

Get out and enjoy the great weather at locations around your community



**CARRIE
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COLUMNIST

Spring is in the air in The Villages! As the warmer weather approaches, residents of The Villages have several reasons to head outdoors and enjoy the beautiful weather.

In case you missed the grand opening last Friday, La Belle Neighborhood Recreation Center now is open for your enjoyment. Located off Hillsborough Trail on the east side of Morse Boulevard, the location includes the newest neighborhood pool for residents of The Villages.

If you prefer to remain above the water rather than in it, stop by Lake Sumter on Saturday for a St. Patrick's Day musical cruise. Tickets for this special boat cruise are available only at the boat dock on the day of the event. For information on this and other boat cruises, visit our website at districtgov.org.

The Veterans' Memorial Park is another park that should be on your "must see" list this spring. This park is in Spanish Springs and is home to more than 900 bricks honoring veterans both past and present.

If you would like to purchase a brick to honor your special veteran, they are available at the Customer Service Center at 984 Old Mill Run in Lake Sumter Landing. The cost is \$55 per brick and they must be purchased by March

Extra! Extra!

In case of an emergency, it is strongly recommended that residents call 911 to obtain immediate law enforcement or medical assistance. Suspicious persons or activity should be reported immediately.

If you believe a crime is in progress or is about to take place, call 911 right away. If you're not sure the suspicious persons are committing a crime, you still should contact the sheriff's office using one of the listed nonemergency numbers.

Community Watch is a nonemergency service whose primary function is to observe and report. The Community Watch Dispatch Center is available 24 hours a day and provides services such as removing roadway debris, traffic control and citizen resource assistance.

Nonemergency contact information:

Sumter County Sheriff's Office: 569-0440 or 793-2621

Marion County Sheriff's Office: 732-9111

Lake County Sheriff's Office: 343-2101

31 to be included in the Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 11. For information, call Customer Service at 753-4508.

As you travel through the community on your golf cart, bicycle or vehicle, please take a moment to look at your surroundings. While our District Property Management department does an excellent job in maintaining the common areas, including the landscaping along the multimodal paths, an extra set of eyes always helps. If you see something that needs attention, contact the Customer Service Center at 753-4508 or customerservice@districtgov.org.

Another way to tell us how we are doing is during the 2015 Annual Survey. The survey consists of two parts – the first portion relates to the Developer and the second portion relates to your District government.

Please take a couple moments to tell us not only

how we are doing, but what other services you would like to see in your community. The survey is available until midnight April 5.

Letters have been mailed to each resident of The Villages with a unique access code and instructions on completing the survey. If you did not receive your letter, call the Customer Service Center at 753-4508 and we will be happy to assist you.

By completing this survey each year, you have the opportunity to provide useful feedback that can be used to improve operations and services in your community. We appreciate your participation!

If you are interested in learning more about what is going on in your community, please plan on attending Welcome Wednesday at 8 a.m. each Wednesday at the District office at 984 Old Mill Run in Lake Sumter Landing.

Each week you have the opportunity to learn about updated information on capital projects, have your questions answered firsthand regarding whether that rumor

you heard at the pool is accurate or not, and meet various board supervisors and District staff.

If you would like to learn this information but cannot make it at 8 a.m., the information presented at Welcome Wednesday each week also is posted on our website,

districtgov.org. Just click on the “Welcome Wednesday” quick link and you will have the opportunity to view all of the previous updates.

CDD Orientation is available at 10 a.m. each Thursday in the same location for those who want to learn more about the history and government

structure here in The Villages.

For those of you who cannot make it to CDD Orientation during the day, we will be hosting our first evening session from 6 to 8 p.m. April 22 at Lake Miona Recreation Center. Stay tuned to districtgov.org for additional information.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about what’s going on in your community. Please visit us again here next week at Our Place!

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