

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Regular Monthly Meeting April 3, 8:30 - 10:30 am, Laurel Manor Rec Center
Panel Discussion on “Writing for the Media” with Frank Stanfield and Sandi Newmark, moderated by Diane Dean.

Frank Stanfield



Frank Stanfield was a newspaper editor and reporter for more than 30 years, including *The Orlando Sentinel*, *Ocala Star-Banner* and the *Daily Commercial*, where he is a correspondent. He is a Vietnam-era veteran and born-again Christian. His novel, *Purple Heart*, comes out this year.

His first book, *Unbroken: The Dorothy Lewis Story*, 2011, Kingstone Publishing, is the true story of a woman who was carjacked, assaulted, shot, and her children were murdered, yet her faith remains unbroken.

Vampires, Gators and Wackos, A Newspaperman's Life, was published in 2014 by Create Space. He has spent a lifetime covering natural and manmade craziness in Florida so bizarre the alternative title was going to be, “You Can't Make This Up.”

He has a master's degree in journalism from the University of Georgia and a bachelor's in political science from the University of North Florida. He has appeared on the Discovery ID's “Handsome Devil” and “Mind of a Murderer” series, “Killer Kids,” on Lifetime Movie Network, and on BBC to discuss the infamous teen vampire cult murder case. Frank regularly speaks to groups, and has been a presenter at the Southeast Regional Conference on Child Fatalities. He appears on local news, cable and radio programs, and you can find him on Facebook, Twitter and www.frankestanfield.com. Stanfield and his wife live in Central Florida where he is a lay leader in his 2,700-member church. He has three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Sandi Newmark



Sandi Newmark is a journalist, photographer and longtime (well, 10 year) Villages resident and fervent supporter of the lifestyle here.

One of the reasons she moved to The Villages was because of the many media opportunities, and because of the many interesting people who reside here. Writing and photography are her passions. She is in her third year of producing a column on Facebook called Life in the Villages, FL. She covers events like parades and outdoor festivals and does columns about what's going on. She is also co-editor of a monthly newsletter for a religious organization.

Sandi has been writing since age 7, when she loved the 5 Little Peppers books & was determined to write one. But she was an only child, and had no family to include! So her career waited till she was about 11, when she started a newspaper column in a local weekly in Orange, N.J., interviewing fellow students in junior high school. Later, during high school, she worked at a local monthly social magazine, and edited the high school yearbook.

Sandy has a degree in magazine journalism from the Newhouse School at Syracuse University, and had a national magazine article published before she graduated at 21. She worked on national teen magazines in New York City, which led to wonderfully exciting assignments like going on the Jackson Five tour and covering the Osmond family during many performances. She also interviewed diverse personalities like Barbara Walters and Dr. Margaret Mead in the 1960s. Later in life, when she lived in South Florida, she worked for daily and weekly newspapers.

Publishing on the Internet allows her to be timely (almost immediate) and grants access to so many far and wide, so preferable to just a local publication.