

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Council of Neighborhood Associations

The Voice of Condo, Civic, and Homeowner Associations of Pasco County

September? Is it really September?

Our concern is that "Father Time" is speeding up the clock...this year is flying by. Our other concern is that elections are right around the "CONA" and we all need to get out and **VOTE!**

Read inside for some Fun Voting & Election Day Facts from "The Pioneer Woman", **Twenty Interesting Things About Voting in the U.S.**, by Heather Sanders & "Constitution Daily" **10 Fascinating Facts About Election Day**, by NCC Staff.

CONA Upcoming Events:

All meetings are held at the Gulf Harbor's Civic Center at 4610 Floramar Terrace, New Port Richey, FL 34652. For questions please contact one of the CONA Directors.

Don't forget, **the FIRST Member's Meeting will be held Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30 p.m.** This is the ONLY scheduled evening meeting at this time. The Board will consider other evening meetings. Member's feedback is encouraged. Please contact one of the CONA Directors. The September Program will start the new term off with a Legal Panel of attorneys to talk about the current events and to answer your questions. Refreshments will be served.

The **October Program** will be held **Wednesday, October 12th at 9:30 a.m.** This is the **2nd Wednesday of the month, NOT the normal 3rd**



Wednesday schedule. This will ONLY be for the month of October.

CONA Is Recruiting New Board Members! The Council of Neighborhood Associations is looking for 2 Directors to fill some very **BIG** shoes. If you are interested in the position please speak with the CONA President, Dominick Scannavino ****see contact information inside.** To learn more about CONA and its history please go to www.conapasco.org.

"Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Since we are on the topic of **VOLUNTEERING** and the responsibilities of being a part of an organization, here is some great insight from **CAPS, Community Association Publishing Services.**

Your Involvement Is The Key To Our Success!!!

In the purest sense, the Community Association is a form of representative democratic governance. As with actual representative governments, the various actors and leaders have prescribed roles and responsibilities. In community associations, the owners are the electorate and have the responsibility of being good citizens (paying assessments, voting, abiding by the rules, etc.) and for electing representatives to a policy body to carry out a policy-making and administrative oversight role. Officers are elected to provide leadership to the policy body. Committees are created by the Board to provide substantive input to the board's

deliberative process and as a conduit for owner participation and involvement. The community association is self-governed by owners and as such, the homeowners select from among themselves leaders who make decisions for the group. Homeowners must then abide by those rules and decisions. Joining a committee is a responsibility each owner has to share in the work involved in governing our association. It also creates an opportunity for more in-depth participation and important decision making. Owners also have a responsibility to adhere to legal obligations. They have an obligation to pay assessments in a timely fashion in order to permit the association to meet its financial obligations without penalties. Timely assessment payments save the association, and you, the owner, the added costs of collection activity. Finally, owners have a responsibility to adhere to rules and regulations, mutually agreed to and properly adopted. This adherence to the rules permits owners to live harmoniously under the same constraints. It also saves us the expense of more formal enforcement.

With Election Right Around The “CONA” here are some FUN Facts about Election Day and the History of Voting.

From “The Pioneer Woman”, **Twenty Interesting Things About Voting in the U.S.**, by Heather Sanders & “Constitution Daily” **10 Fascinating Facts About Election Day**, by NCC Staff

1. Elections took place way before the Constitution was ratified

The English in particular conducted voting soon after they landed in Virginia in the 17th Century. But not everyone could vote and not every office was up for election. But many colonies allowed white male adults who owned land to vote for legislators who served in lower assemblies.

2. George Washington and Election Day drinking

In 1758, a young candidate in Virginia for the House of Burgesses footed a huge liquor bill to woo voters on Election Day. George Washington spent his entire campaign budget, 50 pounds, on 160 gallons of liquor served to 391 voters. Buying votes with booze was already a custom in England. Washington also was following a Virginia tradition where barrels of liquor were rolled to courthouse lawns and polling places on Election Day.

3. Why do we vote on Tuesday?

“In 1845, before Florida, California, and Texas were states, or slavery had been abolished, Congress needed to pick a time for Americans to vote. We were an agrarian society. We traveled by horse and buggy. Farmers needed a day to get to the county seat, a day to vote, and a day to get back, without interfering with the three days of worship. So that left Tuesday and Wednesday, but Wednesday was market day. So, Tuesday it was. In 1875 Congress extended the Tuesday date for national House elections and in 1914 for federal Senate elections.”

4. Why do we vote in November?

“...the month of November fit nicely

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between harvest time and brutal winter weather—which can be especially bad when you’re trudging along by horse and buggy.”

5. In 1888, Massachusetts became the first state in the U.S. to adopt a secret ballot system (originally used in the Australian state of Victoria) on a state-wide basis.

6. Election voting machines are a 20th Century innovation

The mechanical lever voting machine was patented in 1889 but it took decades for the machines to become commonplace. Jacob H. Myers built the first lever machine used in an election, back in 1892. Meyers said the devices were needed to prevent “rascaldom.”

7. “Passed by Congress June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920, the 19th amendment guaranteed all American women the right to vote.”

8. The Voting Rights Act, which was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on August 6, 1965, “is considered among the most far-reaching pieces of civil rights legislation in U.S. history.” Its purpose was to secure the rights of African Americans who still faced “various discriminatory practices” that prevented them from voting under the 15th Amendment.

9. In 1943, Georgia became the first state to lower its voting age in state and local elections from 21 to 18.

10. On July 1, 1971, the 26th amendment extended the right to vote to citizens 18 years of age and older.

11. Almost every state has a state voter registration deadline, but they are not all the same. In Texas, voters must be registered 30 days before the election.

12. The mechanical voting machine is extinct

The classic mechanical lever voting machine was phased out by 2010 in the United States. Most votes are now conducted using electronic digital voting machines or by using paper ballots that are sometimes optically scanned.

13. The type of election affects turnout. A 2013 study of 340 mayoral elections in 144 U.S. cities from 1996–2012 found that voter turnout averaged at 25.8% with mayors in some cities elected with single-digit turnout.

14. The millennial generation accounts for one-third of the electorate.

15. “In 2012, 4% more young women voted than young men.”

16. Only 60%-70% of American registered voters are projected to exercise their right to vote in the November 4, 2014 U.S. Midterm Election.

17. Only the states of Maine and Vermont allow felons to vote from prison.

18. “Anyone convicted of a misdemeanor in Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, South Carolina or South Dakota may not vote while incarcerated.”

TEX-MEX MEATBALL SUB!

Kick up the Italian summer favorite with chipotle and spices!



TOTAL TIME: 0:25 PREP: 0:05

YIELD: 4 SERVINGS

INGREDIENTS

1/2 c. breadcrumbs
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 c. grated Mexican cheese blend
1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
1 large egg
kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 1/2 lb. ground beef
16 oz. crushed tomatoes
2 tbsp. chopped chipotle peppers in adobo sauce
4 hero rolls, sliced lengthwise
1/4 c. chopped fresh Italian parsley

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a medium mixing bowl, combine breadcrumbs, 1 minced garlic clove, 1 cup Mexican cheese, chili flakes, egg, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Mix together well, then add ground beef. Do not over mix. Divide into 12 meatballs and place in a casserole dish. Bake until golden brown, 10 to 15 minutes.

2. Meanwhile in a large pot over medium-high heat mix together crushed tomatoes, chipotle peppers, remaining garlic, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Stir and simmer for 5 minutes and add meatballs. Turn heat to low and gently toss meatballs with sauce.

3. Place parchment on a rimmed sheet pan and arrange hero rolls, cut side up. Place 3 meatballs on the bottom piece of each hero roll. Top with a spoonful of tomato sauce and a handful of Mexican cheese. Bake until bread is warmed and cheese is melted, for 3 to 4 minutes.

4. Top meatballs with parsley and more tomato sauce. Close the sandwich top and serve warm.

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