

# THE



Issue 42.02



# BULLETIN

February 2016

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The POA Website - [www.poa4us.org](http://www.poa4us.org)

# Meet Your 2016 POA Directors

The POA is proud to introduce you to the other members of the 2016 Board of Directors (you met the officers in the January issue).

As you can see from the resumes below, we have a very talented group of volunteers. We all look forward to working together to carry out the mission of our Association.

**Kenneth Copp:** Ken comes from the great state of Michigan where he worked as a Production Coordinator & Business Analyst for Steelcase Inc. for 35 years. After retiring in 2005 he volunteered at the American Red Cross in Information Technology & Finance Operations. Ken is a 2003 M.O.S. Certified (Microsoft Office Specialist) and has extensive experience developing Microsoft Access Databases and Excel spreadsheet programs. He has a Degree in Architectural Drafting and Construction and was a Licensed Residential Builder in Michigan for over 30 years. In addition, Ken was a State Licensed Boiler Engineer for over 20 years.

His career also includes 21 years in the U.S. Navy and he is a Vietnam Veteran. He is a Lifetime member of the N.E.R.A. (Naval Enlisted Reserve Association) and has held the office of Secretary and Vice President of the Local chapter in Grand Rapids Michigan.

Ken is also a member of the Knights of Columbus 3rd & 4th Degree and has held numerous offices in both along with being a

member of the 4th Degree Color Corp. The most notable being Charter Grand Knight (3 yrs), Grand Knight (3 yrs), District Deputy (5 yrs), Diocesan Membership Director (1 yr), Financial Secretary (12 yrs).

Ken and his wife Joyce moved to the Village of Duval in December 2007.

**Myron Henry:** Myron Henry is a native of Peru, Indiana. He received a BS from Ball State University and an MS and Ph.D. from Colorado State University. Henry has served as a mathematics professor and administrator at Montana State University, Central Michigan University, Old Dominion University (VA), Kent State University (OH) and the University of Southern Mississippi.

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016**  
POA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Third Tuesday of the Month - 7 PM  
Laurel Manor Recreation Center

**Deed Compliance and Architectural Review Process**  
Presented by Diane Tucker, VCCDD  
Administrative Operations Manager

Followed by Questions & Answers  
Audio and Visual in Overflow Room  
Donuts and Coffee For All After The Meeting  
All Residents Welcome - Come and Join Us!

His wife Mary is a former teacher and university financial aid officer. Mary and Myron are the proud parents of daughters Carrie and Anita (both in Traverse City, MI), and the proud grandparents of seven-year old Abby Lynn (Carrie) and three-year old Marin Hazel (Anita). They moved to the Village of Hadley in July 2008.

An Eagle Scout, Henry has served on the Great Trails (OH) and Tidewater (VA) Councils of the BSA.

(Continued on page 2)

## Golf Carts Are NOT Toys! Don't Be A Statistic!

It is the time of year when we see increased traffic and lots of visitors in The Villages. Please note that there have been at least SIXTEEN golf cart related **FATALITIES** in The Villages in the last eight years, and over three dozen golf cart users who had to be trauma alerted to a hospital with head injuries during the last four years.

Each month, starting with the February 2012 POA Bulletin and ending in April, 2014 (you can find all of them on the [poa4us.org](http://poa4us.org) website - click on "archived bulletins"), we have included a listing of all of the accidents (with as much description as we had available) that we were aware of, and identified that almost all of them involved either someone fall-

(Continued on page 2)

## 2016 POA Directors

(Continued from page 1)

**Sal Torname:** Sal was born and raised in Massachusetts and became a full time resident of The Villages in 2011.

He worked in the telecommunications industry for nearly 40 years starting with New England Telephone, now Verizon, and ending his career with General Service Administration, a Federal Agency providing communication services to other Federal Agencies. His assignments involved routinely working with large and small telephone companies and acting as a liaison between those companies and agencies to negotiate a variety of telephone agreements and contracts.

While employed, Sal became active in many civic and charitable organizations including service on Conservation Commission and was elected to his town's Planning Board.

He served as a Massachusetts Baldrige National Quality Award Examiner, from 1995-1997.

Sal received a BS Degree from Salem State College in Business Administration and a MS Degree from Anna Maria Collage in Quality Management. He now lives in St. James village with his wife Kathleen and has two daughters and four grandchildren.

Sal was elected to serve as a CDD8 Supervisor in 2012 and continues to hold that position.

**Jerry Vicenti:** Jerry was born and raised in Staten Island, NY. He retired from The Port Authority of NY & NJ after 35 years of service. Jerry worked in the Procurement Department as a Buyer and Contract Administrator and supervised the uniforms services department, and the construction, operation and security of the Brooklyn Cruise Ship Terminal.

He served as Trustee on the Supervisor's Union Executive Board, worked in the World Trade Center Recovery Unit in 1993 & 9/11,

and also worked with Secret Service and Homeland Security Department. Jerry received Special Citation awards for his work in the WTC Recovery Unit.

Jerry and his wife Annette moved to the Village of Hemingway in June of 2008. He joined the POA board in February 2011 and currently he's Director of Membership.

In November 2012, Jerry was elected to the Community Development District 7 Board of Supervisors in The Villages, representing the Villages of Hemingway, Duval, Bonita & Hadley. As District 7 Supervisor, he also serves on the Governance Improvement Committee and an alternate on the Project Wide Advisory Committee.

In his spare time, Jerry is President of The Italian Pisans Club and seven days a week you can see Jerry cycling on the south side of 466 in The Villages. Jerry has cycled over 7,000 miles a year for the last six years. □

## Golf Carts Are Not Toys!

(Continued from page 1)

ing out of a cart, or being ejected from the cart onto the pavement.

**OUR MESSAGE IS THAT WE BELIEVE YOU MIGHT BE SAFER IF YOU USE A SEAT BELT,** but the usage of seat belts in golf carts is not required by Florida Statutes so it is your choice.

It was not until last year that the Florida Highway Patrol and local law enforcement departments kept statistics on golf cart related crashes. Therefore, the POA is trying to make residents aware of the potential dangers that can face both golf cart drivers and passengers, be they on the recreation trails or the roadways shared with automobiles and trucks.

**STAY ALERT!!! -- STAY ALIVE!!!** □

The POA Bulletin is published monthly by the Property Owners' Association of The Villages, Inc. Articles represent the opinion of the POA or the writer, and Letters to the Editor postings represent the opinions of the writers. Care is taken to ensure that facts reported herein are true and accurate to the best knowledge of the POA and are taken from reliable sources.

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## POA

### Mission Statement

The Property Owners' Association of The Villages is an independent organization devoted to our home ownership experience.

The Vision/Objective of the POA is to make The Villages an even better place in which to live, where Residents' Rights are respected, and local governments are responsive to the needs and interests of residents.

The POA serves Villagers through programs of education, research, analysis, representation, advocacy, and legislative action.

The POA also functions as a "watchdog" organization overseeing the actions of our Developer and our local governments.

Specific POA attention is focused on housing, community, neighborhood, and local government issues. Special emphasis is focused on the Amenity Authority Committee (AAC), our Community Development Districts (CDDs), the Florida Chapter 190 law that regulates CDD operations, and our Developer.

The POA has no ties or obligations to the Developer of The Villages which might compromise the POA position or its advocacy of Residents' Rights.

The POA, founded in 1975, is the original homeowners' organization in The Villages. Membership is open to all Villages residents. □

## The Villages Residents' Bill of Rights

**RESIDENTS have RIGHTS to:**

1. Be treated in a respectful, fair, and responsive manner by the Developer and our local government officials.
2. Have decision making authority for important issues in our community.
3. Elect our top government officials and approve appointments of the top administrative officials in our community.
4. Approve major purchases of common property and the related debt obligations assumed by residents.
5. Have local governments that are free of any conflict of interest issues.
6. Be charged honest monthly amenity fees that are used only for the stated purposes.
7. Receive full disclosure when purchasing a home here in The Villages.
8. Receive an objective market appraisal for major purchases of common property.
9. Receive objective, unbiased, unslanted news reporting from local news sources.
10. Be informed beforehand by the Developer on any major change in our community. □

**If You Appreciate the Efforts the POA Makes on Your Behalf, You Can Show Us Now!  
Send in Your Membership Application Today!**

As stated in the POA's mission statement, we exist and function as a "watch dog" for the residents of The Villages. Established in 1975, we are the original homeowners' association with no ties and/or affiliations to the Developer, Local Governments, or Business interests. The POA strives to make The Villages an even better place in which to live, where Residents' Rights are respected and local government and the Developer are responsive to the needs and interests of everyone living in Florida's friendliest hometown.

We publish a monthly Bulletin delivered to the driveway of all homeowners, regardless of whether or not they are an active POA member, (unless you contact us at 352-325-1540) in our effort to keep each of you informed of facts about issues which may not have been clearly or fully presented in other media.

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**IF YOU READ THE BULLETIN,  
WE URGE YOU TO JOIN THE POA.**  
Paying a membership fee of \$10.00 per year is an investment in your future as you will be helping to keep the POA financially sound and your membership numbers will increase our "clout" if action needs to be taken.

The POA membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. POA members will have access to discounts provided by our Discount Partners (See page 22). POA members who have provided us with an email address will receive our monthly POA Email

Newsletter reminding them of the speaker and date of the upcoming monthly POA membership meeting, as well as Special Alerts about any important matter on a timelier basis than what our Monthly Bulletin can provide.

We are now accepting 2016 POA memberships (\$10 per household). Please use the form below. NOTE, WE DO NOT OFFER A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP, but commencing with the 2016 membership year, we are offering residents the opportunity to join for one, two or three years so as not to have to go through the renewal process every year. □

**THE POA HAS YOUR BACK, DO YOU HAVE OURS?**

**POA 2016 AND BEYOND MEMBERSHIP & CONTRIBUTION FORM**

Please complete each section and return to: The POA, P.O. Box 386, Oxford, FL 34484

New Member       Renewal      Number of People in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME(S)(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(SAME LAST NAME)

NAME(S)(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(DIFFERENT LAST NAME)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

VILLAGE \_\_\_\_\_ VILLAGES ID# \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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(We respect your privacy. Your email address is for POA Official use ONLY)

**MEMBERSHIP DUES** (Please Select One):  
 One year - 2016 - \$10 per/household  
 Two years - 2016/2017 - \$20 per/household  
 Three years - 2016/2017/2018 - \$30 per/household

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION IF DESIRED:** Please accept my additional contribution to the POA in the following amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT FOR DUES AND ANY CONTRIBUTIONS:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope, along with this form and my check. Please mail my Membership Card to me.       Please hold my POA Membership Card for me to pick up at one of the monthly POA Meetings.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE POA**

# Moffitt Cancer Center Departure

## Were Residents Duped into Donating the Money for Radiation Equipment?

This is a follow-up article from November, 2015 POA Bulletin article (can be found at [poa4us.org](http://poa4us.org) - click on Bulletins/Archived Bulletins). We ended that article questioning whether Villages residents will be better off with cancer care under the umbrella of Florida Cancer Specialists (FCS) than they were with Moffitt care. We stated that since the POA is not in a position to evaluate this that we had asked Dr. Norman Anderson, CEO of the Robert Boissoneault Oncology Institute (RBOI) to be the speaker at the POA November membership meeting, and address four questions which we had regarding this situation. The following are quotes from Dr. Anderson's presentation:

"I believe that Villagers make their best medical decisions when they are empowered. Please question and research every statement that I make for I indicate that much of what you have read in the local media is false. I invite the opportunity to discuss in a public forum with the hospital administration each

statement. They have the right...indeed obligation to prove me wrong. My effort is not directed toward any individual. It is, however, directed at misguided administrative decisions. For your medical care, I implore those making the decisions to do the right thing.

**"My comments relate to the recent change orchestrated by the Central Florida Health Alliance administration to terminate their association with the Moffitt Cancer Center, and replace oversight of radiation with a medical oncology group, Florida Cancer Specialists.** Although latching onto the word "comprehensive" as somehow creating care that has never existed before, the hospital administration has conceived nothing more than a financial bail-out, with no knowledge or appreciation for the adverse medical consequences they create.

"Please also realize that what has been crafted by the local hospital administration is not a reflection on the performance or ability of any treating physician. I have the greatest of respect for the care and concern each doctor has provided you...the patient. I also feel a moral/ethical obligation to ensure that decisions for your health are provided without distortion. As a cancer patient, how do you separate brand names and tailored play-on-word scripts from optimal medical care? Too often, the marketing of cancer treatment has nothing to do with quality or results.

"Four questions posed by the Property Owners' Association last November are undoubtedly most relevant. The content for the POA questions was drawn from a memo sent by the CEO of the Central Florida Health Alli-

ance to the medical staff advising that they were not going to renew the contract with Moffitt."

**1) CEO Memo:** "The current FCS (Florida Cancer Specialists) research institute affiliations also allow them to participate in many clinical trials, so patients in The Villages can be assured they will have access to the latest technology and cancer treatment drug trials."

**POA Question:** Do they (Florida Cancer Specialists) have the credentials to participate in the same elite clinical trials as does Moffitt?

**Dr. Anderson's response:** "Let's set the stage for cancer treatment. Many cancers require the use of pharmaceuticals and radiation for the best response. **Special oral and intravenous drugs are administered by doctors separate from radiation doctors, since both have totally different training. The knowledge base to do both well would exceed what is reasonable for one person or specialty.** That is why they are separate branches of cancer care. One is called medical oncology and the other, radiation oncology.

"Although radiation and pharmaceuticals can be used together, clinical trials are almost entirely drug-based in design, using different or combinations to achieve greater success. If radiation is part of the design, it is used in a "standard" approach, and thus there is no financial gain with radiation. Since clinical trials are heavily endowed by the pharmaceutical industry, it would be reasonable for you to seek an opinion from a medical patient advocate NOT financially involved with your enrollment.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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## Moffitt Departure

(Continued from page 4)

"The definition of an "elite" study is variable, but I can certainly aid my patient in determining a well thought-out study. Since the majority of these drug-based trials do not involve the delivery of radiation as part of the treatment, each professional in our radiation group can view such clinical trials with a removed level of objectivity. We will happily provide an opinion on any clinical trial for free."

**2) CEO Memo:** "Dr. Kamath will remain the primary physician provider for all radiation oncology treatments at the same location and will work with the same clinical and support team."

**POA Question:** Moffitt will no longer have oversight on this radiation department; should that be a concern?

**Dr. Anderson's response:** "This question is extremely relevant. Although I am not concerned about the physician, since Dr. Kamath is a good doctor, he represents only one component. Every image pictured in The Villages press swirls around a doctor, a treatment machine, and a location, as if that combination somehow provides everything. Not so!

"This is a very simplistic and dangerous under-appreciation for what makes radiation a viable cancer treatment arm. We are very concerned about the way radiation treatment is provided...and so should you be. As correctly

stated in the question, the local "clinical and support team" will no longer have oversight from Moffitt. This critical component including physics planning and delivery (the sophisticated guts of radiation treatment) absolutely must be taken seriously, and is why our practice shows uniqueness of equal merit with that of Moffitt. Ours stayed...Moffitt was sent home. It is that component, either purposely avoided or overlooked by the hospital administration, that makes the treatment of cancer with radiation either optimal...or not.

**"To my knowledge and according to the American College of Radiology (ACR) website, none of Florida Cancer Specialists' facilities, a chemotherapy-based specialty, are currently accredited for radiation treatment. This is not a criticism but rather, these are the obvious limitations that exist when the specialty of medical oncology was never trained, nor has the level of sophisticated resources, to provide what is expected with radiation oncology. It is medically a square peg in a round hole...it doesn't fit. Medical universities don't allow this approach.**

"ACR accreditation is equivalent to a basic curriculum, providing minimum standards for an entire treatment facility...beyond a picture of physician, treatment machine, and location. **Do we consider ACR status adequate by**

**itself? No. It does not address the incentivized bias of internal self-referrals.** But for quality of radiation administration, it is a mere beginning. We as a practice go well-beyond those standards. In the past, ACR reviewers have carried with them our physics treatment protocols to be used for future guidelines. Also, our practice in the past provided two-day training courses for Florida state inspectors in radiation standards and quality control. I previously served as the only MD physician on the Florida state advisory board for radiation.

"The other extreme treats radiation as a plug-and-play. As such, it is an un-natural extension of chemotherapy-based medical oncology. **Of the consortium of 200 Florida Cancer Specialist physicians, only 3% are radiation oncologists.** The numbers indicate an appropriate, but overwhelming focus on their

(Continued on page 6)

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## Moffitt Departure

(Continued from page 5)

particular field of medicine, and that is a reflection of their training in pharmaceutical-based medical oncology.

“However, patients are entitled to receive a level of sophisticated oversight for radiation treatment that now, with the removal of Moffitt...no longer exists in that facility. You see, it is the hospital that has created a new missing piece... essentially, a gaping chasm in radiation care from what was once seamless. Do you remember how im-

portant an "o" ring proved to be for a space shuttle? There is all the time in the world later to try and explain what went wrong. When one knows nothing about radiation oncology, critical components go unappreciated. Severe mis-administrations have occurred at other locations, examples of which will be detailed on our website.”

3) **CEO Memo:** "The same leading edge technology will be in place and will be utilized as appropriate."

**POA Question:** Will the radiation equipment be maintained at the same high level as it was under Moffitt supervision?

**Dr. Anderson's response:** "Another exceptionally good question...and one I must leave as a question for both of us, because I honestly don't know the answer."

4) **POA Question:** How important is it that the medical oncologist be housed under the same roof as the radiation team?"

**Dr. Anderson's response:** "This question is spot on! By the hospital administration's very own action, the answer is unequivocally "location is not important at all!" You see, the same local Florida Cancer Specialist medi-

cal oncologists, and the same one radiation oncology physician representing Moffitt, previously resided in the Sharon Morse building for several years together...while Moffitt was present. But now you have paid a price. If location was THE critical factor, why was Moffitt and its sophisticated resources booted? The focus on location is the hospital administration's smoke screen to deflect criticism from, among so many, where your contributions for the radiation equipment went. The "twist" on location is defensive marketing...not medicine."

"These four questions are only the beginning of the conundrum. The stream of white-washed inconsistencies could make a new detective series. The difference is that your medical outcome will depend upon reality.

"During the final decade of my professional career, I would like to see the specialty of radiation be given the respect it deserves, and to see quality medical care delivered without back-room deals, incentives, bailouts, or gaping chasms in treatment, with the deepest respect for who and what makes a patient's care possible - committed effort given by health providers who put the patient first.

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## CDD4 Expansion Issues

Mr. Gary Moyer, The Villages Vice-President and Director of Development, provided a project (the proposed addition of 300 courtyard villa units, along with their required storm water drainage basins into CDD4, two parcels consisting of approximately 67 acres) update to the CDD4 Board and a room full of residents at the January meeting. He advised that The Villages of Lake-Sumter Inc. will formally petition the CDD4 Board for incorporation of the proposed new development into their District at their February 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. (See map on page 11.)

In promoting the acceptance of these properties, Mr. Moyer pointed out that the 300 villa units will be paying amenity fees and sharing maintenance costs for the operations of CDD4. The amenity fees would go into the VCCDD/Amenity Authority Committee (AAC) budgets and would not contribute to the CDD4 budget, so we (POA) will not address those dollars in this article. He advised that the addition would not affect maintenance assessments for residents in current units.

Mr. Moyer further stated that the 300 units would represent approximately six percent of

CDD4's total units, and thus result in a six percent savings (equates to about \$21,000 a year) in costs for residents, because they would reduce the CDD4 annual administrative services and "fixed" cost expenses of approximately \$365,600 due to more payees (assessable units). In addition to the "fixed" costs above, the new villa units would pay for their "variable costs" described in number (2) below through their annual maintenance fees. A projection of what these annual "variable" costs might be would be helpful when evaluating this proposed Agreement, in order to ascertain that all new costs incurred from the proposed villa expansion are covered by the annual maintenance assessment fees of the new villa owners, so as not to burden existing CDD4 residents with additional expenses.

The following are a few things that the CDD4 Board might want to look into before their February Board meeting:

1) A cursory look at the adopted 2015-2016 CDD4 budget indicates that the average maintenance assessment for the 2015-16 budget year for villas in CDD4, is about \$291.00 per year, multiplied by 300 units which equates to about \$87,300.

2) As indicated above, approximately \$21,000 would go towards CDD4's fixed costs leaving approximately \$66,000 a year for the additional "variable" costs which would be in-

curred due to the addition of the 67 acres. Examples of the "variable" costs are as follows: all maintenance of both new parcels, including such things as the Villa roads, the two new roads connecting each parcel with CR42, multi-modal paths, landscaping, lighting, and irrigation in common areas and along roadways, any issues with the drainage and storm water retention systems, including the storm water retention basin included on each parcel, to name a few potential expenses.

3) Mr. Moyer said that "The Villages" believes that District 4 provides the best alternative to provide the infrastructure for these two parcels of land. However, the question remains – is this really in the best interests of **current** CDD4 residents? This is not to say that CDD4 should not accept the acreage – that is up to the CDD4 Board of Supervisors, but if they wish to do so, they might want the Developer to "sweeten the pot", maybe have an Agreement that The Villages Operating Company would assume maintenance responsibility for both of the storm water retention basins for repair of any sinkhole issues, create an alternate golf cart access (than the currently proposed Mulberry Lane) to and from the east parcel, as requested by residents (possible modification of the tee box on hole number 4 or 5 of Ashley Meadows at the Lopez Country

(Continued on page 9)



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Lady Lake, FL 32159  
352-600-2987 katinap@lawkppa.com



# CDD4 Expansion

(Continued from page 8)

Club), or agree to assist the Amenity Authority Committee (AAC) with potential access issues, should the AAC determine that the purchase of the 40 acres on CR42 was in the best interest of the residents living north of CR466 (VCCDD amenity territory).

Lastly, Mr. Moyer was asked what the Developer would do if CDD4 said no. He replied that they would petition Marion County to create another CDD (i.e., a CDD12). Any such CDD, even with only 300 units, would have to have a five member Board of Supervisors who would have regular monthly meetings. They would have to pay for services of the District Manager, the District Attorney, a percentage of general funds to cover budget and financial services for the district, property management, and other community wide services, road maintenance, landscape maintenance and have full responsibility for any storm water retention area issues that might develop. Such a small CDD may not be economically feasible, or at best, it would appear

that it could equate to a fairly large annual cost, which would have to be paid for by the owners of the 300 units, via their annual non-ad valorem taxes for their CDD maintenance assessment.

If you have an interest in this issue, you should attend the Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> CDD4 meeting which begins at 1:30PM and will be conducted at the Savannah Center. You are also welcome to contact any or all of your District Supervisors individually prior to the meeting.

- \* Jim Murphy - Chair  
**Jim.Murphy@districtgov.org** 259-1581
- \* Charles Kazlo - Vice Chair  
**chuck.kazlo@districtgov.org** 259-4216
- \* Don Deakin  
**don.deakin@districtgov.org** 750-5395
- \* Paul Kelly  
**paul.kelly@districtgov.org** 751-3596
- \* Jim Brockman  
**jim.brockman@districtgov.org** 693-2180

STAY TUNED AND WE WILL SEE WHAT THE CDD4 BOARD DECIDES TO DO. □

# POA Directors Wanted

The POA currently has openings for two Board Directors. We are seeking candidates who want to make The Villages an even better place in which to live, where Residents' Rights are respected, and the Developer and local governments are responsive to the needs and interests of residents. The POA serves Villagers through programs of education, research, analysis, representation, advocacy and legislative action.

The POA has no ties or obligations to the Developer of The Villages which might compromise the POA position or its advocacy of Residents' Rights. Special emphasis is focused on the Amenity Authority Committee (AAC), Community Development Districts (CDDs – both residential and commercial), the Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC), and F.S. 190 that regulates CDD operations.

If you have an interest in pursuing one of these Directorships, please contact Cliff Wiener, President of the POA, at 352-430-8497 for more information. □

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## Amenity Authority Committee (AAC) Meeting Summary

### January 6, 2016

#### Audience Comments:

- A resident suggested that the AAC review the costs to have card readers, which would operate the gates, installed in resident vehicles.
- An audience member asked that the vacant property (40 acres) be discussed and asked why it was not on the agenda. At their December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AAC requested that the 40 acres for sale on CR42 just east of the VA Clinic also be looked into by Ms. Tutt. On December 15<sup>th</sup> she advised the AAC, by email, that she had a productive conversation with

the property owner, wherein she learned that he is asking \$3,000,000 in cash for the property and is not receptive to any offer or negotiation for anything less than the asking price, and that it is staff's recommendation to not move forward with consideration of the property for future recreation use, so it was not put on the agenda.

However, a number of residents who live on the east side of Buena Vista Boulevard had come to the meeting in support of purchasing all or a part of the 40 acres for sale east of the VA facility, rather than the Church, and spoke up during audience comments. Their position is that they only have one Neighborhood Rec Center which consists of an adult pool, while residents living west of Buena Vista have a Neighborhood Rec Center with an adult pool, as well as the Chatham Recreation Center with a family pool and a variety of game courts. (The old Church is located **only about 1,000 yards north** of the Chatham Rec Center – See map on next page.)

Additionally, residents who live on Clearview Avenue favor the east side location (40 acres), so as to lessen the impact of increased golf cart traffic on their residential street. They already will have to deal with the residents in the 135 new villa units using their street for golf cart ingress and egress. Ms. Tutt advised that the property would have to be appraised before the District could offer to

purchase it and that this would be an additional cost. The AAC members agreed to set this discussion aside until after they receive the **appraisals** for the Baptist Church Purchase.

#### Old Business:

#### Capital Project Update:

- **New Wish List** – The AAC agreed that future requests for new facilities or expensive renovations would not be addressed individually at meetings, but rather, put on the Wish List, and would be prioritized and evaluated during Budget meetings. The following were placed on the Wish List: Additional Petanque Courts; Platform Tennis Courts, Fountain in front of El Santiago Recreation Center, Indoor swimming pool; Replacement of the Fountain on the Saddlebrook executive golf course on CR466; and Wi-Fi concerns at La Hacienda Recreation Center

- **Schwartz Park** – The following renovations were scheduled to begin on January 18<sup>th</sup>: the demolition of the pier; construction of a new picnic pavilion with barbeque station; renewal of the deck on Lake Paradise; construction of permanent erosion control; site drainage and new parking areas; installation of new landscaping, lightning and irrigation; and utility service upgrades. The estimated cost is \$225,000 with an expected completion date in March.

(Continued on page 11)

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## AAC Meeting

(Continued from page 10)

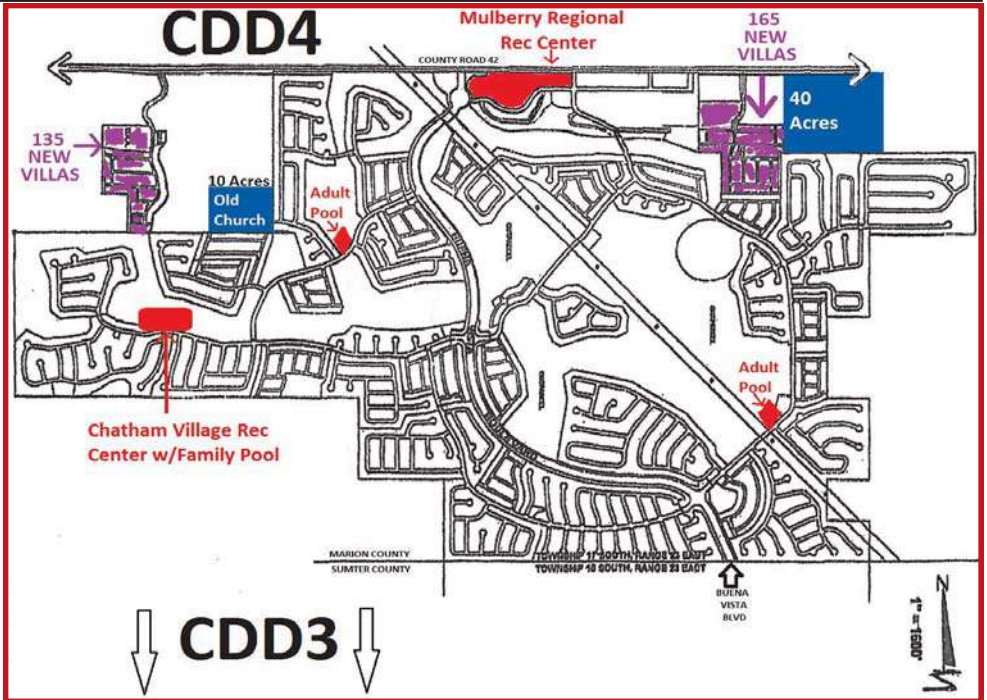
• **Old Baptist Church** – Staff will provide a status update, including appraisal findings, regarding the old Baptist Church at the February AAC meeting.

• **Saddlebrook Village Recreation Center** – The estimated cost to complete the proposed renovations is \$1.3 million.

Please go to the [www.district.gov](http://www.district.gov) website for the Official Minutes, Agendas and Meeting Schedule. **NEXT AAC MEETING – Wednesday, February 10, 9:00 A.M. at the Savannah Center!**

**POA NOTE:** The Villages District Staff has scheduled an AAC meeting, billed as a **“Baptist Church Workshop”, for Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 9:00AM at the Savannah Center.** We hope this workshop will be for all residents living north of CR466, (not just CDD4 residents), to provide input on what residents believe would be the most needed additions, just as they did regarding a covered pool, and the new El Santiago and Tierra del Sol Recreation Centers, before any decisions are made regarding whether the old Baptist Church, 20 - 40 acres of the Schilling property on CR42, or both properties should be purchased. There appears to be no additional land that could become available for purchase by the AAC. Also, the 40 acres would be the only possibility for residents living north of CR466 to have an additional executive golf course and possibly platform tennis courts and more pickleball courts – the three activities for which there appears to be the greatest need and demand.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup> IF YOU WANT TO PROVIDE YOUR INPUT!**



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The FSU research team is asking for your help in this important study. FSU is seeking participants for interviews that will be held in February 2016.

FSU will use the information gathered from these interviews to gain insight into financial fraud. The study will focus upon identifying important risk and protective factors associated with elder financial fraud.

This research can only be successful with the generous help of residents like you.

### Interested in participating in an interview?

Contact Dr. George Pesta, FSU College of Criminology & Criminal Justice  
at: (850) 645-6101 or by email at [gpesta@fsu.edu](mailto:gpesta@fsu.edu)

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## Recent Forum Q&A

**Q1)** I attended my first POA meeting and I was impressed with the information provided by your Treasurer. Where does your money come from – what is the source of the funds?  
**A)** There are three major sources, namely, membership dues, member contributions and POA Bulletin advertising sales. We spend approximately \$120,000 dollars a year to put the monthly POA Bulletin on every driveway in The Villages. Any monies left over are put into a savings account and spent on behalf of the residents when we need it, for things such as legal research and expenses on issues that impact the residents. Note, however, that no Board member receives any of it, as we are all volunteers.

**Q2)** Can you tell me who District Customer Service is and what they do? **A)** We have a large scale District government which includes the residential districts and commercial districts. The government administration oversees recreation, golf, property management, Community Watch, fire safety, administration, finances. They also have a department called Customer Service which you can contact with your question or concern and they can direct you to the Department that can help you with your issue. Their number is 352-753-4508. We would suggest that you write it down and put it on your refrigerator. They do a great job and we refer residents to them often.

**Q3)** I am having a problem with the cable company. They keep changing the rates and I spend hours on the phone, as do my neighbors. We need a group to approach them. **A)** That problem has been expressed a number of times, but all of the carriers are such large corporations that even if we got everyone in the Villages to join together, we would not even be a blip on their radar. The only thing we have found that you can do is keep changing carriers, which is a pain. You call them and tell them you are going to switch to another carrier who has offered you a better rate. Most folks have reported that they ask you to wait and let them review your contract. Usually come back with some "current special" and

*(Continued on page 16)*

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# Forum Q&A

(Continued from page 14)

agree to reduce your monthly charge. You hate to have to play the game, but it's the only thing that seems to help.

**Q4)** Can residents still use the polo field for their individual activities? **A)** The polo player entrance gate off of Buena Vista Boulevard was locked beginning December 15, 2015 until further notice. All clubs will need to enter through the electronic gate at the south end during off season. Walkers and approved Resident Lifestyle Groups will be allowed admittance from 7AM - 12PM. The timer is being set and the gate will automatically open as each car/golf cart hits the pad during these hours. For further information, please contact Saddlebrook Recreation Center at 352-259-5377.

**Q5)** We live in the Village of Hemingway. I want to discuss Certain Teed Shingles that you referenced in a very good article, on page 21, of the December Bulletin. The article is about algae staining and fungus growth that is contained within those shingles. We have the Landmark Pro product, which includes (AR)

in the name, which means Algae Resistant. A lot of our neighbors have algae staining which is very visible. It's streaking, it's shading and it almost looks like dirt. It's very invasive. My feeling is that Certain Teed did not use the AR sealant. I was wondering, you had a form in the paper, have you had any feedback? **A)** We've had some feedback and we are keeping track so that if we get enough complaints, we'll go after it.

**Q6)** I know this is not a POA problem, but the intersections on CR466 are not marked very well. We have so many tourists, and it's such a major highway, perhaps the signs over CR466 could be made larger or lighted, or could there be an approach sign, with the name of the cross street in so many feet, prior to the intersection? The Sumter County Road Department hasn't helped. **A)** You might try contacting some of the Sumter County Commissioners and suggest that they bring it forward in an upcoming meeting.

**Q7)** I've been in this community for twenty years, I remember the day we couldn't use golf carts at night and could only drive during the day. We now have the privilege of driving at night, but Morse Blvd has not been updated and

the traffic issue has not been addressed since 2009. The golf cart paths are maintained by the CDD and the County owns the road. They are pushing us back and forth between the two entities. We are saying that Morse Blvd has already caused several major accidents between cars and golf carts. Concerned Villagers need to attend the Sumter County Commission meetings because something needs to be done. **A)** Thank you very much for sharing this information. □

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When a resident lifestyle volunteer led activity is nearing full participation, the Recreation Department has implemented the following guidelines, in an effort to assist the volunteers and participants in ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience:

- Villages' residents shall have priority for the activity.
- Due to the attendance at Resident Lifestyle Activities, there are times **guest** participation will be restricted due to space availability, in order to accommodate resident demand on the activity. We regret any inconvenience this may cause you or your guest.
- Eligible **guests** will be issued a number and asked to wait. If a program is not at full capacity the guest will be allowed to participate.
- Valid ID cards are required for participation.
- A Volunteer Lifestyle Ambassador/Staff member will help to form a line prior to the activity start time.
- The participation cards will be issued **up to one (1) hour** prior to the start of the activity. (Once you get your participation card you have admission into that pro-

gram.)

- Each resident participant must be in attendance to be issued a participation card.
- Only one participation card will be issued per resident.
- Doors will open no sooner than **30 minutes prior** to activity start time, as printed on the facility permit.
- Once all the participation cards for that session have been issued, the activity is considered full.
- Where available overflow rooms will be used, based on day & time.
- When programs of similar type activities back up to each other, individuals participating in the first session must exit the room (with their equipment) and join the line for the next session. □

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 (Service not available in Marion County)

## Visibility Issues Entering Roundabouts

Janet Tutt, District Manager, advised the Project Wide Advisory Committee, at their January meeting, that the District is devising a plan to reduce the foliage to improve sight-lines for motorists approaching roundabouts in The Villages. There have been many complaints from residents that the current landscaping is negatively impacting drivers' traffic visibility. She indicated that she had met with Sumter County officials who have the ultimate say over roundabouts and will be meeting with Marion County officials in the near future.

Ms. Tutt advised that District officials have been working with the Villages Landscape Manager, Erik Knudsen, to devise a new "plantings plan," for roundabouts which will enhance the "triangular view visibility", and that the new types of plantings are already in place at roundabouts south of CR466A in The Villages.

Once the District secures the blessing of the counties, the work will move forward. □

**ATTENTION ALL BULLETIN READERS**

If you read the POA Bulletin and appreciate the information it provides, show your support by joining the POA now. The 2016 Membership Application Form is on page 3.

**Readers' Choice**  
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# LETTERS

**Letter to the POA:**

## Job Well Done

We would like to express a "job very well done" with the January 2016 POA bulletin. We've been Villages residents for nearly three years, and POA members throughout, and this issue was by far the finest and most informative we have read! Keep up the excellent work! You have our continuing support.

Mike & Terri Supon

**POA Response:** We try very hard to help educate the Villages residents on all aspects of Villages life. Thank you for your support. □

**Letter to the POA:**

## Thank You

This is long overdue, but thank you POA for all you do, including publishing informative POA Bulletins. Aside from the Bulletin, I know that you put in many collective hours looking out for the residents' best interests and pocketbooks. Thank you. June O'Neil

**POA Response:** We hope that many more of our residents show their appreciation of our efforts by joining with us and becoming official members of the POA. The membership application can be found on page 3. □

**Letter to the POA:**

## Recycle Often, Recycle Right

I have just read the article in the new January 2016 newsletter from POA. It is very good and answers so many questions! Is it possible to display it online in a form that I can download and send to friends and family back in Ohio who would really appreciate having this information? Finally, someone has addressed this important issue! I just put new labels on my containers. This is certainly an article for the Daily Sun also! Thank you! Ella Moore

**POA RESPONSE:** Thank you for your input. We are sending you a copy. However, note that anyone who wants to read the January 2016 article can go to our website - [poa4s.org](http://poa4s.org) - just click on Bulletins in the left hand column and then on either Current Bulletin or Archived Bulletin. The Bulletins go all the way back to 2002. □

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# Lightning Matters

By Len Hathaway  
Study Group on Lightning

The 2015 lightning season was even more active than 2014, here in the Lightning Capital of the US. The National Weather Service (NWS) tells us that in our area we experience an average of 80 thunderstorm days per year. According to the unofficial records compiled by a local weather observer, we had 119 thunderstorm days or 49 percent more than the NWS average. In 2014, we had 110 thunderstorm days.

Another metric was an unprecedented four homes that were struck and damaged to the extent that they were uninhabitable in Briar Meadow, Belvedere, Mallory Square, and Bridgeport at Miona Shores. At year end, one was reoccupied and re-construction continues on the other three. In 2014, there were three homes in this category in Pinellas, Lynn Haven, and Mira Mesa. None of the seven homes had a lightning protection system at the time they were struck.

Anecdotal evidence points to a significant uptick in indirect lightning strikes causing surge damage to electrical appliances and electronic equipment, like computers, televisions, furnace controllers, garage door operators, irrigation system controllers, microwave

ovens, motorized recliners and sofas, and games.

The good news is that there were no lightning related fatalities or injuries to Village residents. Again this year, Florida led the nation with six lightning fatalities and 17 injuries.

**Lightning 101:** If your club, organization, church, or civic group would benefit from a free community service, non-commercial Power Point presentation, *Lightning Tips for Villagers*, that addresses personal lightning safety, lightning protection systems (rods), lightning surges to electronic equipment, the susceptibility of corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) gas pipe to lightning, and debunking nine common lightning myths, contact me Len Hathaway at [lhatha@aol.com](mailto:lhatha@aol.com) or my colleague Bob Freeman at [stalit1@aol.com](mailto:stalit1@aol.com). It is also offered through the Lifelong Learning College on March 24, April 28, and May 26. □

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Our Gardening Column:

## The Language of Flowers

by Anne Lambrecht, Master Gardener  
 annegarden@embarqmail.com

*There is a language, little known,  
 Lovers claim it as their own.  
 Its symbols smile upon the land,  
 Wrought by nature's wondrous hand;  
 And in their silent beauty speak,  
 Of life and joy, to those who seek  
 For Love Divine and sunny hours  
 In the language of the flowers.*

—The Language of Flowers, London, 1875

Do you ever wonder why we send or receive red roses at Valentine's Day? We know they mean "I love you", but do we know why?

Sentiments in today's world can be expressed by Hallmark and emoji but there is and has been a "language" using flowers dating back many centuries. People borrowed from the plant world to express their feelings.

During those days of long ago, there was also an appreciation of botany that western culture seems to be lacking in now. We order a dozen red roses for our sweetheart, because it is the thing to do when we want to express our love. But can you imagine a whole poem or message conveyed with flowers and herbs! Now that would get my engines running!

Floriography is the word for the means of secret communication through the use or arrangement of flowers. It started eons ago in China and then Persia, but the act of delivering sentiments with flowers became truly popular in the 1800's or in the Victorian era. Gifts of blooms, plants, and specific floral arrangements were used to send a coded message to the recipient, allowing the sender to express feelings and emotions which could not always be spoken aloud in Victorian society. Victorians often exchanged small "talking bouquets," called nosegays or tussie-mussies, which could be worn or carried as a fashion accessory.

These folks were armed with floral dictionaries, and there were scores of them, especially when the craze came to America and many with conflicting entries. Often, definitions derive from the appearance or behavior of the plant itself. For example, the Mimosa, or sensitive plant, represents chastity. This is because the leaves of the Mimosa close at night, or when touched. If you are looking for a new way to say I love you, you may consider a bouquet of the following: red Chrysanthemums and Heliotrope – I love you; red Tulips – perfect love; red Rose – desire and love; Cedar – I live for thee; Coreopsis – love at first sight; Phlox – our hearts are united.

How the flowers were presented and the condition of the flowers was also important. It didn't take a genius to figure out that wilted

flowers weren't a good thing. If the flowers were given upside down, then the meaning was the opposite of the traditional meaning. Just how the ribbon was tied had meaning. Tied to the left, the flower symbolism was in reference to the giver. If it was tied to the right, the symbolism was about the recipient.

Flower symbolism was not for the unobservant. Flowers were also used to answer "yes" or "no" questions. I can't imagine learning all this, unless I became desperate to get married. I think the Victorians didn't have as much on their plates as we do. They certainly did not have emojis.

Today, flowers are still an important part of our weddings, funerals, holidays and ceremonies, although we may not know their true meaning. Flowers replicate human life: planting, growth, bloom, withering. Wedding bouquets often include ivy that symbolizes fidelity. The flowers in Kate Middleton's bouquet were picked especially to convey a personal message. Designed by royal florist Shane Connolly, in the white royal tradition, the bouquet consisted of: Lily-of-the-Valley – return of happiness; Sweet William – gallantry; Hyacinth – constancy of love; Ivy – fidelity, marriage, wedded love and friendship; Myrtle – emblem of marriage and love. Kate's stem of myrtle in her bouquet came from the plant started from a sprig of myrtle from a nosegay given Queen Victoria by Prince Albert's grandmother. Pretty cool stuff.

Because there were so many interpretations, it can be tricky to know all the meanings. You can download a list of flowers and their meanings from The Old Farmer's Almanac at: [www.almanac.com/content/meaning-flowers](http://www.almanac.com/content/meaning-flowers) I think it might be fun to resurrect the lost art of floriography. So, the next time you get flowers from your sweetheart, I hope the message is delightful!

Parts of the above were borrowed from fellow Extension Educator, Sandra Mason, of the Illinois Extension Service. □

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# Seniors vs. Crime

## Leading the Fight Against Scams Fighting Phony Debt Collectors

Every year businesses write off uncollectable debts against their taxes. They no longer attempt to collect these debts. Sometimes, they sell their uncollectable debts to other companies for literally pennies on the dollar. Those companies then attempt to collect those debts and they get to keep any and all monies they collect.

Not all companies buying old debts follow proper procedures in their collection efforts. If the debt belonged to Miss Calamity James, they 'shotgun' telephone calls, emails, or 'dunning' letters to every "C. James" in the USA. Sometimes these calls and letters can be quite intimidating. For everyone who pays anything on this debt, the money is pure profit to the debt collector.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), debt collectors make up to one billion contacts with consumers each year. It's their job to make sure they're collecting from the right people. But sometimes, they reach the wrong person. Other times, they're actually part of a fake debt collection scam. If you don't recognize a debt, or if you suspect it is not your debt, here's what you can and should do:

**Find out who you're dealing with.** Ask for the debt collector's name, the company's name, and its address and phone number. Le-

gitimate collectors will provide this information.

**Don't give additional personal information.** The debt collector might ask you to confirm personal information. Don't do it! If the debt collector has the wrong information, like an address or phone number you've never used, don't correct the mistake with the right information. And don't give them any other personal information. If it's not your debt, but the collector now has the right personal information for you, it could be harder for you to dispute the debt later.

**Refuse to discuss the debt until you get a "validation notice."** Debt collectors must send you a written notice. It tells you how much money you owe, the name of the creditor, and what to do if you don't think you owe the money. This notice might help you figure out if you owe the debt.

**Do your own detective work.** Reach out to the company the debt collector says is the original creditor. They might help you figure out if the debt is legitimate – and if this collector has the right to collect the debt. Also, get your free, annual credit report online or at 877-322-8228 and see if the debt shows up there.

**Dispute the debt in writing.** If you think you don't owe some – or all – of the debt, or you just don't recognize it as being your debt, send the debt collector a letter disputing it. Be

as specific as possible about why you think the debt is wrong – but, give as little personal information as possible. Once you get the validation notice, you have 30 days to dispute the debt. To cover yourself, send this dispute letter via certified mail, with a return receipt requested. By law, the debt collector then must stop contacting you – although the debt doesn't go away. But, if the collector sends you written verification of the debt, they can start contacting you again.

And, if there is incorrect information on your credit report, dispute that as well.

Remember, no one will watch out for your interests better than YOU. When in doubt as to what you can do to protect yourself against unscrupulous debt collectors, contact your nearest Seniors vs. Crime office in The Villages for advice or assistance. They even have sample letters for you to use when disputing these debts. There is never a charge for their services.

Seniors vs. Crime can be reached at 352-753-7775 at the Marion County Sheriff's Office in The Villages; 352-689-4600, Extension 4606 at the Sumter County Sheriff's Office in The Villages; or 352-750-1914 at the Wildwood Police Annex in Brownwood. Volunteers' at all three offices are ready, willing and able to assist you. To keep up with the latest scams, LIKE 'Seniors vs. Crime Region 4' on Facebook. □

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The POA Discount Partner Program is a continuing benefit for POA members. Just show your current year POA Membership card when ordering the product or service listed here. And, please say "thanks" to our Discount Partners for participating in this program. (\* = new this issue)

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**Battery Boys** - Electric & Gas batteries. We also sell & repair battery chargers. Free gift with purchase to POA members. 352-643-1241.

**Cozco Handcrafts** - 1121 Main St., Spanish Springs, 352-430-0386. 10% off non-sale items.

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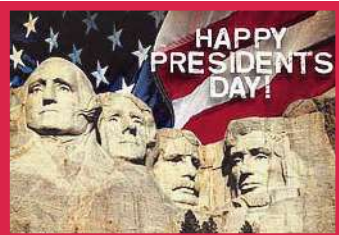
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**2016**

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Dr. Ceriani Going from House to Hospital, 1948. Photograph by W. Eugene Smith

## Accreditation means patient safety: FDA urges patient protection

The US Food and Drug Administration has reviewed a decade of data concerning the delivery of radiation for cancer treatment. In April of 2010, they concluded that much greater safety measures are necessary. The agency realizes the critical need for more intense patient protection.

In light of the FDA's conclusion, the American College of Radiology (ACR) called for compliance with its accreditation program for facilities that deliver radiation therapy to cancer patients. Years ago, the ACR established credentialing boards for this specialty. Rigid standards were established. So rigorous that, in radiation treatment, only a small percentage of all facilities are approved. Every facet is evaluated including the physicians, physics and treatment staff, nursing staff, equipment, quality control, and training. The ACR evaluates completely and methodically. Not one thing is left to chance.

In our area of Florida, few facilities are accredited by the ACR. The Robert Boissoneault Oncology Institute shares this distinction with sites like the Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, the Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, and UF Shands.

When you are seeking cancer care, turn to those who have already earned the accreditation and recommendation of the American College of Radiology. Make your decisions with confidence.

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