

Hint of fall in the air means seasonal residents are returning

Well the Labor Day holiday has come and gone and Monday morning was the first morning that was a little cooler and had a hint of fall in the air ... just a hint. Now on to my favorite season of the year – football season!

I will be cheering loudest this year for The Villages Buffalo and my son, Michael, who is a senior. Many of the 22 senior teammates have been playing together since they were on The Villages Pop Warner team at age 7.

It is bittersweet as parents to watch them all take the field together for their last season (sigh). Michael is our first child graduating from high school, and obviously mom isn't dealing with it so well.

As the fall season approaches and the cooler temperatures hopefully will be coming to stay, this also means that the population around The Villages will be increasing as our seasonal residents come back to town. The Villages will be hustling and bustling even more than it is now, if that's possible.

It's also that time of year when it's important to remind everyone that courtesy and patience are extremely important as you travel along the roadways or multimodal paths. While we're all familiar with the area, new residents and guests may not be as familiar with our roundabouts and winding roads as they attempt to find their way around this beautiful community.

I find that a smile and a deep breath seem to work and are definitely in keeping with the core values of our community.

The Districts have just completed what our Budget Director, Barbara Kays,



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annually refers to as "Budget Bliss." While she is about the only one of us who refers to the budget process as bliss, the budget crunch officially has come to an end – woo hoo! The District boards adopted their budgets at meetings held over the past two weeks.

You might be asking, "How do the District budget adoptions affect me?" Well, if you live in CDDs No. 1-11, the non-ad valorem maintenance assessment you pay on your annual tax bill funds the landscaping and infrastructure maintenance within your District.

The Village Center and Summer Landing community development district budgets include the Amenities Division Funds, which comprise the monthly amenity fees each of the residents pay for the continued maintenance and upkeep of the recreational facilities, pools and common areas such as postal facilities.

Additionally, the Village Center CDD provides for the common area maintenance in the Lady Lake/Lake County portion of The Villages.

All of the long hours that have gone into the budget process will ensure the community each of you fell in love with when you moved here remains just as beautiful and active!

During this time of year, the boards adopt their meeting schedule for the upcoming fiscal year. This year, some boards

have made a change to the date, time and location of their meetings.

Effective with their Oct. 8 board meeting, District 7 now will meet on the Thursday before the second Friday at 8 a.m. in the District Office Board Room, 984 Old Mill Run.

Effective with their Oct. 16 meeting, the District 8 Board will begin meeting at 11:30 a.m.

One other change beginning in November is that the District 5, 6 and 8 boards will relocate their meetings to the District Office Board Room. The meetings for District 5, 6 and 8 will remain on the third Friday of each month.

This move will free up additional recreational meeting space at Lake Miona Recreation Center for resident usage, just in time for peak season.

Please remember that the District offers Welcome Wednesday at 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the District Office, 984 Old Mill Run. This is a great opportunity to have all those rumors you may be hearing addressed by the District department directors and board supervisors in attendance.

Please remember that just because you hear something at the pool, on the pickleball court or on the golf course does not necessarily mean it is fact. We at the District find that certain rumors tend to resurrect themselves every few years.

If you have a question about a rumor and you are not able to attend Welcome Wednesday, call the District Customer Service Department at 753-4508. They can help provide you with the factual answer

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to your question. Each Welcome Wednesday newsletter is also available on our website,

districtgov.org.

If you would like to learn more about your District Government, I suggest you attend CDD Orientation which takes place at 10 a.m. every Thursday morning in the District Office.

Or, if you are interested in the inner-workings of each of the District departments, you can call our District Customer Service Department at 753-4508 to inquire about our Resident Academy program. You just might be surprised at how

much goes on around you on a daily basis to ensure the sustainability of your lifestyle here in The Villages.

Have a wonderful week, and I hope you'll come back again next week to Our Place.

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