

The Villages®

Community Development Districts

October 7, 2015

11:00 A.M.

Welcome Wednesday News

Contact Us:

**Customer Service
(352) 753-4508**

**Administration
(352) 751-3939**

**Community Standards
(352) 751-3912**

**Community Watch
(352) 753-0550**

**Property Management
(352) 753-4022**

**Finance
(352) 753-0421**

**Human Resources
(352) 674-1905**

**Public Safety
(352) 205-8280**

**Purchasing
(352) 751-6700**

**Recreation Administration
(352) 674-1800**

**Utility/Amenity
(352) 750-0000**



CDD Orientation

Please join us each Thursday at 10:00am at the District office located at 984 Old Mill Run to learn about how the Districts operate and other important community information. For additional information, please contact us at (352) 753-4508.

The Villages®
Community Development Districts
Property Management

El Santiago Update

The exterior of the building and site work is substantially complete. The landscaping is complete and the Mechanical and Electrical systems are complete and being tested. All plumbing fixtures are installed and being tested. Audio / Visual systems are being installed and tested. The interior finishes are nearing completion and the project is on schedule for completion in December 2015.



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Property Management

The following facilities will be closed on the dates noted for scheduled maintenance this week:

⇒ **Paradise Bocce Court**

The Paradise Bocce Courts are currently closed for improvements

⇒ **Paradise Archery Range**

The Paradise Archery Range will be closed through October 2nd.

⇒ **Pimlico Recreation Center**

The Pimlico Recreation Center will be closed for quarterly cleaning on Saturday, October 10th.

⇒ **Churchill Street Recreation Center**

The Churchill Street Recreation Center will be closed from October 11th through October 18th.

⇒ **Hadley Neighborhood Pool**

The Hadley Neighborhood Pool will be closed until October 11th for deck refinishing.



⇒ **Paradise Family Pool**

The Paradise Family Pool is now open for your enjoyment!



Boat Tour Closure—Due to high water levels, the Lake Sumter Landing Boar Tours will be closed until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience. Please stay tuned to www.DistrictGov.org for updates or contact the Laurel Manor Recreation Center at (352) 751-7110 for additional information.

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Community Development Districts
Recreation

Please join us for the Grand Opening of our 78th pool!

We're Celebrating the Opening of Our Newest Neighborhood Pool!

You're Invited!

Osceola Hills

Neighborhood
Recreation Center

The Villages®
Community Development Districts
Recreation
www.districtgov.org



FREE Recreation Gift
for the first 25 folks
to take the plunge.

Thursday

OCT. 15

10 am

Morse Blvd South Over 466A • 3rd Roundabout to Deskin Lane • Right to McDowell • Right to 4234 McDowell Drive

For more information call: 674-8400 (Rohan)

Or Visit: www.districtgov.org

THE VILLAGES SOFTBALL COMPLEX LOCATIONS:

**FRIDAY
10/16**

Saddlebrook,
Soaring Eagle and
Buffalo Glen
Softball Complex

7:00am Check-In
8:00am

Men's and Women's
Games Begin

**SATURDAY
10/17**

Saddlebrook,
Soaring Eagle and
Buffalo Glen
Softball Complex

8:00am

Men's and Women's
Games Continue

**SUNDAY
10/18**

Softball Complex
TBD

8:00am

Men's and Women's
Championship Game

Don't miss this!

FRIDAY 10/16

TEAM BBQ

Location & Time TBD

Softball Tournament

Check this out! There are 37+ teams registered to compete in the 2015 softball championship tournament.

Local Villages teams participating as well as teams from all over the state and country. Come out and support these remarkable athletes! Friday at 2:30pm Home Run Derby is at Saddlebrook Softball Recreation Complex.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Fall season welcomes residents back to updated amenities

While our leaves in Florida display limited colors compared to the cornucopia of colors in the Northern states, there are still many creative ways to substitute the atmosphere of fall.

I make up for it in a variety of ways, but I can't pass up the smell of those cinnamon brooms or pine cones that grace the entryways of the stores this time of year.

I have been accused of buying more than I need to bring the smell of fall into our home, up to the point that my family members can't breathe properly. At that point, my home decor talent typically is redirected back outside and consists of a blow-up jack-o'-lantern.

As fall begins to make its way down to our hometown, it's also the beginning of the arrival of our friends we haven't seen since last year. They will start arriving now and continue to come for the next couple of months.

Knowing old man winter is right around the corner, our resident friends recognize the best place to be this time of year (really anytime of the year) is right here in The Villages. Our hometown will continue to see more residents returning to their community that has been anything but slow during the summer months.

Here is a summary of events and projects that have taken place, and there are more on the horizon happening when they get here. I will need your help to share all the great happenings.

They will see we have received plenty of rain throughout the last couple of months, keeping our community lush and green. We've opened up new neighborhood recreation centers, La Belle and Pine Hills.



JOHN
ROHAN
COLUMNIST

Tierra Del Sol Village Recreation Center has been completely redone; a brand new recreation center now sits in the place of the previous smaller one. Numerous improvements and enhancements performed by the property management teams have kept the recreation centers in top-notch condition.

The executive golf courses will uphold top-shape pars (pun intended) for the more than 2 million rounds of golf scheduled to be played this year. The complete renovation of De La Vista is scheduled to be completed in late October.

Three more executive courses – Sarasota, Okeechobee and Escambia – will open Monday. This makes a grand total of 36 executive golf courses.

Our friends will be welcomed back to the newly-opened fourth dog park, Atlas Canine Recreation Park, and our first truly public nature preserve, the Sharon Rose Wiechens Preserve. This public access preserve is more than 600 acres complete with a boardwalk and observation platform for a variety of passive recreation experiences to be enjoyed. Thank you to everyone who came out last Friday for the grand opening of these two beautiful areas.

El Santiago Village Recreation Center had just begun construction last fall, and now it is just about complete. The exterior of the building is substantially

complete and the landscaping is nearing completion.

The interior finishes are being installed, such as cabinets and wallcoverings. This new 9,000-square-foot village recreation center is scheduled to open in late December.

Folks who will be arriving over the next couple of months, as well as residents already here, will continue to see new centers coming on line, continued District property management projects and, most importantly, more lifestyle activities than can be scheduled in a day.

October kicks off our parade and festival season. Come out and celebrate heritage, culture, great food, music and more with Oktoberfest and Italian Fest. When attending these events, please allow additional time to arrive as well as patience while exiting the events. It still amazes me that we have three town squares to enjoy great events year-round!

To view updates and information regarding lifestyle events, visit our District website, districtgov.org, and click on the recreation link which is located in the Departments tab. The Villages Daily Sun and WVLG will also be sharing information about community happenings. The October Lifestyle events calendar is full of opportunities for everyone. You won't be disappointed in these offerings!

In between your busy schedule, remember Welcome Wednesday is every Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the District Administration Office in Lake Sumter Landing, 984 Old Mill Run. It provides a casual environment to meet District Administration and board supervisors, learn about the latest events and services, and discuss

ROHAN, from page 2

any rumors out there.

Also located at our District office, we offer a Community Development District Orientation at 10 a.m. every Thursday. This presentation is an introduction to the operations

of your special purpose local government.

While you're at our office attending these great informational meetings, stop by Customer Service and sign up for Resident Academy, which is a more in-depth program about the District.

Please welcome back our friends from up North and get

geared up for yet another fun-filled season of parades, festivals, special events, 5Ks, entertainment, tournaments, socials and more to continue to keep everyone active and loving the lifestyle.

Just think of all the other communities who envy us for all we have planned, scheduled and organized all day, every day,

right here in our hometown. It is truly fascinating! Enjoy, be safe, be courteous, bring your ID card and plan on having a great experience.

Fall is here in your hometown! Don't forget in between all the fun to take some time to smell the cinnamon broom. That's all for this week. See you soon right here at Our Place.

John Rohan is director of recreation in The Villages. He can be reached at john.rohan@districtgov.org.

Navigating www.DistrictGov.org

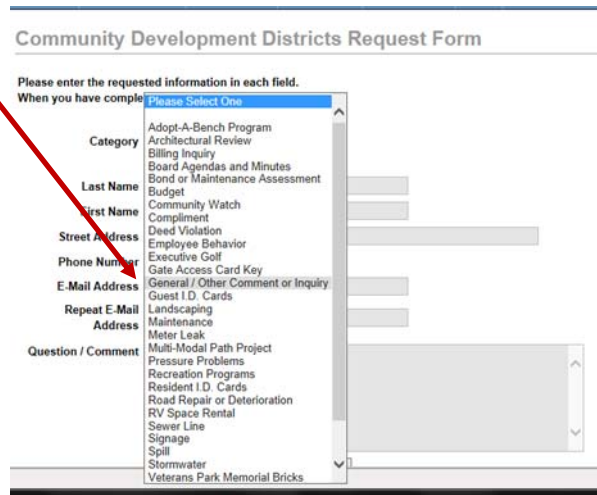
Each week we are highlighting different services available on the website, www.DistrictGov.org. This week's feature explains the best way to contact us!

There are many instances in which you may prefer to contact us via email rather than in person or on the phone. Contact us on the website 24hours per day, 7 days per week and have your comments read and questions answered within 48-hours by District staff:

1. On www.DistrictGov.org, select the 'Contact Us' link.



2. Choose the subject that best fits your concern or question. Not sure? Choose 'General / Other Comment or Inquiry'



3. Provide us with your contact information so we can respond to your question / comment.

A screenshot of the contact form fields. The fields are: Category (dropdown menu with 'General / Other Comment or Inquiry' selected), Last Name, First Name, Street Address, Phone Number, E-Mail Address, Repeat E-Mail Address, and Question / Comment (a large text area). Below the fields are 'Submit' and 'Clear' buttons. A red arrow points to the 'Question / Comment' field.

Community Watch moves to Savannah Center

After much planning and preparation, one half of the Community Watch patrol resources now call the Savannah Center “home!” On Tuesday, September 22nd, drivers and supervisors assigned to patrol neighborhoods in Districts 1 through 6 and the Town Square moved into their new satellite office. The Savannah Recreation staff will share space with the Community Watch employees as there is adequate room to accommodate shift changes and there will no impact on the current recreational activities.

With the move to the Savannah Recreation Center, the drivers and supervisors will now start their patrol shifts closer to their assigned areas, accomplishing two positive objectives:

Save Time: drivers and supervisors will not have to drive from the main office on Bonita Blvd just to start their shifts. They will spend more time patrolling their assigned areas.

Save Money: with a reduction in miles driven, there will be a saving in fuel costs, as well as the wear of the patrol vehicles.

It is estimated that this move will save the District approximately \$25 -\$30,000 per year.

The Villages®

Community Development Districts



District staff was recently asked about “The Villages Academy” with a sign-up fee of \$97.

Please know that the District Government and the Developer **DO NOT** have any affiliation with this site, and they do not endorse any of the information provided. After checking into this “Academy”, staff found it to be confusing to residents.

The District Government does not charge for the many informational opportunities available about the community.

Two informational programs provided by the District Government that we encourage residents to attend are:

- Community Development District (CDD) Orientation provides a general overview of how the districts operate and provides important information about the people, services, and other supporting entities that help make The Villages a premier community.

This program is offered every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the District Office located at 984 Old Mill Run, The Villages, FL. No sign-ups are required.

- The Resident Academy is an interactive program for residents who are interested in learning about their local government. Our ultimate goal for the Resident Academy is to alleviate the confusion, questions, or mis-information that exists throughout the community regarding the responsibilities and functions of the Community Development Districts. During this program, participants will receive an in-depth look at the various District Departments and how they work together to make this the best community to live, work and play. Department Directors will also be available to answer questions or make appointments for those seeking additional information.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this exciting program, please call the Customer Service Center at 753-4508 or stop by the office at 984 Old Mill Run to sign-up.

In addition, any questions you may have about the community can be directed to the Customer Service Center, any of our elected officials or directly to any District department. Again, there is no charge to receive information about the Districts and your Villages community: all it takes is your asking and we will provide the information. In addition, check out the District web site which also includes contact information for your elected officials and the numerous services offered.

The Villages®

Community Development Districts



As the cooler weather approaches and it becomes darker earlier in the evening, please make sure you take all available steps to ensure you are visible while walking at night. Wear light, reflective clothing that is easily visible in the evening hours and carry a flashlight or other flasher.

The Community Improvement Council (CIC) hosts a Brite @ Nite program in which they offer flashers with three different light patterns to allow walkers to be more visible at night. For additional information on this program, please contact the CIC or visit the Recreation page of our website, www.DistrictGov.org.

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Community Development Districts

Community Standards

The District recently received complaints from residents regarding religious groups going door to door. While the Declaration of Restrictions prohibit solicitation, based on Supreme Court rulings, religious groups have right to do so based on the First Amendment right to free-speech protections.

Residents may contact Community Standards if they have questions regarding solicitors in the community at 352-751-3912. As always, if a resident feels there is a suspicious person on their property in the community, we encourage you to contact law enforcement.

The Villages®

Community Development Districts

Join us on Saturday, November 7, 2015 for Government Day!

SUPPORT • PROMOTE • IMPROVE



YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ACTION

The Villages®
Community Development Districts

2015

20th Anniversary



WORKING TO SERVE YOUR HOMETOWN

GOVERNMENT DAY

Over 70 Agencies • State of Florida • Lake, Sumter, Marion Local Governments

The Villages® Community
Development District Departments

Local, State
& Federal Offices

USF Health in
The Villages® community

Seniors vs Crimes

SW Florida Water
Management District

Retired and Senior
Volunteer Program

SATURDAY

NOV 7

10am-1pm

SPONSORED BY

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Community Development Districts

LOCATION

EISENHOWER

Regional Recreation Center
3560 Buena Vista Blvd.
The Villages • 674-8390

SHINE

State of Florida
Department of Elder Affairs

Sumter County
Sheriff's Office

9.11
Documentary Display

Lake Griffin State Park

and
many more!

Learn all about your local, state and federal government agencies. Plan to attend...
gather information and have your questions answered by the experts!

www.DistrictGov.org • 352-753-4508