

VOTE MARCH 19TH



JESSICA
NAMATH

Vote for Jessica, the *True Tequesta Local*,
for Village Council Seat 5

www.VoteNamath.com



BACKGROUND

I grew up in Tequesta and my father still lives in the same house on the river that he bought in 1988. I studied Business and Public Relations at the University of Alabama where I was accepted into their International Honors Program. I have worked in all aspects of media relations including print, TV and film. I am also a photographer and my work has been published in books and featured in magazines.

EXPERIENCE

Nearly five years ago, I was asked to be on Tequesta's first Environmental Advisory Committee and I currently serve as its Chair. I have attended or watched nearly every council meeting during that time and am up to speed and well versed on the issues surrounding our Village. I am on the board of Tequesta's Civic Association and my HOA, Shady Lane. For the past few years I have also been the Conservation Chair and American Indian Chair for the Jupiter Lighthouse Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

GOALS

1. Update the Code to Reflect the Vision RESIDENTS have for the Village
2. Prioritize Village Projects that Enhance our Character and Value
3. Protect Residents by Protecting the Environment and Resources We Love

PAID FOR BY JESSICA NAMATH FOR VILLAGE COUNCIL SEAT 5

NOT ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS

AT A GLANCE

VALUES

- A Quaint, Safe Village
- Locally Owned Businesses
- Green Space
- Transparency

ADMONISHES

- Developing for Tax Dollars
- Maximizing Height & Density
- Granting Excessive Variances



35+ YEAR RESIDENT

"I choose to raise my 13, 7, and 3 year old children, (all born at JMC!), in the same community that I grew up in.

No candidate is more sincerely committed to our Village than I am.

Environmental Advisory Committee

As we find ourselves settling into the New Year, I have also found myself settling into my new role of Chair for our Environmental Advisory Committee. Despite having been a member since its inception nearly five years ago, I regularly run in to people around the Village that have never heard of us. Some might not even understand what purpose we serve. It is easy to look around our beautiful Village and believe that everything is fine and dandy. However, for those of us like myself, that have grown up here or have lived here over 20-30 years, we're well aware of all the friends we rarely see anymore like possums, armadillos, raccoons and manatees, to name a few. With each animal that disappears, there is a harmful ripple effect that radiates throughout our ecosystems and tends to destabilize it, like a beach with no shore vegetation to stabilize the sand. That's just the thing — sometimes you don't realize how much you'll miss something until it's gone. The good news is that Tequesta is a community filled with people that love and care about the Village. I maintain my sincere belief that if people understand how their day to day actions affect things like how good the bite is off their dock, or how bad the mosquitoes are on their property, they'll make the changes that will end up benefiting both them and the environment.

Unfortunately, as I said above, once something is gone it's often already too late. That's certainly not to say it isn't worth understanding or fixing, just that often at that point there will be severe consequences. A painful example of this would be the loss of our seagrass beds due largely to contaminated runoff from yards sprayed with fertilizer during the rainy season. Do I think that those spraying were consciously trying to starve manatee? Absolutely not, but is that what has ultimately happened? If tugging on heartstrings doesn't motivate you, perhaps costly fines will. Recently, a long time fisherman noticed that a resort in Port St. Lucie had cleared nearly a half-acre of shoreline he regularly fished, which according to a TCPalm article "DEP issues final order to punish Port St. Lucie resort for destroying mangrove forest", is equivalent to a 951-foot-long Caribbean Princess cruise ship. Not only did the DEP order them to

pay to replant 2,780 red, black and white mangrove seedlings and trees that must range between 2-7 feet tall, but they must pay a \$110,395 fine to DEP by Feb. 19, a \$72,000 fine to St. Lucie County AND the restoration work will be monitored by DEP for five years. DEP told TCPalm it was one of the steepest mangrove-cutting penalties in state history. While the measures taken by the DEP will certainly help restore what was destroyed, it could take 25 years for the mangroves to mature to what they once were, which was much more than just a beautifully stabilized shoreline. It was home to numerous species of crab, fish, shrimp and snails, just to name a few. Killing them kills your fishing.



There are countless suggestions and solutions to improve our local environment. The EAC meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers to discuss how we can incorporate them into both our code and daily lives. Only then will we be able to save the things we love about our Village and protect them for future generations. The EAC invites you to come join us in chamber or follow along on Youtube live stream, as all of our meetings are open to the public. Also, come visit us at our tent the first Friday of every month from 5-8pm in Constitution Park. We offer a fun activity like rock painting for the kids which gives adults a chance to browse all the maps and material we have on hand about our local area. Please email any concerns to jnamath@tequesta.org.

Council Expresses Opposition to the Use of Herbicides Containing Glyphosate

During the February 13, 2020 Council Meeting, Council approved Resolution 2-20 expressing its opposition to the use of herbicides containing glyphosates. The action was taken based on a recommendation by the Village's Environmental Advisory Committee. The committee is composed of Chair Tom Bradford, Vice-Chair Robert Shaw, Member Frank Harding, Member Lisa Krimsy, Member Jessica Namath, Member Maria Pearson and Member Resa Listort.

The resolution explains glyphosate is a non-selective weed killer/herbicide that is applied to the leaves of plants to kill both broadleaf plants and grasses and that the International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans". Given this information and additional research, the Village Council of the Village of Tequesta believes that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, recreation, and general welfare of the residents of the Village of Tequesta to ban the use of herbicides containing glyphosate on all properties owned, leased or under the custodial care of the Village of Tequesta.

Below is an alternative solution to using glyphosate.

NEVER USE ROUND-UP AGAIN!

DIY WEED KILLER

Ingredients:

- 1 gallon Vinegar
- 2 cups Epsom Salt
- 1/4 cup Dawn Dish Soap (the blue original)

It will kill anything you spray it on. Just mix and spray in the morning, after the dew has evaporated. Walk away. Go back after dinner and the weeds are all gone!

Cheaper than anything you can buy anywhere! Never buy and use Round-Up again!



FB David Avocado Wolfe



Environmental Committee Issues and Events - Since Summer of 2019:

- Operated an EAC table at VOT's Food Truck Events in 2019 and 2020 (thru March) at Constitution Park promoting environmental issues, offering educational handouts and engaging children in interactive experiences and environmental-themed activities.
- Organized a presentation and public informational meeting by representatives from the Univ. of Florida's - Florida Friendly Landscape Program on 1/21/20 in Village Council Chambers.
- Provided recommendations and posed questions to VOT staff on various components of the Village's Comprehensive Plan.
- Proposed a VOT Resolution to eliminate the use of Glyphosate (chemical herbicides like Round-Up) on Village property - Village Council PASSED
- Proposed a VOT Resolution expressing support for a FL Senate bill that would allow local laws prohibiting the use or sale of single-use plastics. Village Council PASSED
- Proposed VOT Ordinance Banning Release of Balloons and Sky Lanterns to prevent accidental fires and dangers to marine wildlife. Village Council PASSED
- Revised the Fertilizer Management portion of the Landscaping Ordinance which would implement a Rainy Season (6/1 - 9/30) Fertilizer Ban and require all commercial applicators to be properly educated. Village Council PASSED
- Proposed revisions to the Village's Pesticide management Landscaping Ordinance and presented to Village Council. Village Council and Manager agreed to inform residents of pesticide regulations and to amend language in the Code. Key portions of the State of Florida's Structural Pest Control Code address' pesticide application to landscapes.
- Reviewed and provided input on a draft design proposal for Remembrance Park suggesting the utilization of Landscaping preferred methodologies.
- Provided information to VOT staff on FPL Evolution Charging Station Infrastructure Pilot Program.
- Proposed a VOT Ban of Plastic Straws Ordinance to Village Council.
- Researched the production of re-usable bags to be sold to residents, paid for and sponsored by Village business.
- Proposed extension of the Village's Tree Canopy Ordinance. Forwarded to Village Manager.
- Researched grants and discussed implementation of energy efficiencies in Village facilities.
- Held a meeting with a Micro-Transit company to discuss implementation in and around the Village of Tequesta.
- Consulted with Village staff on storm drainage and the environmental impact of water runoff.
- Created environmental-themed articles, which were published in VOT's Smoke Signals Newsletter.

TEQUESTA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE Members Shine at VOT Volunteer Day Event

On September 23, the Village of Tequesta's Environmental Advisory Committee showcased its commitment to the environment as two of its members, Jessica Namath and Michelle Shearouse, participated in the Bureau of Land Management's Volunteer Day. The event drew participation from volunteers across the area and provided a collective effort aimed at enhancing the pristine beauty of the Lighthouse premises.

Jessica, with her vibrant spirit, took charge of a creative rock-painting activity that drew the attention of children and teenagers alike. Alongside this, she distributed Village of Tequesta logo swag items. She engaged visitors imparting valuable environmental knowledge.

Michelle Shearouse, in collaboration with the eco-conscious youth of Tequesta, undertook the crucial task of removing the invasive Love Vine. This parasitic plant, devoid of roots, clings onto its host and thrives, ultimately causing ecological disruptions. Michelle's participation in this endeavor allowed her to deepen her understanding of the local ecosystem, connecting her with memories of a time when the Love Vine thrived along US1 in the 1970s, before the area's development boom.

The involvement of Jessica Namath and Michelle Shearouse in the Bureau of Land Management's Volunteer Day is a shining example of the passion and dedication exhibited by Tequesta's Environmental Advisory Committee. Their contributions have left a lasting positive impact on the community and its environment.

