

# The VHA VOICE

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

THE VILLAGES HOMEOWNERS ADVOCATES: KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE



## MISSION

The Villages Homeowners Advocates (The VHA) is a lifestyle organization committed to championing the needs of Villagers through:

- Positive, constructive dialogue
- Problem solving • Education
- Philanthropic efforts

## VALUES

- Integrity • Honesty • Accountability
- Independence

WHERE YOUR VOICE MATTERS.

## THE VHA: A NEW YEAR, A FRESH START



Can you believe it? Another year has come and gone. It is time for a fresh start in 2023, and many changes will be taking place within The Villages Homeowner's Advocates.

One of them is the format of our monthly publication, The Voice. You are looking at it! This informational publication has been an insert within the Daily Sun for more than twenty years, but many of you may have never seen it. Our Board of Directors believes it is time to make our presence more visible. Change is not always easy, and we owe a big thank you to Jan Palmer, our Editor, for working through the process and making this new publication format possible.

Our organizational focus in 2023 will be: **THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF OUR RESIDENTS.** Plans are in place to provide our members with more than twenty informational events throughout the year in all areas of our community. Needs are different, based on area and demographics, so our area vice presidents are working to provide events based on those needs.

You are also going to realize that we are sending you to our website, [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net), for more information on topics. This is an effort to allow you to find more information on a topic as we are able to provide more resources that are readily available with the click of your mouse. We will be maximizing the use of print material, our website, and social media to achieve our informative goals.

Many of our meetings will be "Members Only." The capacity for many of our meetings is limited to 140. To reduce confusion and a logjam at the door, we are working with Tangent Media to allow our members to pre-register for meetings. That benefit will be in place for some

of our January meetings. We will also make joining our organization available at the door. Our regular programs; New Resident Night, Golf Cart Safety Clinic, Bingo, and our Town Hall Meetings, will continue monthly or quarterly as scheduled. A complete schedule, with dates and locations are available online at [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net).

We are working to be better communicators with you, and welcome you to communicate with us. Communication is an important aspect of who we are. We need to have a positive, constructive dialogue. This will allow us to continue with our mission, which is to solve problems, educate the community, and support philanthropic efforts. In 2023 I would challenge you to provide us with ideas on making our community even greater than it already is. Let us be proactive, instead of reactive.

With communication and respect for each other, we will continue our vision of "Keeping the Dream Alive."

Peter Russell

## Upcoming EVENTS

**THE VHA NEW RESIDENT NIGHT FOR JANUARY**  
ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 10, HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL. **THE NEXT NEW RESIDENT NIGHT WILL BE FEBRUARY 14 AT EZELL REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER**

### THE VHA'S "HEALTHY LIVING IN THE VILLAGES"

Featuring Kari Walker of The Villages Health

JANUARY 16, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Mulberry Regional Recreation Center

8295 SE 165th Mulberry Ln, The Villages

The VHA Members-Only Event, with an Opportunity to Join at the Door

### THE VHA TOWN HALL MEETING

January 17, 2023

Open to Neighborhood Reps and VHA Officers Only

### WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

JANUARY 23, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

Ezell Regional Recreation Center

769 Marilee Pl, The Villages

The VHA Members-Only Event, with an Opportunity to Join at the Door

## LIFETIME LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



The Villages Homeowner's Advocates encourages and supports opportunities for our members and Villages residents to continue to learn and grow. We were vital in helping to maintain The Enrichment Academy, offer educational seminars and workshops, host the monthly New Resident Night and Golf Cart Safety Clinic, and "advocate for advocates" who share the goal of continuing education.

Two of the organizations who offer valuable courses are:

**The AARP:** When you take the AARP Smart Driver course, you could be eligible for a multi-year discount on your auto insurance. To find course times/locations, go to: [aarp.org/auto/driver-safety](http://aarp.org/auto/driver-safety)

**The AMAC:** The Association of Mature American Citizens, will be offering its popular "Sudden Death: Are You Prepared" workshop to help you create a Survivor Notebook. For more info go to: <https://amacfoundation.org/events>

## THE VHA WELCOMES SNOWBIRDS!

If you are a snowbird reading this, The VHA wants to welcome you to the community and invite you to explore not only The Villages lifestyle, but also the programs we offer to better acquaint you with this wonderful place we call home. Our New Resident Night is a great way to educate yourself on what to expect if you decide to take the plunge and move here, and our popular Golf Cart Safety Clinic is a good idea for anyone operating a golf cart here to attend. Both programs are free and open to our seasonal guests. Enjoy your time here where The VHA works hard "Keeping the Dream Alive" for Villages residents, visitors, and guests.



## NEW WAYS OF KEEPING IN TOUCH IN 2023:

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO ACCESS OUR WEBSITE: [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net)

On it you will find Member Benefits, Events, Ways to Volunteer and Donate, Current News, Leadership Bios, and more.

**PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS:** The VHA uses email for important communications, including corrections, cancellations, news, and updates.

Simply send us an email with your name and email address to: [vhaoffice@thevha.net](mailto:vhaoffice@thevha.net)

**"LIKE" OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE:** Simply type [thevha4you](https://www.facebook.com/thevha4you) in the "Search" box on your FB home page and click on the "like" option.

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PROVIDING OUR MEMBERS Opportunities

LEARN MORE

www.thevha.net



## THE VHA FOUNDATION COMMITTEE DONATES TO OPERATION SHOEBOX FOR OUR TROOPS OVERSEAS

On December 12, at Lake Miona Regional Recreation Center, Mike Dollard, Treasurer for The Villages Homeowners Advocates, presented a check for \$2,000 to Bonnie White, the Treasurer of Operation Shoebox. He did so on behalf of the The VHA Foundation Committee, the charitable arm of The VHA, to help pay the postage for thousands of holiday gift boxes to be shipped overseas to deployed U.S. troops.

During the holiday season, The VHA held two appreciation events for its volunteers. Helping Hands thanked its own volunteers in November, while those who are involved with The VHA's other endeavors were able to mingle and enjoy an evening of recognition and fun at Lake Miona in December. To become a volunteer with The VHA, in a variety of areas, visit our website [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) and click on "Volunteers".

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



**The VHA BINGO**

MONDAY, JANUARY 9 @ 6:30 P.M.  
(DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 P.M.)

COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

\$10 for 2 Boards (VHA Members/3 Boards)

\$1/Extra Boards; NO SPLIT POTS

50/50 + Buy a LAST GAME Sheet with a \$100 Pot

BYOB and Snacks

NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 21 @ EZELL

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF DATES AND LOCATIONS GO TO: [WWW.THEVHA.NET](http://WWW.THEVHA.NET)

**GOLF CART SAFETY CLINIC**

JANUARY 18, 2023  
9:00 A.M.  
COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CLINIC TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Not a Toy • Golf Cars & LSV
- Golf Cars vs. Others • Tunnels
- Intersections • Passing & Road Crossings • Bridges • Turns
- Circles (Roundabouts) • Parallel Parking • Pulling into a Parking Space
- Sharing Parking with Cars • No Parking Zones • Insurance • Legal concerns • Maintenance

VISIT [WWW.THEVHA.NET](http://WWW.THEVHA.NET) FOR MORE DETAILS

**GOLF CART SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH: FOR DRIVERS OF CARS AND GOLF CARTS: KNOW WHO HAS THE RIGHT OF WAY. NEVER WAVE A GOLF CART THROUGH IF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY.**

NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 15 @ COLONY COTTAGE

**The VHA HELPING HANDS**

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM**

Visit our website at [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) to view our current inventory, then call us at 352-973-2284.

We will schedule your pick-up from:

**THE VHA OFFICE**  
1104 Main St.  
Spanish Springs/The Villages  
Monday - Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.