

# The Villages®

## Community Development Districts

**OUR CORE VALUES**  
*Hospitality*  
*Stewardship*  
*Creativity & Innovation*  
*Hard Work*

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**Meeting the needs of  
The Villages community  
Residents is our  
primary objective.**

#### **PURPOSE**

To provide and preserve the  
lifestyle of Florida's  
Friendliest Hometown.

#### **VISION**

To be respected as the most  
responsive  
and responsible  
Community Development  
District.

#### **MISSION**

To provide responsible and ac-  
countable  
public service that  
enhances and sustains  
our community.

## *Happy Holidays!*

I want to extend a Holiday Celebration Party invitation personally to each of our team members. I will be hosting the Holiday Party at the Lake Miona Regional Recreation Center on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Our Board Supervisors, Committee Members and Board of Directors have all been invited as well. It is a time for my senior team and I to extend a warm thank you for all that you do to continue this great lifestyle within The Villages. Also, this holiday celebration is the kick-off to each of our personal holiday seasons. I know that this year I will be enjoying the time while away from the District family with my wife Kerri, our grown sons Richard and Ryan, extended family and cherished friends.

This is also a time of year not only to celebrate our accomplishments but also to remember those friends and family members who are no longer physically with us. Each of you positively impacts and touches so many lives every day. I would ask that we remember and be thankful for those dedicated professionals (nearby or far away) who provide protective life safety services to our nation and community.

It is nice to share our good fortune with others, so in cooperation with a local youth organization, we will be assisting a less fortunate family this year. If you would like to donate, we will be accepting non-perishable food items, grocery store gift cards, or a monetary donation. You may drop off your donation at the Holiday Party or the District Office.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I wish you and your family a very happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year!

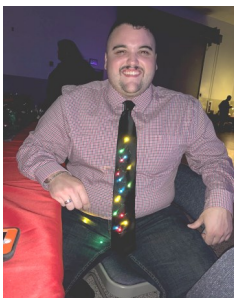
Sincerely,  
*Richard Baier*  
District Manager



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT...



### Kimble Billingsley ~ Public Safety ~ Professional Standards Officer



**Where were you born & raised and went to school?** I was born in Kissimmee FL and raised there until 2007 when my parents decided to move to Citrus County to get away from the big city life. I attended elementary and middle school up to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in Kissimmee, and when we moved I attended Inverness Middle School and graduated from Citrus High School. **What was special about where you were from?** Walt Disney World, Universal, and SeaWorld are all right in Kissimmee's back yard. As a kid it was really great because we could all sit in the backyard and see the nightly Disney fireworks shows in addition to their holiday fireworks shows (when it comes to fireworks, they don't mess around!). **Tell us about your family, people (including pets!)** I come from a pretty tight-knit family. My Dad passed away in 2016, he was a great role model and I am told I have his sense of humor and his work ethic. He always taught me the value of hard work. My Mom and I have always been very close; she has been a huge supporter of me throughout my life and career and has always shown me the value in laughter. I have one brother, we knock heads sometimes but then again most brothers do that, he actually taught me how to read when I was two years old, so I attribute a lot of my "book smart" success to him. My girlfriend and I have been together for almost three years and we have two cats (Gypsy and Bambino) and two beta fish (Colonel and Sushi). **Hobbies? Favorite activities?** I enjoy fishing and biking (when I have time and when the FL weather wants to cooperate). Sometimes doing absolutely nothing and relaxing on the couch is great too. Anything where I can spend time with friends and family. I like helping people, so I do enjoy spending my time as a volunteer firefighter with Crystal River Fire Dept as well. **Who has been the most influential person in your life and why?** It's really hard to pick just a single person. My Mom and Dad really made me into the person I am today- without them and their support, guidance, advice, and love I don't think I would be where I am today in life. Also my old Fire Captain because he took me under his wing and really was, and still to this day is, a great friend, leader, role model, a true brother, and also a great prankster! **What's the best advice you ever received?** "Don't sweat the small stuff, and remember in the grand scheme of things everything is small." **What is the career & training path that led you to the Districts?** I had always wanted to be in the fire service from a very young age. I attended the College of Central Florida while in high school (dual enrollment) and graduated from the Emergency Medical Technician Program, and then attended Firefighter I academy at the Citrus County Fire Training Center where I obtained certification as a FL State Firefighter I. I joined Citrus County Fire Rescue in 2011 right out of high school as a paid on call Firefighter/EMT where I served on almost a daily basis on an Engine Company up until this year. I also served as their full time Fire Accreditation Officer, where I worked on their ISO rating in addition to their pursuit of accreditation. From 2012 to 2017 Citrus Fire was actually merged with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office. In 2017 Fire Rescue went back under the span of control of the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, and I chose to stay with the Sheriff's Office to serve on their Accreditation Team and under the Bureau of Law Enforcement in multiple capacities. I remained active with Citrus County Fire Rescue as a paid on call firefighter in addition to serving with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office in a full time capacity until recently when I was afforded this great opportunity with The Villages Department of Public Safety. **Can you tell us about your day-to-day responsibilities?** My main focus right now is obtaining and subsequently maintaining the Department's accreditation through The Center for Public Safety Excellence through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. I could write a book about everything, really. There is a lot to it, but it is a very rewarding and interesting process with a lot of moving parts. A lot of it is really based upon data analysis and management, analysis of Department practices compared to industry best practices, and strategic planning to name a few things. Currently there are only 270 accredited fire agencies. I will also be working on the Department's Public Protection Classification (ISO) rating. In a nut shell, ISO is a review of the fire prevention and fire suppression capabilities of fire departments based upon a number of criteria. A numerical grade called a Public Protection Classification (PPC) from 1 to 10 is issued based upon the review. Class 1 represents superior property fire protection (A.K.A the best of the best), and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire suppression program does not meet minimum criteria. The Villages Department of Public Safety is currently an ISO Class 2 department. Most insurance companies use ISO's PPC in calculating premiums. Generally speaking, the price of insurance in a community with a good PPC is lower. The Villages Department of Public Safety is currently 1 of 112 fire departments (out of a total of 517) within the State of Florida, and is 1 of 1,597 countrywide (out of a total of 41,117) classified as an ISO 2 fire department. **What is your favorite aspect of working for the Districts?** Everyone is very welcoming and extremely hospitable. **What is the most interesting thing you have ever seen?** The St. Augustine Distillery was really cool to tour. Getting to see the history of the building (it used to be an ice plant way back in the day) and also the process and equipment they use to make their products was pretty neat.

**My favorites...Movie:** GoodFellas and My Cousin Vinny...**Television Show:** American Horror Story, Stranger Things, Mind Hunters, and Family Guy  
**Sports** LSU Tigers...**Vacation Spot:** St. Augustine or a Cruise  
**Restaurant:** Mojos...**Food:** Chicken wings...**Dessert:** Bluebell vanilla ice cream

### Ryan Chastain ~ Community Standards ~ Deed Compliance Officer

**Where were you born & raised and went to school?** I was born in Leesburg, Florida and I was raised in the little town of Fruitland Park. I went to school and graduated from Leesburg High School. **What was special about where you were from?** It's where all of my immediate family resides and all of the great lakes and ponds that we have surrounding us. I love being able to hop in my car and drive to many of the close beaches that we have. Also, not to mention the most amazing barbeque you can find is in Leesburg on Pine Street. **Tell us about your family, people (including pets!)** I live with my beautiful, whole-hearted girlfriend Brittany. We've been together for a little over 6 years now. We have two rambunctious dogs named Thor, he's a Catahoula and red nose pit mix, and Cali, and she's a mutt that we both cherish and spoil them like children. **Hobbies? Favorite activities?** I'm avid bowler and bowl in two leagues a week. I enjoy going out on my boat and fishing in lakes on the nice summer days that Florida has to offer and doing any activity that includes being outside and in the water. **Who has been the most influential person in your life and why?** My Mother because she is the strongest woman that I've ever met. No matter what life throws at her or what obstacle comes her way, she always goes above and beyond to make sure that I was always taken care of and had everything and more that I needed growing up. I just wish one day that I'll be able to return the favor to her and all of my loved ones as she did for me. **What's the best advice you ever received?** Live everyday like it's your last because tomorrow isn't promised to anyone. **What is the career & training path that led you to the Districts?** Before I worked for the District, I was a landscaper in The Villages and always had a fascination for the cleanliness that they strive for around the cul-de-sacs and common areas. I have always heard that the District is a great place to work due to the strong work ethic and professionalism that they pursue on a daily basis. I have known quite a few employees that have been working here for years who speak very highly of the District. I agree with all of them! I've been working here since June and I have to say, I couldn't imagine working anywhere greater than this. **Can you tell us about your day-to-day responsibilities?** I handle all of the deed compliance complaints that come in for District 9 and 10. I go out to inspect residential properties when they come in as complaints to determine if a Deed Restriction (DR) reminder is required to notify the resident of the restriction that they are violating. I follow up on all reported violations after they are written to confirm compliance. The key to my job is communicating regularly with residents demonstrating courtesy and understanding while explaining violations and how they are able to come into compliance. **What is your favorite aspect of working for the Districts?** I have an immense love for working in an environment where people around you are willing to pitch in and make a team effort to help people. I value my peers that I work with and couldn't ask for a better group of team members to be around. They always assist me with difficult and challenging questions whenever I need it and have learned so much information from them.



**My favorites...Movie:** Happy Gilmore or any other Adam Sandler movie. ...**Television Show:** Sons of Anarchy, Peaky Blinders, or The Flash  
**Sports Team:** I'm a die hard Florida Gator. As far as NFL I'm a Dolphins fan. And for baseball. There's no one better than the Boston Red Sox  
**Vacation Spot:** Anywhere on the water...**Restaurant:** Either the Oyster Bar in Eustis or Gator Joe's in Ocklawaha  
**Food:** I'm a meat and potatoes kind of guy...**Dessert:** Hands down anything my mom makes.



## EMPLOYEES ON THE MOVE



### Community Watch

- **Stephan Romanchak and Brad Davis** transferred from Gate Attendant Substitute to Gate Attendant.
- **Gary Gallup** was promoted from Gate Attendant to Patrol Driver.
- **Barbara Denza** was promoted from Gate Operations Attendant to Gate Attendant.
- **Gregg De Mo** was promoted from Patrol Driver to Training Coordinator.
- **Kathy Ernst** was promoted from Gate Attendant Substitute to Training Coordinator.

### Community Standards

- **Jerica Adams** was promoted from Customer & Administrative Support Representative to Staff Assistant.

### Recreation

- **Dawna Dean** was promoted from Staff Assistant to Recreation Supervisor
- **Nadia Whittaker** was promoted from Recreation Facilities Manager to Regional Recreation Area Manager
- **Amanda Brooks** was promoted from Recreation Service Representative to Staff Assistant-The Enrichment Academy.
- **Suzanne Metelsky** was promoted from Recreation Service Representative to Staff Assistant-Customer Service.
- **Lori Hatch** was promoted from Administrative Assistant to Staff Assistant.

### Public Safety

- **James Schnitker** was promoted from Firefighter EMT to Firefighter Paramedic.

## Congratulations!

On your District Anniversary.  
Thank you for your service!



Recreation Assistant Gene Grossey celebrating 15 years!

Recreation Service Representative Patti Adams celebrating 15 years!



Fitness Assistant Ginny Mills celebrating 10 years!



## TO THE DISTRICT FAMILY!

### Public Safety

Kimble Billingsley

### Property Management

Herschel Wiley

### Community Watch

Michael Firkey	Constance Henderson	Mary Jo Kulinski
Raymond Machroli	Richard Walker	Bruce Wynn

### Recreation

Thomas Baker	Marilyn Castelli	Allen Colpitts
Paul Drew	Laura Holtz	Roland Jackson
Linda Maguire	Linda Mitchell	Janice Panasuk
Jeffrey Shuman	Amber Stewart	Milton Strawhand

District Administration will be closed on the following days:

- **Wednesday, December 25th**
- **Wednesday, January 1st**



Have you signed up for **Tickets at Work** yet? The District is happy to offer this great benefit program for all employees (full & part time) - and it's free! **Tickets at Work** provides all staff access to great discount programs for your travel and entertainment needs nationwide. Some of the great discounts offered are for:  
**Disney World.....Aquatica.....Legoland.....Sea World**  
**Blue Man Group.....Hotels.....Rental Cars.....Movie Tickets... ..and More!!**



1. Enter & click the link below.
2. Fill out the information to become a member (Select sign up with company code )
3. For Company Code, use "VCCDD"
4. Fill out the rest of the form, then select submit

<https://ticketsatwork.com/tickets/account.php?sub=enroll>

Checkout with promo code **welcome10off** from now until 1/1/2020 and receive \$10 off \$100 or more!

**JOIN TODAY**



# DECEMBER



# DECEMBER



Betty Poling	1	Finance
Cheryl Horgan	1	Finance
Jodell Thurgaland	1	Budget
Cody Little	1	Public Safety
James Neilsen	2	Recreation
James Ackerman	2	Community Watch
Patricia Carbone	3	Recreation
Alexander Leshnick	3	Community Watch
Michael Roy	3	Recreation
Kurtis Mancauskas	3	Recreation
Naneki Delorme	4	Finance
Joshua Hayes	4	Public Safety
Cheryl Hoffman	5	Community Watch
Gregory Luginbill	5	Community Watch
James Rhoads	5	Community Watch
Michele O'Donnell	5	Recreation
John Degrave	5	Recreation
Floyd Davis	6	Community Watch
Pamela Elsmore	6	Recreation
Fredrick Rippo	7	Recreation
Mark Joyce	7	Recreation
Gregory Simar	7	Community Watch
Gregory Correale	8	Community Watch
Thomas Husar	9	Recreation
Judth Bruns	9	Recreation
Frances Schwab	9	Recreation
Joseph Herbst	9	Recreation
Eric Williamson	9	Public Safety
George Akerley	10	Recreation
William Thompson	10	Property Management
Jose Alvarez	10	Community Watch
Charlene De Masi	10	Recreation
Adelisa Luciano	10	Public Safety
Jeffrey Starker	11	Community Watch
Cynthia Bennett	11	Recreation
Vincent Walczak	11	Public Safety
Antoinette Marsinelli	12	Recreation
Robert Klump	13	Community Watch
Raymond Pinheiro	13	Recreation
James Brooks	13	Community Watch
John O'Connell	13	Community Watch
Randy Ottoson	14	Recreation
Donna Lasko	14	Recreation
Kelsey Muller	14	Public Safety
William Clark	15	Community Watch
Yovany Hogeland	15	Public Safety
Michael Fink	16	Community Watch
Thomas Watkins	16	Recreation
Chris Eads	16	Recreation
Mike Sapp	16	Public Safety
Gloria Cook	17	Community Watch

Robin Santangelo	17	Recreation
Michael Desautels	17	Recreation
Lisa Parkyn	17	Recreation
Jack Pike	17	Recreation
Robert Meffen	17	Public Safety
Mary Leach	18	Recreation
Thomas Ladow	18	Community Watch
Christine Brown	18	Recreation
Michael Dehond	18	Property Management
Candice Dennis	19	Community Standards
Terry Sharpless	19	Recreation
Robert Golick	20	Community Watch
Dennis Mcneil	20	Community Watch
Michael Corey	20	Recreation
Edward Przybowski	21	Recreation
Douglas Lloyd	21	Community Watch
Jackson Brecklin	21	Public Safety
Robert Schwarz	22	Recreation
Linda Mlaka	22	Community Watch
Gerald Fougere	22	Recreation
Jane Chavez	22	Community Watch
Michael Stephens	22	Public Safety
Katheryn Ernst	23	Community Watch
Blair Bean	23	Property Management
Roger Williams	24	Community Watch
Bruce Brinkerhoff	24	Community Watch
Alexandria Allen	24	Finance
Roger Bruce	25	Community Watch
Gayle Gibson	25	Recreation
Neil Miller	25	Recreation
Rose Marginson	25	Recreation
David Hester	27	Recreation
John Holowach	28	Recreation
Paula Hahnert	28	Recreation
Janet Mrozowski	28	Purchasing
Mason Guyette	28	Public Safety
Cody Rhoden	28	Public Safety
Daria Lotocky	28	Recreation
George Tule Jr	29	Community Watch
David Olson	29	Recreation
David Correa	29	Community Watch
Michael Miller	29	Community Watch
Edwin Bock	29	Public Safety
Virginia Michaels	30	Recreation
Lawrence Small	30	Recreation
Jeffrey Miller	30	Recreation
Joseph Schenk	30	Public Safety
Kara Watts	30	Public Safety
Frederick Urfer	31	Community Watch
Norman Hager	31	Recreation
Amanda Brooks	31	Recreation

## Happy December Anniversary! Thank You For Your Service!

Albert Chevalier	Community Watch	12/28/2001	18
Herbert Wierzbach	Recreation	12/03/2002	17
Joseph Burns	Recreation	12/11/2003	16
Barry Lee Hoch	Community Watch	12/03/2004	15
Raymond Pinheiro	Recreation	12/10/2004	15
John Hughes	Recreation	12/22/2004	15
Jason Croom	Public Safety	12/31/2004	15
Jackie Tuggerson	Public Safety	12/31/2004	15
Albert Cotoia	Community Watch	12/13/2006	13
Kevin Cunliffe	Public Safety	12/31/2007	12
Brian Konnerth	Public Safety	12/01/2008	11
Geoffrey Martz	Public Safety	12/01/2008	11
William Pent	Public Safety	12/01/2008	11
Anita Douglas	Recreation	12/17/2008	11
Ronald Argast	Community Watch	12/16/2009	10
Candace Langton	Community Watch	12/16/2009	10
Roger Navarro	Recreation	12/23/2009	10
Betty Poling	Finance	12/08/2010	9
Mike Sapp	Public Safety	12/08/2010	9
Anthony D'Aquisto	Recreation	12/07/2011	8
Kathryn Dutkiewicz	Recreation	12/07/2011	8
Michele Marie O'Donnell	Recreation	12/07/2011	8
William Pellatt	Recreation	12/07/2011	8
Frederick Gerber	Community Watch	12/07/2011	8
Margaret Rimmer	Community Watch	12/07/2011	8
Roland Edmonds	Recreation	12/10/2012	7
Hervey Forward	Recreation	12/10/2012	7
Brad Koozman	Recreation	12/10/2012	7
Virginia Michaels	Recreation	12/10/2012	7
William Easton	Community Watch	12/10/2012	7
Anita Graner	Community Watch	12/10/2012	7
Henry Henderson	Community Watch	12/09/2013	6
Robert Livingston	Community Watch	12/09/2013	6
William O'Leary	Community Watch	12/09/2013	6
Anita Detterbeck	Recreation	12/23/2013	6
Teresa Jane Brooks	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Petra Hobson	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
John Holowach	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Rose Marginson	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Larry Marlow	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Bouchaib Rharbite	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Robert Wetzel	Recreation	12/08/2014	5
Gloria Cook	Community Watch	12/08/2014	5
Armando Norat	Community Watch	12/08/2014	5
Nancy Norval	Finance	12/08/2014	5
Cynthia Bennett	Recreation	12/07/2015	4
Kimberly Cappellini	Recreation	12/07/2015	4
Donald Cremer	Recreation	12/07/2015	4

Thomas Ryan	Recreation	12/07/2015	4
Elizabeth Stone	Recreation	12/07/2015	4
Mary Ann Stumpf	Recreation	12/07/2015	4
Jeffrey Holland	Community Watch	12/07/2015	4
Juan Berrios	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
Tyler Cariglio	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
Luis Marquez	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
Zachary Morreale	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
Austan Scherr	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
Hunter Shumate	Public Safety	12/05/2016	3
David Weston	Recreation	12/17/2016	3
Carol Diane Donato	Recreation	12/19/2016	3
Arthur Michaels	Recreation	12/19/2016	3
Doyle Graf	Property Management	12/19/2016	3
Janibal Vazquez	Property Management	12/19/2016	3
Rebecca Armstrong	Finance	12/04/2017	2
Martha Lafortune	Recreation	12/18/2017	2
Suzanne Metelsky	Recreation	12/18/2017	2
Paula Di Julio	Community Watch	12/18/2017	2
Michael Fink	Community Watch	12/18/2017	2
John Minelli	Community Watch	12/18/2017	2
Janet Mrozowski	Purchasing	12/03/2018	1
Brian Emigh	Recreation	12/03/2018	1
Robert Doyle	Community Watch	12/03/2018	1
Pamela Hobbs	Community Watch	12/03/2018	1
Maurice Nault	Community Watch	12/03/2018	1
Joseph St John	Community Watch	12/03/2018	1
Dillon Berry	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Nicholas Fatolitis	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Brian Hilty	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Zachary Meckstroth	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Daniel Moore	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Jacob Rogers	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Richard Sprole	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Stuart Venables	Public Safety	12/03/2018	1
Brandy Cook	Budget	12/17/2018	1
Joy Barfield	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Michael Corey	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Robert Donlon	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Paul Guemon	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
David Hester	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Thomas Mchugh	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Robert Murphy	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Fred Register	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
William Thornton	Recreation	12/17/2018	1
Sharon Gwin	Community Watch	12/17/2018	1
Robert Priest	Property Management	12/17/2018	1
Christopher Ryzoc	Property Management	12/17/2018	1
Joan Ferrara	Human Resources	12/17/2018	1



## Recognizing Our Core Values In Action!



**Dispatcher Patricia Hall** received thanks from a resident who had fallen, was having a hard time with her cell reception and was not able to call Emergency Services directly. The call to Dispatch was cutting in and out, Patricia took the initiative and contacted Sumter county on the resident's behalf.

Customer Service received a phone call from a resident wishing to thank **Customer & Administrative Support Representative Mike Noss** for providing service that was above and beyond normal. Mike issued a 30 day Temporary ID to replace a lost Resident ID Card. After noticing there was not a phone number in the system, Mike updated the information to include a valid phone number. The next day, the resident received a phone call from a recreation center that his ID had been turned in. The resident was so happy that Mike had taken the extra time to update his information while issuing the Temporary ID. He asked that kudos be passed on to Mike for going above and beyond so he could stop being frantic about his lost ID!

A resident wrote in to say "The persons you have on the gates are all very friendly and helpful."

"Our success over the past year would not be possible without the weekly efforts of **Recreation Facilities Manager Mike Burleson** and **the Thursday staff at the Lake Miona Recreation Center**. The Villages Parks and Recreation Department can be extremely proud of Mike, Karen, John, David, Dave, Pam, Jerry and Dahlann as they are truly responsible for the successes of the UPC in all these endeavors. The Lake Miona Recreation Center staff performs their tasks in a truly professional, courteous and efficient manner, week in and week out, in meeting the varied and complicated needs of this club. I hope they realize how much we rely on them and how far their weekly efforts reach into the Villages and the surrounding communities. You should be very proud of these dedicated Lake Miona Recreation Center staff members." Picture L to R: **Recreation Assistants Dave Hester and David Luxton, Recreation Service Representatives Dahlann Dish-er, Pam Cunningham and Jerry Fougere**.



"I just wanted to say again that it is such a pleasure working with **Regional Recreation Area Manager Lisa Parkyn**. You are always there for us, always have a smile on your face, and never forget anything that is requested of you. You went over and beyond by not doing your planned ride today to make sure the Bicycle Challenge went well. AND, you are a "do-er", not just one who delegates. At the beginning of today's event, you arrived extra early (before we were there at 6:00 AM) to make sure we had access to the La Hacienda building and at the end you did things like stacking tables, taking the garbage to the dumpster, etc. That doesn't include solving all of my minor issues throughout the day. Thanks for being so caring and great at your job!"

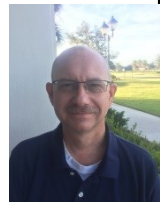


A resident wrote in to **Landscape Supervisor Anthony Valadez**. "Thank you for your action in restoring the Fenney Nature Trail, it is a most pleasant walk now!"

"I recently visited your Saddlebrook Recreation center and required help and had questions. I talked with **Recreation Supervisor Andrew Esposito** and he was SO HELPFUL and courteous. Your staff and facilities are AWESOME. We are so blessed here in The Villages with all of our softball complexes and facilities. We're all so thankful and sometimes don't show the appreciation you deserve. Thank you on behalf of thousands of us! You all are the best in the entire country!"



"I want to thank you and your Eisenhower Team for helping to make our art show so successful. We had 97 artists in this year's show! Everyone bent over backwards to ensure the success of our event. Thank you!" Pictured L to R: **Recreation Assistants Rosie Baczewski and Christine Wergin**.



"A big thank you to **Public Education Technician Bob Sjogren** for replacing our smoke detectors today. It brought peace of mind to me and comfort because I did not have to climb on the ladder to do it myself."

"I wanted to send off a quick email letting you know what an outstanding job **Regional Recreation Area Manager/Sports Coordinator Danny Jacobs** and his crew did to make this past week-end's Villages' Championship Softball Tournament a huge success. From the get go Danny and others diligently put together a game plan with inclement weather forecasted, taking account they may have one less day to play with (which happened) and how it could be pulled off. Everyone (staff, umpire and scorekeeping crew, grounds crew, concessionaries and softball players) involved in this tournament worked together to pull this off. Your staff did an excellent job and a much appreciated "Thank You" to them for a great softball weekend."

"Our club had a meeting recently at Eisenhower recreation center. I have to be honest, I am ALWAYS amazed at how hard your people work to make our club meetings successful – regardless of where we meet. It all started with Recreation Service Representatives Rose Marie Peppe and Nancy Gibson at the front desk. We needed a bigger room and they worked until they found one. And, even though they are obviously busy with people wanting something from them, they work to find the right place with such patience and pleasing personalities. Then I met with **Facility Specialists Roger Loomis and Paul Emberger**. They worked tirelessly to squeeze in all the chairs needed for our event. When we finally had our meeting, **Recreation Assistants John DeGrave and Ed Carter** were there for every question and need. Thank you for providing us with great teams."

Pictured L to R: **Recreation Service Representatives Nancy Gibson and Rose Marie Peppe (front) and Facility Specialist Paul Emberger**.



## Recreation News

### Everglades Recreation Complex Grand Opening

On Friday, November 8th, residents had the opportunity to tour The Everglades Recreation Complex. The center is roughly 32,000 sq ft and is surrounded by 50 acres of various facilities for sports and activities. Frank Lee Ruggles, official photographer from 2007-2011 for the U.S. National Park Service, was commissioned to create a permanent exhibit of his national park photos in the new center. Take the time to visit and experience the excitement of this new recreation complex.



### Total Body Workout-Lake Sumter Landing

On Tuesday November 12th, Recreation & Parks hosted the second in a series of nine monthly events at Lake Sumter Landing Market Square. Total Body Workout works the most important muscle, your heart, and offers a cardio and interval-method style of training. Residents of all fitness levels had fun and are looking forward to next month's activity.



### Running of the Squares

Recreation & Parks held the first 5K leg of their annual Running of the Squares on Saturday October 26th at Brownwood. The run/walk attracted over 600 participants of all ages and fitness levels. The second 5K leg will be held on January 11 at Lake Sumter Landing Market Square



### Angels of The Villages

Monday November 18th started the 27<sup>th</sup> year Recreation & Parks has worked in conjunction with Lake Sumter Families to assist in providing a hopeful and happy holiday to children in need. Angels are available for pick up through Wednesday December 18th at the following recreation locations; Colony Cottage, Lake Miona, Laurel Manor, La Hacienda, Mulberry Grove, Rohan and Fenney.

## Executive Golf

Winning "fore" the kids! **Mitch Leininger (left), Director of Executive Golf Maintenance**, and colleagues Jeff Morris of ASG, Rickey Craig of the Villages and Scott Smith of ASG, were the first place foursome at the annual charity



golf tournament for Embrace Families. Embrace Families, based in Orlando, is a non-profit working to prevent and end child abuse and neglect through innovative, community-driven solutions.

## Community Watch News



Community Watch's **Division Chief Nehemiah Wolfe** gave a Presentation regarding the many aspects of Community Watch at St. Mark Catholic Church Men's Guild's Monthly Meeting. November 6, 2019. Chief Wolfe entertained questions from the members after the Presentation was completed. Pictured with Chief Wolfe

(right) is Tom Feenaghty, President of Men's Guild.





## MAKING HEALTHY HOLIDAY CHOICES: 12 Tips

The holidays are often filled with time-honored traditions that include some of our favorite meals and foods. As you celebrate, think of little changes you can make this holiday season to create healthier meals and active days.

1. **Budget wisely.** Don't eat everything at feasts and parties. Be choosy and spend calories judiciously on the foods you love.
2. **Take 10 before taking seconds.** It takes a few minutes for your stomach's "I'm getting full" signal to get to your brain. After finishing your first helping, take a 10-minute break. Make conversation. Drink some water. Then recheck your appetite. You might realize you are full or want only a small portion of seconds.
3. **Distance helps the heart stay healthy.** At a party, don't stand next to the food table. That makes it harder to mindlessly reach for food as you talk. If you know you are prone to recreational eating, pop a mint or a stick of gum so you won't keep reaching for the chips.
4. **Don't go out with an empty tank.** Before setting out for a party, eat something so you don't arrive famished. Excellent pre-party snacks combine complex carbohydrates with protein and unsaturated fat, like apple slices with peanut butter or a slice of turkey and cheese on whole-wheat pita bread.
5. **Drink to your health.** A glass of eggnog can set you back 500 calories; wine, beer, and mixed drinks range from 150 to 225 calories. If you drink alcohol, have a glass of water or juice-flavored seltzer in between drinks.
6. **Avoid alcohol on an empty stomach.** Alcohol increases your appetite and diminishes your ability to control what you eat.
7. **Put on your dancing (or walking) shoes.** Dancing is a great way to work off some holiday calories. If you are at a family gathering, suggest a walk before the feast or even between dinner and dessert.
8. **Make room for veggies.** At meals and parties, don't ignore fruits and vegetables. They make great snacks and even better side or main dishes — unless they're slathered with creamy sauces or butter.
9. **Be buffet savvy.** At a buffet, wander 'round the food table before putting anything on your plate. By checking out all of your options, you might be less inclined to pile on items one after another.
10. **Don't shop hungry.** Eat before you go shopping so the scent of Cinnabons or caramel corn doesn't tempt you to gobble treats you don't need.
11. **Cook from (and for) the heart.** To show family and friends that you *really* care about them, be creative with recipes that use less butter, cream, lard, vegetable shortening, and other ingredients rich in saturated fats. Prepare turkey or fish instead of red meat.
12. **Pay attention to what really matters.** Although food is an integral part of the holidays, put the focus on family and friends, laughter and cheer. If balance and moderation are your usual guides, it's okay to indulge or overeat once in a while.

Source: Harvard Health Publishing





## *Relationships Matter*

**RELATIONSHIPS MATTER** to our well-being. And there are plenty of reasons to reach out to those we care about to keep building positive relationships.

### \* *Staying connected*

It's easy to feel too busy to stay connected with others, but it makes a big difference in overall wellness. Send them a card to let them know you're thinking of them. Plan a playdate so the kids can have some fun while you catch up. Take a yoga class together. You'll be amazed how good it'll make you and your friends feel!

### \* *Starting over*

Acknowledge that pal who sets him or herself free from a toxic work environment, enrolls in college, or ignites a healthy, new relationship. Eliminating stressful situations in life is worth celebrating.

### \* *Missing someone*

Feeling loved and appreciated strengthens the immune system, so send out a card to tell a special person how much you care. Whether you haven't seen them for a year or two days, it's important to reach out over and over again.

### \* *Moving into a first home*

Putting down roots and making a happy home are things that lead to living a healthy lifestyle. Community and belonging are proven factors in maintaining a long productive life—so why not make a big deal about it?

### \* *Celebrating with loss*

You know your loved ones best, so send a card for weight loss if it doesn't embarrass your friend or family member. This will be for someone you're pretty close to or somebody who shares similar physical fitness goals like your yoga sidekick. Being supportive of achieving good health will help anyone's body, mind and spirit.



## *Living with Cancer*

Research shows that people **LIVING WITH CANCER** need support from friends and family. Sometimes just listening, giving encouragement, or sending simple expressions of concern are the most meaningful. Here are some ways you can make a big difference in the life of someone with cancer.

### \* *Lend an ear*

Listen to your loved one. Expect good days and bad days. They may or may not want to talk about their fears, anxieties and what they might need going forward. Sometimes just listening is the most helpful things you can do. Let them guide the direction of a conversation and respond from your heart.

### \* *Avoid advice and clichés*

It's best not to give advice or compare your own story or a story you have heard to theirs. Be respectful of their treatment decisions. Try not to say things like, "You'll pull through!" or "I can imagine how you feel." Instead, say things like "I'm sorry you're going through this," "I'm by your side. You're not alone," and "I love you."

### \* *Help out*

Reach out. Ask about their favorite foods. Then order carryout and drop it off at their home. Offer to drive them to an appointment or walk their dog at lunch. Being flexible and offering help in specific ways can help them feel more at ease.

### \* *Make them smile*

Using humor can be an important way of coping. Bring up a funny story or memory you two have shared. Give them a silly card or one with a cute puppy doing cute puppy things. It's about helping them relieve stress and feel they're still the same wonderful person.

### \* *Keep in touch*

Even if you're scared for your loved one, don't let that deter you from reaching out. Make time to visit, call and send notes. Listen and be sure they're being heard and helped. Return their messages, let them know you'll keep in touch, and follow through.

### \* *Stay Informed*

For more information and resources, visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) or call the American Cancer Society helpline at 1-800-227-2345.

## Finance News

### BS&A Annual User Conference

Five members from Finance attended the 2019 BS&A Annual User Conference in Orlando from November 11<sup>th</sup> through November 13<sup>th</sup>. Sessions were offered in Financial Management, Utility Billing, Community Development and other general items such as Laserfiche Integration, Future of Work/Digital Environment, and BS&A Software Tips and Tricks.

Attendees: **Jennifer Liunoras, Accounting Manager, Aya Terao, Senior Accountant, Cindy Stenerson, Accounts Payable Supervisor, Kelly Lambert, Utility Billing & Customer Service Manager and Brandi Ricker, Utility Billing Supervisor.**

### National Wear Pink Day

October 18, 2019, Finance staff joined forces in support of Breast Cancer Awareness by either wearing pink or the District Public Safety's Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirts.



## Risk Management News

### Nighttime Driving Hazards

As we fall back to daylight saving time and the start of winter, our commute to and from work moves just before or after sunrise, sunset or in the dark. It is dangerous to drive at nighttime, so taking precau-



tions can keep employees safe on the road. According to InjuryFacts, about one out of five crashes happens at night. Fatigue, vision impairment and inexperience are some of the most common risks associated with nighttime driving. An estimated 5,000 people died in crashes involving drowsy driving in 2015, over 16% of all fatal crashes. Depth perception, color recognition and peripheral vision can be compromised. Even with high-beam headlights on, visibility is limited to about 500 feet (250 feet for normal headlights), creating less time to react to something in the road. This is especially concerning when driving at higher speeds. How can you and your employees manage the risk of nighttime driving?

- Aim headlights correctly and periodically clean windshields inside and out to eliminate streaks
- Look to the right of the roadway when you encounter oncoming headlights and dim your dashboard to avoid glare
- Get 7–9 hours of sleep each day; losing two hours of sleep has the same effect on a driver's reaction time as having three beers
- Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping distances

The risk of a fatal crash is three times greater at night. You may not be able to control other drivers' behaviors, but you can take the necessary steps to keep yourself safe, along with those sharing the road with you. Information provided by [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org).

## HALLOWEEN

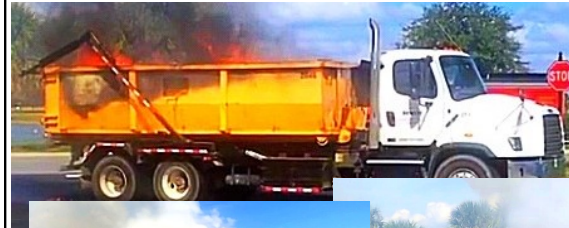




Public Safety responded to a garage fire on November 13th. Those on site include, **Chief Edmund Cain, Battalion Chief, Brian Twiss, Lieutenant Wesley Roe, Firefighter Paramedic Chris Stevenson, Firefighter Paramedic William Butler, Lieutenant Kevin Cunliffe, Firefighter Paramedic Ed Bock, Firefighter EMT Robert Sheridan, Firefighter Paramedic Bailey Barngrover, Firefighter EMT Lee Longo, Lieutenant Don Neebling, Firefighter Paramedic Rodney Graham and Firefighter Paramedic Marcial Santiago.**





Station 44 received a surprise on October 25th when a dump truck that was on fire pulled into their station. From L to R: **Lieutenant Justin Boudreau, Firefighter Paramedic Pete Bratkovich, Firefighter Paramedic Brian Hilty, Firefighter Paramedic Hunter Shumate and Firefighter Paramedic Cody Little** were able to put out the fire.



### Push Ceremony

On Saturday October 26, 2019 a push in ceremony was held for the new engine at Station 47. The engine was named "Marty" in honor of Marty Matthew a VPSD employee who passed away in March of this year. The ceremony dates back to the 1800's. Back then Horses were used in the fire service to pull fire pumper to the location of the emergency. After returning to the station both the horse and apparatus would then be washed and the pumper would be hand pushed back into the bays by the firefighters. Local clergy would bestow blessings upon the horse throwing holy water unto them for long life, strength, speed and good health. The public and Marty's family participated in the ceremony which was followed by an open house of Station 47.



<div>  <div> <b>DISTRICT UNIVERSITY</b>  <b>Training &amp; Development Programs: November 2019</b>  <b>All professional development training workshops are open to all District Staff</b> </div> <div> <b>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>   </div> </div>						
Class Title	Instructor	Class Info	Relevant to	Date	Time	Location
<b>New Hire Orientation</b>	Varied District Staff	This training session provides new employees with important information to help navigate your first 60 days of hire. A wide-range of topics are covered, including District Core Values, Mission Statement, policy & procedures, diversity & harassment training and workers compensation information.	<b>NEW HIRES</b>	<b>Monday December 16, 30</b>	<b>8:30am To 12:00p m</b>	<b>District Offices</b> 984 Old Mill Run Large Conference Room
<b>CDD Orientation</b>	Varied District Staff	This workshop helps attendees better understand what a "Community Development District" is & how it operates. Also covered - important community information regarding the people, services & supporting entities that help make up "The Villages".	<b>All New Hires</b> <i><b>Mandatory</b> within 30 days of employment</i>	<b>Every Thursday</b>	<b>10:00am To 12:00p m</b>	<b>District Offices</b> 984 Old Mill Run
<b>Built to Last</b>	Deb Franklin, Director, HR & Strategic Planning	Now that you know more about what your role is within our organization, we now circle back to focus on how our District Core Values serve as a compass to guide us in providing responsive, responsible customer service, no matter what position we hold.	<b>All New Hires</b> <i><b>Mandatory</b> within 60 days of employment</i>	<b>Wednesday December 18</b>	<b>8:30am To 10:00am</b>	<b>Laurel Manor Recreation Center</b> 1985 Laurel Manor Drive
<b>Public Records &amp; Ethics</b>	Stephanie Brionez, Esq,	This class covers what information is protected under Public Records Law, how long to retain certain records, how to handle public records requests and will also touch on Government Sunshine Laws.	<i><b>Mandatory</b> for all District Staff. Attendees will be assigned by their department.</i>	<b>Tuesday December 10</b>	<b>9:00am To 12:00p m</b>	<b>District Offices</b> 984 Old Mill Run Large Conference Room

Department Director's should determine which staff members should attend mandatory workshops & notify those individuals so that they can register. Staff members interested in attending a workshop should request from their Department Director or immediate Supervisor permission to attend a workshop.

**To Register:**

- **All Community Watch staff:** Contact **Sharon Gwin (352-750-8201)**
- **All Recreation staff:** Contact **Anita Douglas (352-674-1800)**
- **All Finance staff:** Contact **Linda Sojourn (753-0421)**
- **All other District staff:** Contact **Human Resources** [Angela.Pattillo@DistrictGov.org](mailto:Angela.Pattillo@DistrictGov.org).