

Patty's Corner

Giving me a venue to express my opinions may be the only mistake Vic Fedeli has ever made! I'm grateful for this opportunity and will try not to abuse it.

First, I must admit that I am as apolitical as Madonna is amoral.

In fact, my personal political philosophy has been respectfully plagiarized from Neil Simon's California Suite – "I don't believe a democracy works; offer me a monarchy and we'll talk!"

So here I am on the campaign trail, proudly sporting the official campaign colour: yellow. I'm running around town looking like Big Bird's prom date. And I haven't shaved my legs this often since I was single. Stock tip – Gillette will go through the roof by November 10.

I have known Vic for almost twenty years. The day I met him I knew instantly that he was someone I wanted to know for the rest of my life. He is smart, honest, creative, funny, compassionate, generous and cute as a bug's ear. I have watched in awe as he took on one gigantic challenge after another, always under-promising and over-delivering. He is a man who, with the possible exception of taking out my garbage, has always done everything he said he would do.

I realize that a wife's opinion doesn't hold much water; I'm supposed to say nice things about the man I love. But it's important to note that I also really like this man and believe in him. In the immortal words of Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell, "Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing, Baby"!

The Rant

So many people tell me that they don't pay any attention to politics because it's boring. Well, so are washing the dishes and trimming your toenails. The consequences for ignoring these dull things are meals eaten off of paper towels and poorly fitting footwear.

The consequences for ignoring what's happening in our city are even more dire. Unchecked councils and administrations spend money like Imelda Marcos at a shoe sale, commit your tax dollars to questionable capital projects, and ignore the basics.

There is a hierarchy of power in this community; the administration reports directly to council, and council reports directly to the taxpayers. That puts YOU at the top of the pyramid. But with this power comes responsibility. It is not only your right, it is your obligation to listen to what your elected officials say, process that information and remember it. That is the only way that the people you choose to represent your interests will be held accountable for the things they say and do on your behalf. And as an added bonus, when I finish Northern OverExposure 2, you'll get all the jokes!