

## Why Must Politics Get Personal and Ugly?

I did not plan to get involved in politics during this municipal election cycle. I know newspapers have forever gone way beyond informing, all the way to endorsing candidates for public office. There are important races this year, but I don't plan to endorse as I have in the past.

But this is not about politics, this is about the ability to continue to provide news and comment about the good things going on in Tiffin and Seneca County.

I'm certainly not one to play the victim card, but I am one who will give you the facts and let you take them for what they are.

On Saturday, May 18, I was at a fundraiser and my table was next to the Grandillo/Wilkinson table. Toward the end of the fundraiser, Gina Grandillo came over to my table and knelt down by my chair in an effort not to attract extra attention. She introduced herself. I thanked her for coming over.

She asked if the Seneca News Daily would help promote her candidacy for Tiffin City Law Director for free. I told her I did not plan to do that. She asked why. The conversation got rather heated in one direction. She had been drinking and I had not.

I told her I did not plan to promote her candidacy, because I was aware from sources that she had made efforts to eliminate the Seneca News Daily. I told her either she thinks there is value in the Seneca News Daily or she does not.

It seems to me that you can't both wish something didn't exist, and then also want to utilize that same vehicle to help you reach your goal. I am sure she didn't think I was aware of her previous efforts to silence us.

After a long back and forth, she went back to her table.

Later that evening, she ran into some people who were at my table, at a local watering hole. She purchased shots for them and sent them across the bar. My friends walked over to thank her, and she was very contrite about the scene that was created at the charitable fundraiser.

My friends were unaware of the things that she had tried to do to the Seneca News Daily. They let me know that they thought she was sincere and that they had decided her actions might not have been representative of who she really is and they we're ready and willing to move on.

## Grandillo, Candidate for Law Director Purchases Rights to Seneca News Daily

However, the Tuesday following that Saturday, Gina went on to the Secretary of State's website and purchased rights to the name "Seneca News Daily". [Click Here](#) to see that application with her electronic signature.

A week later, she purchased the rights to "Seneca Daily News". [Click Here](#) to see that application. I can imagine she was having a conversation with someone telling them that she owned "Seneca News Daily". I suspect they told her that I would probably just switch the words "News" and "Daily", and that if she planned to end my ability to provide news and information to all of you, she should purchase that name also.

I don't know what her plan is. But you don't go through those efforts and expense without having a plan. Should I expect a cease and desist order to stop using the "Seneca News Daily"? Logos? Websites? Legal documents? Facebook? Will she want paid off to allow us to retain our identity? We have been the Seneca News Daily for 29 years. So much work and expense to change everything. For now I will continue business as usual.

Gina was the statutory agent and signatory for the application that used her brothers business name, Seneca Logistics Group, LLC. [Click Here](#) to see their Article of Organization, so you know who they are. The address on the applications concerning the SND is the address at which Gina is registered to vote.

Editors and Publishers of newspapers and even TV shows like Meet the Press, come and go and you're not likely to stop reading them or watching them.

If you like the Advertiser Tribune, you're not likely to stop getting it and reading it because Publisher Rick Bean or Dave Frisch left and the new guy took over. Or when Editor John Kaufman retired and Rob Weaver took over and then Rob retired and someone else took over. Most people likely keep getting the paper.

But for the Seneca News Daily, I believe we went from 400 subscribers in November 2011 to now over 14,800 subscribers, mostly because Dale Depew, the publisher, and the Seneca News Daily are synonymous. The Daily is very personal and interactive. We get hundreds of emails every time we put out an Edition. Many of those emails are the foundation of new stories that are in subsequent Editions of the Daily.

I truly believe that we could call it the “No Name News Daily“ and our readership would not wane.

It is very telling when some people try to tear down institutions that might in the slightest way get in the way of their personal ambitions. That entitlement mentality speaks volumes.

There are those who don't agree with me very much. However, they have an appreciation for the way the Seneca News Daily supports over 100 non profits for FREE. Many non-profits don't have a budget to reach the masses as they are able to do through The Daily.

Fortunately one of Gina Grandillo's confidants made sure that I was aware of her planned blindsides before the election. They understand having differences, but didn't think the scorched earth efforts were fair.

I am disappointed that because I wouldn't promote Gina Grandillo's candidacy for free, she felt the need to purchase “Seneca News Daily”, presumably, in an effort to silence me.

Grandillo knows that her efforts are all public record. Easy to see and understand. If she is willing to go to these lengths to silence someone that wouldn't help her, what steps would she take if she were elected Law Director and had the weight of that office, including that of City Prosecutor at her disposal? Big City politics don't have a space in Tiffin and Seneca County. Just scary to think of it.