view on the State vs. Local community responsibility for funding public education?

It is a shared responsibility.

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FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 22



DEBRA S WRIGHT (DEM)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- * Retired Teacher, Principal, Special Assignment- District Officee, Consultant,
Polk County School Board Member, Small Business Owner/Real Estate.
- * Certified in Music Education K-12, Elementary Ed, ESOL, Educational Leadership K-12
- * B.A.- Florida Memorial University, M.A. - Rollins College, Ed.S - Rollins College

* (See website for more information)

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Polk County Opportunity Council - Board Member, Vice Chair
Explorations V Children's Museum - Board Member
Harrison School of the Arts - SAC Member
League of Women Voters - Member, Board Officer
Youth for Christ - Board Member

An estimated 300,000 people in the United States have died from gun violence, between 2004 and 2014. Here, at home in Orlando, the June 12 nightclub shooting saw 49 people killed, and 50 more wounded. Do you support or oppose a state ban on assault weapons and/or more thorough background checks? Please explain your position.

There is too much violence in America. Human life is not valued I support a state ban on assault weapons and more strigent laws on gun possession, background checks and etc. I feel mental health screening should be considered also. My question is why would an average citizen need an assault weapon? Assault weapons should not be available so easily purchased.

Since over 500,000 working poor Florida citizens remain without health insurance, would you support tapping Federal dollars to cover these people? If not, what kind of plan do you support?

I am just irritated that health care is not provided for over 500,00 working poor Florida citizens. I don't think health care should be optional. Federal, State, and whatever is needed to assure healthcare for the workers should happen. Healthy workers are happy workers. Health care coverage is a basic need and should be made available to all.



FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 22

DEBRA S WRIGHT *(continued)*

What is your view on the State vs. Local community responsibility for funding public education?

Public education is apart of the Florida Constitution Amendment IX. This amendment dictates the education of children to be a fundamental value of the people of Florida establishing adequate provision for education. It goes on to say the State is to make a uniform system of free public schools by requiring the state to make adequate provision for efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system. High quality system, efficient, safe and secure! "That says it all." This is the State's job according to the law written. Districts should then make sure the letter of the law is followed through as it is funnel down to the schools.

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ROBERT RIGHTMYER (NPA)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I have been a litigation and business attorney for the past seventeen (17) years, currently operating my own law firm. In the past I was a partner at the large, state-wide firm of Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A., and I was also a Senior Counsel at the international law firm of Foley & Lardner, LLP.

I obtained my undergraduate degree in Accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1996, followed by my law degree (Juris Doctor) from the University of Miami, School of Law in 1999.

For more details about my personal history and background, please see my website at robertrightmyer.com

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

School Advisory Council at Wolf Lake Elementary

An estimated 300,000 people in the United States have died from gun violence, between 2004 and 2014. Here, at home in Orlando, the June 12 nightclub shooting saw 49 people killed, and 50 more wounded. Do you support or oppose a state ban on assault weapons and/or more thorough background checks? Please explain your position.

I do not support a ban on the weapons currently available for purchase (without special licenses), however I do support a much more thorough, and ongoing, type of background checks. I do, however, believe there should be more stringent checks and regulations related to the purchase of high capacity magazines and ammunition. I have provided a very detailed position on this issue at my website (robertrightmyer.com). I believe after reading this, your members will know exactly where I stand.

Since over 500,000 working poor Florida citizens remain without health insurance, would you support tapping Federal dollars to cover these people? If not, what kind of plan do you support?

Yes, as indicated on my “Issues” page at my campaign website (robertrightmyer.com)



ROBERT RIGHTMYER *(continued)*

What is your view on the State vs. Local community responsibility for funding public education?

My views on education issues overall can also be found at my website, in greater detail, (robertrightmyer.com).

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SHERIFF



PEYTON C. GRINNELL (REP)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was born and raised in Lake County. I graduated from Leesburg High School in 1986, and then joined the United States Marine Corp, where I proudly served this great Country from 1986-1991. I returned home and attended the Police Academy in Eustis, and was hired by the Lake County Sheriff's Office in 1994. Since that time, I have worked hard, earned a college education, promoted through the ranks and was sent to extensive leadership training. I am proud to serve as the 2nd in Command to our current Sheriff. My role as

the agency's Chief Deputy has allowed me to learn the inner workings of this complex organization giving me an intimate knowledge of what it takes to lead the professional men and women of the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Boys and Girls Club of Lake and Sumter Counties, Corporate Board Member; Florida Criminal Justice Executive Leadership Institute, Past President; Lake-Sumter State College, Board of Directors; Institute of Public Safety, Advisory Board; Veterans Foreign Wars, Life Member; American Legion, Post 347, Member; Leadership Lake, 2008

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I am proud to have the opportunity to become the Sheriff of the one and only law enforcement agency in which I have served. Lake County is my home. I didn't have a desire to serve elsewhere, and it only seems like a natural progression to step forward and run for the office. As for a particular quality or experience, I see great value in my attendance at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, 244th Session. The FBINA is a three (3) month professional development course in Quantico, VA, for U.S. and International law enforcement leaders. Participation in this training is by invitation only, through a nomination process. Less than one (1%) percent of the nation's law enforcement leaders are afforded this highly prestigious opportunity. This particular training required a sacrifice from me and my family, but it was one that we were willing to take in an effort to make me a more stronger, more successful leader.



SHERIFF

PEYTON C. GRINNELL *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Protecting our Seniors from fraud and scams.
 - * Community Meetings to maintain a partnership with the public. Encourage the citizens to communicate with law enforcement, report suspicious activity etc.
 - * Public Service Announcements, Social Media
 - * Neighborhood Crime Watch Program
2. Cyber Crimes targeting Children.
 - * Stay aggressive with continued undercover operations
 - * Teaching awareness to our children in schools via School Resource Deputies
3. Distracted Driving (Texting)
 - * Need tougher laws
 - * Lobby with local legislators

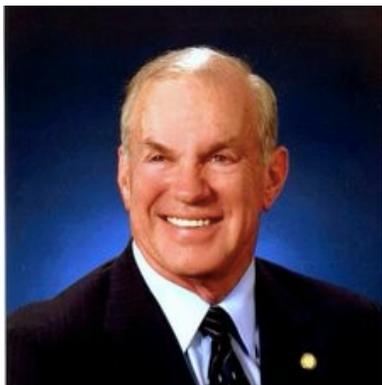
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LAKE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



ALAN HAYS (REP)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

My wife and I moved to Umatilla in 1976 where I opened a family dentistry practice. After 27 years of successful dental practice, I sold the practice in 2003 and continued practicing dentistry on a part-time basis. In 2004 I was elected to the Florida House of Representatives and served there six years. In 2010 I was elected to the Florida Senate and will complete my service there on Nov 8, 2016. While serving in the legislature, I also became a Supreme Court Certified Circuit Court Civil Mediator and an Appellate Mediator.

During the last eight years in the legislature, I was chosen by leadership to chair a budget sub-committee overseeing a \$6 Billion budget pertaining to 18 state agencies.

I also served on the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee and am very familiar with the Florida Elections Code statutes. My candidacy is endorsed by 5 sitting Supervisors of Elections and the State CFO, Jeff Atwater in addition to the Chair of the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee. Also endorsed by the Lake Sumter Home Builders Assn. and the Realtors Assn of Lake and Sumter Counties.

I am the only candidate for this office with the executive administrative experience needed to manage the transition to a new Supervisor of Elections AND at the same time replace the other four personnel who are also retiring by January 3, 2017. These retirements mean 35% of the workforce is leaving the Supervisor's office.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I was a founding board member of Cornerstone Hospice. I have been an active Kiwanian for 38 years. I have served as a Lake County district administrator of the Boy Scouts of America. My family and I have been active members of the Baptist Church for 40 years in Lake County. I served as a member of the Sumter Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees. I served six years as a trustee of Lake Sumter State College and during that time was chair of the facilities committee.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My experience as a business owner and executive administrator distinguishes me as the only candidate in this race with the depth and width of leadership experience needed to make a smooth transition to the new Supervisor of Elections. As I mentioned earlier, the replacement of 35% of the office workforce is a daunting task and we must have experienced leadership to effectively guide the transition and properly choose and train the new staff members.

In both the private and public business settings, I have had several employees who chose to stay for long periods of time. I have shown respect and appreciation to my co-workers thus they enjoy coming to work and provide an excellent level of service.

Fortunately, most of the Lake County voters are familiar with my record as their legislator of excellent constituent service and my record of integrity and fairness to everyone. Those who know me also know I strive for excellence in everything I do. I certainly bring that same commitment to excellence to this very important office.



LAKE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

ALAN HAYS *(continued)*

The duties of the office of Supervisor of Elections are ministerial in nature and require respect and a level of service that demonstrates fairness to everyone regardless of any party affiliation or no party affiliation. We are there to serve, not legislate. We must follow the letter of the Florida Elections Code. My service in the legislature has prepared me for that task and I look forward to continuing to serve the wonderful people of Lake County.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. As stated earlier, the replacement of those retiring staff people is an immediate need. I am seeking a person with experience in a Supervisor's office. If any of the current staff meet the criteria and want the job, I welcome their application. Many times promotion from within is a very good thing.
2. Online voter registration must be available in 2017. The acquisition of equipment, and training the team to operate the equipment, will have to be initiated immediately upon entering office. There may be Federal monies available to assist in the acquisition of the equipment. Other technological improvements may also be funded with State and Federal assistance.
3. The office must upgrade our equipment to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act by 2020. This will likely require acquisition of more technology and I have already initiated contact with some of the various vendors so I may be familiar with their products. The current office website must also be upgraded and that too will be addressed very soon upon my election.

I look forward to continuing my service to the people of Lake County. I pledge to each of them to lead this office in a manner that will make each one of them proud. Everyone will be confident we are doing everything possible to make sure all eligible voters have an opportunity to vote and that each vote will be accurately and properly counted.

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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



CHRISTOPHER FLINT (DEM)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was born in Orlando, FL and have lived in Florida my entire life. I attended public school in western Orange County and graduated from the University of Central Florida where I earned a degree in Computer Science. I met my future wife in 2009 and moved to Lake County shortly after. My wife is a Kindergarten teacher at Groveland Elementary where my 4 year old son attends Pre-K. We also have a 2 year old daughter.

While working on my degree, I interned at a small software development company. During my time there I was promoted to be the senior software developer in my department overseeing the day to day tasks of 8-12 developers. Currently I work for a company that develops and maintains a hazardous materials application for the Air Force and Army. I have served as team lead for several projects including an overhaul of an entire section of the application. I have experience handling heavy workloads, having worked full time while attending college, and raising a family.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Autism Speaks, Groveland Elementary PTO, Relay for Life, Greater Clermont Cancer Foundation, Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

This office could have a profound impact on it's citizens if it is not approached with a neutral mindset. If Mrs. Stegall has shown Lake County anything, it is the value of our Supervisor of Elections serving as an impartial party in our elections process.

I believe that the right to vote is one that we should hold in the highest regard. Everyone that I come across, even those that I disagree with, I encourage to vote as it is the single best way that we as citizens have to affect the change we wish to see in our government. I have routinely told people that it is in our best interest to have as high a voter participation as possible. While I understand that the Supervisor of Elections is involved in the politics of our elections through the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, I do not believe that the individual should be an outspoken critic or proponent of issues or candidates. The Supervisor of Elections must do everything they can to prevent the office from being politicized.



SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

CHRISTOPHER FLINT *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1) The next Supervisor of Elections must be able to replace the retiring employees. Mrs. Stegall has trained a knowledgeable and effective staff during her time in the office and I believe that those who remain should be given the opportunity to move up and fill the vacancies. My number one priority in this position is to maintain the excellent level of service which Mrs. Stegall brought to this office.

2) I feel that this office is at a point where we must address the increasing role of technology in our elections process and in the Supervisor of Elections office. Computer security is as important as ever and we must be cautious including more technology in this process. As a computer scientist I understand this better than most and I am uniquely positioned to guide this office in the future. The current machines are aging and will need to be replaced sooner rather than later. We need to understand the ramifications of our decisions before we make them.

3) We must be aware that citizens are increasingly scrutinizing the election process and their elected officials. I believe that as the Supervisor of Elections my job would be to make the voting process as transparent as possible. To this end I would like to revamp the website and make as much information publicly available without the need to contact the office. I also think that the Supervisor of Elections office could do more with community engagement, by attending events and partnering with high schools in the county.

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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



SCOTT LARSON (NPA)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

My father was elected in Michigan multiple terms and he installed the sense of public duty in me at a young age. I would like to follow in his footsteps of public service.

Education: I have completed all requirements for my PhD other than my Dissertation Defense for Sociology (social science) and a Masters in Ethics. I am the only candidate with the statistically based background to determine the correct resource allocations

needed in each polling location on election day and to analyze voting results to detect potential voting fraud after our elections.

Training Experience: Most problems in elections are a result of poor training for poll workers. I worked as a national trainer for the American Red Cross Disaster Response Team, taught multiple college courses including but not limited to Ethical Theory, Business Ethics, and Biomedical Ethics.

Professional Experience: We have 107 precincts with over 800 poll workers. I am the only candidate who has recruited, trained, and overseen workers in multiple locations. As part of my national service, was tasked with rebuilding towns up and down the Mississippi after the great Midwest floods; I was also the testing site coordinator to the Florida Teacher Certification Examination.

Customer Service Experience: I worked as the coordinator to DirectConnect to UCF for seven years working directly with students, parents, and professionals. Before that, I was a bereavement counselor in hospice working with loved ones left behind.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I have worked within Americore/VISTA, the American Red Cross, and community based organizations like the Guardian Angles. Locally, I led the campaign to restore busing to children in K-5th grade who lost their school buses and was able to work with the school board to get the parent responsibility zone for these children reduced from 2 miles to 1 mile. In the process, I initiated the recess movement in Lake County and worked with the county to prioritize sidewalk construction around schools.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I am endorsed by the national organization "Clean Money Candidates" for having transparent campaign contributions originating from myself or small non-PAC / non-Corporate donors. I believe that integrity in our campaigns says a lot about our own personal integrity.

If you ask anyone about me, what you are likely to hear is that I have a passion for helping people, an intolerance for dishonesty, and a sense of moral duty to apply those ideals universally. I am an idealist who believes that integrity should always matter. I feel that the elections office is an ideal place for a person with that vision.



SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SCOTT LARSON *(continued)*

My experience working for UCF made me realize how important it is to be a good steward to tax dollars. When nearly 50% of UCF's state budget was cut, I was there. I understand the importance of operational efficiency. Part of my doctoral education was program evaluation, where we look at processes to identify redundancies and achieve operational efficiencies and have completed multiple efficiency studies in the real world.

On a personal level, when I had to choose between a pension and traditional investment retirement, I put the taxpayers first and chose the investment program so, unlike my Senator opponent, you won't have to pay for me an enormous salary for the rest of my life, if I am elected.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Stability: We have had the same supervisor of elections for the last 44 years, and if it was up to me, I would keep her another 44 years. She was a good supervisor, but she is now retiring.

Almost 40% of the elections staff is also retiring. With the leanest budget in the county, we do not have the resources to go out and recruit, hire, and relocate an experienced elections deputy, so we will have to retain and promote the staff we have and hire at entry level workers to train. Any radical changes within the office could result in a higher employee turnover, and that could disrupt elections operations or force us to ask for an increase in our budget.

Non-Partisanship: Making sure that political partisanship does not infect the elections office. As a No Party Affiliated Candidate, I am in a position to work with everyone, and maintain a good relationship with all people from all political backgrounds, without people suspecting that they may be treated unfairly because of the partisan nature of the supervisor

Integrity in Elections: It is considered in bad form to attack our opponents in Lake County, but the dishonesty in campaigning is astonishing and no one seems to point it out when it happens. Further, with the increased presence of PACs and SuperPACs, many candidates not only lie, their dark money supporters reinforce those lies with their own. If elected, I will work with the state of Florida to investigate violations of election law when and where I can.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 3



WENDY BREEDEN (REP)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Born and raised in Leesburg, graduated from Leesburg High School, Class of 1968; Bachelors in Fashion Merchandising, Masters in Library Science, both degrees from FSU. Director Winter Park Public Library 1977 - 1987; Librarian, Naval Support Activity Base, Naples, Italy 1988 - 1990; Manager/Director Lake County Library Services and Lake County Library System 1992 - 2009; Lake County Public Resources Director (Libraries, Park and Trails, Extension Services) 2009 - 2015; Retired January 8, 2016.

Major accomplishments include evolution of Lake County Library System, a library cooperative, from 3 city libraries in 1992 to current 15 libraries (6 branches and 9 city libraries). Member of key group to forge partnership with Lake-Sumter State College for Cooper Memorial Library, a joint use library with Lake-Sumter and UCF.

Husband, Jim, 30 years; Son, Austin.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

St. James Episcopal Church, Lector and Alter Guild member, former Vestry member; Leadership Lake County, Class of 1995 and former member of alumni board; Central Florida Camellia Society, former Board Member and member of annual show committee; PEO, BH Chapter.

In light of the request to permit a sand mine in the County, name one or more changes you would make in the zoning ordinances to prevent the excessive extraction of water for such facility and would prevent development of sensitive areas that must be protected to preserve the water supply.

Per Lake County Code 6.06.00 - Mining - all mining except for sand mining shall be prohibited within the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern and new mining in the Wekiva River Protection Area, Wekiva Study Area and Wekiva-Ocala Rural Protection Area is prohibited except in the instance of the creation or expansion of a borrow pit. Of course the code in its entirety is much more complex. The code, by ordinance, was reviewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners as recently as 2013 to allow for sand mining in the Green Swamp. The code also outlines acceptable withdrawals and discharges of water. Also, Florida's water management districts are the permitting body for water usage. While I value all of our water resources and especially those in sensitive areas, I am not prepared at this point in time to make a specific recommendation. However, sand mining is only permitted by conditional use permit and based on facts I have studied in this case, there were not sufficient conditions proposed by the applicant to protect the County's natural resources, nor the interests of adjacent property owners.

What one or two things would you do to ensure that the services and infrastructure required by new development in Lake County are provided?

I will continue to support impact fees, but not at highest level in the state. We need to find a balance that will still support infrastructure and still encourage diversification of our local economy. Revisit concurrency to insure that large developments are providing the adequate infrastructure needed for



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 3

WENDY BREEDEN *(continued)*

growth. Look for alternative methods of funding infrastructure at the state level and through public/private partnerships. Continue to search for ways to cover costs of impact fees for affordable housing, such as the recent decision to use a portion of Lake County's allocation of State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funding for that purpose.

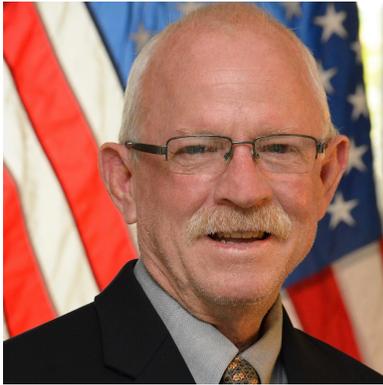
Since quality schools help in attracting businesses, name one or more things you would do to help the School District to improve Lake County Schools.

Part of the problem with our school system is one of perception. Yes, the Lake County School System needs improvement, but it already has much of which it can be proud. We need to help get the message out about the positive things the school system is doing rather than always concentrating on the negative. My opponent often dwells on the system's weaknesses in televised meetings instead of the emphasizing its successes. Work with the School system and the legislature to identify and change the state funding formula that places Lake County 63rd in funding per student, when it is the 19th in size. Continue to work with our education partners to encourage workforce training for non college bound students of all ages.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 5



PETER E. TARBY (DEM)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am currently President of the Umatilla City Council, member for 9 years. Past President Fla. League of Cities Lake Co. and a member for 9 years. Have lived in Umatilla for 31 years. Married to Cathie Sebree Tarby for 5 years. Two children, two grandchildren and another on the way God willing. My wife is a teacher at Umatilla High where I was a Substitute teacher for 15 years and a Varsity coach. I have an AA from Lake Sumter State College. Member of the Impact Fee Committee and the Solid Waste Committee for Lake County. I

also am a Real Estate Broker for 31 years and own my own company. Member of the MPO (metropolitan planning organization), they plan the roads for several counties.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Though not a member of any particular organization, if there is anything in Umatilla I am asked to help with I do my best to cooperate and lend a hand.

In light of the request to permit a sand mine in the County, name one or more changes you would make in the zoning ordinances to prevent the excessive extraction of water for such facility and would prevent development of sensitive areas that must be protected to preserve the water supply.

I believe we need to champion reuse water, do an inventory of water permits outstanding in the county and have very tight developers agreements that say to the builders we are serious about what is important to the citizens of our County. Wildlife, water ways, sensitive areas, development set backs to those areas are most critical to the flourishing environments we expect. We have to be very careful with over crowding in certain areas of Lake County. We need to look at our FLUM (future land use map) and make some serious decisions with owners on what is best going forward. More communication with Cities on their vision of Lake County and the surrounding areas they control.

What one or two things would you do to ensure that the services and infrastructure required by new development in Lake County are provided?

The County leaders and the municipalities with all of their leaders need to make sure we are listening to each other and working toward the betterment of the County as a whole. Sometimes in fighting gets in the way of good ideas, that has to stop. There are bright people all over this County if we would just take the time to hear them. Duplication is a waste of money for everyone, developers might have to step up a little more with what they can offer in their developments.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 5

PETER E. TARBY *(continued)*

Since quality schools help in attracting businesses, name one or more things you would do to help the School District to improve Lake County Schools.

Try and have better communication between the two bodies. For this County to move into the next decade our schools need to be a bigger part and the County Commissioners need to speak up where they feel they should. I understand they are separate bodies, but I have grandchildren in the system and I want it to be the best that it can.

No Contact Information Available



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2



KRISTI BURNS, Ph. D.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I hold a Doctorate in Biochemistry from Georgia Tech and am a mother to 4 children Xander (9), Rowan (5), Anya (3), and Wyatt (3). While attaining my doctorate, I taught college level Chemistry courses. This is unique amongst my competitors in that I have a background that includes teaching, grading, designing and grading exams, and designing laboratories. I have a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Tufts University. I graduated from Eustis High School as salutatorian of my class. I

worked at Dupont on several projects which involved interacting with scientists in the field and in R&D, sales people, marketing, and U.S. military generals. I am the child of teachers. My mother is a 40 year teacher and still teaches in the Lake County schools. My father taught business in Lake County for 7 years before moving on to own his own restaurants. In addition to my advocacy work for the children of Lake County, I recently began chemistry consulting.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Cofounded Lake Test Watch: nonpartisan local group to reduce excessive high-stakes tests
Cofounded Lake County Healthy Schools: Facebook Page
Opt Out Florida Network/Opt Out Lake County: Admin & Local Leader
Spring Creek Charter School: PTO
Treadway Elementary: PTO
Fund Education Now

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My unique background in teaching while working on my Ph.D. has given me a good foundation in what our college bound students need to succeed. Additionally, I began working to change Lake's educational system two years ago when recess was canceled for every child at my son's school. After rallies, speaking before the school board, waiting through several committee meetings, and hitting national news, the school board settled for the superintendent's directive of a measly 60 minutes of recess per week. This fell far short of the recommended 20 minutes per day deemed critical by the American Academy of pediatrics. Nevertheless, this directive has helped some schools. I have since teamed up with parents across the state to bring this issue to the Florida Legislature. I spent 4 days in Tallahassee last year lobbying for Recess. The recess bill passed the house last year but was blocked by the senate. We will bring it back this year to achieve 20 minutes of daily recess for every child in the state of Florida. Of note, my son is now at a school that gives him 2, 15 min. recess periods each day. I choose to work on this for every child in the state of Florida. I provide this as just one example of my experience that has prepared me for this office. I learned a lot about how Tallahassee works and how the school board could more effectively utilize their legislative connections.



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2

KRISTI BURNS *(continued)*

Name one or more specific measures you would support for the Lake County School Board (LCSB) to improve the ability to attract and retain high quality teachers.

I support higher salaries especially for teachers with more experience.

I support a measure that would give teachers with effective and highly effective ratings the guarantee of a job the following year

I support hiring a superintendent that leads through respectful discourse and by positively encouraging creative teachers to work to their best ability instead of governing through fear of job loss. This is a base way to lead employees and does not lead people to working at their best.

I support a superintendent that could lead or effectively hire HR to teach proper managerial skills to administrators that lack these skills. Some administrators in our county also lead through fear and that methodology should either be redirected or eliminated.

How would you accomplish equity and fairness in the distribution of resources among the schools in the District?

I work with the Opt Out Florida Network and Test Watch. We fight to achieve equity in our schools by eliminating high-stakes tests. We do not dislike tests, but instead believe that tests should be teacher created and graded, like spelling tests etc. High-stakes tests can be compared to the SAT test that many of us took in high school. High-stakes tests are tied to 3rd graders moving to 4th grade, teacher and principal salaries, school and district grades, high-school graduation, and distribution of school money. When tests are tied to these sorts of punishments then the test is not accurate because schools 'teach to the test' and our schools become 'test-prep' factories. Additionally, the common core tests are age inappropriate. Therefore, children must be drilled even more so that they learn test material, information that they would easily learn if they were simply ready. This is no way to properly educate children. We must and can stop the excessive test-prep and testing at the local level. We must lobby the state legislature to ensure that they understand the consequences of excessive-testing. This is an huge drain on our resources. Statistically schools that test well are schools with students from high socioeconomic backgrounds. These schools are given extra money. This setup essentially starves schools with lower socioeconomic students, therefore, making it more difficult to hire and retain high quality teachers.

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SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2



SANDI MOORE

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was born in Lake County, graduated from Leesburg High School. Went to college at Union College in Ky, with a Bachelors degree in Religion. My parents both retired as long time educators in Lake County. I have two boys currently in Lake County Schools. I worked for 10 years as a Children and Youth minister at Community Methodist Church, 7 and a half years as the Main Street Manager for the Leesburg Partnership and am currently the Executive Director of the Leesburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Leadership Lake Board of Directors, Boys and Girls Club Board member for the Teeter Unit, Member and past president of Leesburg Sunset Rotary, Leesburg Partnership board member, Toastmasters, member of Community UMC, Lake County Schools CTE Advisory Council, SAC member for Leesburg High School, Executive Committee Chamber Alliance.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My entire working career has been in careers to better our community. In each position I have held, I have had success. I have spent years building relationship across Lake County to give me a unique perspective on the needs of our community. I am someone who takes action to get things accomplished, I don't just talk about change, I make it happen. I am currently the Executive Director of the Leesburg Area Chamber of Commerce. When I started at the Leesburg Chamber the Chamber had lost the trust of the community and had little engagement by its then dwindling membership. I have brought back respect and trust to the Leesburg Chamber and it is now seen, again as one of the stronger Chambers in the county. I plan to use my unique skill set to bring back trust into our school system with Leadership and vision.

Name one or more specific measures you would support for the Lake County School Board (LCSB) to improve the ability to attract and retain high quality teachers.

The first thing will be in the hiring of a new superintendent. This person has to have a proven track record of success. We need to have someone with a vision for Lake County schools and the Leadership skills to carry out that vision to earn the trust of our community. As a school board member we need to hold accountability as one of the most important values.

I think we need to look at all our schools and find programs that draw students into our schools and instill trust in the schools. We need a PR campaign to better communicate the good things that happen in our schools. We need to train our principals on how to motivate and empower our teachers. We also need to engage the community so that they feel ownership in our schools.



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2

SANDI MOORE *(continued)*

How would you accomplish equity and fairness in the distribution of resources among the schools in the District?

This is a great question and one that is not easy to answer. I think we have to look into where the money is being spent in our schools and look at ways we can funnel more money into the classrooms. Unfortunately without starting everyone in a brand new school at the same time there is no real way to make it "fair", but we have to find a way to address those older schools that seem to keep getting overlooked. I think engaging the community and bringing awareness to this will help. We have to advocate for all our children and all our schools.

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SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4



SANDY GAMBLE

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Born in 1958 in the Eustis Hospital, Graduated in 1976 from Tavares High. Married my wife in 1979 after moving to Tn. in March, and back to Fl. in June of 1981. Licensed minister in the Church of God of Prophecy since 1979, and previously ordained as a Bishop in 2013. I served as an elected Tavares City Councilman for 8 years and one as Mayor to Tavares. I coached in youth sports such as youth football, baseball in Tavares for over 13 years. Then on to high school sports in basketball, baseball & softball for a total of about 10 years. Some coaching during the time I was coaching high school softball. I

know how to manage my time to deal with all time needed to do the job required.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Lake Community Action Agency; Tavares youth baseball and booster club President; Tavares High Athletic Booster Club, President for 6 years; High school sports; Local Union for classified employees. Also in church youth camps serving ages from 5 to 18 years of age.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I believe my years as serving as an elected official for the citizens of Tavares on City Council and also representing the city as Mayor has given me the knowledge and experience for government operations and procedures needed to be a asset as a School Board Member. I have worked with budgets, staff and the citizens to do the best I could for all involved.

I believe my work with the church I pastor has given me the ability to cope with difficult situations with finances needed to operate and pay as you go. By not putting the church in debt to do renovations needed, as well as replacing equipment and furnishings. I believe in cutting costs where applicable.

Name one or more specific measures you would support for the Lake County School Board (LCSB) to improve the ability to attract and retain high quality teachers.

Number one for me would be to look at the present pay scale for teachers and do some major improvements needed. It's not just attracting the teachers to come, but having something here to keep them. We need to stop being a training facility for other districts with our staff, but do financially what is needed to retain our highly qualified staff.



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4

SANDY GAMBLE *(continued)*

How would you accomplish equity and fairness in the distribution of resources among the schools in the District?

Need to make changes as needed with the allocations for staff and funding for the schools. Would have to make some needed cuts at the main office of high paid positions that can be then redirected to the schools and classrooms. As noted from the reports from the grant, we are top heavy at the county level. Then after the report we approve more top positions that took away from the funding needed in the classrooms as well as other areas of the district. We have some elementary schools in the Clermont area

that need improvements or even a new school. In Fruitland Park they have been in need of a new campus for years, especially the main building and cafeteria. We need to quit putting in portables and do the right thing. Eustis elementary is also need of attention as well. The Board Members elected and present have a Big job ahead of them in the coming years, no matter who gets elected.

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SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4



JAMES A. MYERS

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am an Iowa native, but have lived in Lake County for 10 years. My two siblings and I were raised by a single mother, who was an elementary school teacher and later became an elementary school media specialist. In addition, my uncle is a retired superintendent and my aunt is a retired high school English teacher.

I am married to my college sweetheart, Lori, who is also a teacher and has thankfully put up with me for over 16 years. We have two children currently in the Lake County school system. Our daughter, Nola, will be a freshman next year at Mt. Dora High School and our son, Nile, will be in 7th grade next year at Mt. Dora Middle School.

I obtained a Bachelor's degree in mathematics from Simpson College in 1999 and my law degree from University of Florida in 2013. I practice with Bowen & Schroth, P.A. in Eustis, and currently handle primarily real estate matters. Lori has taught for Lake County Schools for 10 years, between Seminole Springs Elementary and Mt. Dora High School, and will be the new Assistant Principal at Umatilla Elementary in the fall.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I have volunteered at Seminole Springs Elementary since 2008 and was their 2011 School Volunteer of the Year. I have served on the board of directors for the Educational Foundation of Lake County, Inc. since 2013 and was named their 2015 Board Member of the Year. I have been a Take Stock in Children mentor since 2014. I have served on the School Advisory Council for Mt. Dora Middle School since 2013. I have also been a Justice Teaching volunteer at Seminole Springs Elementary since 2013. I am also a member of the Golden Triangle Kiwanis Club and East Lake Chamber of Commerce.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Part of what has prepared me to serve as a school board member is my diverse training and the ability to analyze problems from all angles in order to make informed decisions. I developed logic and problem solving skills while earning my math degree, investigative, active listening and risk management skills while working as a claims adjuster, and now as an attorney, I am paid to pick issues apart and gather as much information as possible, from as many sources as possible, before forming an opinion. I am also able to analyze contracts, review legal documents and interpret statutes, ordinances, regulations, and judicial opinions, all of which are likely to be encountered by the school board, at some point, over the next 4 years.

In addition, when I left the insurance industry in 2010 to go back to law school, our family of four managed to survive on only a teacher's salary for 3 years. In order to carry our mortgage, car payments and rent for a campus apartment, we trimmed our budget, sacrificed wants in favor of needs and constantly found new ways to keep ourselves afloat. We did not declare bankruptcy, did not fall behind on payments and did not ask for handouts. This is the perspective I bring to the school board.



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4

JAMES A. MYERS *(continued)*

Name one or more specific measures you would support for the Lake County School Board (LCSB) to improve the ability to attract and retain high quality teachers.

Attracting and retaining high quality teachers has to begin with paying our teachers a competitive salary compared to surrounding districts. Right now, our teachers can make an average of \$7,000-\$8,000 more per year just by traveling over the Orange or Seminole County lines. If we want to be competitive, then we have to make higher teacher salaries a board priority.

In addition, we need to start automatically retaining our effective annual contract teachers at the end of each school year. We currently only automatically retain our "highly effective" annual contract teachers each year. This means our "effective" teachers are left to wonder between May and August whether they will have a job, so many accept offers from other districts. At the same time, however, we need to improve our teacher evaluation process to ensure the "effective" and "highly effective" ratings mean what they say. The first step toward doing so is to eliminate the use of student test scores as a measurement of teacher effectiveness altogether. The next step is to involve teachers in the process of creating a more comprehensive evaluation system. Both of these steps would have my full support.

How would you accomplish equity and fairness in the distribution of resources among the schools in the District?

I am a firm believer in zero-based budgeting as a way to identify and address the inequitable distribution and inefficient use of resources. The current budget process of basing next year's figures on the prior year's expenses has created an environment where the "if we don't spend it we'll lose it" mentality has been allowed to take root. I want to begin each budget cycle by allocating enough resources to meet each legally required minimum in the budget and then build from there. I want each department head, school administrator, etc. to justify, as a discussion item at a public meeting, why they need additional resources beyond the required minimums. More importantly, I also want to hear justification as to how their intended use of those resources will serve the best interests of the students. I would also visit each school and facility, and speak with teachers and staff, to see the needs and current allocation of resources firsthand, which will allow me to make more informed budget decisions.

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COUNTY COURT JUDGE GROUP 2



CARY RADA

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am a 1994 graduate of Stetson University College of Law. I have practiced law here in Lake County for over 21 years. I served as an Assistant State Attorney in Lake County for 8 years where I was one of the first prosecutors assigned to Judge Donna Miller's Courtroom in 1995. In 2003, I established a private law practice in Tavares where I am currently employed. I have been a Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer since 2003. Less than one percent of all Florida lawyers are Board Certified in criminal trial. During my legal career I conducted numerous jury trials and evidentiary hearings, ranging from misdemeanor to homicide cases. As a teenager, I developed a strong work ethic while working in the construction industry on weekends and school breaks. I have been blessed with a wonderful wife, Brandy, and five terrific children, Christian, Christopher, Matthew, Andrew, and Ethan.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

St. Patrick's Catholic Church - Parishioner\ Volunteer
Rotary - Member\ Volunteer
Kiwanis - Member \ Volunteer
Youth Sports Coach - Y.M.C.A.
Lake County Bar - Member

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

The office for which I am running is the seat being vacated by Judge Donna Miller. Judge Miller presides over County Court criminal cases. I served as an Assistant State Attorney in Lake County for 8 years where I was one of the first prosecutors assigned to Judge Miller's Courtroom in 1995. I prosecuted cases before Judge Miller until 1998 when I was promoted to a Felony position where I served until 2003, thereafter I established a private law practice in Tavares where I am currently employed. I have operated a successful law practice for the past 13 years where I am in the office by 7am and often work weekends in my commitment to providing my clients the best possible representation. I have been a Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer since 2003. During my legal career I conducted numerous jury trials and evidentiary hearings, ranging from misdemeanor to homicide cases. I have nearly 22 years of criminal trial experience both as an Assistant State Attorney and as private defense counsel. I am the only Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer running for this office.

What do you believe is the most important quality for a judge?

A judge must ensure that every individual receives equal justice under the law. A judge must be fair and unbiased. A judge must not hear a case with any preconceived notions. Knowledge of the law and prior courtroom experience are key to any well qualified judicial candidate.

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COUNTY COURT JUDGE GROUP 2



BRIAN WELKE

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1965 and moved to Central Florida in 1970 graduating from Tavares High School in 1983. I volunteered in the United States Army in 1984 and served for 4 years in Texas, Colorado, and South Korea. I attended Florida State University and obtained a degree in Political Science and History in 1991 and then attended the University of Tulsa and received my Juris Doctorate in 1997.

I am married to Teresa and we have two sons, Chris and Alex, Chris serves in the U.S. Air Force.

I have been practicing law in Lake County since 1997 with my first job working as an assistant county attorney for Lake County. But nine months out of law school, in 1998, I opened my office in Mt. Dora and then moving it to Eustis in 2003. Since 1998 I have represented dozens of homeowners and renters associations and over 2,000 individual clients in Lake County. Now my practice is limited to the area of estate planning, probate, and adoption law. I am a member of the Florida Adoption Council and a Fellow of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys. In 2012, I opened Florida Adoption Services, a full service adoption agency. I have participated in placing over 400 children in adoptive homes.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Camp counselor, Camp Challenge Easter Seals Camp
Florida Bar Grievance Committee - two terms
Volunteer Judge for Lake County Teen Court
Board of Directors, Korean Veterans Association, Lake County
President 106th Infantry Division Association
Associate member of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Lake County
Board of Directors, CODE HORSE, a non-profit serving veterans and first responders with PTSD using equine therapy
Eustis Little League coach
Kiwanis Golden Triangle

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

The 19 years that I have been practicing law has prepared me. In 1998, I opened my law office 9 months out of law school and 6 months after passing the Florida Bar. And since that I have represented over 2,000 individual clients as well as several dozen homeowner associations; HOAs, condominium, coops, and renters. Some of the clients that I have worked with were very wealthy while others had virtually nothing; they did not know where they were going to sleep from night to night or where their next meal came from. But regardless of their socioeconomic status I strive to treat everyone with the same civility, courtesy, and respect and if elected I am committed to bring that to the courtroom.



COUNTY COURT JUDGE GROUP 2

BRIAN WELKE *(continued)*

What do you believe is the most important quality for a judge?

Integrity. The citizens of Lake County must believe they will be treated fairly when they enter a courtroom. The Judge should be honest and impartial. The citizens deserve to have a judge who cares about their case as much as they do and will allow all parties the opportunity to be heard.

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DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS, 5TH APPELLATE DISTRICT



JAY P. COHEN

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Judge Cohen graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1974, and a Juris Doctor degree in 1978. Judge Cohen participated in the honors program as an undergraduate and both taught and supervised the teaching of legal research and writing while in law school.

Beginning his career in Sarasota County, Judge Cohen moved to Orlando in 1980 where he prosecuted for two years. In 1982 he entered private practice. Judge Cohen handled the defense of criminal cases, juvenile dependency, as well as domestic relations, before branching out into personal injury.

Appointed to the County Court bench in 1990 by Governor Martinez, Judge Cohen served in the traffic, criminal, and civil divisions, initiating a highly successful volunteer-based mediation program. In 1993, Judge Cohen was appointed to the Circuit Court bench by Governor Chiles. Judge Cohen was assigned to the domestic relations, juvenile, criminal, and civil divisions in both Orange and Osceola counties. Judge Cohen was appointed to the appellate court by Governor Crist.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Active in his community, Judge Cohen has participated in many civic and charitable endeavors such as Kiwanis, Greater Orlando Chamber of Commerce Drug Free Task Force, Downtown Orlando Partnership, University of Florida Gator Boosters, and Habitat for Humanity.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Judge Cohen served on the Florida Bar Criminal Rules Committee from 2002-2008 and was vice chair from 2005-2008. He was a member of the Florida Bar Criminal Law Section Executive Committee from 2006-2008. He also served on the Florida Supreme Court FCTC Privacy and Court Records Report Implementation Workgroup. He is the current Chair of the Florida Supreme Court Criminal Court Steering Committee and serves on the Commission on District Court of Appeal Performance and Accountability. Judge Cohen taught frequently for both the Conference of Circuit Court Judges and Advanced Judicial Studies program and speaks at seminars for both the Florida and Orange County Bar Associations. Topics have ranged from evidence, sentencing, and legislative and rule updates, as well as various topics related to appellate practice.

Judge Cohen was a member of the American Inn of Court from 1995-2000, serving as President from 1997-1998. He was a member of the Central Florida Woman Lawyers Association for approximately 20 years.

He has published articles on County Court Mediation, The Standard of Review in Cases Involving Improper Prosecutorial Comment, Criminal Law for the Bridge the Gap Manual as well as materials for numerous course teachings. Since joining the appellate court, Judge Cohen has authored over 400 opinions.



DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS, 5TH APPELLATE DISTRICT

JAY P. COHEN *(continued)*

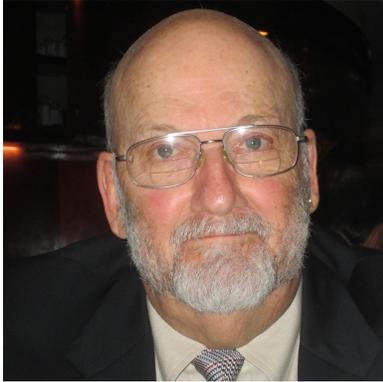
What do you believe is the most important quality for a judge?

At the appellate level, the most important qualities for a judge are having an open mind, being able to read briefs and listen to arguments without prejudice, and the ability to write clearly and concisely.

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ARLINGTON RIDGE CDD SUPERVISOR SEAT 3



STEWART KAPLAN

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was raised in New York City, where I attended the prestigious High School of Music and Art and Pratt Institute. Served in the US Army from 1954-1957. I practiced architecture in the NYC suburbs for many years until I decided to open a furniture repair business. In 2006 I retired to Arlington Ridge.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I'm a member of the City of Leesburg Planning Commission and the Arlington Ridge Architectural Control Committee. I'm a former scout leader and was active in adult recreation activities in NY.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My life and job experiences, including my AR and Leesburg civic responsibilities are an indication of my desire and ability to serve this community. My experience as a planner will enable me to be an integral part of any decisions to be made regarding the expansion and maintenance of the CDD facilities.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Recreation and leisure planning and implementation:
My experience will allow me, with the assistance of my fellow CDD Board members and resident input, to layout a practical site plan . Working closely with FLC I'm sure we can put together a vision for the future, if not sooner.
2. Budget:
Working to ensure that the residents contribution to the budget is used to provide and maintain services and facilities that will continue to enhance our community.
3. Restaurant:
Our restaurant has had it's problems in the past, and in the eyes of many, the problems persist. I'd like to work with the other CDD board members to create a long-term plan to make our dining amenity profitable.

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EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2



BRANDON AVALLONE

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

My name is Brandon Avallone. My parents are both veterans of the U.S. Air Force. My upbringing in a military family taught me a great deal about civic responsibility and patriotism. Four years ago I moved to Eustis and Today I proudly call it my home. After 23 years of living where my family was needed most by our country I am able to at last grow my roots. Family, faith, and community are the pillars of our great town and are the foundation on which I have built my life. My interest and devotion to this position stems from the enormous

growth I have experienced both personally and economically. I am deeply committed to enabling others to prosper as I have. For the last four years I have worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs in Eustis. I have experienced first hand how vital to our community small business is. Today I am proud to manage one of the largest, most successful restaurants in Eustis. At 1884 I have the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of people from across Eustis. Under my leadership we have drastically reduced waste and increased productivity. Over the last several years I have worked as a volunteer for several political campaigns and movements. I am honored to potentially use these experiences to represent Eustis. This November, I ask that you vote for me. In return for your vote I will utilize my knowledge of the small business world to enable responsible economic growth.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

The Air Force enlisted village in Shalimar Florida provides housing for the widows of Airmen. For over ten years I have volunteered to help provide some of the most amazing women I have ever met a home. In college I chaired and attended multiple clubs and organizations from the young Republicans association to the Gay Straight Alliance. In high school I graduated as a Technical Sergeant in Jr. ROTC, where I learned firsthand the values of teamwork and leadership.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My experience with small business has shown me how important effective leadership and responsible development is to our economy. The growth and stability I have achieved today would not have been possible without a strong coalition of small businesses. Our business owners and local leaders conduct themselves on the principals of community, entrepreneurship, and progress. These values enable growth and combat poverty. Under my guidance at 1884 my team and I have have used these values to reduce waste while simultaneously increasing productivity. We have learned that as a team we stand stronger and are better equipped than we would be on our own accord. My team and I know that taking ownership of a less than perfect situation is the quickest way to resolve any issue. In my experiences I have realized that the most effective leadership is engaged and on the ground to take direct action with any project or situation that may arise. I intend to utilize my understanding of leadership to work directly with the people of Eustis to ensure transparency and effectiveness. Weather a team of employees, or an entire community, working together for a common goal creates success socially, economically, and politically. When communities succeed, individuals achieve.



EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2

BRANDON AVALLONE *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Economy- To enable growth I propose tax incentives for businesses that employ locals and grants to invest in our future. Tax incentives will provide small business with a more malleable budget which will allow expanded operations. By creating incentives to hire we ultimately increase the number of tax payers without increasing or instituting taxes. Increasing the amount of overall taxable income in Eustis will provide us with a larger budget surplus which we can invest in grants and public works projects. I intend for Eustis to provide grants to people and non-profit organizations in developing new and exciting ideas in the fields of city planning, technology, community development, tourism, and the arts.

Development- Eustis is rapidly growing. By focusing our development on primary corridors like Orange ave, highway 441, and Bates ave we can create a more captivating, sustainable cityscape which will invigorate both tourism and entrepreneurship. Our lakes and our historic charm are our most valuable assets. By preserving and conserving areas like Trout Lake, the historic district, and Ferran park we are able to maintain a distinct and prosperous Eustis.

Voter apathy- I intend to increase voter turnout and engage all of our residents. Individuals can and do have and impact on local elections. I plan to work with local educators to develop more modern educational material for our youngest voters. I also hope to inspire young people to become active in local politics.

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EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2



ANTHONY SABATINI

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

As a proud life-long resident of Eustis, I know that what makes our city great is our unparalleled quality of life, hometown atmosphere, and strong sense of community and values. I believe the challenge facing Eustis is the task of continuing to expand economic opportunity for every Eustis citizen while sustaining our hometown atmosphere and values.

I graduated Eustis High School in 2007 and served as student body president. Afterward, I graduated magna cum laude from the University of Florida in 2012, where I also commissioned as an Infantry Officer into the Florida Army National Guard. I am currently finishing my law degree from the University of Florida, where I serve as an editor of the Journal of Law and Public Policy, focusing on issues of local government.

I proudly serve as an Executive Officer in the Florida Army National Guard and have served for 8 years (2-124th IN). After college, I began work as a high school history teacher and substitute teacher, and then managed several of my family's small businesses around Lake County, where I learned firsthand the effort it takes to make a profit. Afterward, I worked as an active duty operations manager in the National Guard, planning the training for 500+ soldiers.

I believe my background in organizational management, zeal for public service and insight into local issues enable me to contribute to my hometown in a positive way.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

- Eustis Code Enforcement Board
- Lake County Elder Affairs Committee
- Lake County Water Safety Advisory Board
- Lake Eustis Chamber of Commerce
- Elks Lodge #1578, Eustis
- Eustis Historical Museum & Preservation Society
- Lake County Republican Executive Committee
- Lake County Gator Club
- American Legion
- National Rifle Association
- The Federalist Society
- St. Mary of the Lakes Church, Eustis



EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2

ANTHONY SABATINI *(continued)*

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Both as an officer in the Florida Army National Guard and as a small business manager, I've learned that listening closely to and learning from those you serve is the key to success as a leader—no matter what the task at hand. The Eustis City Commission needs a member who takes into account the experiences of every Eustis citizen. As a military officer, I've worked to do just that—and to develop and challenge those I've served.

Growing up in Eustis instilled in me a passion to help drive our city forward into a greater place to live; it also inspired me to work to preserve our unique identity and true sense of community. I believe being a life-long resident of Eustis will help me balance these important concerns.

Accomplishments in local government, like elsewhere, take much time and work: having a clear and strong vision is the key to success. With every venture I've led, whether in government or business, I've started with a realistic vision of what I set out to achieve. I believe that my vision for a more prosperous and active Eustis, built on traditional hometown values, will serve to uplift our cities residents.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Expanding economic opportunity for every Eustis citizen.
 - Revitalizing and growing a vibrant and walkable downtown through tax incentives, vouchers, and grants.
 - Creating business-friendly government practices through continuous innovation.
 - Supporting the Economic Development Incentive Program
 - Attracting new businesses by waiving permitting fees and other obstacles.
 - Expanding family-friendly events downtown by utilizing Ferran park, the lakefront, and our bandshell.
 - Stopping property tax increases.
2. Enhancing community involvement and civic participation.
 - Increasing our support to key community partners such as The Bay Street Players, Trout Lake Nature Center, Lake Eustis Sailing Club and others, to actively engage our citizens through more activities.
 - Educating and activating our young people to participate in civic culture by creating a civic education program with Eustis High School in which students shadow constitutional officers in the city.
 - Developing an ethos of preservation and sustainability concerning our waterways by creating a Eustis Preservation organization.
3. Practicing smart growth and sustained planning.
 - Ensuring public safety by strengthening our police and fire departments.
 - Practicing municipal accountability through continuous oversight and by tracking departmental goals.
 - Prioritizing our roads and sidewalks by expanding the maintenance fund.
 - Simplifying and reforming the Land Development Regulations.

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EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2



MICHAEL "MIKE" STRONG

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- U.S. Army Veteran 1997-2005 (Military Police)
- Graduate Seminole State College 2000
- 4th Generation Native Central Floridian
- 3rd Generation Central Florida Law Enforcement Officer with 10 years' service with local agencies.
- Small Business Owner and an Assistant Director of a Licensed Private Investigation & Licensed Upscale Security Firm right here in Lake County.
- State of Florida Security/Firearms Instructor
- FDLE/CJSTC Instructor
- NRA Instructor
- Master Mason

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

- Masonic Lodge
- Wounded Warrior Foundation
- Habitat for Humanity
- Outdoors without Limits

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I am a U.S. Army Veteran, a 3rd generation Central Florida Law Enforcement Officer, and a proud 4th generation Central Floridian. I have also owned and operated a small business here in Central Florida. I am a father of two, one with special needs. Having grown up on a Florida cattle ranches and currently running a business of 30 plus employees, I am no stranger to hard work. I excel in diverse team environments and in problem elimination. I have represented clients, employees, fellow officers and the poor. I have faced danger, stood in the presence of death and have seen the weak do some great things. I have also seen some changes in our area that have concerned me and I have a clear vision of the future and what needs to be done to correct those issues. Eustis will grow rapidly in the upcoming years, we must work together and control this growth so Eustis does not experience the negative aspects that other cities in this area have endured with such growth. Working in Law Enforcement in this environment has given me helpful insight and good experience to address and tackle these upcoming issues. We must also continue to be fiscally conservative and limit raising taxes, while in these hard economic times



EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 2

MICHAEL “MIKE” STRONG *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

- 1. Rapid Growth:** a city commissioner must work within a team environment and to help combat the issues that come with rapid growth in a city. Working in Law Enforcement in west Orange county and south Lake county, I have seen firsthand what growth can do to City without a firm plan. Are you ready for traffic congestion, overcrowded classrooms, crime increase, wildlife issues, and pollution?? Where do you think Eustis will be when the 429 is finished? Choose your candidate wisely.
- 2. A Clear Vision on City Planning:** Building on number 1, the City/Commission must have a clear theme and vision for the suspected growth. It must include a fair and equally just environment for one to raise a family, work, and play. I feel my experience, both in growing up in central Florida, along with my experiences as a public servant and private business owner, give me a unique ability/perspective on this area.
- 3. Employees of the City:** Simple, you want the best the City has to offer, you have to have the best paid and qualified people for the job. Employee's come first.

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EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 3



MARIE H. ALIBERTI

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was born and raised in Canton, Ohio. I started visiting Eustis in the early 1970's after my parents bought a local business, Eustis Block & Supply, Inc. My return to Lake County was in 1979 when my husband and I bought a business. Having inherited the entrepreneurial gene was great but my real passion was to be a teacher. After graduating from the University of Central Florida, I began my career at Eustis High School teaching business for over 25 years. As the Eustis High School Workforce Development Coordinator, I was involved with the

local business owners and eventually became a Eustis business owner. The business community is the driving force that contributes to the local economy by bringing growth and innovation. For the citizens of Eustis, this growth and innovation helps promote a family friendly culture and vitality. We are Eustis - America's Hometown. I would like to give back to this community as a public servant through the office of Eustis City Commissioner Seat #3.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of Kiwanis Club of Mount Dora, past member and officer of Kiwanis Tavares - Safe Harbor.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I have been in a leader in the educational arena with my participation on the following boards/committees:
Florida Department of Education - State Technical Committee
Diversified Cooperative Education Teachers of Florida (DCTAF) - President
American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI) Certified Hospitality Instructor
Florida Hotel and Motel Lodging Association now Florida Restaurant Association
Florida Association for Career and Technical Education
EF Education First - Director/Coordinator 2012-2014 - International Homestay Program

Though my experiences in many organizations, I have developed expertise in the areas of communication, collaboration and negotiation.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Issue number one will be to define the city's brand. The city already has a master plan for each component of the strategic plan and continues the progress. All stakeholders need to be invited to participate in the formation of the city branding through meetings and surveys.

Issue number two is to develop the relationship with the educational community. I would design a program utilizing a liaison for school/community events and implementation of community service/mentoring program.

Issue number three is to develop a strategy to attract small business to Eustis. I plan to develop a relationship with Lake Technical College so Eustis may benefit with skilled technicians, when the Center for Advanced Manufacturing, opens in the fall of 2017.



EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION SEAT 3

MARIE H. ALIBERTI *(continued)*

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GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1



JAMES SMITH

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Born and raised in Virginia, Educated through the public school system Class of 1973.

Entered the United States Army in July 1973 - August 1993 completing a career after servicing for 20 years advancing to the rank of Sergeant First Class. Married to Janice Smith of 35 years, children Boucherie, James II, Keith, Kevin and six grand children. BS in Business Management, Coker College, Troy State University, 15 credit hours toward MPA in Public Administration.

Currently employed as a educator with the Hillsborough Co. School District for 23.5 years

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

American Legion Post 239, Groveland Historical Society, Friends of Marion Baysinger Memorial Library, Lake Co. Democratic Black Caucus, Lake Sumter State College Diversity Board and Past 2nd Vice President of Florida Black Democratic Caucus.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I believe my leadership ability is most important quality that I will bring to this position because of experiences and various leadership and management positions that held throughout my military career along with the institutional training and development received through the United States Army. My involvement within my community and local government over the last twenty three years have more than prepared me for this office, serving from volunteer to becoming an elected official as councilman to mayor for fourteen plus years.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Structure: It is essential for the growth of any city is directly related to the elected officials ability to work together to implement a culture of structure by building a team that puts the needs of our citizens first thus improving our community for the future.
2. Economic growth: Growing our city without increasing taxes can be accomplished through incentives package and private/ public partnership, small business, franchise Opportunities, and the Quality of life enhancement
3. Leadership/ Creditibility: Former Mayor (2yrs), Councilman (14 yrs) US Army (20 yrs), Married 35 yrs, Family Oriented, a Model Citizen, and a Avid supporter of Domestic Violence Awareness.
4. Realignment of SR 50 in our city: work closely with lake county MPO and FDOT

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GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1



GLEN WILSON

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am GLEN WILSON and I am running for the office of Mayor of the City of Groveland.

I have been in Florida for 28 years, and now live in Groveland for the last 10 years, coming here from So. Florida. I currently live in the Trilogy community. I am a Viet Nam Era U.S. Army Veteran. I was previously employed at Michigan Bell Telephone Co. and transferred to Florida, working for BellSouth Telecommunications, which eventually became

AT&T, and I retired in 2006, as a Facility Technician.

I attended Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, and graduated in 1980 receiving a bachelor's degree.

1985-1987, I was an employee of Litton Industries, a defense contractor, working in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

have been a parental volunteer at Growing Together, Inc. working as a mentor for juveniles with addiction problems.

I have been a member and representative in the Communications Workers of America.

I am a member of the Trilogy of Orlando Veterans Association (TOVA)

I am a former member of the Groveland Community Partnership (GCP)

I was a Co-Founder of the Groveland Citizen's Alliance PAC (GCA)

I am a member of the Groveland Cares, Inc.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

During the last 8 years, I have been a Taxpayer Watchdog, and Political Activist, holding the City of Groveland's government and senior staff accountable and transparent.

I have identified potential and actual wasteful spending, and projects that were not in the best interests of taxpayers and residents.

I am an avid defender of the First Amendment Freedom of Speech Rights for members of the public.

I convinced the city council to cut their own salaries in 2010 and again in 2012. I stopped the building of a \$6.6 million dollar amphitheater, when residents opposed it. I convinced the council to end plans for a \$9-15 million dollar public safety complex, that was wasteful spending.

I have accomplished much of this by many records requests, and my watchful eye on monthly expenditure reports. I convinced the CRA Board to end the practice of sponsoring city events with CRA funds. I have identified city employees being paid improperly from the wrong funds in opposition to Fla. Statutes.



GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

GLEN WILSON *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

The City's Building Fund has grown too large, so I have a plan to reduce it by \$500,000 by sending each and every homeowner a 1 time rebate check of \$125, with a strong recommendation to spend these rebates within the City of Groveland, amongst our many merchants, vendors, and contractors. This would instantly stimulate the economy. The 2nd part of my plan would give all new construction homeowners a 1 time rebate of \$500, after they close on their home. Again with a strong recommendation to spend the rebate within Groveland. My plan will stimulate the economy by several million dollars over the next 20 years.

I think it is imperative to restore taxpayer and resident confidence in their city government. This is accomplished by the hiring of a new, highly qualified and experienced City Manager. I will assist in finding and employing the very best talent available.

We need to restore public Freedom of Speech Rights, by allowing access to the podium at ALL public meetings, including council meetings, workshops, special meetings, town hall meetings, and retreats. This public access will be available to all CRA meetings also.

I am a strong advocate for TERM LIMITS, and want to see this issue on the Nov. 2017 ballot.

I want to see a new city hall complex placed on the ballot for approval by taxpayers and voters. The city council's salary is still too high, and I want to see a reduction again.

We need to return to true transparency and fiscal responsibility.

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GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3



DINA SWEATT

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Graduated High School in 197 moved to Orlando, FL in 1975 and went to work as Leasing agent for apartment complex. In 1979, I changed jobs and started working with children as an activity agent for Yogi bear Camp Ground. From there I worked in a print shop for 14 years until I became disabled from inhaling chemical smells and ruined my lungs. I then became a volunteer for Clarcona Elementary, then Ocoee Middle School. We moved to Groveland in September 2002 so my son could attend South Lake

High. This is when I became interested in going to the council meetings. After attending the meetings for several years and volunteering for different event I decided to run for council. I lost my first two tries but succeeded in 2013 when the mayor at that time stepped down and Tim Loucks took his place. There was a special election for his seat and I won. I had to qualify again in June of that same year but had no opposition so I took the seat for another two years. I have worked with people most of my life and being on council helps me to help the citizens. I want to make Groveland be the best place to live in Florida.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Groveland - Mascotte womens club - President 2 years but has since dissolved.
Groveland Cares - 7 years now - feeding the needy at Thanksgiving
Community Redevelopment Agency - 2 years

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I have served as the President of Green Valley West for 10 years, 1 as Treasurer and now 1 as Vice President. The experience with the HOA has led me into many, many issues as this deals with the residents and what they would like to see within our community. The citizens of Groveland are no different. Everyone has different ideas and qualities they would like to see happen in Groveland.

Groveland has come a long way and as a council member I would like to see it grow further with new businesses and new residents.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

#1 - To keep our taxes low. We managed to lower the taxes for 2016 - 2017. The more homes built the more tax base we have to work with which will help keep our taxes low.

#2 - To re-establish Sampey Rd. as the Groveland Commerce Park which will potentially increase the tax base and DECREASE YOUR PROPERTY TAXES. This is property that has stood vacant for many years with no use but if the council sells this property then this will increase the tax base and give us more money to build with. We do need a new City Hall.

#3 - To build a new fire station on Hwy. 50 by Tractor Supply which is badly needed. The station we have now is not really centrally located to accomodate Groveland. The new station will be in the middle of the city giving quicker access to the needs of its citizens.



GROVELAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

DINA SWEATT *(continued)*

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LADY LAKE COMMISSION WARD 2



TONY HOLDEN

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

2 years Business Administration – Miami U. of Ohio
Professional Fire Fighter – 30 years, company officer
Military – Army National Guard – Ohio
President Oak Grove Home Owners Association for 12 years

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Lake County Water Alliance – Commission Representative
Lady Lake Police Pension fund – Commission Representative
Habitat For Humanity
American Legion Post 347 - member

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Town of Lady Commissioner for past 10 years
Have worked to keep taxes low and with balanced budgets.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

To continue keeping the Town running like a well oiled machine.
Keeping taxes as low as possible while providing all needed services.
Improving recreation parks & requiring a recreation set-aside for new developments.
Encourage developers to provide better access roads for their projects.
Maintaining our high standards for the Police Force.

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LADY LAKE COMMISSION WARD 2



ANDREW N. LO FARO

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I was originally born in Newburgh, New York and moved to Lady Lake, Florida with my parents in 1996. Being raised in Lady Lake; I am very familiar with this wonderful township and have first handedly participated in it's growth, since attending our very first elementary school it's first year in operation.

I recently graduated with honors from Lake Sumter State College with my Associate in Arts Degree and am currently finishing my Bachelor's Degree in Clinical Health Sciences at the University of Central Florida, with hopes of attending Medical School soon thereafter. In addition to being a full time student, I also currently serve St. Timothy Roman Catholic Church as the Coordinator of Religious Education.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I am currently the Past President of the area's local chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, an international Honor Society for two year colleges. I am also a member of the American Medical Student Association and past member of the Kiwanis Club of Lady Lake, an international service organization whose primary focus is on serving the children of the world.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Since my childhood I have always been interested in community service and taking advantage of every opportunity to give back. As a young student I did a report on President John F. Kennedy and was moved by his inaugural speech, particularly the portion where he challenges the American people to step up to the plate and ask what they can do to give back to their country. This part of his speech made me think, what can I do for my country?

I have always been involved in community organizations through my youth and into adulthood and my experience with many organizations such as The Kiwanis Club of Lady Lake, Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society to which I belong, as well as shadowing several physicians, as part of my pre-medicine training, has exposed me to many different aspects of life and has broadened my views of the world.

In addition, I have become familiar with decision making that not only impacts my life and career but also directly impacts those which I represent and work alongside. All of my professional experiences thus far, including personnel, planning and budget decision making, as well as organizing meetings, and being responsible for the care and well-being of children in my charge has led me to what I feel is the next step in my career; public service to my community.



LADY LAKE COMMISSION WARD 2

ANDREW N. LO FARO *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Firstly, the citizens of Lady Lake need to have a voice who will represent them and their ideas in our local government. I have always and will continue to have an open door policy that will allow the citizens of Lady Lake to be able to voice their concerns, ideas, or needs to me. Representation in public office should never be intimidating to anyone.

Secondly, I want to ensure the citizens of Lady Lake are safe. Currently, the Town of Lady Lake has open positions for full-time police officers. Last year the police department spent enough money on overtime for their officers to warrant the addition of another police officer. Our Town is growing and so must our police force.

Continually, I am also a large proponent of sponsored family activities. I would like to see a continuation and increase in some of the town's sponsored family activities. Providing a safe place for our young children and families to go and enjoy our beautiful town is very important and if elected I will work to make that happen.

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MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE



CATHY HOECHST

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am a native Floridian and have lived in the Mount Dora area for 33 years.

I have an undergraduate degree in nursing from Florida Southern and a Masters degree in Healthcare Administration from the Medical College of Virginia.

I have taken a number of courses over the years in management and recently in

Municipal management.

I worked for Orlando Health as a Vice president responsible and accountable for a hospital and retired as the person responsible for the computer systems for all the facilities. I have served as the paid staff of the Mount Dora Area Chamber of Commerce for 10 years as the President and was the Mayor of Mount Dora from 2013 to 2015.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I serve as the Chairperson of the Board for Lake Cares Food Pantry. I am an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Dora and serve as the Secretary and advisor to the Key Club at Mount Dora High School. I am a Board member of the Friends of the Library and actively work with Women for Hospice and Relay for Life.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

In all my previous roles the skills of thoughtful oversight and budget management were required. My positions required me to be fiscally conservative and accountable to the stakeholders. That will help me to hone in on the area of greatest concern and to know the questions to ask to get to the heart of the issues. Those previous roles held also taught me the importance of oversight and guidance, as it relates to sending a clear message to the employees charged with carrying out the tasks established by the policymakers—in this case, the city council. Those attributes, combined with my willingness to reach out to all citizens of Mount Dora for their thoughts and input in this critical time that the city is entering with the coming of the Wekiva Parkway and the exciting introduction of a new city manager will make me a worthy public servant.



MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

CATHY HOECHST *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Development of an Economic plan and how to implement the plan is vital to the success of Mount Dora in the future. There are several options available and the council will need to decide the approach and support the process agreed upon.

We need to continue with the work of implementing the elements of the city's Envision Plan and provide an environment that will create adequate tax revenues.

We need to build relationships outside Mount Dora. We need to be involved with our surround communities as decisions are being made for the future of Lake County.

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MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE



SUSAN NEMEC

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

In the last 30 years I single-handedly built two successful businesses. Today I operate a gift store in Mount Dora's downtown historic area that I founded in 2009: Ashley's Flags and Sports Shoppe. I have expanded the business twice, and today it is the largest downtown gift store, selling to residents, businesses and tourists. My first business was located in Atlanta, and provided facilitation-transcription services for organizations and government entities, most of whom were seeking to change local, state and federal laws. I live in the Country Club of Mount Dora, and

previously lived downtown. I am invested in Mount Dora as both a homeowner and a local business owner, bringing a unique perspective to the City Council. I am not a politician. I work hard. I listen. I ask questions. I am honest and fair. My business experience has taught me to be fiscally responsible.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Mount Dora Village Merchants Association before it morphed into an entertainment company.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

My experience handling all aspects of building two successful businesses prepares me to analyze information and data, conduct research, and understand budgets. I am a good listener. I ask questions. I am compassionate. I am fiscally responsible. My businesses have taught me the value of cash and reserves, in addition to providing me strategic planning skills and experience.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Planning SMART growth along the Wekiva Parkway area is the most important. We need industry and commerce in that area as a new source of taxes for the city operations. Nothing gets cheaper; it gets more expensive. Right now the burden is almost solely on residents. I will only vote for growth that has been carefully planned, so today's residents aren't paying for future residents/industry's needs. Without careful planning we will see more utility rates hikes, extended fire assessment fees, and higher taxes on today's residents to support the future growth. Money will be needed for infrastructure (water/sewer), additional Fire and EMS equipment and buildings, additional Fire and Police personnel needed for safety, and an overall increase in city operations.
2. Avoiding the temptation to spend more money on downtown renovations until after we've made progress on the Wekiva Parkway and brought in new revenue sources is a concern. I will vote against putting more money into downtown until we have new revenue.
3. Our city owns much waterfront property devoted to nature and parks – the boardwalk, Evans Park (end of Donnelly), Lawn Bowling Club property, Gilbert Park across from the lighthouse, Simpson Cove between the marina & boardwalk, and two sets of docks. There will be pressure to develop these city-owned areas to turn them into commercial use, rather than leave them as the unique gems they are – undeveloped. I will stand with those who want to protect these assets.



MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

SUSAN NEMEC *(continued)*

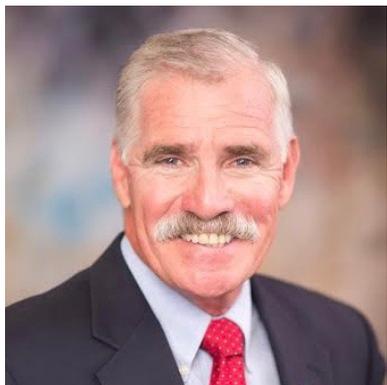
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MOUNT DORA CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3



JOHN TUCKER

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

A sixteen year resident of Mount Dora. Past member of the Mount Dora Community Advisory Committee, member of the Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce and past Board member and member of Visit Mount Dora. I served 30 years as a Federal Law Enforcement Officer where I conducted investigations into mail bombs, mail fraud and other violations of postal laws. Later, i taught at the the Postal Inspection Service Training Academy and Bomb School. I currently head a fraud unit for a Florida-based insurance company. My wife

and I also own a small business in Mount Dora. My formal education is a Bachelors of Science degree in Political Science from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Former appointed member of the Mount Dora Redevelopment Advisory Committee. Current member and past Board member of Visit Mount Dora which focuses on attracting visitors to the area and for over a decade served as a Mount Dora community volunteer. Active member of the Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

AS a 16 year resident, I have been active in the community. As a past member of the Mount Dora Community Redevelopment Advisory Committee, I listened and communicated directly with the business owners on a major construction issue facing them. My experience serving on 'Visit Mount Dora', a non-profit, has given me insight into attracting visitors to our city which boost the local economy.. I have shown that I'm an excellent listener and have a history of making thoughtful decisions and recommendations on every organization which i served. I have also attended Mount Dora City Council meetings throughout the last six years. Those experiences combined with currently owning a small business in Mount Dora provide me with an informed and well rounded perspective on the city.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Preserve and maintain the integrity and beauty of our historic downtown.

Ensure mount Dora is well-equipped to handle its upcoming growth in a fiscally responsible manner.

Employ solutions to improve downtown parking and traffic flow: No more "Kicking the can" down the road.

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TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 1



LISA JOHNSON

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Hello my name is Lisa Johnson and I am currently running for Tavares City council seat 1. I have lived in Tavares for over 20 years and just love everything about our beautiful, quaint town. I have been a small business owned in Tavares for 10 years and feel I have a vested interest in the growth and development of Tavares. I feel since serving for the last 2 years I have learned a lot about government and would like to continue with all the great projects I have been involved in. I have proven I can think for myself and care

about the citizens of Tavares.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

I have been a member and board of director of the Tavares chamber. I also have served on the MPO board of Lake county. I am currently on the historical society committee of lake county.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

I feel as a small business owner I have learned how to operate and run a business and work closely with others. I also worked for over 15 years as a supervisor with a big box chain and had to take care of many clients and issues that would arise.

My current business is as a weightloss and nutrition coach and I care about the well being of my clients and also care for the citizens of Tavares that I serve for. I have proven I think for the best of others and am willing to fight for the right cause.

I enjoy helping and serving others and I believe that is a great quality to have as a council member.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

I see the 3 most important issues are

1) Help grow and build the downtown business district. We need more shops in downtown to give visitors something to do while visiting our city. If elected I will form a committee to help design an incentive program to draw businesses to our downtown.

2) work with the city to get our worst roads fixed. We have many streets in Tavares that are in need of repaving and improvements.

3). Work to improve the main street entryway from hwy 19 to improve the gateway to the city. This area is very well traveled and is in need of improvements as it's sometimes the first look of our city to first time visitors.



TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 1

LISA JOHNSON *(continued)*

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TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 3



GARY KOERNER

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

For 31 years I worked in a family owned business in Danville, Illinois, eventually owning and managing 3 locations in Illinois and Indiana and employing 50+. Meeting a weekly payroll, serving customers nationally, internationally, and maintaining a staff of qualified individuals are experiences equipping me regarding social economic issues, governmental and financial responsibilities. I was active in Chamber of Commerce committees. Traveling extensively, I created two national trade associations, The Electric Motor Distributor Ass.

and The Industrial Air Compressor Distributor Ass. serving both as President. I chaired the Danville Historic Preservation Commission, led numerous offices at St. James UMC and became a Certified Lay Speaker. I majored in Business at Milligan College, Milligan, TN, attended numerous management, technical, and sales related seminars during the business career. I visited several national industrial groups to speak on "Doing Business in the Orient" after visits to China, Korea, and Japan. After 1st retirement I relocated in Tulsa, becoming Outside Services Manager for Southern Hills CC, serving that membership of 1,000 and managing a staff of 50 to 80 young people serving those members on their Championship golf course. We retired and moved to Tavares in the spring of 2015. I immediately became interested in the city government and began attending City Council over a year ago. My wife and I manage the Holiday Mobile Park in Tavares.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

President of Danville Sunrise Rotary, Paul Harris Fellow
President of Danville Illinois Historic Preservation Commission
President of King Coal Chapter of Electrical Apparatus Service Association
President or chairperson of several offices within St. James UMC
National Representative for Hico Electric Motor Corp of China
Served on several electric motor distributor councils
Chairperson for Employee Relations committee, Southern Hills Country Club
Currently Manage Holiday Mobile Park

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

From early employment to present I have always been a leader and manager of numerous groups with the ability to lead and direct others. That leadership coupled with a keen sense of the needs of the group and the ability to lead by listening, understanding, and compromise has made me a successful leader in many areas. As an unselfish leader with no emphasis on personal gain and an attitude of servitude, I have always been successful in achieving management goals. I manage Holiday Mobile Park, a community of some 300 individuals with similar and varied wants and needs. Being successful in balancing the cares and requests of the 300 residents while maintaining the facility, managing the facility for the park owner and assuring him of compliance to rules of the park and laws of the state, we have gained the reputation as beautiful, clean, mobile home park with 0 homes for sale!



TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 3

GARY KOERNER *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

We are blessed to have great leadership in all staff positions. With a positive relationship with each of those staff leaders and an understanding of their requests and desires to fully serve the city, we can prepare, review, and approve an annual budget that best serves the majority of the citizens and continue to improve the city as we grow and develop in the future.

Dealing with any issues now and in the future requires a full understanding of all the pros and cons, history, and who is served or who is not. I will rely on input from all the staff coupled with my own investigations and education in matters of concern.

The new council will begin studying and reviewing budget requirements for the fiscal year 2018 soon after January. That is the time for those concerned about changes and expenditures to be present and be heard so that the council has advance input from an informed public.

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TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 3



DEREK ZAPPITELLO

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I moved here to Tavares in 1983 and have been a Tavares resident for over 30 years. I graduated Tavares High School in 1989, Lake Sumter Community College in 1991, and the University of Florida in 1995. I live with my wonderful girlfriend and our 2 dogs. I am realtor at Home Pro Realty Corp. which has prepared me for the office of City Council by giving me 15 years of experience of dealing with people from all different backgrounds and walks of life. It has taught me how to listen to people and their needs and to come up with

solutions.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

No Response

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Being a Tavares resident for over 30 years I have seen Tavares go through quite a few changes. My sense of loyalty to Tavares I feel will help the city continue on its growth path while keeping our small town charm, which to me is vital. The passion and energy that I possess will enable me to bring new and fresh ideas for the community. I believe in being easily accessible to handle residents concerns, complaints, and problems promptly.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

1. Not Raising Taxes. This to me is very important because so many people and families are still struggling on a day to day basis.
2. Being business friendly and supporting new business. We need to attract and support new business to the city, which in turn, will create needed jobs to residents and broaden the city's tax base. We also need to diversify our current business bases in the downtown area.
3. Create better golf cart accessibility within the city limits. It is imperative that we get approval from the DOT to allow residents with golf carts who reside on the north side of US HWY 441 to cross the highway. If we truly want to be a golf cart friendly city, this is imperative. Getting approval would allow residents to go anywhere in the city on their golf cart.

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TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 5



LORI PFISTER

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

Tavares has been my home for 30 years. I attended Northeast Louisiana University and studied criminal justice and government. I am married to Jeffery Pfister, a local attorney. We are members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. We have 8 children.

With an entrepreneurial spirit, I have owned and operated many businesses. I have served on the Tavares City Council for 10 years and continue to learn each and everyday the intricate details of creating and keeping a city that the residents, business owners, and

employees can express with pride that Tavares is where they "Live, Work and Play." This is a motto adopted by the city years ago during the visioning sessions attended by residents, business owners, and city leaders. Besides the 10 years experience I have serving on the council, I believe my life experiences are relevant to the office sought because I am prepared to listen, learn, and vote with fairness and in-depth consideration with no prejudice, as my record shows.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

BPOE #1578 - AMVETS #1992

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

Thinking outside of the box is an ability I find most useful in being part of the team leading Tavares "America's Seaplane City" into the future, but life experience has prepared me to be a positive member of the Tavares City Council. Success is always one's desire, but I have not forgotten the struggles and tribulations of the past. I have experienced the best of times and the worst. I have succeeded and I have failed. These experiences allow me to make informed decisions with in-depth consideration of all the variables, including the positive and negative effects of each decision. I want what is best for the people that make up our community regardless of their socio-economic background. I have learned from my mistakes. I have learned to listen. I have developed courage; courage to face each day with optimism regardless of what lies ahead, and the strength to search for a positive resolution.



TAVARES CITY COUNCIL SEAT 5

LORI PFISTER *(continued)*

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

- 1) BEING A RESPONSIBLE STEWARD OF THE TAXPAYER'S MONEY
Keeping taxes as low as possible, while maintaining an acceptable level of service.
- 2) SMART GROWTH / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Growth is necessary to have a more equitable distribution of taxes. "Smart Growth" is important to keep our small town feel, that sense of community that attracted our residents to begin with. In the past 10 years, we have been able to shift the tax burden. Previously, 90% of the tax revenues came from residential home owners. By attracting more businesses, now only 66% comes from residential, 26% from commercial and 8% from tangible. We must continue on this path.
- 3) PUBLIC SAFETY / POLICE / FIRE
POLICE - Support pro-active community policing keeping our streets safe for our residents and visitors and our crime rate low. Provide the equipment and necessary training to create faster response times and officer safety.
FIRE DEPARTMENT - Provide training and equipment for more ALS (ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT) certified first responders which equals more lives saved. Keeping equipment updated and necessary training for faster response times, and fireman safety.

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UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL SEAT 5



BRIAN BUTLER

PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

I am 44 years old, was born in Eustis, FL., raised in Zellwood and went to school in Apopka. I lived in Alabama for a short time however returned home to my roots and have lived in Umatilla for approx. 7 years. I'm a Florida boy at heart. I come from a large family, my wife of 5 years and I have 7 wonderful children between us and 5 beautiful grandchildren. I work full time at TRV in Umatilla and currently hold the position of Mayor of our wonderful town.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

As I stated I am currently, the Mayor of Umatilla, a member of the Umatilla High School Bulldog Athletic Boosters and the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce. I am involved with all City wide events and have coached Soccer and Pop Warner football here in Umatilla as well.

Describe a particular quality or experience or ability that has prepared you for this office.

As Mayor, I attend all City Council meetings, organizational and community events. We have had many proclamations made in the past 2 years involving our schools and its staff as well as our community members. I have input into the decisions made for our town, embrace diversity, and look at the decision making process from all perspectives. I'm constantly looking at what we can do to better our town and reach out to our citizens and businesses to find out what is important to them. I meet and email with residents reminding them they do have a voice here in Umatilla.

If elected to this office, what do you see as the 3 most important issues? How will you deal with them?

Some of our biggest challenges are bringing in new businesses and keeping current business here. Some of the things that would help is to make our town more appealing and inviting to outside companies, using outside sources to draw those companies here to Umatilla. We are a small town and we like the small town feeling, but we do need to continue to grow to keep our town alive. Umatilla has had some road repair and water pipe issues in the past and we are continuing to rectify these issues. We have made improvements to our City Hall, our downtown area is much more inviting and we continue to look for ways to bring business and new residents to our wonderful town. It is the gateway to the Ocala Forest and offers a warm small town feeling with Christian values. Continuing to listen to our businesses and residents and growing our town is what I will strive to accomplish should I be elected to the Umatilla City Council seat #1, where my vote can make a difference.

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