



The VHA Voice

The Villages Homeowners Advocates

50 CENTS

Next delivery date is April 7th

March 2021 • Vol. 27 No. 3

KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE... UNITED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS ENSURE THAT THE VILLAGES IS:

Better Together

Have you ever noticed a visual difference between communities or neighborhoods as you travel across the state or country? Some are uniformly well maintained with solid, well-planned and executed infrastructure and good roads, are beautifully landscaped, have no trash, etc... they just have that "great feel" of being someplace you would consider calling "home". Others appear just the opposite... are poorly maintained, roads are in disrepair, and there is little in the way of solid infrastructure planning and execution, etc. Certainly, they don't feel like a place you would want to live or retire.

How a community looks or feels begins with a local government that plans well and executes that plan in a professional manner. When you first come to The Villages it is hard to miss how smartly planned and well maintained our community is. So, it is always amazing to us how some people, who were so impressed by The Villages and chose to make it their home, begin trying to change it. We are particularly struck by those who look at our District Government and want to change the professional manner in which they manage our community and maintain our property values.

Here's a question: When you decided to retire to The Villages, did you make that decision based on

which Community Development District (CDD) you were going to reside in? Did you even know that The Villages was governed under a CDD structure? We suspect the answer is NO. You probably made that decision based on your first impressions about how well this community is maintained and the lifestyle it offers, regardless of location.

This community is consistently beautiful. That does not happen by chance. Our District Government, along with the 13 residential Community Development Districts, continues to offer and maintain what we initially valued in choosing to live here, as well as protecting the value of our homes. It's easy to take all of that work for granted.

If you are like most Villagers, you don't keep track of the day-to-day activities of our CDDs. Part of their mission is to provide a setting where we don't have to worry about such things. We came here to retire and enjoy our retirement years with the active lifestyle afforded by The Villages. We are able to do that because this CDD form of local governance works extremely well. The quality of our community, which has been sustained for over four decades now, is proof of what works! Our increase in property values bears further witness to the efficiency of this model form of local governance along with the continued strong demand to live here.

There is no place like The Villages! Each District shares in the cost of running and maintaining The Villages. The efficiencies and effectiveness of a common staff that covers administration, finance, procurement, recreation, investments, legal and infrastructure costs and maintenance across all of the Districts makes good common and economic sense. To try replicating those services independently over 13 Districts would be extremely cost prohibitive and inevitably lead to a disjointed community

Planning and execution by our District government for the common good across all of The Villages Districts works extremely well. If each numbered District made independent decisions around today's common services and infrastructure, there would

probably be visual differences as you traveled between CDD's that could dramatically affect the long-term value of properties throughout The Villages. Because we are "Better Together" we maintain, as an example, all of our recreation facilities to the same high standards. Likewise, we manage all of our capital investments to that same common high standard. Our multimodal trails and tunnels are well maintained and there is standard signage across all districts. Each district, and therefore each resident, shares equally in the cost to maintain these standards.

When we each purchased our home, we also made the commitment to continue to maintain that investment with our annual maintenance fees. We all have a vested interest in maintaining the value of what we have here.

IF YOU THINK GOOD DESIGN IS EXPENSIVE YOU SHOULD LOOK AT THE COST OF BAD DESIGN

So, what happens if one CDD decides they want to "do their own thing"? Well, in our opinion, the common community fabric that we all currently enjoy, will start to unravel! Take the current recent example of District 7 supervisors. They hired their own attorney so they can challenge the agreement they made to be part of the Project Wide Advisory Committee and share in

Continued on page 3

In This Issue:

- VHA President's Message Page 2
- VHA Board Listings Pages 2-3
- Contact/Membership Form Page 4
- District Manager Page 5
- District Website Highlights Pages 5, 7
- Area Vice Presidents Reports Pages 6-7
- VHA News Page 8
- Upcoming Events Page 8
- Volunteer Spotlight Pages 8-9
- AARP and AMAC Seminars Page 9
- M2M Info Page 9
- Seniors vs. Crime Page 10
- Bike Friendly Community Page 10
- Hearts for our Hospital Gala Thank You Page 11
- VHA Program Info Page 12

VHA SENIOR STAFF

Phil Walker, President
4ianeknfl4@gmail.com ----- 352-753-8618
John Dean, Central Area Vice President
vhajohndean@gmail.com ----- 207-557-0371
Mike Dollard, South Area Vice President
mjdollard@hotmail.com ----- 585-315-8338
Andy Bilardello, Far South Area Vice President
andy@bellicus.net ----- 561-644-1358
Joan Sullivan, Secretary, joanstrek@aol.com ----- 352-430-0755
John Conboy, Treasurer, Treasurer@thevha.net ----- 352-750-8039
Mike Burke, Program Director
mikeandjaneburke@gmail.com ----- 352-205-7031

ADVISORY BOARD

PAST PRESIDENT

Fred Briggs ----- 717-805-8500

REGION 5 DIRECTOR

Nicolas Hemes, hemes@msn.com ----- 386-984-7979

REGION 6 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Bob Griffin, bochagrif@aol.com ----- 352-391-1105

REGION 7 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Roy Thacker, Rthackers@msn.com ----- 352-561-4985

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Ray Glessner, ray.glessner@gmail.com ----- 352-751-0701
 Walter Martin, waltermartin41@aol.com ----- 352-205-7099
 Sandy Mott, mottp@embarqmail.com ----- 352-753-7856

VHA PROGRAM DIRECTORS

The Voice

Jan Palmer, mjpalm2@comcast.net ----- 352-775-4325
 Mark Palmer, Photographer
marko.palmer@gmail.com ----- 586-610-6511

Golf Cart Safety Instructors

Stan Heist, stanhjr@yahoo.com ----- 352-751-5421
 Harlan Thrailkill, harlan10530@gmail.com ----- 321-695-8172

Helping Hands

Bill Gottschalk, wm.gottschalk@gmail.com ----- 352-973-2284

Membership

Kathy Porter, kathymporter@comcast.net ----- 352-259-8196

Merchants to Members

Phil Walker, 4ianeknfl4@gmail.com ----- 352-753-8618

Communication Director

David Bedard, dbedard007@live.com ----- 508-981-8907

Charitable Foundation Board

Duane Johnson, duanemjohnson2@gmail.com ----- 507-421-5273



**VHA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
BEING CAUTIOUS AND WISE IN 2021**

We experienced a year like no other in 2020. Now, in 2021, residents will make decisions concerning a number of issues. One key decision will be whether to receive the Covid-19 vaccine or not. That decision will likely determine how comfortable

you are being out and about with friends, or participating in activities with those you do not know.

The VHA has been cautious about inviting residents to come to meetings or gatherings, with no events being held for the past eight months. Finally, we feel we can safely hold events again.

• **Golf Cart Safety Clinic is being held face-to-face the third Wednesday of each month.** A video showing the ins-and-outs of golf cart care and safe driving practices is presented and discussion led by our qualified golf cart safety instructors.

• **Our Helping Hands program loans durable medical equipment to residents free of charge.** Volunteers have been assisting residents for the last few months.

• **The Community Foundation is the philanthropic arm of The VHA.** Selected groups in The Villages who care for the needs of residents receive the foundation's financial support. The Foundation, despite being slowed down by the pandemic, is still looking for groups to support.

• **New Resident Night will be back up and running beginning in April.** Held the second Tuesday of each month, both new and established residents benefit from this opportunity to obtain information from county administrators, law enforcement, and lifestyle clubs, and volunteer groups, to name a few.

Dates and details for these regular offerings are highlighted each month in The Voice's program guide.

New and fun VHA-sponsored events are scheduled for this month. How does a POKER RUN on March 16 and a month-long GOLF SCRAMBLE sound? These great outdoor events give all Villagers a chance to meet people and have FUN in a safe environment. **See Page 8 and 12 for more details.**

As the President of The VHA, I want to bring to your attention two issues that require the attention and education of The Villages and Sumter County residents:

1. The County Issue of Increased Impact Fees. The newly-elected County Commissioners have proposed an increase of up to 150%. Residents should be asking WHY the increase. We read in The Daily Sun of contractors expressing concern about how new construction will be slowed or halted altogether as a result. I have heard rumors that those articles are the Developer's propaganda. **Ask yourself: Are not these contractors and business entrepreneurs the ones we hire to build what will be our shopping facilities, restaurants and medical facilities?**

Companies desire to go where there is growth and opportunity to thrive. Impeding them through high impact fees will, in turn, slow down the construction of the retail and medical options residents want, and need.

I have heard that the Developer should be paying more. Let's forget the Developer. **Will this cause Villagers to be deprived of a new hospital and the proposed Medical Training and Research Center?** The increased fee will be a pass-on cost for most builders, and will certainly hurt small business expansion and local family housing. Sumter County needs to be in line with other area counties, which I think the commissioners will be looking at. **Residents, please continue to watch this issue for it may impact your lifestyle.**

2. District 7 CDD Supervisors are working to divorce their district from Project Wide (PWAC). Our front-page article shares vital information about this issue. Residents of District 7, please attend meetings and ask questions. **Why is the change being done?** Will I, as a District 7 resident, be paying more services by being a stand-alone District compared to having shared costs with other Districts in the Villages? The thing to do is get involved, educate yourself, and understand the financial implications.

The Hospital Gala event shown virtually on February 13 was a rousing success. Everyone at the house parties, bidders on auction items and the wonderful volunteers enjoyed this virtual event. The Fundraiser benefitted the creation of an Emergency Fund that will be used for hospital equipment during any pandemic. The VHA and The VHA Community Foundation were proud supporters of this charitable event. (See Page 11).

*Be Safe
Phil Walker
President, The VHA*

VISION
Keeping the Dream Alive

MISSION
The Villages Homeowners Advocates (VHA) is a lifestyle organization whose members are committed to championing the needs of Villagers through:
• Positive, constructive dialogue • Problem solving • Education • Philanthropic efforts

VALUES
The VHA is committed to excellence and driven by the following values:
• Integrity • Honesty • Accountability • Independence

VHA OFFICE
1104 Main St., Spanish Springs

VHA MAIN PHONE
352-753-4650

VHA WEBSITE
www.thevha.net

Continued from page 1

the risks and costs of maintaining our infrastructure among Districts 5 through 13. Costs, once shared by 9 districts, may now be shared by one less district, and the remaining shared costs may become higher because one district decided to go it alone. The costs to the residents of that one district will increase, and the services they receive for that increased cost may decline. All of this potentially places the value of your home at risk.

This is all about Risk Management. Remember, we said we were “Better Together”. If you were here during Hurricane Irma, you certainly noticed how some of our Championship golf courses became inundated with storm water, resulting in massive ponds of water on those courses. That happened by design, and not by accident. These sites, commercial golf courses, were designed and built to handle storm water runoff, and ensure that individual residential properties were not impacted during hurricane-like events. This storm water didn’t stay within individual CDD boundaries. It crossed over between a number of districts into a common, well-planned, storm-water management system designed to protect us all from any catastrophic flooding. (Can you imagine what

the cost would be if every district had to plan and build a storm water system that was self-contained within the boundaries of only that district?) This is just one example of being “Better Together”.

Maybe it is also why we are referred to as a Master PLANNED Community. So, when you hear or see your CDD supervisors deciding to move away from our normal governance processes and take a different, independent track, you really need to question them about their intent. Is this for the common good? Will this change or impact our lifestyle long-term? Will it impact the long-term beauty of The Villages community, the very thing that first attracted many of us to this community? And, finally, what does this all mean to the long-term value of your property?

It is time to pay attention and understand that it is not just about the desire and actions of a single district, but the impact on our community fabric and the investment we’ve ALL made here. We have been extremely successful as a community - with a District Government and Community Development Districts working for all of us. WEARE BETTER TOGETHER!

The Top-Selling Master-Planned Communities of 2020

Every year, Robert Charles Lesser & Co. publishes a list of the top 50 Master Planned Communities in the country. Once again, in 2020, The Villages ranked #1 based on home sales, and in 2019 was named the Master Planned Community of the Decade.

A well-thought-out Master Planned Community must meet their standard: “True MPCs are developed from a comprehensive plan by a master developer, and incorporate a variety of housing types, sizes, and prices, with shared common space, amenities, and a vital public realm. The best examples of MPCs are developed with a strong vision and comprehensive plan that guide development and unify the community through distinctive signage, wayfinding, entry features, landscaping, and architectural/design standards. Beyond the built environment, MPCs differentiate themselves from typical suburban subdivisions in that they provide a means for

interaction among neighbors in the sense of the word “community.” They foster an environment within which generations can live better in terms of housing and the community environment, and many offer educational opportunities, neighborhood shopping and services, and even employment centers to complement the residential neighborhoods. Although rooted in a vision, the most resilient MPCs have flexible master plans that are environmentally sensitive, market responsive, and nurture the lifestyles of their residents.” To read more:

<https://www.rclco.com/publication/the-top-selling-master-planned-communities-of-2020/>

The VHA is committed to maintaining the lifestyle and property values of this community we are proud to call home as we advocate for you in “Keeping the Dream Alive”.

EDITOR’S NOTE:

While we try to publish the most accurate information available to us at the time of publication, due to circumstances beyond our control some events may need to be cancelled or postponed. Please confirm with the source of the information provided if there is any doubt about whether or not an event is still being held as planned.

THE VHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

Phil Walker, President
Fred Briggs, Past President
John Conboy, Treasurer

Karl Arps * Russ D’Emidio
Peter Moeller * Steve Printz
Peter Russell * Diane Spencer
Vivian Stephens * Chuck Wildzunias

For contact information go to www.thevha.net

THE VHA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Duane Johnson, President
Kathy Houser, Vice President
Linda McPherson, Secretary
Fred Oehling, Treasurer

Dick Boyden * Don Kingsley
Jim Noce * Phil Walker

For contact information go to www.thevha.net
Or email us at: VHACF@THEVHA.NET

THE VHA HELPING HANDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Gottschalk, President
Len Olen, Vice President
Jeff Rattner, Secretary/Treasurer

John McDonald * Phil Walker

For contact information go to www.thevha.net
Or email us at: vha.helpinghands@gmail.com

THE VILLAGES IS #1 AGAIN! LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!

MASTER-PLANNED
COMMUNITIES

RCLCO
REAL ESTATE ADVISORS

2020

RANK	MPC	MSA (CITY, STATE)	DEVELOPER	SALES		
				2020	2019	%Δ
1	The Villages	The Villages (The Villages, Florida)	The Villages	2,452	2,429	1%
2	Lakewood Ranch	North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton (Sarasota, Florida)	Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, Inc.	2,149	1,648	30%



CONTACT FORM

Please use the form below to contact us. Mail it to:

**The VHA, 1104 Main St.,
The Villages, FL 32159**
Or use the VHA Deposit Box available at every postal station.



For Membership:
Make checks payable to
The Villages Homeowners Advocates.
You may also renew online
by credit card via our website
www.thevha.net

- Membership:** New Renewal
 - \$25/Household for 2 years
 - \$100/Household for Lifetime
- Town Hall Question**
- I Would Like to Volunteer**
- Other**

NAME/NAMES OF ALL IN HOUSEHOLD: _____

ADDRESS: _____

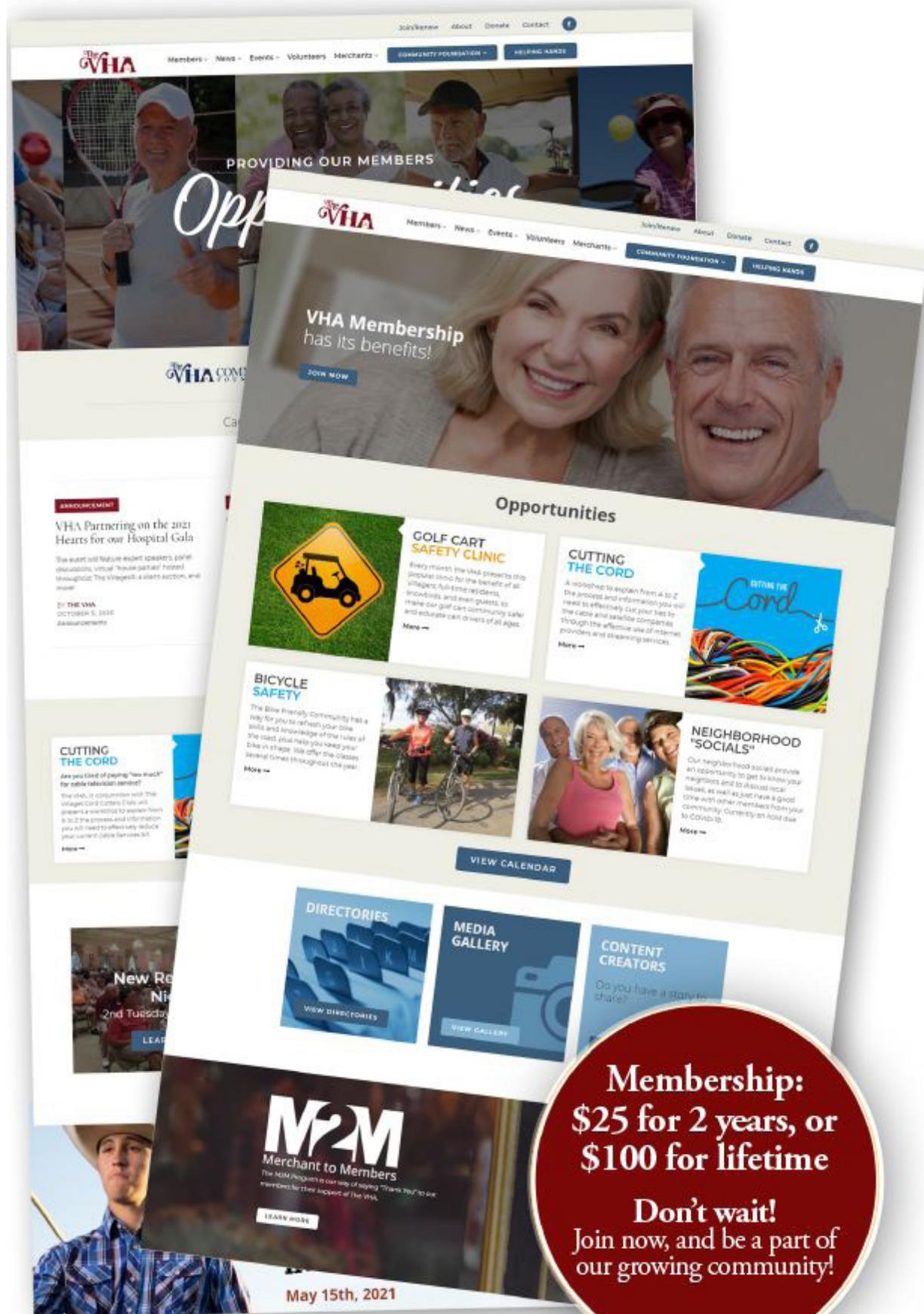
NAME OF VILLAGE/VILLA: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT THAN THE VILLAGES): _____

QUESTION/COMMENT (ATTACH TO ADDITIONAL PAPER IF NEEDED): _____



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS REWARDS...JOIN TODAY

DISTRICT ORIENTATION "GOES VIRAL"



District Manager

As I travel through The Villages Community, I can't help but notice residents working together to comply with local health and CDC guidelines about social distancing. On behalf of myself and my entire District Management Team, I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding as the District continues to modify our services and programs for the safety of District Staff, Board Members, residents, and guests.

While most of our in-person services and programs have resumed in a modified version, there are a few that remain canceled. Both CDD Orientation and Resident Academy are canceled until further notice. For those residents who have contacted me or a member of my management team regarding these valuable programs, I would like to thank you for your feedback. I appreciate the eagerness and willingness of residents in learning more about their District Government here in The Villages.

Over the last few weeks, members of the District team have been working to record presentations that have been compiled into a new educational initiative called 'District Orientation'. Scheduled to be available by mid-March, it will consist of videos and information for various District Departments and functions. Each video will be an individual module that spans between 25-48 minutes, can be paused, and you may view each video as many times as you would like. Some of the areas you can expect to see include a CDD Overview, Finance, Budget, Community Watch, Community Standards, Recreation & Parks, Executive Golf, Property Management, and MORE!

To view the new District Orientation videos starting mid-March, visit www.DistrictGov.org. A link to the videos and supporting information will be available right on the homepage. If you have any questions or would like clarification on any of the information, the contact information for each presenter can also be found on the website.



When you visit our website to view the videos, please take a moment to update your subscriptions or sign up for our email notifications called e-Notifications if you have not yet enrolled. These email notifications allow us to contact you based on the information you find useful. Some of the subjects include District Board Meeting Information, Precautionary Boil Water Notices, Road Closures, and much more. If you need assistance signing up, please reach out to the Customer Service Center at (352)753-4508 for assistance.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we continue to modify our services while enhancing your experience!

Richard Baier, P.E., LEED AP
District Manager



NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM:



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICES CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED FOR WALK-INS.

Offices will continue to be open on an appointment-only basis until further notice. Appointments can be made by emailing or contacting the appropriate District Department.

- Administration- 352-751-3939 or CustomerService@districtgov.org

- Bonds- 352-751-3900 or Bonds@districtgov.org

- Community Standards- 352-751-3912 or DeedCompliance@districtgov.org

- Customer Service- 352-753-4508 or CustomerService@districtgov.org

- Human Resources- 352-674-1905 or HumanResources@districtgov.org

- Recreation- 352-674-1800 or RecreationDepartment@districtgov.org

- Risk Management- 352-674-1828 or RiskManagement@districtgov.org

- Utilities- 352-750-0000 or Utilities@districtgov.org

If you do not know which department to contact, please call the District Customer Service Center at 352-753-4508.

DISTRICT WEEKLY BULLETIN: Do you want to stay up to date on what is happening in the various departments within the District? On the District website's Home Page, on the left-hand side, is a menu with District Weekly Bulletin as an option. Current, valuable, and pertinent information is available weekly, including closures for maintenance, frequently asked questions and answers, committee vacancies and applications, and much more.

PICKLES

by Brian Crane



All District Government Committee Meetings (CCD, PWAC, Amenity Authority, Architectural Review, etc.) with dates, times, and locations, are available on the website.

Meeting Calendar

March 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 (1)	9	10 (2)	11 (4)	12 (4)	13
14	15	16	17	18 (5)	19 (3)	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

What Happens When I Call 911 in The Villages? ~ Frequently Asked Questions

- **When should I call 911?** When you have a medical, fire, or police emergency.

- **Who answers my 911 call?** In Florida, all 911 Public-Safety Answering Points (PSAP's) must be affiliated with county sheriffs' dispatch centers. So, if you live in the Sumter Villages, your call is originally answered in Bushnell by the Sumter County Sheriff's dispatch center. In Marion County, you'll be talking to an individual in Ocala. Lake County residents get a call-taker in Tavares.



- **But I don't need the police. What if my emergency is medical?** The sheriff's office call-taker will ask if your call is for FIRE, POLICE, or MEDICAL. The call-taker will also ask for the location of the emergency. Frequently, the call taker will ask

Continued on page 7

AREA AND REGION NEWS

NORTH AREA

North of 466

Jan Palmer – Editor of The Voice



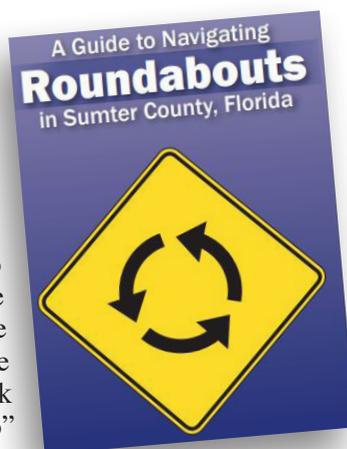
The other day we were heading south on Morse Blvd. on our way home from a doctor's appointment when we saw flashing lights up ahead. As we approached the scene of what was obviously a motor vehicle accident, we dutifully got in line expecting we would soon be able to inch our way through to the other side and be on our way. It soon became apparent this was not going to be the case as more and more emergency vehicles arrived and no traffic was getting through in either direction.

Morse Blvd. is one of the main arteries in The Villages, and there is little recourse for an alternate route if an accident occurs. We, along with several other cars, reversed direction and headed back north in search of a way to get home using side roads. Using our GPS, we did manage to navigate our way through some lovely neighborhoods we had never seen before, then turned west onto 466 and then south onto Morse. As we did so, another emergency vehicle was trying to reach the scene of the accident, but was having a slow go of it with the traffic jam that was now backed up to the entrance gate.

Being the curious person that I am, I wondered what had happened, so the next day I texted a friend of mine who lives just a few houses down from Morse near the accident site to see if she knew any details. She was surprised to hear there had even been an accident, although she had heard sirens. Why was she not aware? Because accidents and sirens along Morse are such a common occurrence it didn't catch her attention. A long-time resident of The Villages, I agree with her observations: "The street is not able to handle the amount of traffic it now gets. It is a cut through to 441 for vehicles who have no reason to be in The Villages."

Perhaps there is a solution, but since we are not a gated community, I doubt it. However, I do remember when we first began spending time here twelve years ago, we did have to go through the visitor lane and the gate attendants asked us who we were visiting. Now it seems their job is simply traffic control.

Speaking of which, it is hard to keep under the speed limit when the roads are wider and traffic is heavier and residential roads become thoroughfares. I'm sure local law enforcement is aware of this, and doing their best to patrol our streets, but I must admit we are getting a bit of a kick out of the empty cruisers now being used to enforce speed limits. We noticed the one on Morse had to be moved for the mowers last week. I think most Villagers are "on to" this new method.



P.S. Take advantage of The VHA's Golf Cart Safety Clinic, held monthly, stay on top of bicycle safety tips, be a defensive, courteous and safe driver, and, if you have any questions about those pesky roundabouts, go to www.districtgov.org/community/Roundabout-02-08-12.pdf for "all you need to know" to navigate them safely.

Jan Palmer
Editor, The VHA Voice

CENTRAL AREA

Between 466 and 466A

John Dean, Vice President

vhajohndean@gmail.com – 207-557-0371



Here is the good news – March ushers in Spring and as Alexander Pope wrote in 1734, "Hope springs eternal". And for most of us, I think Spring means hope, renewal, and joy. The word itself creates an image of leaping forward.

While the changes in the weather and blossoming plants is not as dramatic here as it was up north, Spring in The Villages is no less appealing. Last year I planted a blood orange tree and a Meyer lemon tree (both are only about four feet tall so maybe they are called a bush at this point). I enjoyed several delicious oranges and this year the tree already has a lot of buds and blossoms, so I am hoping for a good crop. The lemon tree produced about twenty lemons, some about the size of a softball. I am still harvesting these lemons and look forward to what the tree will produce this year.

While so much attention is focused on the development of the southern end of The Villages, it is nice to see that the existing areas are being well cared for. I watched as miles of fencing along Rt 466, Stillwater Trail, and other areas have been replaced. It was more noticeable before they painted it black and looked quite nice even before the paint was applied. I drive along Rt 466 a lot, both in my car and in my golf cart and, except for an occasional spot where someone has hit the fence, I didn't notice that it needed replacing.

Also, all the flowers in the roundabouts and neighborhood entrances have been replaced and they look great. They certainly know what plants work well under certain weather conditions. My wife and I walk a couple of miles every morning, and some mornings we have seen frost on the roofs but the flowers they planted remain unscathed by the frost and healthy looking all the time.



On the topic of weather – I installed a weather station at my home, became a Weather Watcher, and I have had a great time watching the wind, rain, temperatures, humidity, and more information. I send in my rain reading each morning for the previous day if I have any to report. There are many weather stations

scattered around The Villages and far beyond. If you are curious, you can go to www.ambientweather.net and look at any of the reporting stations. You can even keep tabs on the weather stations back up north if you really want to feel good about NOT being there.

The bad news is that most of us are still waiting for an appointment to get our COVID immunization. It seems that currently supplies cannot keep up with the demand, but I am sure they will catch up with the backlog and we will all have the opportunity to be immunized. In the meantime, be careful.

*Until we can safely meet again
in person, stay safe and healthy,
John*

SOUTH AREA

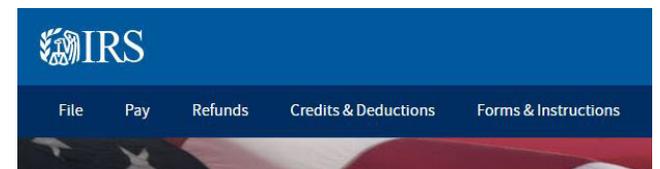
Between 466A and SR44

Mike Dollard, Vice President

mjdollard@hotmail.com – 585-315-8338



Last month I talked about the new tax form 1444. In addition, I would suggest that you create an account at irs.gov. Simply go to irs.gov, click on the box that says "View your account" and it will take you to the page to view or create an account with them. This year they created the new form 1444 to tell you what your stimulus payments were and this is how you can retrieve the info on line.



As long as you are on the IRS site, I would strongly suggest that you establish a personal identification number (PIN). Type PIN into the search box on the top right of the site and it will guide you from there. Why a PIN? It adds an extra, and strong, level of security to your tax returns. The PIN will be created by the IRS and each December they will mail you a new one. There is a spot on your tax return to list the number. Any return without it is rejected. Filing false returns to abscond with a large, and illegal, refund has gotten to be quite popular.

The bond on your home. This topic gets tossed around the blogs on a regular basis. The "bond" represents the cost of building the infrastructure of your village. The roads, water and sewer lines, and the other amenities is what was funded by this. Some states allow this type of dealing with the cost of development and others do not. Florida does allow it, but counties have the option to not allow it in their county. The most common way of this financing is to issue notes; essentially you find someone to loan you the money for a specified period of time. After construction is all done and the actual cost is known, the bonds are issued with investors buying them as a long-term investment. Most bonds in The Villages were issued in the 4.5 to 6.5% range of interest.

AREA AND REGION NEWS

If you want specific information about your particular bond you can go to www.Districtgov.org, click on How do I? and in the drop-down tab click on the Obtain Residential Bond Assessment Information. You can call the Bond Unit at the district offices (352-751-3900) and they will tell you what the exact payoff is. If done by March 15 you save six months interest.

Mike Dollard

FAR SOUTH AREA

South of SR44

Andrew Bilardello, Vice President

andy@bellicus.net – 561-644-1358



My mother, who is 91, received a phone call a while back that went something like this:

Caller: Hi grandma, it's me. I'm calling from my friend's phone because the battery in my phone died. We're broke down on the highway and need to be towed. The

tow company won't accept credit cards, only cash. Can you send me \$250 via Western Union and I'll pay you back when I get home, please?

Mom: Who is this again?

Caller: It's your grandson.

Mom: Which one? Michael?

Caller: Yes, Michael.

Mom: Nice try (insert expletive here). I don't have a grandson named Michael. (Hangs up)

Mom-1. Scammer-0.

The sad truth is if you have something that criminals want (money), they are going to try and figure out ways to take it from you. The Villages is what's known to scammers as a target-friendly community. They are banking on the fact that, because of your age, they can con you out of your hard-earned money.

A few weeks ago, the Chief Financial Officer for the State of Florida, Jimmy Patronis, visited Sumter County to speak about operation SAFE (Stop Adult Financial Exploitation). The Department of Financial Services' **Be Scam Smart** workshops are open to seniors, their families and caregivers to help inform, empower, and protect Florida's seniors from financial fraud and scams. For more information please visit: <https://www.myfloridacfo.com/safe/>

The Sumter County Sheriff also has a program called "Seniors Vs. Crime" which is run by volunteers. The VHA Voice runs a monthly article by them with all the different locations and contact information. This month's article on "Charity Scams" is on Page 10.

There is a scam tracker option on the home page of the Better Business Bureau at www.bbb.org and a great article on what you can do to prevent being scammed at: <https://www.bbb.org/article/scams/8767-bbb-tips-10-steps-to-avoid-scams>

BBB Scam Tracker

Report a scam and track what scams are trending in your area.

Visit Scam Tracker Now



The VHA will continue to pass along information of any new possible scams taking place in our community. You, as well, should take the time to learn about the various scamming tricks that are popping up every day. Protect what's yours. Don't be a victim!

Andrew Bilardello

P.S. There are two events geared specifically for residents in the new, far south area of The Villages for your enjoyment, and to introduce you to The VHA. Information on our first Golf Scramble and Poker Run is in The VHA Notes and News on Page 8, and on the back page of this edition of The Voice.

LADY LAKE NEWS

Lynn Davis

Lynna527@aol.com – 352-250-7782

March 20th the Lady Lake Historical Society will host their Spring Rummage Sale at the Log Cabin, Hwy 441/27, Lady Lake.

March 27th is the date for the Annual Lady Lake Easter Egg Hunt from 10:00 a.m. till noon. This free event, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Lady Lake, is held at the Guava Sports Complex next to the Lady Lake Library for children ages 12 and under.

Lady Lake is having their annual Tree Raffle for Lady Lake residents only. Twenty-five residents will be drawn as winners and will be able to purchase trees and/or shrubs worth \$200 from Fairfield Farms Nursery in Oxford. Applications will be accepted during the month of March. Names will be drawn at one of the April Commission Meetings.



Earth Fare is coming back, under new management. It is planning to open their store at the original location in Lady Lake Commons Center on Hwy 27/441 next to Total Wine and Goodwill. The opening is planned for the second quarter of 2021. A grand opening will be announced at a later date.

Submitted by,
Lynn Davis

NEWS

Continued from page 5

for the county. For the purposes of 911, it's not The Villages, it's Lady Lake.

• **Doesn't the 911 operator know my address when I call? Why does he/she have to ask?** If you call 911 from your hard-wired (house) phone, the location of that telephone appears on the call-taker's computer screen.

If you call from your cell phone, none of that information may be available. The call taker will always ask for the location of the emergency either to confirm what he/she already sees on the screen or to learn the location from the cell phone caller. As a result, if you're calling from a cell phone, you need to know where you are!

• **What if I have my telephone service through my computer?** Originally there were a number of problems with Internet 911 calls. Those "problems" have been resolved, but the call-taker may not have all of the same information that is provided by the normal hard-wired (house) phone. Be prepared to answer questions!

• **What is EMD?** EMD is Emergency Medical Dispatching. If you are dealing with a medical emergency, the call-taker may give you information on how to help the patient: how to stop bleeding, how to deal with a patient who is unconscious, how to perform CPR. EMD helps you to help the patient.

There are several things that will make your 911 call less distressing, frantic, or frustrating:

- Can the emergency responders see the house numbers for your home?
- Are the outside lights on?
- Can you give the call-taker any information that will make it easier for emergency personnel to find you?

Yes, you have an emergency, but be patient! The call-taker and/or dispatcher can only perform his/her function if you remain calm and can provide the necessary information. There will be lots of questions. Sometimes the same questions get asked several times. The call-taker is merely trying to get needed information and ensure that the information is accurate

When in doubt, call 911. If the situation upsets or scares you enough to "think" it's an emergency, it probably is. Call 911. The call-taker can make the decision.

Many thanks for this information from the District website and provided by: The Villages Public Safety Department 3035 S. Morse Blvd ~ The Villages, FL 32163 (352) 205-8280 ~ Fax: (352) 205-8290 Edmund A. Cain, Fire Chief

The VHA NOTES AND NEWS



The Villages Homeowners Advocates is proud to announce plans for its first-ever Four-Person Golf Scramble. The event will be held during the entire month of March and will consist of four-person teams playing one Level Three and one Level Four Executive courses in The Villages. There will be three events: Women's, Men's Over 70, and Men's Under 70.

The event will use a scramble format and teams must play and complete a scorecard for each of the rounds they play. Winners will be determined by score-to-par, meaning if one nine-hole par score is 29 and a team shoots 24, they would be minus 5 to par. Thus, when adding the two scores, a team could shoot 47 (23 + 24) minus 9, posting the lowest TOTAL score, but not beat a team who shoots 48 if that score-to-par is less (minus 10).

Entry fee for the event is \$10 for VHA members and \$20 for non-members. All entry fees must be received prior to playing either round. Sixty percent of all entry fees will be returned as prize money for the winning teams. Number and amount of prizes will be determined by the number of teams entered. Women will play from the green tees and men from the gold tees for this event. In the Over 70 event, all team players must be over 70. Players over 70 MAY play in the Under 70 event.

Players will play the tournament on any day or days in the month of March. All pre-paid entries and all scorecards must be sent to Mike Burke, 2192 Crawford Ct. 32162. Questions may be referred to Mike Burke at MikeBurkeVHA@Yahoo.com.

THE VHA TO SPONSOR A GOLF CART POKER RUN

The VHA will sponsor a Golf Cart Poker Run from the Everglades Recreation Center on Tuesday, March 16 at 3:00 PM.



Cost of the Poker Run is only \$10 per hand and cash prizes will be awarded.

Players should register by March 15 at: MikeBurkeVHA@Yahoo.com

CDC guidelines will be enforced, with players being required to wear masks while inside the Everglades Recreation Center. The event is being sponsored by The VHA and Florida Blue.

Players will receive instructions and card sheets at Everglades at 3:00 p.m. in the Grand Canyon Theater and then depart for four other sites to get their cards before returning to Everglades for the awarding of prizes and free ice cream cups.

Prizes will be awarded for Best Hand, Second Best Hand, and Worst Hand, and extra cards and Wild Cards will be available for purchase, as well as a 50-50 drawing.

A poker run is an organized event in which participants, usually using motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, boats, snowmobiles, horses, on foot or other means of transportation, must visit five to seven checkpoints, drawing a playing card at each one. The object is to have the best poker hand at the end of the run. Having the best hand and winning is purely a matter of chance.

Upcoming EVENTS FOR APRIL

**NEW RESIDENT NIGHT:
TUESDAY, APRIL 13 at 7:00 P.M.
at COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL
RECREATION CENTER**

**THE VHA QUARTERLY TOWN HALL
MEETING WILL BE HELD:
APRIL 20th with question
deadline of APRIL 14th**

**GOLF CART SAFETY CLINIC:
APRIL 21st at 9:00 A.M. at
COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL
RECREATION CENTER**

**GENERAL MEETING:
APRIL 20th at 7:00 P.M. at ROHAN
REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER
(The VHA Member-Only Event)**

**WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE
APRIL ISSUE OF THE VHA VOICE**

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

THE VHA ANNUAL VOLUNTEER AWARDS

**MARCH 10, 2021 @ 7:00 P.M.
LAKE MIONA REGIONAL
RECREATION CENTER**

ALL VILLAGES RESIDENTS INVITED

Every year The VHA, as the largest advocacy group in The Villages, considers nominations for volunteer groups in our community who have demonstrated a similar commitment to being advocates for various causes and in many different ways. This year we are presenting awards to two outstanding organizations whose influence and dedication are worthy of special recognition.

VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS:



VILLAGE QUILTERS OFFER CHARITY SUPPORT NATIONWIDE

The Quilting Guild of The Villages is a 501 (c) (4) nonprofit organization whose membership is open to all residents of The Villages (homeowners and renters with a valid ID.) The Quilting Guild of The Villages was established in 1993 and provides resources to create a fun, productive and educational quilting environment for its members. With more than 1,100+ members and 25 chapters, the Guild activities include nationally known guest lecturers, trunk shows, community donation projects, classroom instruction, workshops and retreats.

Year 2020 changed the focus of The Guild with the onset of COVID-19. Quilters saw the need to help friends, neighbors, hospitals, nursing homes, doctors' offices and schools by delivering more than 56,000 face masks in 26 states totaling \$114,322 in charitable giving.

The Guild quilters continued to support local charities with quilt donations to:

- Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Live Oak
- Wildwood Elementary School, Wildwood
- The Village Cleaners, The Villages
- Villages Honor Flight Inc., Lady Lake
- Cornerstone Hospice, The Villages
- Samaritan Inn, Leesburg
- Guardian Ad Litem (5th Circuit) Program, Tavares
- Haven House of Lake & Sumter County, Leesburg
- Ocala Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault, Ocala
- Shriner's Hospital for Children, Tampa

These donations totaled \$139,535 in quilted products. Total donations to all groups supported by The Quilting Guild of The Villages equaled \$439,779 in 2020.

Each of the 25 chapters also select their own charities to support along with The Guild initiatives. These charities, not including the above mentioned, number 199 in the tri-county area.



HOMETOWN CIVITAN IS PART OF CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL WHICH HAS CLUBS IN 26 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

The parent organization was started in 1917 by a group of businessmen in Birmingham, Alabama to bring fellowship, knowledge and service to others. The flagship program of Civitan is to bring awareness and treatment to youth with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Each club around the nation helps to support the International Research Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

When Betty Rohan moved to The Villages in 2014 from Jacksonville, Florida, there was no Civitan here. She was active in a

Jacksonville club and, although there were many other service clubs, she decided to try and start a club here. Hometown Civitan was chartered in March of 2015.

Besides financially supporting the International Research Center, the club provides service and support to programs in the tri-county area; Lake, Marion and Sumter counties. Because they are an all-women's club, their main emphasis is directed to 501-c3's that deal mainly with women and children's issues; including Hand in Hand's the Ruth House, which is a halfway house for women and children in crisis located in Eustis, Pace Center for Girls, which is a gender specific alternative school in Marion County, The Therapeutic Horseback Riding Association, and Centerville Children's Mission, just to name a few.

One of the lines in their creed states "My hands do the work of the world and reach out in service to others." In the six short years since their inception in The Villages, they have raised over \$250,000 in volunteer support and financial grants for many organizations in need in the area.

The VHA is honored to recognize The Guild's and Civitan's service to the community. We hope its many members and supporters will join us as we present them with The Villages Homeowners Advocates Volunteer Awards for 2020.

**THE VHA
DON HAHNFELDT
SERVICE AWARD
RECIPIENT**



AS FOUNDER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF PARADY FINANCIAL GROUP, GREG PARADY LEADS A TEAM OF EXPERT ADVISORS THAT PROVIDE HIS CLIENTS WITH EXCEPTIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

Since its founding in 2001, Parady Financial Group has become a pillar of The Villages community, not only managing assets and insurance needs for clients, but also investing back into the community that has been so supportive of Greg, his family,

and his business.

Greg sponsors a variety of causes that are important to his team and clients. During Breast Cancer Awareness month, Parady Financial hosts an annual Fashion Show to raise money for the Community Medical Care and Cancer Resource Center. When Greg's wife Jenni was pregnant with their third child, they celebrated by throwing The Villages Largest Baby Shower to benefit mothers in need, collecting new baby items and diapers for Leesburg's Pregnancy and Family Care Center. On Veteran's Day, Greg's company honors local heroes with a "Salute to Veterans" event that includes a parade and entertainment, while also bringing awareness to Villages Honor Flight, which is another cause they proudly and humbly support through Golf Tournament Fundraising Events throughout the year.

During the holidays, Greg's team and his clients look for ways to help those in need through coat, blanket, food, and toy drives. Greg was nationally recognized as a Layaway Santa when he paid off Christmas layaway accounts of strangers at The Villages Walmart. This led to the Pay it Forward campaign, where he gave elementary students gift cards to spend on others, and then write about their experiences. This past December, Parady Financial Group held a Christmas food drive which brought in 3,000 pounds of food to benefit local food pantries and shelters.

Parady Financial "adopted" three area elementary schools, providing much-needed technology, snacks for summer enrichment programs, and school supplies for students through client and community donations. In support of the college scholarship program, Take Stock in Children, Greg and his team host dinners for well-deserving, at-risk secondary students in Lake and Sumter Counties.

Parady Financial enjoys being a sponsor of various community service groups, projects, and events, including the Lymphoma Research Foundation, The VHA Helping Hands, Angel Snugs, Villages Life Care Advocates, Vietnam Veterans, Junior Golf, Toys for Tots, the Alzheimer's Family Organization, Military Officers of America, Combat Veterans to Careers, Seeds of Hope Food Campaign, Locks of Love, and the AVID school program.

In his free time, Greg loves spending time with his wife and three children, gourmet cooking, golfing, fly fishing, and traveling.

Watch next month's issue of The VHA Voice for highlights from this special evening.



THE ON-LINE REFRESHER COURSE CONTINUES TO BE OFFERED:

The AARP Smart is recognized as an approved accident prevention course for drivers age 55 and older by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Insured drivers, age 55 and older, may be eligible for an appropriate reduction in automobile insurance premium charges good for three years after completing this course. Please check with your insurance company or agent for any additional requirements for eligibility.

For more information and to register, go to:
<https://www.aarpdriversafety.org/>



AMAC Foundation
Supporting & Educating America's Seniors

SOCIAL SECURITY OVERVIEW: 2021 VERSION

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Lady Lake Library, 225 W. Guava Street, Room 207

The AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service is now in its sixth year of operation and has handled more than 15,000 calls for help in understanding Social Security. We've found that many of the questions cluster around a handful of basic areas. With this in mind, we thought it would be helpful to provide an update on these most commonly queried subjects, and at the same time provide an update on some of the changes applicable to 2021.

In keeping with our Foundation's mission of "Supporting and Educating America's Seniors," we are again presenting an update in a public setting where seminar attendees can get the facts straight from our staff of National Social Security Advisors. Our topics will include:

- **The Basics (Eligibility, Full Retirement Age (FRA), etc.,)**
- **Disability Basics**
- **When/How to file**
- **Spousal Benefits**
- **Taxation of Benefits**
- **Surviving Spouse Benefits**
- **...and much more!**

COVID-19 restrictions will be in effect. Check our website for details at:
www.AmacFoundation.org/Events

There is no fee for this seminar and light refreshments will be served. **Advance registration is requested. Contact the Foundation office at 888-750-2622 or via email at: info@AmacFoundation.org**

M2M: THE VHA MERCHANTS TO MEMBERS DISCOUNT PROGRAM



Beat the Charity Scammers

**Seniors
VS.
CRIME**



Long before we had the Internet, we had charity scammers -- crooks who hid their mischief behind the name of a charity, genuine or fake. But with the advent of the Internet, scammers have redoubled their efforts to pass themselves off as legitimate. Every time there's a catastrophe of some sort, hundreds of websites are set up with the aim of fleecing would-be donors.

Some phony fundraisers are busy year-round, often using the names of genuine charities to convince people that they're legit. Plus, the performance of some real charities could be classified as dubious because so little of the money they raise finds its way into the hands of the needy. Most of the money goes to high salaries or administration costs.

Things have become so bad that one of the non-profit "watchdogs" that review the activities of these fundraisers, CharityWatch, published a list of scam or dubious charities in what it calls a Hall of Shame, naming the individuals it alleges are behind some of the scandals.

But even this list is just the tip of the iceberg among charity scams. As proof, the IRS has identified fake charities, claiming to be tax exempt (and therefore genuine), among the biggest sources of fraud it has encountered this year. The US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) publishes its own list of actions to beat the charity scammers at:

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/how-donate-wisely-and-avoid-charity-scams>

What can you do to avoid the charity scammers? Here are three important steps you should take:

1. Never donate to a charity you have never heard of, no matter how reasonable its name, without checking



them out. Scammers are sending out emails and using robocalls to try to trick victims. Even if the name sounds about right, you must still check them out.

2. Check out any organization you're planning to donate to by visiting watchdog sites. CharityWatch.org and CharityNavigator.org are among the main check sites. Search on "charity check" for more.

The IRS also maintains a searchable database of genuinely tax exempt charities at: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/tax-exempt-organization-search>

3. Be especially wary of any organization claiming to be raising funds for a current situation, such as the

Covid pandemic or a recent natural disaster like hurricane damage or earthquakes.

If you need assistance with understanding any aspects of Charity Scams, contact the nearest Seniors Vs. Crime office in The Villages for advice or assistance. Seniors Vs. Crime also has a Speakers Bureau that will gladly come to your club, church, or group to speak about scams. To schedule a presentation, contact any of the offices. There is never a charge for their services. Seniors Vs. Crime can be reached at:

- The Fruitland Park Police Department Annex in the Moyer Recreation Center in The Villages – (352) 674-1882
- The Marion County Sheriff's Office in The Villages – (352) 753-7775
- The Sumter County Sheriff's Office in The Villages – (352) 689-4600, Extension 4606
- The Wildwood Police Department Annex at Brownwood in The Villages – (352) 753-0727

During this pandemic, our offices are closed for walk-in complaints. Please call before you come to our offices. Hours may vary or may require appointments. You can also file online, or by calling 1-(800)-203-3099. Our staff will call you back and you can file your complaint over the phone.

Volunteers at all four offices are ready, willing and able to assist you. To keep up with the latest scams, LIKE 'Seniors vs. Crime Region 4' on Face Book. Hablamos Español. Por favor pregunte por Yolanda. Martes a Viernes: 10:00 A.M. a 2:00 P.M., (352) 689 4606.

Safe Lane Positioning



by Bike Friendly Advocacy Group

Frequently we observe vehicles passing a cyclist riding to the far right of the lane road. There is double danger in this situation because: (1) Some drivers believe they have primacy over cyclist. (2) Some cyclists believe they are safer at the far right of the road. Wrong. Both are vehicles under Florida Law. The driver might swing out and pass too closely to the cyclist who created a space too narrow for the motorist to pass safely.

It is problematic that many cyclists have heard that "riding to the far right of the lane" is the safest place, which is not always the case. Florida Law, S. 316.2065, requires bicyclists to "ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway." "Practicable"

means "as safe as possible." For safety, bicyclists must know what is going on around them and apply sound riding judgement. Bicyclists can leave the right side of the roadway to avoid any unsafe condition.

One such condition is when a lane is "substandard-width." S. 316.2065 defines "substandard width lanes" as "a lane too narrow for a bicycle and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane." Most Florida roadways are less than 14 feet wide, including The Villages. Fortunately, we have some alternatives like cart paths with defined lanes that separate motor vehicles from bikes, as well as multimodal paths.

The burden for safety in passing bicycles lies entirely on the motor vehicle operator, as is the case with all



passing situations with other vehicles. Drivers may not pass a bicyclist within the lane if it is unsafe. They must provide the minimum of three feet of separation. If the adjacent lane is not clear, motorists must wait. Educated and experienced bicyclists know that riding far right encourages unsafe and illegal passing within the substandard-width lane, so they "take the lane" as allowed and encouraged for both their safety as well as the motorist.

The photo shows lane positioning options. The cyclist riding in Lane B has taken the lane, the safest and most visible section of the road. The rider has options to maneuver and avoid danger or make turns.

Riding in the "L" lane, invites close calls from passing motorists. The "A" lane is the transition lane for a Left turn or lane change.

The "C" lane is the transition for a Right turn. The "R" lane poses danger from drivers opening car doors or pulling into traffic unexpectedly.

Remember, ride with situational awareness, always signal and be visible!

*by Jim Dodson, Bicycle Attorney
Gerry Lachnicht, Principal at Sabal Trust*

**We believe in you...
Making a difference**

Earlier this year we asked "do you believe you can still make a difference with everything going on in the world today?" Your response was "I can and I will," and believe me... YOU DID! While all totals are not finalized, the preliminary figures reveal that we will generate over \$200,000, and that the broadcast of our Virtual Live Stream Gala was visible to more than 100,000 households throughout the tri-county community.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR "BELIEVING" IN US! Your continued support during these unprecedented times in our world is greatly appreciated. Mark your calendars for the 16th annual Hearts for Our Hospital Gala to be held on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at which time we are hopeful for the opportunity to see everyone in-person once again.

2021 Gala by-the-numbers

**189 Auction
Items**

**246
Registered
Bidders**

49 Gala Sponsors

**\$5,000 Raised
Toward
Scholarships**

**54
Gala
Volunteers**

Thanks to our generous donors
\$290,000 + in net proceeds was raised
to support the Pandemic Preparedness Fund.



We Thank You!

To our many partners, sponsors, and friends who
Believe in our mission and whose
support help to ensure the
15th Annual Hearts for Our Hospital Gala
was a resounding success.



Double Diamond



**RICH & MEG
CAMPBELL**

**JIM & PAM
SMOTHERS**

**DAN
SULLIVAN**

Production Sponsor



Beverage Sponsor



Diamond



Platinum



**DR. STEPHEN & MARY BETH
AUTRY**

**JOHN & BETH
BONDURANT**

**KENT
LUNSFORD**

**THE FISHER
FOUNDATION**

**EUGENE & MARCIA
SPADA**

**ROB & CYNTHIA
LEVINS**

**MAURICE & BETSY
JOY**

Gold



Supporter

Alliant Dermatology & Vein Center
Citizens Bank
Don & Valerie DeRosa
Evergreen Construction
Forefront Architecture
Hand and Stone Massage & Facial Spa

Honey Baked Ham
Jeffrey Berkaw
Lake Medical Imaging
McLin & Burnsed
Michael & Patricia Pape

Michael Pape & Associates
Riddle-Newman Engineering
Scott & Debbie Sander
UF Health Leesburg Hospital Foundation
Walter & Robin Bell

Silent Auction Donors

ABC Fine Wine & Spirits
Aesthetic Skin Solutions of The Villages
Akers Media
Alan Ross Productions
Alliant Dermatology & Vein Center
Anonymous
Arden's Fine Jewelers
Arthurs Creative Events & Catering
Bamboo Bistro
Belk's
Betsy Joy
Blackjack Sporting Clays
Bob & Mickie Ziarko
Bonfish Grill
Brooklyn Water Bagel Company
Brownwood Jewelers
Campus USA Credit Union
Cason Photography
Cheers at Stonecrest Country Club
City Fire Restaurants
City Furniture
Clear View Optix
Continental Country Club
Corals Casual Patio & Fireplace
CPOF Cubicles Plus
Creative Concierge
Dave & Sylvia Gardner
David's World Cycle

Debbie Sander
Delaney Park Doodle
Diane Kupchak
Doc's Restorations
Down Town Properties
Evelyn & Arthur
Fiesta Bowl
Flamingo Real Estate & Management
Florida Blue Medicare
FMK Restaurant Group
Freedom Pointe at The Villages
Gary & Barbara Kadow
Gilly & the Girl
Glenview Country Club
Golf Central at Brownwood
Good Dog Training Group
Gordon Ralph
Grand Traverse Dental Care
Hair and Nail Creations
Harbor Hills Country Club
Helene Aisenstat, MD
Honey Baked Ham
Inner Peace Wellness & Massage
Innovative Massage Therapy
Jeannie Rogale
Jerry & Lou Emmert
Joey & Jennifer Hooten
Kathy Hamaty, LMT

Keke's Breakfast Café
Kindred Spirits
Lighthouse Seafood Market
Longhorn Steakhouse
Lori Anne Pawlowski
Maen Hussein, MD & Michelle Vivieros
Metabolic Research Center
Michael & Shannon Whitaker
Miller's Ale House
Millie Klemish
Mission Inn BBQ
Nikki Szymanski
OakWood Smokehouse
Outback Steakhouse
Park West Gallery
Paul & Jeanne Farineau
Petrina
Petsense
Randy & Cristie Mask
Redsauce
Relax in Comfort
Ric Mitchell Entertainment
RK Sunshades
Rose Walker
Rug World
Sabal Trust
Sheriff Bill Farmer
Sparr

Tangent Media
Texas Roadhouse
The Amazing Grace Notes
The Beatlemaniacs
The Brownwood Hotel & Spa
The Hotel Eleo
The Kings Gallery
The Legacy Restaurant at Nancy Lopez
The Oaks on 44
The Spice & Tea Exchange - Brownwood
The Villages
The Villages Philharmonic Orchestra
Tommy Incorvaia
UF Health Central Florida Marketing
VHA Board of Directors
VHA Community Foundation Board of Directors
Village Car Wash
Village Custom Interiors
Village Institute of Plastic Surgery (VIP)
Villages Ace Hardware
Villages Florist
Waterfront Inn
Winn-Dixie, West Florida Region
Wonder Works
Ye Olde Thrift Shoppe

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE THEVHA.NET FOR INFO, MEMBERSHIP,
HELPFUL LINKS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, AND MORE**

Home Join/Renew About Donate Contact



Members ▾ News ▾ Events ▾ Volunteers Merchants ▾

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ▾

HELPING HANDS

HELPING HANDS



DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

VISIT WWW.THEVHA.NET TO VIEW OUR
CURRENT INVENTORY, THEN CALL:

352-973-2284

OR EMAIL US AT:

VHA.HELPINGHANDS.OFFICEMAIL@GMAIL.COM

WE WILL THEN SCHEDULE YOUR PICK-UP FROM:
THE VHA OFFICE • 1104 MAIN ST. • SPANISH SPRINGS
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY BETWEEN
11:00 A.M. AND 1:00 P.M.

THE MONTH OF MARCH THE VHA
WILL HOST ITS FIRST EVER

Golf Scramble

SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 8

FOR INFORMATION EMAIL:
MikeBurkeVHA@Yahoo.com

THE VHA GOLF CART POKER RUN FROM EVERGLADES REC CENTER MARCH 16TH @ 3:00 P.M.

\$10/HAND PLUS 50/50 DRAWING
CASH PRIZES

CONTACT:

MikeBurkeVHA@Yahoo.com

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION SEE PAGE 8

VOLUNTEER
SPOTLIGHT

*Mark Your
Calendar*



ANNUAL VOLUNTEER AWARDS NIGHT

MARCH 10, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

ALL VILLAGES RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.
SEE DETAILS OF AWARD RECIPIENTS ON PAGES 8 & 9.