

Always carry Villages ID to ensure everyone's enjoyment at recreation facilities

Although next Tuesday marks the first day of winter this year, you never would know it based on our beautiful Florida weather! As we approach the holidays this month, I have a few pointers to make sure you and your guests are prepared to enjoy our community to the fullest.

When accessing any of the recreation facilities, please make sure that you carry your Villages Resident ID Card. Although you may be very familiar with the staff at your favorite recreation centers, please help us in protecting and preserving the facilities and ensuring that residents have the opportunity to enjoy everything The Villages has to offer.

It is also important to remind your guests to carry both their guest ID and picture ID when enjoying the facilities. You can obtain guest ID cards for your guests Monday through Friday at the Customer Service Center, 984 Old Mill Run in Lake Sumter Landing, or at any of the regional recreation centers.

If you prefer to order them online, please visit our website, districtgov.org. If you choose this option, please allow for a three-day processing time.

Guest ID card and trail fee services will not be available on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, so please make sure you obtain them ahead of time. They will be available from 8 a.m. to noon Dec. 26-27 and Jan. 2-3 at La Hacienda, Lake Miona and Eisenhower regional recreation centers.

As you and your guests enjoy The Villages this holiday season, it is also important to remember why our community is so special. One of



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the things that makes it both special and unique is the number of residents willing to volunteer and give back to the community.

With more than 2,400 resident lifestyle volunteer groups, there truly is something for everyone to enjoy. But without the help of resident volunteers, you wouldn't have the opportunity to attend activities including arts and crafts, card and board games, health and wellness, socials, special interests, aquatics, music and performance, sports and much more.

If you are interested in dedicating some of your time to help your fellow Villagers, information on volunteering can be found on the Recreation page of districtgov.org. You also can contact Recreation by calling 674-1800.

Another opportunity you have to give back to the community is by serving on one of the District boards. Village Community Development District 6 currently has two vacancies and is seeking applicants who are interested in filling those vacant seats.

Both Seat 3 and Seat 4 were vacated recently because of the resignation of existing board supervisors. The remainder of the existing four-year term for Seat 3 expires in November 2016 and the remainder of the existing four-year term for Seat 4 expires in November 2018.

All interested applicants

must be qualified electors, which is defined by Florida Statue 190 as, "any person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the United States, a legal resident of Florida and the district, and who registers to vote with the supervisor of elections in the county in which the district land is located."

If you are interested in learning more about either of these vacancies or would like an application, call the district clerk at 751-3939 or visit districtgov.org to print an application. All applications must be submitted to the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. Jan. 28 at the District Office, 984 Old Mill Run.

The board of supervisors will interview applicants at a special board meeting at 10 a.m. Feb. 5 in the District Office Board Room. If you have not attended a district board meeting in the past, I urge you to take an interest in your local community development districts by attending a meeting.

To find out when your district board meets, please call the Customer Service Center at 753-4508 or visit districtgov.org. I think you will be comforted in knowing how much your district supervisors and district staff care about this community and the residents within it.

If you are reading this and asking yourself, "What is a community development district?" we have several weekly opportunities for you to learn all about us. Please join us at 10 a.m. each Thursday at the District office in Lake Sumter Landing for CDD Orientation.

This weekly program gives a

general overview of the government structure we have in our unique community. You will also learn about amenity fees, maintenance assessments and much more.

Welcome Wednesday is another weekly opportunity for you to meet with District staff and District board supervisors and learn about ongoing projects, address rumors and have your questions answered. Welcome Wednesday takes place at 11 a.m. each week at the District Office in Lake

Sumter Landing.

To allow all District staff to enjoy the holidays with their friends and family, the District Customer Service Center, all District administration offices and all recreation centers will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. The outdoor facilities and swimming pools at the

recreation centers and the Silver Lake and Saddlebrook billiards rooms will remain open for your enjoyment.

CDD Orientation is canceled Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. Welcome Wednesday is canceled Dec. 23 and Dec. 30.

Well, that's it for this week. From our District family to

yours, we wish you a safe and happy holiday! We'll see you here again next week at Our Place!

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