

Letter to the Editor, Barrington Courier

As a supporter of Bob Abboud for re-election as president of Barrington Hills, I want to respond to Jon Knight's letter published in your March 5th issue.

As a supporter of George Schueppert, Jon accurately captured the core differences between two fine candidates. Jon defined Bob Abboud as "entrepreneurial" in his approach to governing the village. Then he defined George Schueppert as a "management professional."

I absolutely agree with Jon's assessment, but I disagree that today Barrington Hills will be best served by George Schueppert's management skills. George is, indeed, a consummate corporate manager, but the threats facing our village are from some of the most ruthless entrepreneurs on the planet.

As a marketing practitioner for more than 40 years, I've seen first hand what happens when enterprises lose their "entrepreneurial edge." For example, Toys R Us mushroomed to dominate the toy retail business under its original owners and operators. It decimated its competitors including Sears, Kmart and all the others. But when the firm went public and changed to a clearly corporate management philosophy and team, the company entered a decline it has yet to recover from.

Barrington Hills is under attack by outside developers like The Fritz Duda Company, a giant entrepreneurial shark. These guys eat corporate competitors for breakfast, and roll over local zoning laws like they don't even exist. That's why we can't risk losing Bob Abboud as Village President.

Yes, Bob Abboud is an entrepreneur. Yes, Bob Abboud may have some rough edges. But Bob Abboud has kept Fritz Duda and all the other greedy developers at bay for years. Let's not take chances. Please vote for Bob Abboud and his slate: Peter Wessel, Fritz Gohl and Elaine Ramesh.

John Rosene
Barrington Hills