



# The VHA VOICE

THE VILLAGES HOMEOWNERS ADVOCATES: KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

April 2022 • Vol. 28 No. 4

The VHA FOUNDATION  
COMMITTEE

The VHA

The VHA HELPING  
HANDS



## THE VHA GENERAL MEETING WILL FEATURE:

**REP. DANIEL WEBSTER**

**APRIL 19, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**AT THE ROHAN REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER,  
850 Kristine Way, Wildwood/The Villages, FL 34785**



Daniel Webster is currently serving in the 117th Congress representing the 11th Congressional District in Central Florida, which includes The Villages. As such, he serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Committee on Natural Resources, along with the Science, Space and Technology Committee. With an engineering background and thirty-five years of transportation experience in Florida, Webster is working to create

jobs by investing in our infrastructure and improving Florida's transportation systems and waterways.

Congressman Webster was born in Charleston, West Virginia on April 27, 1949. He is a graduate of Georgia Tech where he earned his degree in Electrical Engineering in 1971. He also holds two Honorary Doctorate Degrees. Webster is married to the former Sandra Jordan of Orlando, and they have six children: David, Brent, Jordan, Elizabeth, John, and Victoria, and twenty-one grandchildren. Webster is active in his church, First Baptist Church of Central Florida. Known for many things, Daniel Webster still holds his faith, his family, and his principles as his biggest assets.

*"I would like to acknowledge that any accomplishments I may have achieved come only from the investment that God and others have made in my life."*

Please note: This meeting is for The VHA Members Only with an opportunity to join at the door the night of the event.

## THE VHA RECOGNIZES THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE AT ITS ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

It was an appreciative and responsive crowd who attended The VHA's Annual Awards Night at the Lake Miona Regional Recreation Center on March 9th. And with good reason. From the "opening act", featuring a great comedy routine by Mike Burke, to the inspiring stories shared by the award recipients, a warm and positive energy filled the room. There were several standing ovations throughout the evening, and each one was well deserved.

### Our Congratulations To The Award Recipients:

#### VOLUNTEER AWARD: OUR MOMENT CAFÉ



Accepting the award were husband and wife team Joan Bender and Richard Boyden, founders and directors of the organization that caters to the relationship and social needs between caregivers and those they are caring for. While there are respite resources for caregivers, this unique approach is focused on recapturing memories and moments that were important to a couple or family before one of the many forms of dementia appeared. It is a time for enjoying time, together. For more information about their program and valuable dementia and caregiver resources, visit:

<https://www.memorycafedirectory.com/Cafe-Connect/our-moment-cafe/>

#### DON HAHNFELDT SERVICE AWARD: WILLIAM GOTTSCHALK



Bill has been an active and important force within The VHA as a past president and for many years as a volunteer and as the recently retired president of The VHA Helping Hands program that loans durable medical equipment, free of charge, to Villages residents. He will never retire from being there for others, including his wife, Margaret. In accepting his award, he promised to keep it short and sweet, but managed to regale the audience with wit and wisdom. Of his years spent volunteering for the humane society, he quipped "Dogs don't talk back". But of his time with Helping Hands, he shared the story of a gentleman who was confined due to not being able to afford a mobility scooter. When one was donated, Bill made sure he got it, and as he returned from a test run down his street and back, the very happy gentleman summed up his joy in one word: "Freedom!" And according to Bill, in the true spirit of Don Hanfeldt, he has gotten "the most satisfaction from volunteering." Or, as Albert Einstein observed: "Only a life lived for others is worth living."

*Continued on page 2*

## In This Issue:

VHA Helping Hands	
President's Message .....	Page 2
VHA Board Listings .....	Page 2
Upcoming Events .....	Page 3

Contact/Membership Form .....	Page 3
VHA News and Notes .....	Pages 4,5
Merchants to Members Spotlight .....	Page 6
District Manager .....	Page 6

Bike Friendly Community .....	Page 6
AARP/AMAC .....	Page 7
UF Health Auxiliary .....	Page 7
VHA Program Info .....	Page 8

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.THEVHA.NET](http://WWW.THEVHA.NET)

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Contact The VHA Office----- 352-753-4650

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## President's Message



Hello Villagers!! Isn't this a great time of year? Of course, there's the normal April happenings; April Fool's Day, Easter, Ramadan, Passover, Earth Day, Arbor Day. And tax day. But did you know these?

- Apr. 1: Sweet Potato Day
- Apr. 6: International Pillow Fight Day
- Apr. 7: National No Housework Day
- Apr. 17: Blah, Blah, Blah Day
- Apr. 21: Go Fly a Kite Day
- Apr. 26: National Richter Scale Day
- Apr. 27: National Sense of Smell Day
- And that on April 15, 1912, the famous Titanic ship hit an iceberg and sunk on her first and only voyage.



Fortunately, the Helping Hands program is not sinking (how's that for a transition?). We're alive and well and helping thousands of Villagers during their time of need with durable medical equipment (wheelchairs, walkers, etc.). All you have to do is check our inventory @ [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) then call us at 352-973-2284 to arrange to pick up your equipment for a free short-term loan at our office in Spanish Springs (1104 Main Street) and in a couple days, it'll be there.

From time to time, some of our equipment becomes either unserviceable or is just excess beyond our needs and we need to dispose of it. When this happens, we need to find these things new homes, for example, at thrift shops, assisted living facilities, etc. But that takes effort. So, we're looking for a volunteer

to coordinate disposing of this equipment. It would not be a lot of effort, as this doesn't happen every month. Having a single point of contact would make things easier and more efficient. If you're interested, please call us at 352-973-2284 or stop by our office in Spanish Springs between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

Of course, we're always looking for other volunteers as well. Only a couple hours per month and you would be part of an organization that helps thousands of Villagers each year. None of the positions are very demanding. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact us at 352-973-2284 to find out more.

Donations you ask? We operate solely through donations, either monetary or equipment. We accept equipment donations as long as the equipment is serviceable. Just call our office (352-973-2284) to make sure we are taking what you are offering. Then drop it off at our office between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Monetary donations can be made via cash or check at our office or, even easier, via credit card on our website. Go to [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) and hover over "donate" in the top banner and select Helping Hands. And don't forget Amazon Smile – this method costs you absolutely nothing. We're listed as "VHA Helping Hands."

If you or your organization would like someone from Helping Hands to make a short presentation to your group/social club, just give us a call. We'd be happy to tell our story and provide our information.

As we always say, we're neighbors helping neighbors!!

*Al Arnold  
President, The VHA Helping Hands*

*Continued from page 1*

## PARTNER AWARD: THE VILLAGES PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT



Chief Edmund Cain, along with the Station 51 VPSD crew, well represented the over 150 members of the department that services The Villages community. This past year was a busy one for the department as they dealt with the continuing effects of the pandemic and addressed the critical issue of ambulance wait times. The Chief detailed the next steps in the process of establishing The Villages as an independent fire district, plus updates on the timeline for taking over the important ambulance services. We appreciate their dedication to The Villages residents and all the on-going work involved in making this the safe and healthy community we desire and need.

**VHA OFFICE**  
1104 Main St., Spanish Springs  
**VHA MAIN PHONE: 352-753-4650**  
**VHA WEBSITE: [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net)**





# Upcoming EVENTS

**APRIL/  
MAY 2022**

**NEW RESIDENT NIGHT**  
TUESDAYS at 7:00 p.m.

**APRIL 12:**  
**COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL  
RECREATION CENTER**  
510 Colony Blvd. at Morse and 466  
NEXT MONTH: May 10 @ COLONY

**GOLF CART SAFETY CLINIC**  
WEDNESDAYS at 9:00 a.m.

**APRIL 20:**  
**COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL  
RECREATION CENTER**  
510 Colony Blvd. at Morse and 466A  
NEXT MONTH: MAY 18 @ COLONY  
Note: No Pre-Registration is Required.

See Back Page for More Details on These  
and Other Regular VHA Programs.

## WELCOME TO WILDWOOD



April 12, 2022 7:00 p.m.

**Ezell Recreation  
Center, 769 Marilee Pl,  
The Villages, FL 32163**

**Speaker: Jason McHugh,  
Wildwood City Manager**

**OPEN TO ALL VILLAGES RESIDENTS**

## VHA GENERAL MEETING

**April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**@ Rohan Recreation Center**  
850 Kristine Way, Wildwood/  
The Villages, FL 34785

**Special Guest Representative  
Daniel Webster**



## THE VHA TOWN HALL MEETING

**April 19, 2022**

The VHA Officers and Neighborhood  
Representatives meet with  
representatives from the Developer,  
District Office, and local law enforcement  
to ask your questions and get answers.

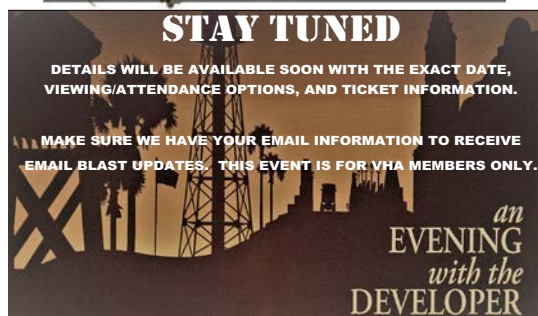
Deadline for sending questions  
is TODAY April 6, 2022.

**Submit questions to us by:**  
**Contacting one of your VHA area  
representative listed on Page 2.**  
**Using our website email system at**  
[www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net).

**Sending a letter directly to:**  
**The VHA, 1104 Main Street,  
The Villages, FL 32159.**



**NEXT MONTH: MAY 26 @ ROHAN**



**Contact Us**  
**To become a member  
or renew, simply go to**  
**[www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net)**

Or mail to:  
The VHA, 1104 Main Street  
The Villages, FL 32159

- ☐ New Membership
- ☐ Renewal
- ☐ \$25/Household for 2 years
- ☐ \$100/Household for Lifetime

Name: *(All in Household)*

Street Address:

Zip:

Name of Village/Villa:

Mailing Address: *(if different than The Villages)*

Phone:

Email:

- ☐ I would like to volunteer



**Membership has its rewards...**  
**Join today at [thevha.net](http://thevha.net)**



# The VHA News & Notes

## NORTH AREA



**North of 466**  
**Karl Arps, Vice President**  
[karl.arps@gmail.com](mailto:karl.arps@gmail.com) - (920) 285-1382

**O**MG, There Is So Much Going On in the North!

■ **Golf:** Last year, Silver Lake Executive Golf Course was completely refurbished with new greens and tee boxes and greatly improved landscaping. It is a much-improved golf experience, according to those who have recently played it. Now, two more executive courses – Hill Top, near Orange Blossom Hills and Briarwood adjacent to Lopez Legacy – are due for the same treatment. These projects will be very well received.

■ **Recreation Centers:** First Responders Recreation Center, in the extreme northwest of The Villages, appears set to open on schedule this summer. It will feature a resort-style pool, a putt and play course, a dog park and more. Next up is Paradise Regional Recreation Center northeast of US441/27, proposed for demolition and replacement. Every single existing amenity will be retained, expanded, or improved. The proposal calls for another resort-style pool with a fire pit for lolling under the sun or moon and an expanded Mark Twain Library. The



existing pool and library are among the most-used amenities in the north of The Villages.

■ **Sports Courts:** As this issue of the North Area News is written, refurbishment of bocce, shuffleboard, tennis, pickleball, and other sports is being rotated among the various Rec Centers at a rapid pace.

■ **Roads and Streets:** Anyone who has traveled US 441/27 between Leesburg and The Villages knows about the traffic snarls along the way during reconstruction. It sure looks like it will be worth it with the improved flow and increased lanes when the work is done. Not to be outdone, Lagrande Boulevard, which parallels 441/27 across from Spanish Springs, is about to be converted from a bouncy carnival ride to a smooth street this spring.

**THANK YOU** to The Villages developer and the district and local governments for all the work in the oldest portion of The Villages. And thank you to the residents here who have been so patient as the plans have been developed and finalized.

*Karl Arps*

## CENTRAL AREA



**Between 466 and 466A**  
**John Dean, Vice President**  
[vhajohndean@gmail.com](mailto:vhajohndean@gmail.com) – 207-557-0371

Greetings,

**W**ell, here we are in April already. Like most of you, I am amazed how time flies. When we were kids, we thought that time almost stood still. The school year would never end; our birthdays took too long to come around; and Christmas would never get here.

Now, all these events fly by so fast that it is hard to keep up. I am embarrassed to say that, despite our best intentions, even our relatives' and friends' birthdays come up so fast that they do not always get their cards on time. Also, it does not help that cards and letters mailed from our local postal station take a week or more to get to the intended recipient. The Pony Express must have been quicker.

Speaking of mail – here is a tip: **Do not include gift cards with your greeting cards.** I am sure most of you have read that a local contracted postal worker was recently caught taking mail from our postal stations.



One would assume that she was not a stamp collector, but rather, she was looking to find something in these mail pieces that she could use.

We were victims of such a "plot." We sent our daughter-in-law a birthday card with a pre-paid credit card in the card. And it never arrived. So, we and she, were out some money. Now, we only send gift cards that are e-cards that they can download. It is fast and more secure.

I want to remind you that The VHA Voice is inserted in the Daily Sun on the first Wednesday of each month. If you are reading this, you probably have figured that out, but you might want to remind your friends and neighbors so that they don't mistakenly throw The Voice out with the sale ads.

Finally, there are some upcoming events that may be of interest to you. These include New Resident Night, The VHA General Meeting, and VHA Bingo. You will find the time and location of these great programs listed elsewhere in The Voice.

*Stay safe and healthy,  
John*

## SOUTH AREA



**Between 466A and SR44**  
**Mike Dollard, Vice President**  
[mjdollard@hotmail.com](mailto:mjdollard@hotmail.com) – 585-315-8338

**BINGO** – Want to play? For April the date is Thursday, April 28, at Eisenhower. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10/pp which includes two game

boards (three if you are a VHA member). Extra boards are \$1 each. Payouts are a \$25 prize each game for each winner (no split pots), with a \$50 pot for the last game. You are free to bring your own refreshments.

You can sign up for email reminders about Bingo at: [VHABingo@outlook.com](mailto:VHABingo@outlook.com). Your email is not shared with anyone.

Some good news for residents in CDD 9: If you have a bond on your home that was a part of the 2012 issue, the CDD 9 board has accepted a refinance offer for a large chunk of the bonds. The new interest rate will be 2.99% vs. the current 5.507%. Last year the phase 1 bonds dropped to 2.43%, the phase 3 bonds are not callable until 2026.

Got numbers? I mean house numbers, prominently displayed on your house? At the county level there has been a great deal of discussion about ambulances, so as long as we are on the topic – if you needed an ambulance at 3:00 a.m., could they find your house number? The numbers that came with each house, the little stickers in the window, are close to useless, especially when seconds count. Try this – when driving down a random street, slow down and see if you can read any house number at random. Not so easy, is it? Now try it after dark. Not easy, is it? Here is what you want:



- **Numbers that are 6 to 8 inches high**
- **In high contrast to the color of the house**
- **Placed either over the garage door or near the front door area closest to the street.**

In all honesty, this is a task that I have to do, too. It's worth the time and effort.

*Mike Dollard*

*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.*



## FAR SOUTH AREA



**South of SR44**

**Roger Kass, Interim Vice President**

[RogerK@KNG-Marketing.com](mailto:RogerK@KNG-Marketing.com)

This is my final newsletter article as The VHA's Interim VP for the Far South Region. Next month you will be hearing from Dave Fountaine as the new VP. I was honored to have been asked to rejoin The VHA's leadership team as the Interim Vice President for the Far South Region. I can assure you that Phil Walker and the entire leadership team is doing a great job and working very hard to keep your Villages Homeowners' Advocates in front of the issues. The VHA has grown, as have the challenges since I was The VHA President from 2006 to 2009.

So many people are moving into this community every month it is a challenge to educate everyone about our unique form of government; The Villages Sales Department does an excellent job with the Newcomers' Social, and all the literature we receive at closing, but it is easy to be overwhelmed with so much information. Regardless, it is important to understand the role of The Developer, the District Government, the Recreation Department, the County; and how the cities that incorporate parts of The Villages, fit into the puzzle. It is different than most of the places many have come from. The VHA's New Resident Night can help you sort it all out.

Our February and March programs addressed the Villages Center District. Our April program will

that is actively "Keeping the Dream Alive", give Dave Fountaine a call at 716-816-9581. He can explain the job, the opportunities to learn and help your neighbors resolve problems, as well as the personal benefits of being directly involved in helping your neighbors. In the process, you will learn how The Villages Developer, the District, along with our many partners work together with The VHA.

I have complete confidence in Dave and the leadership skills he has demonstrated. I will continue to be available to assist The VHA leadership team and Dave in any way I can. Meanwhile, I will continue to enjoy being a Villager and ignoring the pool rumors and those who always find something to complain about. Remember, "Life is short, enjoy it!"

*Roger Kass*

## LADY LAKE NEWS

**Lynn Davis**

[Lynna527@aol.com](mailto:Lynna527@aol.com) – 352-250-7782



**EASTER EGG HUNT:** The annual Lady Lake Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 9th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, at the Guava Street Sports Complex, on the softball field close to the Lady Lake Library.

**RELAY FOR LIFE:** The American Cancer Society will host the Relay for Life at the Rolling Acres Sports Complex on the soccer fields, Saturday, April 23rd from approximately 1:00-8:00 p.m. Music will be supplied from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**TAXES:** AARP continues tax preparations through April 14th on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Lady Lake Library from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!**

[www.villagestaxaide.com](http://www.villagestaxaide.com)

**NEW BUSINESSES:** Two new businesses are coming to the Lady Lake Commons Shopping Center, on the corner of US Hwy 441/27 and Fennell Blvd where Goodwill and Miller's Ale House are located. They are TD Bank and an Eyeglass World scheduled to open later this year.

**TRAFFIC:** The traffic on US Hwy 441/27 is terrible, however, remember this is work in progress and will not be completed until 2023. Lane changes occur daily so please be alert and patient.

*Lynn Davis*

## The VHA Mail Slots at the Neighborhood Postal Stations Have Been Sealed

They are no longer in service for receiving communication for The VHA. Please contact us through our website at [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) for program info, to submit Town Hall questions and contact our leadership team, pay membership dues, update your contact information, volunteer, research The VHA, and read issues of The Voice. For those without computer access, contact us by phone at 352-753-4650 or by mail at The VHA, 1104 Main St., The Villages, FL 32159.



TO RECEIVE THE VHA EMAIL BLASTS WHICH ARE USED TO INFORM OUR MEMBERS OF IMPORTANT COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING CORRECTIONS, CANCELLATIONS, NEWS, AND UPDATES, PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL WITH YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS TO:  
[vhaoffice@thevha.net](mailto:vhaoffice@thevha.net)



provide an overview of The City of Wildwood geared to homeowners in the Far South that are residents and pay Wildwood city taxes. The meeting will be held on Tuesday April 27th at the Ezell Recreation Center at 7:00 p.m. The program, which is open to all Villages residents, is entitled, "Welcome to Wildwood". Many of us are unfamiliar with The City of Wildwood. Mayor Wolf and City Manager, Jason McHugh, will explain the City Government, where our city taxes go, as well as the current and future projects in Wildwood.

I'd like to close by acknowledging the numerous VHA members who have volunteered to be Neighborhood Representatives. Thank you! You are the heart and soul of the community. The Far South area needs more Neighborhood Representatives. If you are interested in becoming a part of the team

**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





IT'S WORTH YOUR  
WHILE TO ATTEND  
YOUR DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETINGS



by Kenny Blocker,  
District Manager

One of the great things about being the District Manager is attending District Board meetings and being greeted by residents of The Villages. I know there are so many daily fun and exciting activities in The Villages that attending a Board Meeting for your District may not cross your mind. I encourage you to attend your District Board meetings as often as possible. Attending Board meetings allows you to stay informed about District Government processes and decisions. Check out the list of all the Board meetings for April 2022. We look forward to seeing you.

You can find information on all the District Board meetings at [www.DistrictGov.org](http://www.DistrictGov.org) and simply click on Your District next to the Home tab.

The VHA is your voice in the Villages. Join the VHA today and help the VHA help you.

BOARD MEETINGS  
April 2022

• <u>Committee &amp; Board Meetings</u>				
AAC	Wednesday	4/6/22		9:00 A.M.
VCCDD	Wednesday	4/6/22		3:30 P.M.
(Meetings to be held at Savannah Recreation Center)				
• <u>Board Meetings</u>				
WUDD	Thursday	4/7/22		8:00 A.M.
District 12	Thursday	4/7/22		9:30 A.M.
District 13	Thursday	4/7/22		11:00 A.M.
Coleman Ridge	Thursday	4/7/22		1:30 P.M.
(Meetings to be held at Everglades Recreation Center)				
• <u>Board Meetings</u>				
District 1	Friday	4/8/22		8:00 A.M.
District 2	Friday	4/8/22		9:30 A.M.
District 3	Friday	4/8/22		11:00 A.M.
District 4	Friday	4/8/22		1:30 P.M.
(Meetings to be held at Savannah Recreation Center)				
• <u>Committee &amp; Board Meetings</u>				
PWAC	Monday	4/11/22		8:30 A.M.
SLCDD	Monday	4/11/22		1:30 P.M.
NSCUDD	Monday	4/11/22		3:00 P.M.
(Meetings to be held at SeaBreeze Recreation Center)				
• <u>Board Meeting- Special Date</u>				
District 14	Tuesday	4/12/22		1:30 P.M.
(Meeting to be held at the District Office, 984 Old Mill Run)				
• <u>Board Meetings</u>				
District 7	Thursday	4/14/22		8:00 A.M.
District 11	Thursday	4/14/22		10:00 A.M.
BCDD	Thursday	4/14/22		11:30 A.M.
District 9	Thursday	4/14/22		1:30 P.M.
District 10	Thursday	4/14/22		3:00 P.M.
(Meetings to be held at SeaBreeze Recreation Center)				
• <u>Board Meetings</u>				
District 5	Friday	4/15/22		8:00 A.M.
District 6	Friday	4/15/22		9:30 A.M.
District 8	Friday	4/15/22		11:00 A.M.
(Meetings to be held at SeaBreeze Recreation Center)				

BIKE • FRIENDLY • COMMUNITY • CORNER

"More About Safety...Again!"

by Bike Friendly Advocacy Committee (BFAC)

People tell us we should publish some articles about safety and maybe even teach some classes. Well, we have. About seven years ago the President of The VHA invited us to publish bicycling related safety articles in The VHA Voice. Since then, we have published eighty-four articles in our 450-word Bicycle Friendly Community Corner.

The Villages is a truly a bike friendly community, being recognized nationally by the League of American Bicyclists. This means that The Villages supports cycling with robust infrastructure (engineering), inclusive cycling opportunities (equality), education, self-assessment (evaluation), and positive encouragement.

Over the last eight years, we averaged teaching three six-hour sessions per year of adult education through The Enrichment Academy. The classes emphasize three main safety topics:

• First, we invest two hours going over Rules of the Road, including How to Navigate Roundabouts. This Death-by-Power Point program brings bicyclists in The Villages up to speed about bike laws in Florida. No one actually dies and the dialogue is always lively. Some Gulliver always exclaims: "I never knew that." VOILA, the light comes on!

• The second part of the class is basic maintenance. Bikes need more maintenance than cars to keep them operational, reliable, and safe. It is always a joy to observe a student successfully pump air into a bike tire. Another "VOILA!"

• The third phase of the class is riding in an actual bike rodeo. The instructors, all certified by the League of American Bicyclists, pace the class through a series of progressively challenging drills, culminating in a group ride that traverses a tunnel.

We also teach kids via The Villages Camp Villages. We have averaged three sessions per year for seven years. We teach the same things as we do the adults but in two-hours vs. six for adults. Hey, kids have more agile minds and quicker reflexes than their fossilized grandparents.



Dave Teaching Kids - They Love Him!

We have also taught at schools in the tri-county area, including The Villages Charter School. We think it is important to "start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it." Bicycle and pedestrian safety education might also save a child from injury, or worse, when they are out-and-about on their own.

Our schedules are published in The Enrichment Academy flier and on its webpage (<https://www.theenrichmentacademy.org>). All classes are a lot of fun, educational, and cheap at \$10 per session. Check us out, you might learn something. Diana Mirkin is Boss/Chairperson. Dave Lawrence is Safety Director. Rose Jordan is Operations Director. Bob Jordan is Education Director. John Rohan is our Recreation Department Mentor.

Merchants to Members Spotlight:  
WHOLE EARTH PET SUPPLY

Leigh Skinner, of WHOLE EARTH PET SUPPLY in Summerfield (just a mile from Spanish Springs), has been keeping pets happy and healthy for over 30 years. Leigh's store is like no other pet store you have been in. They sell dog food that has the highest meat content and the least fillers of any dog food on the market. All the dog and cat food in the store is the most nutritional pet food you can buy. They also specialize in natural solutions for special needs, such as natural tick and flea products. Leigh has everything you would need for your pet or for pet gifts, i.e., toys, chews, homemade treats and mixes for making your own pet treats. Also, for cat owners, he sells the World's Best Cat litter!!



APRIL 11th is Pet Day and he will be honoring our best buddies that day with giveaways and specials!  
VHA Members Get 10% Off All Purchases



### Healing Hearts - One Beat at a Time

The new heart and vascular program at UF Health The Villages® Hospital will introduce comprehensive cardiovascular services, combining the expertise of our talented physicians and clinical team to provide a full spectrum of cardiovascular medicine - including electrophysiology, interventional cardiology, cardiac and vascular surgery and cardiac rehabilitation - all under one roof, close to home.

### Hearts for Our Hospital

UF Health The Villages® Hospital Auxiliary Foundation is grateful for the generous support we have received so far. When you make a gift toward this initiative, you are investing in your community. The life you save could be your own. To watch the videos with cardiologists, hospital staff and grateful patients visit our website at <https://www.tvrhfoundation.org>



**UFHealth**  
THE VILLAGES® HOSPITAL

**Auxiliary  
Foundation**

Making a difference in the lives of the individuals and communities we serve

UF Health The Villages® Hospital Auxiliary Foundation  
1501 N. US Highway 44, Suite 1829 | The Villages, FL | 32159  
[www.facebook.com/ufvillageshospitalfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/ufvillageshospitalfoundation) | 352.751.8871

**AARP**

**We Urgently need  
VOLUNTEERS in our area.**

## BECOME AN AARP DRIVER SAFETY VOLUNTEER



### You can make a difference right here in THE VILLAGES, FL

Become part of the safe-driving solution in your community. Join AARP Driver Safety as a volunteer to help organize and teach classroom courses in your local community centers, libraries, hospitals, senior centers and other venues near you! Many opportunities are available depending on your interests: course instructor, volunteer leader, marketing & recruitment specialist, data manager or tech advisor. You'll feel good about helping others while making your community safer.

**Join almost 5,000 AARP Driver Safety volunteers nationwide!**

Volunteer today:  
**[aarp.org/adsvolunteer](https://aarp.org/adsvolunteer)**

¡Necesitamos voluntarios bilingües que hablan español!

All AARP Driver Safety volunteer positions are unpaid. However, volunteers are reimbursed for approved, program-related, out-of-pocket expenses, such as mileage, postage, etc.

**AARP Foundation**

**Villages TAX-AIDE**  
Serving The Villages, Fruitland Park, Lady Lake,  
Wildwood & Sumter County

**AARP has canceled all in-person Driver Safety activities until further notice. However, their tax aide program will still be operating during tax season through April 15.** Open sites this season will be at **Colony, Mulberry, La Hacienda and Paradise Recreation Centers in The Villages, along with Fruitland Park Library, Lady Lake Library and Panasoffkee Community Library.** Refer to the "List of Sites and Hours" tab on the website <https://villagesataide.com/> for more information and to make an appointment.



**AMAC Foundation**

Supporting & Educating America's Seniors

### SUDDEN DEATH: ARE YOU PREPARED?

**THURSDAYS, APRIL 21, 28, MAY 5, 2022 • (10:00 A.M. – NOON)**

**Villages Public Library at Pinellas Plaza, 7375 Powell Road, Wildwood, FL 34785**

*This seminar will guide you through the creation of your "Survivor Notebook," the repository that will help your loved ones cope after your passing.*

### UNDERSTANDING FLORIDA'S HOMESTEAD LAW

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022 (10:00 - 11:00 AM)**

**Lady Lake Library, 225 W. Guava St., Lady Lake, FL 32159**

*This free seminar on estate planning and Florida Homestead law will feature Attorney Patrick Smith presenting on the statutory and constitutional aspects of Florida homestead law. Attorney Smith will also be available to answer any and all questions that you may have regarding estate planning or Florida Homestead law.*

Check the AMAC Foundation website ([www.AmacFoundation.org](http://www.AmacFoundation.org)) for details, and contact the AMAC Foundation office at 888-750-2622 or via email at [info@amacfoundation.org](mailto:info@amacfoundation.org) to register.

**AARP  
DRIVER  
SAFETY**

**ON-LINE DRIVER SAFETY COURSES  
CONTINUE TO BE OFFERED.  
FOR COMPLETE INFO GO TO:  
<https://www.aarpdriversafety.org/>**

**Smart DriverTEK Virtual Workshop: Discover the Safety Benefits of New Car Technology (classroom format). 1 ½ hours long.**

- Friday, Apr 15, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Apr 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, Apr 27, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
- Friday, Apr 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

**CarFit Virtual Workshop: Let's Talk – Vehicle Safety and Comfort**

- Monday, Apr 18, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, Apr 21, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
- Friday, Apr 22, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
- Monday, Apr 25, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Apr 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, Apr 27, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday, Apr 28, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- Friday, Apr 29, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
- Monday, May 2, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
- Friday, May 6, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

**TO REGISTER:**

Phone:

**866-732-4213**

Contact:

**AARP Driver Safety**

Email: [drive@aarp.org](mailto:drive@aarp.org)

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE [THEVHA.NET](http://THEVHA.NET) FOR INFO, MEMBERSHIP,  
HELPFUL LINKS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, AND MORE**



Members ▾ The Voice ▾ Events Volunteers

## HELPING HANDS

# The VHA NEW RESIDENT NIGHT

**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022**

**7:00 p.m.**

# COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

**510 Colony Blvd/466A @ Morse Blvd.**

**PRESENTERS MAY INCLUDE, AND INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM:**

- **Honorable Paul Militello,  
Sumter County Judge**
- **Sumter County Sheriff's Office  
& other local law enforcement**
- **Sumter County Property Appraiser**
- **Sumter County Tax Collector**
- **Sumter County Clerk**
- **District Government**
- **Serving Health Ins.  
Needs of Elders (SHINE)**
- **Veteran Services**
- **Seniors vs. Crime**
- **UF HealthThe Villages  
Regional Hospital Auxiliary**
- **SECO**
- **Sumter Landing Bicycle Club**
- **Community Emergency  
Response Team (CERT)**
- **Friends of the Library**
- **The Enrichment Academy**
- **Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches**
- **The VHA – The Villages  
Homeowners Advocates**
- **The VHA Helping Hands**

**NEXT NEW RESIDENT NIGHT WILL BE:  
MAY 10 AT COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER**

**GRAB YOUR VHA MEMBERSHIP  
CARD AND TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF YOUR M2M DISCOUNT  
PROGRAM BENEFIT:**

## M2M: THE VHA-MERCHANTS TO MEMBERS DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Visit our website at [www.thevha.net](http://www.thevha.net) for a complete list of vendors and service providers who generously offer VHA members significant discounts. Be sure to have your VHA membership card with you to receive this member benefit.

**The VHA**  
**GOLF CART SAFETY CLINIC**



**APRIL 20 @ 9:00 A.M.**

**COLONY COTTAGE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER**  
**510 COLONY BLVD @ MORSE BLVD/466A**

**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
- **No pre-registration required**

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

FROM A RECENT STUDY, by John Castaldo, The Villages Health. "All golf cart crashes reported in The Villages, Florida, from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2019 were analyzed in this study. Data were obtained from multiple sources to create a comprehensive collection of all recorded crashes in the area. Results and conclusions: During the observation period, a total of 875 GC-related crashes occurred, representing an average of 136 crashes, 65 hospitalizations, and 9 dead or disabled annually. Of all crashes, 48% resulted in hospitalization, severe trauma, or death. Of these, ejection occurred in 27%, hospitalization in 55%, and death or disability in 15% of crashes."



## 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.**