



**FREE COPY**



# The Bulletin

The POA – Champions of Residents' Rights Since 1975

**MARCH 2020**

**POA4US.org**

Issue 46.03 | Circulation 63,850

## UPCOMING POA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Tuesday**  
**March 17, 2020 7 P.M.**  
Laurel Manor Recreation Center  
**Don Henderson, President & CEO**  
**Central Florida Health**

### New Meeting Schedule and Locations LAUREL MANOR

**March 17, May 19, July 21, September 15,  
November 17, December 15**

**EISENHOWER RECREATION CENTER**  
**April 28**

**EVERGLADES RECREATION CENTER**  
**June 16, August 18, October 20**

**All Meetings Begin at 7 P.M.**

**Donuts & Coffee for All After  
the Meetings! All Residents  
Welcome – Come and Join Us!**



### Can't Make it to a Meeting?

Visit our newly redesigned website to watch the Video of our Membership Meetings! The latest video will be posted by the end of the week of the meeting.

**Poa4us.org**

## NSCUDD Board/Residents to Hear Solid Waste/Recycling Options in March

After months of study and three public workshops for residents, District Manager Richard Baier will present three options for consideration to the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD) at a special workshop on March 27. The meeting will be held at Seabreeze Recreation Center at 9 A.M.

**Mr. Baier told the NSCUDD Board at its February meeting that he will present three options for consideration:**

1. Status Quo – all waste and recycling processes stay the same.
2. All solid waste to Waste to Energy facility; recycling stays exactly the same.
3. All solid waste AND recycling goes to Waste to Energy facility.

An economic analysis will be given for each option, and each option will have a public education component.

Mr. Baier asked the NSCUDD Board members not to underestimate the importance of the long-term decision they will be making and cautioned against being “penny-wise and pound-foolish.” He also asked the board not to pepper the staff with hybrid options, assuring them that he and the staff have scrubbed all of the options and are

convinced these are the three to consider. He said with respect to recycling, the option has to be “all or nothing,” meaning that recycling will continue exactly as it is or will go away entirely. That would also include yard waste pick up.

Mr. Baier said there cannot be a phased approach to implementing the options because it would be too confusing. He estimated the public education process will take 6-9 months.

The Board will be asked to make a final decision at its April meeting and to be prepared to approve contracts so that public education can begin, and budget impacts can be considered. Assuming there will be a change in the rate structure, Assistant Manager Kenny Blocker also advised there will need to be enough time to advertise and conduct public hearings. ■

The Property Owners’ Association, Inc. (POA) is the original property owners’ group in The Villages. Established in 1975, the POA operates with complete independence from the Developer of The Villages. Membership is open to all property owners and residents of The Villages. The POA is committed to acting as a watchdog to ensure that the Developer and local government are responsive to the needs, interests, and rights of residents.

**The POA Declaration of Independence**

The POA is free of any outside influence. This is the only way we can assure our members of absolute autonomy to act on their behalf. From the very beginning in 1975, we recognized this need for independence, and we’ve cherished and nurtured it ever since.

**Vision** The Property Owners’ Association, Inc. (POA) is a champion for the rights of residents of The Villages. Guided by member input, investigation and determination, the POA brings attention to and acts on issues that may impact property values and quality of life.

**Mission Statement** The POA provides 1) a forum for discussion of issues; 2) research and analysis; 3) programs of interest; and, 4) is a conduit for objective and accurate information. Specific attention is given to resolving housing, community and local government issues.

**Values**

|              |         |          |
|--------------|---------|----------|
| Independence | Honesty | Fairness |
| Objectivity  | Respect |          |

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 POA 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. The POA assumes no liability for any information published, opinions expressed, or delivery to any person or location. The POA does not endorse or recommend the products or services of any advertiser or discount partner. All publication rights are reserved. Publication or reprinting of any material contained herein is by written permission only. The POA reserves the right to remove and/or discontinue any advertisement or advertiser from its *Bulletin* at any time at its sole discretion.

# Where Does Your Money Go?

Whether you’ve owned your home in The Villages for 10 years or just purchased, you may not understand where the various payments you make actually go and who gets to spend the money. There are three main pots of money that we’ll focus on in this article: bond payments, amenity fees and maintenance fees.

**Bond Payment.**

The infrastructure it took to build your house and your neighborhood -- the roads, stormwater systems, streetlights, etc. -- was paid for using tax-exempt bonds (obtained by the Developer) and your bond payment is used to pay back those bonds. The amount you pay depends on when your home was built and the total cost for the entire section of your Village. The total cost of the bond, including interest, is divided by the number of acres in a “phase” of the development, and the cost of the infrastructure is divided by the number of home lots in your section. Each lot in the unit pays the same amount.

Your bond may have been spread over 20 or 30 years. It is paid annually with your property taxes and shows on your tax statement as a Non-ad Valorem assessment called “Bond Debt Assessment.”

You are paying interest and may choose to pay it off early. The balance of the bond at the time you sell your property is transferred to the next person who owns your home, and the bond payment is the same as what you were paying. This continues until the bond is paid in full.

You can look up the balance of the bond by going to **DistrictGov.org** and select ‘Residential Bond Assessment Information’ from the left “Quick Links” menu. From there, select ‘Bond Amortization Schedules.’ You will need the U/L (Unit/Lot) number from your Villages ID card. You will also need to know what District you live in and can find that out on the website or by calling the District Customer Service office at 352-753-4508.

Following is an example of a 30-year bond on a courtyard villa that was built in 2010.

- Total Principal \$27,265,000
- Total Admin. \$3,789,653 Total
- Asses. \$63,160,883
- # acres platted 8.72 net
- Total Assessed acres 267.08
- # lots platted 61
- Total Assessment per Lot \$33,806
- Number of Payments 30
- Average Annual Assessment \$1,126.87
- Interest Rate 6.125%

The example above demonstrates the significance of the interest payment over the life of the bond. Interest rates vary depending on when the bond was obtained. We found many that were lower. It would be wise to do a financial calculation on the benefits of paying off the bond and saving that interest. You can find that process also on the ‘Residential Bond Assessment Information’ page. You can also have any questions answered by calling the Bond Unit at (352) 751-3900 in the District Finance Department.

It is important that if you are considering purchasing a new/different home in The Villages to go through the process above to verify the bond balance on the listing. You should also check with your tax advisor as to what, if any, portion of the bond payment may be deductible.

**Annual Maintenance Fee**

In addition to the bond assessment for construction of the infrastructure, there is an annual maintenance assessment to provide

*Money continued on page 4*

# Alert For Pine Ridge/ Pine Hills Residents

## LEAKING TAR/ ROOF UNDERLAYMENT

The POA has been advised of a leaking tar/roof underlayment material found in a number of homes within the Pine Hills/Pine Ridge sections of The Villages. **If you see tar dripping from your roof you have a problem.** Once you have detected the problem contact the manufacturer Tamko to begin the process to file a claim.

**The phone number is 800-641-4691 (prompts: #5, #2).**

You will need several pieces of information for the claim, such as the type of underlayment material, the builder and the roofing contractor, all of which you should be able to get from The Villages home warranty department at (352) 753-6222. After you get the claim form from Tamko you will need additional information, including repair quotes.

**The claim can only be made for the original homeowner.** Unfortunately, at the present time, second homeowners are not being given the opportunity to file a claim.

The POA will monitor the extent to which this problem exists and will provide updates as needed. ■



# POA 2020 AND BEYOND MEMBERSHIP & CONTRIBUTION FORM

The POA, 8736 SE 165th Mulberry Ln, PMB 111, The Villages FL 32162  
Please PRINT on this form, or use the online form at [poa4us.org](http://poa4us.org)

☐ New ☐ Renew How Many Occupants: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID# (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME(1) \_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME(2) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

VILLAGE \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**  
(Please Select One):

- ☐ One year – 2020 - \$10 per/household  
☐ Two years – 2020/2021 - \$20 per/household  
☐ Three years – 2020/2021/2022 - \$30 per/household

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION IF DESIRED: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

## Here are 4 ways of becoming a Member or Renewing your membership.

**The Best:** The pre-filled form is the best to use because all you have to do is verify the information, correct where necessary, enclose your check, and return to the POA. *All renewals wanting membership cards mailed to you must enclose a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE).*

**Second Best:** Go to [POA4US.org](http://POA4US.org) to renew and pay (credit card) on line.

**Very Good:** Go to [POA4US.org](http://POA4US.org) and fill out the on line form, print it, and then mail it to us with your check/SASE.

**Good:** Fill out the renewal form in *The Bulletin* newspaper if you do not have a computer, and mail it to us with your check/SASE.



# I BUY GOLF CARTS

## Baker's Golf Carts

*Pay Cash* **Nothing Over \$3,000**  
Will Pick Up When You Call  
or Arrange a Convenient Time

Call **(352) 303-5100**



*Money continued from page 2*

for the services and ongoing maintenance and administration. Each residential (numbered) Community Development Board (CDD) determines the amount of the assessment for each rooftop in its district based upon the projected maintenance needs. Each rooftop in that district pay the same amount, but the annual assessment differs from district to district.

A portion of the annual maintenance fee for residents who live in CDDs 5 – 12 is allocated to the Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC) for maintenance of shared infrastructure landscaped right of ways including street lighting and associated walls/fences, entry features, lakes, shorelines, conservation, stormwater management system and buffer areas, transportation trails, tunnels and other common maintenance items identified in the Project Wide Fund resolution.

CDDs north of CR 466 do not have a common maintenance fund and pay for all expenses in

the maintenance category. If there is a major maintenance expense, such as may be caused to infrastructure by a sinkhole or storm damage, the CDD bears the cost. In extreme cases, such as happened in CDD 4, maintenance fees had to be raised significantly.

This annual maintenance fee is also paid with your county tax bill and is listed as a Non-ad Valorem assessment.

### Amenity Fees

Among the documents you signed when you purchased your home was the Declaration of Restrictions that include the obligation to pay monthly amenity fees that are used to pay for the operations and maintenance of amenity facilities such as recreation facilities, executive golf courses and swimming pools. This document establishes that you will pay a monthly fee based upon the current Prevalent Rate. This Prevalent Rate is set by the Developer in its contracts with purchasers of new homes. As long as you own that home,

the Amenity Fee rate will only be adjusted by the annual Consumer Price Index in the month of the anniversary of your purchase of the home.

Amenity Fees vary greatly from older sections of The Villages to newer areas. Every homeowner who pays the monthly fee is entitled to use any recreation facility in any area. If you rent your home to another party, you relinquish your privileges for that home by signing them over on a temporary basis to the renter.

You may obtain a Visitor pass for friends and relatives who are visiting you from OUTSIDE of the 3-county area of the Villages (Lake, Sumter, Marion counties) so that they too may use the facilities. To obtain a pass, you can go to any regional recreation facility, the Customer Service department at the District office in Lake Sumter Landing or the satellite office in the Fire Station on Morse Blvd., south of CR 44 or order them online.

Your Amenity Fee is paid monthly with the utility bill that comes from the Village Center Community Development District (VCCDD).

*Money continued on page 5*

## Mount Dora Spring Festival of Arts & Crafts

March 21 & 22, 2020

More than 250 Handcrafters & Artists fill the streets of historic downtown Mount Dora, FL

[www.MountDoraSpringFest.com](http://www.MountDoraSpringFest.com)

The area's NEWEST Concert venue & Dinner Theater!

2728 W. Old Highway 441 Mount Dora, FL

**DUELING PIANOS** 2nd & 4th Fridays 7pm FREE SHOW!

Sat Mar 7 "Who Said I'm Dead?" George Carlin comedy tribute

Thurs Mar 12 The IMPROVINATORS: Comedy on the spot

Sat Mar 21 Solitary Man: Neil Diamond Tribute w/David Jerico

Sat Apr 4 Drag-On Alley A Harry Potter themed show

[www.MountDoraPlazaLive.com](http://www.MountDoraPlazaLive.com)



Use Promo code **POA** for a special discount

Narrated 2hr Dora Canal tours  
1hr Lake & Sunset tours

**You Drive the Boat!**

No Boating Experience needed

[CatBoatTour.com](http://CatBoatTour.com) 352-325-1442

Start at Mt Dora Boating Center & Marina

Money continued from page 4

**NOTE:** This is the first of several articles we will run to help you understand what you are paying for, how the Developer continues to fit into the picture, and how things are changing. We will continue to explore other complex topics such as the following.

**NSCUDD** – The North Sumter County Utility Dependent District and other District utility companies. Who are they, how much do they cost and what services do they provide?

**Rising Costs** – The removal of the Amenity Fee Deferral Rate (cap), increased utility costs, changes in water and recycling costs are all adding up. How much does it cost to live in The Villages now, and how does it compare to other 55+ communities?

**Recreation Facilities and other Amenities** – With The Villages expected to double in rooftops and people, will the Developer continue to provide adequate amenities or will overcrowding

of facilities and courses north of CR 44 get worse? Is the Developer paying a “fair share” of the monthly amenity fee in new areas that are not District owned? Should the District continue to provide management services and public safety for these non-District owned CDDs and should residents in those newer areas have access to all of the District-owned amenity facilities? Should PWAC continue to accept these new CDDs into the shared maintenance pool? What revenue stream do they bring to the PWAC budget?

**Multi-unit complexes** – assisted living and commercial – how many are there and what are the public safety, fire service fees paid for each? What impact will the new hotel and the Lofts (apartments) at Brownwood have on amenity facility usage throughout The Villages?

**The Villages Health/UF Health** – how will the quality of healthcare change with the acquisition of Central Florida Health/The Villages Regional Hospital? ■

**Jettastone**  
— SOLID SURFACE —

**Solid Surface      Factory Direct**  
**Groutless Shower Solutions**

Let us create a fully customized shower for your home using your color choice or custom colors. Our goal is to exceed your expectations.

**Free in-home estimates.**  
**jettastone.com 352-693-2481**

**T & C**  
**Landscaping**

Walls • Pavers • Plants • Mulch • Rock • Concrete

Marco Salazar-Cano  
canegarden2014@gmail.com

**352-556-6925**  
**352-454-6847**

**FREE ESTIMATES!**



**POA BULLETIN DELIVERY**  
(Stop/Restart Date)

**Email: [delivery@poa4us.org](mailto:delivery@poa4us.org)**  
**Call Shelley Pfaff: 352-325-1540**

Please let us know the DATES you will be away, at least 2 WEEKS before departing, and we will stop delivery of *The Bulletin* during that time.

 **WILLS TRUSTS PROBATE**

 **Katina Pantazis, Esq.**

Serving The Villages  
with FREE Office Consultations

Home Consultations  
available upon request

**ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
13710 N US HWY 44I, Suite 500  
The Villages, FL 32159  
(just south of Billy's Café)

Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 5 PM Closed Friday  
**352-600-2987 [office@lawkppa.com](mailto:office@lawkppa.com)**

 **Making Good Men...Better. Join Us!**



**[www.villagesmasoniclodge.com](http://www.villagesmasoniclodge.com)**

**Villages Masonic Lodge No. 394**  
**Wildwood, FL 352-492-2771**

**PIPE DREAMS PLUMBING**

**352-693-5387**



**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Water heaters  
Shower & Tub valves  
Garbage disposals  
Leak repairs

**FULL SERVICE PLUMBING. LICENSED & INSURED. CFC1426720**  
*Very dependable company and our family really appreciates your call.*



# District Government – How Are You Represented?

You've probably heard a lot of acronyms thrown around since moving to or visiting The Villages. CDDs, VCCDD, AAC, PWAC, NSCUDD...what is all of that? It is your form of local government and you can be involved as much or as little as you choose. The POA thinks it is important to understand the functions of the boards and committees listed below – YOU elect people to represent you and they decide how – and how much of – YOUR money will be spent.

Most residents of The Villages came from communities that were governed by Town, City or County Councils, with a variety of commissions that made recommendations to these governing bodies. While the District form of government is similar, it is also more complex (becoming even more so with the continuing growth) because of the distinction between residential and commercial CDDs. Additionally, the Developer is able to maintain control through the VCCDD and SLCCDD who are responsible for wide-sweeping actions and are elected by commercial property owners, most of which are Developer-owned.

Until the amenity facilities and revenue stream are offered for purchase to the District by the Developer, the District provides services on a fee-for-service basis paid by the Developer, who continues to collect the amenity fees in non-District owned areas (currently, everything south of CR 44.)

**CDD – Community Development District** is a local unit of special-purpose government which was created under Chapter 190 of the Florida State Statute. There are currently 13 residential CDDs, three commercial CDDs, and

a utility dependent CDD. Every resident in The Villages, except Lady Lake/Lake County, lives in a numbered CDD.

Each CDD has an **elected** Board of Supervisors. Residential CDD's elect people who live in their Districts. These Boards are responsible for setting the maintenance assessment fees and managing the budget for projects within your district. They are also the Board that hears any appeal to a decision made by Architectural Review Committee and authorizes fines and other actions brought to them by the Community Standards department for deed restriction violations.

CDDs south of CR 466 each appoint a member of the Project Wide Advisory Committee.

**VCCDD – The Village Center Community Development District** is the commercial district, Spanish Springs, located in Lady Lake. Since there are no residential units within its boundaries, the VCCDD Board of Supervisors is elected by the commercial property owners within the District, most of which are owned by Developer-affiliated businesses. This is important to know because the VCCDD Board

*District Government continued on page 7*



**Together We're Going Places™**

352-461-0980 • GoLamers.com

**LAMERS**  
The Passenger Professionals®

Fix. Seller of Travel Reg. No. ST38202

**CHURCH AND CIVIC GROUPS**

**LOCAL SHUTTLES**

**AIRPORT TRANSFERS**

**CRUISE TRANSFERS**

**CASINO TRIPS**

**SPORTS & CONCERT TRANSPORT**

**ONE-DAY TRIPS AND MULTI-DAY TOURS**

**WORRY-FREE TRAVEL**

**Benefits**

- Rid yourself of mortgage payments
- Pay off debts
- Receive monthly income
- Funds to age at home
- Replace loss of spousal income
- Lump sums any time
- Unused funds grow

**Myths**

- Home always belongs to you or your heirs
- Funds you receive are not taxed
- Does not affect SS or Medicare
- Only benefits someone struggling financially

**Don't Delay – Contact Reverse Specialist, Bruce Hancock Today!**

**352-633-3204**

Call for more information or a free in-home consultation

**Bruce Hancock, Reverse Specialist**  
NMLS 90211

email: [bhancock@aag.com](mailto:bhancock@aag.com)  
Office: 352-633-3204 Cell: 609-617-5723

**AAG**  
American Advisors Group

**Associates of Wellness, LLC**

**Need foot & nail care?**

The foot care you need performed in your home or in our office by **Cindy Stephens**, a professionally-trained specialist in elder and diabetic nail care.

**Call 813-404-9610**

LICENSED & INSURED

*District Government continued from page 6*

of Supervisors is responsible for the hiring of the District Manager.

The Lady Lake/Lake County portion of The Villages is not located within the geographic boundaries of the VCCDD but is considered part of its service territory. Although it is comprised of more than 5,000 residential units, there is no representation on the VCCDD board. There is, however, a representative on the **Amenity Authority Committee (AAC)**, an elected group that oversees the amenities north of CR 466.

**SLCDD – The Sumter Landing Community Development District** is a second commercial district located south of CR 466. There are also no residential units within its boundaries, so the SLCDD Board of Supervisors is elected by the commercial property owners within the District, most of which, again, are owned by Developer-affiliated businesses. This is important to know because the SLCDD Board of Supervisors, many of whom do not live in The Villages, has final authority over all amenity related decisions and budgets south of CR 466, with recommendations and input made by the Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC).

**AAC and PWAC – The Amenity Authority Committee** has authority over all amenities north of CR 466, and was established by court order when the POA helped residents successfully win a \$43 million settlement in a 2008 lawsuit brought against the Developer for the failure to adequately maintain facilities north of CR 466. Members of the AAC are elected by residents, with one representative appointed by the VCCDD. This committee has authority over both the settlement funds and the Recreation Amenity Division (RAD) budget.

**The Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC)** was established to act in an advisory capacity to the SLCDD for the projects and budget of the Project Wide Fund, which had been established as a common maintenance fund for shared infrastructure south of CR 466. In 2017, after the District acquired the amenity facilities and amenity revenue stream south of CR 466 to CR 44, PWAC's advisory role expanded to provide input and recommendations pertaining to

the Sumter Landing Amenities Division (SLAD) budget.

Members of PWAC are appointed by each residential CDD and Brownwood and are not directly elected for service on the committee by the residents. The POA has always supported a change in PWAC's role from advisory to authority, with members elected by the residents and with the same decision-making powers as the AAC.

**NSCUDD – The North Sumter County Utility Dependent District** is the utility that provides wastewater treatment, water and reclaimed water services to properties between CR 466 and CR 466A. In 2019 NSCUDD purchased the Central Sumter Utility (CSU). NSCUDD also provides the solid waste sanitation services for Marion and Sumter County, and the Fruitland Park portion of The Villages. The NSCUDD Board is comprised of seven elected members representing CDDs 5-10 and one elected at large.

In 2018 this Board passed an 8% water rate increase to pay for previous debt, last year authorized spending \$98 Million on the purchase of the Central Sumter Utility, and this year will decide how solid waste and recycling will be managed. This Board makes sweeping financial decisions that go relatively unnoticed by the residents who elect them.

See the article on Page 1 of this *Bulletin* for information on the public workshop to present 3 options for the future delivery of solid waste and recycling services.

**Public Meetings.** All meetings of the aforementioned boards and committees are OPEN to the public. Residents may make comment on any item pertaining to each board's responsibilities, whether on the agenda or not. Florida law has very strict "Sunshine" rules which means that members of the boards are not permitted to engage in discussion with another member of the same board outside of the public meeting. They are also not permitted to communicate via writing with each other.

The meeting agendas and minutes of each of these units is located on the district website **DistrictGov.org**.

## District Staff and Resources

Rather than each CDD functioning autonomously, there is a District staff that administers all of the services that residents receive throughout The Villages.

The District Manager, Richard Baier, is hired by the VCCDD, and is responsible for management and direction of all of the staff departments and functions. The POA has found the District staff to be second to none, with a strong emphasis on transparency and customer service. There are many, many resources available for residents to access information.

**DistrictGov.org** – the District maintains a website that has virtually all the information you'll ever need. The POA encourages you to access it often. You will find the meeting calendar for every scheduled public meeting and workshop, a Quick Menu so you can quickly find commonly used areas of the site, every CDD, committee, and their meeting schedule, agendas and minutes, budgets, videos of workshops, the list goes on and on. You will also find every department and phone number you need.

**Customer Service Department** – If you memorize one phone number for the District, it should be Customer Service – 352-753-4508. They can direct you anywhere else you need to go.

**District Weekly Bulletin** – This is published and available online and contains information for every department about upcoming special activities, maintenance announcements, golf course information, etc.

**E-Notification** – You can sign up for email notification for a variety of purposes, including meeting notices. You choose what you want to receive. This can be especially important when there are serious weather issues occurring.

**CDD Orientation** – This is a short workshop held weekly (no reservations necessary) at the District office at 984 Old Mill Run in Lake Sumter Landing, and will help you to understand the functions of the CDDs.

**Resident Academy** – An in depth look at the operations of all of the departments in The District. Now offered 4 times per year, reservations necessary. Sign up online. ■





## Driver Safety



### Fixed Cost Investing<sup>SM</sup>

A Service of Fixed Cost Financial, Inc.

Visit

**FCI.TO/VILLAGES**

or

**(212) 433-2525**

Registered Investment Advisor

## AARP Driver Safety now offers a 6 hour "Smart Driver" course for seniors; it is designed for those 50 and older.

In The Villages, there are at least 4 classes each month. The classes are either two days, 9 A.M. to Noon or one day\* 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Fee is \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members. Select your class and call the instructor to register. Instructor will give instructions and time to arrive to complete registration.

AARP now offers a 90 minute Smart Driver Technology (SDTEK) program for mature drivers.

For more information: [aarp.org/findaworkshop10](http://aarp.org/findaworkshop10) or 352-430-1833.

All available courses are listed at [aarp.org/findacourse](http://aarp.org/findacourse) or call 877-846-3299.

| DATE(S)       | LOCATION       | INSTRUCTOR      | CONTACT #    |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| March 3 & 4   | Colony Cottage | Paul Scannell   | 352-399-6414 |
| March 11      | Harbor Chase   | Norman Paddock  | 352-205-2949 |
| March 13      | Buffalo Cross  | Art Donnelly    | 631-792-2203 |
| March 18      | Sumter Grand   | Pauline Bolwell | 352-205-3880 |
| March 21 & 28 | Paradise       | John Shepard    | 352-399-2344 |
| March 24      | Freedom Pointe | Brenda Oleksa   | 610-392-9552 |

**SHADE BROTHERS**  
Press Up Your Window, Too.

**Automated Lanai & Garage Solar Screen/Shades**

**Deal Direct**

How about some **PRIVACY?!**

**REDUCE HEAT, SUN GLARE & FURNITURE FADING.  
INCREASE PRIVACY & CREATE ANOTHER ROOM IN YOUR HOUSE!**

what YOU see:

what THEY see:

Manufactured 3 miles from The Villages® Community off CR 44

Like us on Facebook

**Deal Direct**

Motorized & Manual

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM/FACILITY OR WE CAN COME TO YOU  
**31653 Executive Blvd., Unit 1 - Leesburg**  
**352-431-3181 • www.SHADEBROTHERS.com**

SPECIALS ALL YEAR

**A-1 Lightning Protection Services, Inc.**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**DANNY MACK**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**

LPI and UL Certified  
Master Label Installers  
NFPA 780 Installers



MARION COUNTY:  
352-465-0620

TOLL FREE:  
866-465-0620

FAX:  
352-465-1773

[A1\\_lightning@yahoo.com](mailto:A1_lightning@yahoo.com)

**A1LIGHTNING.COM**



# In Case You Missed It... News Highlights from February Meetings

## CDD 7 Considers Exit from PWAC

Community Development District (CDD) 7 Supervisors again raised objections to participating in the Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC) at their February meeting, citing projected growth of 60,000+ homes south of CR 44 and the increased cost to participate as the PWAC budget has increased.

The Project Wide Fund was established in 2003 to spread out the costs to maintain common infrastructure south of CR 466 such as multi-modal paths, landscaping and lighting, water retention ponds, wetlands and preserves. Costs to each participating CDD – 5 through 13 currently, Lake Sumter Landing and Brownwood – is based on assessable acreage. Note that the POA has always objected to this method of assessment as the commercial areas do not pay their fair share.

The 2019-20 budget for PWAC (\$13,037,509) shows the distribution as follows.

- 0.78% Lake Sumter Landing
- 1.73% Brownwood
- 13.98% District 5
- 15.52% District 6
- 9.89% District 7
- 11.10% District 8
- 12.61% District 9
- 16.04% District 10
- 5.38% District 11
- 12.95% District 12

CDD 7 Supervisor William Vondohlen suggested they should seek a legal opinion to see if they “can get out of this thing.” District Counsel Mark Brionez said in his legal opinion, both parties (CDD 7 and PWAC/Sumter Landing Community Development District) would both have to agree.

This is not the first time CDD 7 Supervisors have questioned their involvement in PWAC. Last year, objections were raised when CDDs were asked to add CDD 12 via an agreement that locks them in for another 20 years.

The rationale for continuing to participate is that as new CDDs are added, they bring with them millions of dollars annually that may be spent initially in the older CDDs where infrastructure is not new, thus helping to keep costs level for the other districts. Additionally, individual CDDs don’t have to bear the costs of potentially significant repairs caused by things such as sinkholes. CDD 4 was forced to raise maintenance fees by 20% two years ago to address sinkhole problems. CDD 7 or any other CDD in the PWAC agreement did not have to raise its annual maintenance fee assessment to its residents last year, even though the PWAC budget allocation increased.

## CDD 2 Supervisors to Look at Temporary Parking Rules

At its February meeting the CDD 2 Board of Supervisors determined it will proceed to make significant changes to the parking regulations that apply to all District owned property (overflow/guest parking area and streets) in the La Crescenta Villas. Once implemented, it is likely these changes will ultimately be applied to all Villa communities in CDD 2. These proposed changes will be discussed at the Friday, March 13th Board Meeting with an eye toward implementing the changes at the April 10th meeting.

## 29 Executive Golf Course Awarded Audubon Certification

Executive Golf Course Manager Mitch Leininger reported that 29 of the 36 executive golf courses have achieved the Audubon International Silver Signature Certification by meeting the six criteria: 1. Environmental planning 2. Wildlife and Habitat management 3. Chemical Use Reduction and Safety 4. Water Conservation 5. Water Quality Management 6. Outreach and Education.

Mr. Leininger also reported that he is implementing a public education program to keep golfers from driving their carts all the way up to the greens. Even if they have an ADA pass, golfers must keep carts behind the green signs in order to protect the greens from damage and additional maintenance costs.

He also reported that significant improvements have been made to courses due to additional maintenance including topdressing greens with sand, aeration on the greens and scheduled maintenance and rest closures.

*February Meetings continued on page 10*

**Your money shouldn't stop working when you do.**



**Greg Panjian, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor

309 Colony Blvd  
Colony Plaza  
The Villages, FL 32162  
352-750-9246

**Edward Jones®**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



**Pam Powell**

**Critter Sitter**

Villages Resident  
352-750-2420

Very Reasonable Rates

Excellent References



A low-cost way to advertise a rental home to thousands of potential renters each month.

**Just \$69 per year!**

**OurVillagesRental.com**

Rental Homes by Owner – Classified Listings

February Meetings continued from page 9

## Community Watch and Other Programs Provide Layers of Security

District Manager Richard Baier shared a memo from Community Watch Chief Nehemiah Wolfe that compares the services provided by the Sumter County Traffic Inspector (paid position), the City of Wildwood Citizens on Patrol (COP) program, and The Villages Community Watch department.

The Mission of Community Watch is to provide a safe community to The Village residents by keeping a watchful eye around the clock. Chief Wolfe reported the following:

- Patrol All 13 Districts 24 hours a day, roughly driving 1.2 million miles per year.
- Patrol All 89 Villages 24 hours a day, each Village patrolled twice a day.
- Patrol All 39 recreation centers, including checking doors.
- Patrol All 3 squares and conduct routine washroom security checks.
- Patrol and check 94 pools.
- Assist 8 different law enforcement departments and Villages Public Safety Fire Rescue in traffic control and direction as needed.
- Assist Department of Property Management with lane closures.

- Provide special details for District events.
- Approximately 43 House checks a day, totaling 16,000 per year
- Open and close pools on holidays.
- Open and close dog parks on holidays.
- Have dedicated dispatch that is interfaced with all levels of District infrastructures.
- Have 24-hour gate operations staff viewing and monitoring cameras throughout the District.
- Have 22 staffed gatehouses throughout the District.
- All operations provide 24-hour coverage 365 days a year.

The Wildwood COPS program assists law enforcement in Fenney, Desoto, McClure, Marsh Bend, Linden, and Monarch Grove only. They assist with special events conducted at Brownwood and provide crowd control assistance at special events, educational programs and other community tasks limited to their jurisdiction. Coverage is based on volunteer participation.

The Sumter County Traffic Control officer is a paid position that works 9 hours a day from 8 A.M. – 5 P.M. Monday through Saturday, with no coverage on Sundays. This officer primarily handles vehicle and traffic issues, including minor traffic accidents with no injuries. They are dispatched by Sumter County.

## AEDs Not Available Outside of District Facilities

Responding to a resident question, District Manager Richard Baier explained that Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are not provided on the grounds of District facilities such as at swimming pools and outdoor recreation areas. Director of Recreation and Parks John Rohan added that the District cannot have AEDs that are locked because they wouldn't be accessible, and they cannot be left in unlocked areas as they will likely be stolen.

Mr. Baier advised that the neighborhood AED programs are run by the residents in those neighborhoods and have people who are trained to respond to calls and access the AED. (The POA is actively involved in helping neighborhoods start their own AED program.)

## Budget Workshops

The Amenity Authority Committee (AAC) and the Project Wide Advisory Committee (PWAC) will each hold budget workshops in March to discuss projects for the upcoming 2020-21 fiscal year, which begins on October 1. The AAC will meet on March 18 at 1 P.M. at Savannah Center and PWAC on March 25 at 2 P.M. at the District Office Board Room in Lake Sumter Landing, 984 Old Mill Run.

February Meetings continued on page 16

## STOP SMOKING GUARANTEED!



**Dr. Jaime Feldman**  
**HYPNOTHERAPIST**

SPECIALIZING IN:

- Weight Loss
- Stop Smoking
- Fears
- Phobias
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Pain Management
- Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- Improved Memory
- Mental & Sexual Abuse
- Relationship Therapy
- Improved Golf

Office in The Villages® Community  
(352) 507-5435 • [www.PartsTherapy.com](http://www.PartsTherapy.com)

**DENTAL SAVINGS**

FREE NEW PATIENT EXAM (D0140)

**NEW PATIENT SPECIAL** **\$49** (Reg. \$212) (IN ABSENCE OF GUM DISEASE)

CLEANING BY HYGIENIST (D110)  
COMPLETE SET OF X-RAYS (D0150)  
EXAMINATION BY DOCTOR (D0150)  
COMPLIMENTARY SECOND OPINION (D0150)

10250 SE 167th Place Rd., Suite 3  
Summerfield, FL 34491  
(near The Villages® Community)

**(352) 245-0780**  
[magnoliadentalclinic.com](http://magnoliadentalclinic.com)

**MAGNOLIA DENTAL**  
Financing with Care Credit

**Emergencies Welcome**  
**Same Day Repairs**

The patient and any other person responsible for payment has the right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other services, examination, or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the discounted fee or reduced fee service or treatment. Fees may vary due to complexity of case. This discount does not apply to those patients with dental plans. Fees are minimal. PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**DANIEL SCHMIDT'S SUPERIOR PAINTING & CLEANING SERVICES**  
*Listen first, finish job right!*

**352-512-1312**

**SERVICES**

- Residential Painting
- Commercial Painting
- Epoxy Garage Finishes
- Driveway Finishes
- Pressure Washing
- Handyman Services
- Residential Cleaning
- Commercial Cleaning
- Post Construction Cleaning



# CANADA MEDS

of Sumter County  
STILL PAYING FULL PRICE  
FOR YOUR MEDICATION?

Want to stay out of the donut hole?

**Rx**

**CALL 352-569-1484  
FAX 352-569-1485**

**VIAGRA 100MG GEN - \$4 EACH**  
**CIALIS 20MG GEN - \$5 EACH**  
**SYMBICORT 200/6mcg 3x120 Gen. \$130.87**  
**ELIQUIS 2.5mg 180 Tab Brand \$239.72**  
**XARELTA 20MG 84 Tab Brand \$240.72**

**FREE SHIPPING**  
On All International Orders  
Greater Than \$150

**512 N. Main Street, Bushnell, FL**





## POA of The Villages FL is on Facebook!

**We have nearly 700 Likes!** Please type POA of the Villages FL in the search on Facebook and you will find our page. Click LIKE, and then, suggest our page to all of your friends and neighbors that live in The Villages! Meeting and relevant information will be posted on a timely basis. *Please continue to send questions or comments via email or call the POA at 352-418-7372.* ALL content will be monitored by the Administrator and posts containing opinion or debate will be removed.



# St. Patrick's Day

## FESTIVAL

**March 13**  
**4 – 9 P.M.**  
**Lake Sumter Landing**

**March 17**  
**3:15 – 9 P.M.**  
**Spanish Springs**

**Parade 3:15 – 4:30 P.M.**  


## CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTE ALL IN ONE INSURANCE "FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS"

Serving All Village Residents and Surrounding Communities



**Homeowners • Golf Carts  
Auto • Business**

**www.allinoneins.com**  
**352.674.9015**

526 N. Hwy 27/441 • Lady Lake

## THE ER CARE YOU NEED FROM A HOSPITAL YOU TRUST.

### UF Health The Villages® Hospital Freestanding ER. Now Open.

The first full-service emergency department in the Wildwood area is now open. The freestanding ER offers quality care from seasoned health care experts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

› Learn more at [thevillagesregionalhospital.org/er](http://thevillagesregionalhospital.org/er)





THE VILLAGES® HOSPITAL

The Number One MLS Company in The Villages for over 13 years.

## Our Realtors Serve With Passion... To get your home SOLD for the **MOST MONEY** the market will allow.



Unless otherwise indicated, area code is 352.

If you have a home that you would like to rent with our Property Management Department, please contact Gladys Vazquez 352-425-7629 [Rentals N466A] and Ron Cerota 352-661-8114 [Rentals S466A].

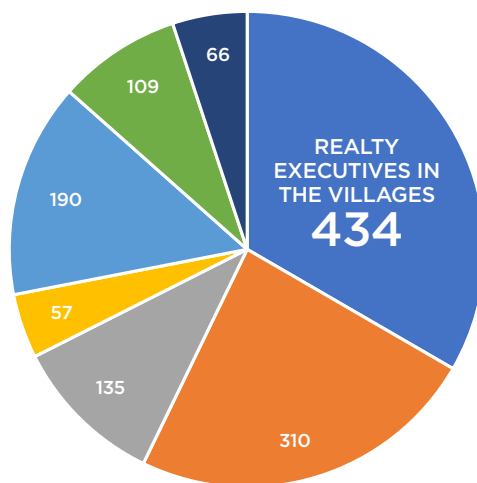


**Glenn Stein**  
Broker/Owner



**Kandis Buse**  
267-2386

THE VILLAGES  
MLS 2019 YTD  
LISTINGS SOLD  
NOVEMBER



**Mike Byrne**  
954-804-9404



**Bill Clarke**  
954-804-9400



**Pat Serafino**  
630-7230



**Kent Merchant**  
410-925-6540



**Karla Mason**  
430-7725



**Ruby Davis-Jett**  
321-7854



**Micki Wohl**  
954-839-5880



**Amanda Fincher**  
497-5673



**Steve Savage**  
908-675-0533



**Eddie Manson**  
552-6998



**Melissa Huennekens**  
817-7975



**Douglas Lange**  
559-9300



**Ron Wallace**  
850-597-1008



**Milton Gray**  
301-257-6450



**Darcie Furnier**  
454-2391



**Cheri Probert**  
427-9501



**Gail Carter**  
516-9131



**Sunny Parsons**  
352-239-0980



**Vickie Iverson**  
661-4334



**Rick McKean**  
425-1099



**Tim Davis**  
446-1688

## CALL ONE OF OUR REALTORS TODAY

LOOK FOR OUR THURSDAY &  
SATURDAY ADS IN THE DAILY SUN



TWO LOCATIONS: 11714 NE 62nd Terrace (on 466), Ste. 300, The Villages & 717 S. Main Street, Wildwood



## #1 Independent Real Estate Company in The Villages & Wildwood

Visit us online at [HomesByRealtyExecutives.com](http://HomesByRealtyExecutives.com)

Unless otherwise indicated, area code is 352.



**Team Abruzzo**  
Kathy Abruzzo 552-1554  
Bob Bullock 459-1422



**Bob Berube**  
446-9969



**Donna Pattermore**  
216-548-9295



**Jim Hill** 919-272-0958  
**Kathy Dugan** 919-272-1389



**Sheila Davis**  
446-6942



**Donna Normington**  
912-414-6303



**Annette McCullough** 350-0168  
**Beverly Shive** 409-6229



**Lisa Esposito**  
207-3311



**Peggy Schaefer**  
801-0040



**Linda Sears**  
205-0713



**Cissie Smith**  
391-0884



**Jean Puckett**  
322-1374



**Linda Flack**  
789-7966



**Jana Raber**  
812-499-9571



**Frances Pierce**  
459-5601

## Looking to experience The Villages, but aren't ready to buy? *Why not rent?*

**Our Long Term Rentals are competitively priced and the homeowner pays The Villages Amenities Fees and much more!**



**Long Term Unfurnished,  
Village of Orange Blossom Garden**  
1006 Jeffery Drive  
3b/2b, pet friendly  
**\$1400/month**  
*Available Immediately*



**Long Term Unfurnished Designer,  
Village of Polo Ridge**  
3001 Bridgefield Court, 3b/2b,  
\$1800/month  
*Available Immediately*



**Long Term Furnished Courtyard  
Villa, Village of Bonita**  
2214 Pilar Place  
2b/2b, \$1700/month  
pet friendly  
*Available Immediately*



**Long Term Furnished Designer  
Village of Santo Domingo**  
2210 Margarita Drive, 3b/2b  
golf cart available, \$1800/month  
*Available Immediately*



**Long Term Unfurnished Courtyard  
Villa, Village of Palo Alto**  
1837 Puerto Bello Drive, 3b/2b  
\$1500/month, pet friendly  
*Available Immediately*



**Long Term Furnished/  
Unfurnished Townhome,  
Village of Spanish Springs**  
1053 Avenida Sonoma, 3b/2.5b  
\$2000/month, pet friendly  
*Available Immediately*

**If you have a home that you would like to rent with our Property  
Management Department, please contact:**

**Gladys Vazquez for rentals N of 466A at 352-425-7629**

**Ron Cerota for rentals S of 466A at 352-661-8114**

**[gorentvillages.com](http://gorentvillages.com)**

## Vote for Fair Government for Sumter County

*Vote for Craig Estep, Gary Search, and Oren Miller*

*Submitted by the Fair Government for Sumter (fg4s) PAC*

In response to the massive 25% property tax increase and other actions by the present County Commission that hurts the residents of Sumter County and favors the Developer, the POA launched an effort to restore fair government to Sumter County. The POA encouraged independent, qualified, thoughtful challengers who will always place the interests of Sumter County residents first. As reported last month, because of the POA's leadership, an independent Political Action Committee (PAC) called **Fair Government for Sumter** ("fg4s") has been formed. It is headed by Dr. Reed Panos, a resident of Sunset Pointe in The Villages.

**fg4s has endorsed 3 candidates.** Fg4s is endorsing one outstanding candidate for each of the three open County Commission seats: Districts 1, 3, and 5. (Note that all Sumter County residents can vote for Commissioners in all county Districts.) Although all of the candidates that we are endorsing are Republican, we believe that they deserve the support of all those Sumter County residents (Republican, Democrat, or Independent) who are interested in good county government.

We acknowledge that other challengers to the incumbent County Commissioners have emerged, and they all share our goal of making changes to the County Commission. We thank them for their interest, and we hope that they will join us in our efforts. However, fg4s and can only support one candidate for each open District. Additional challengers will only split the vote and ensure the incumbents' victory. Picking one candidate involved difficult decisions, but ones that had to be made. We hope that the other challengers will understand and agree.



**PRO DRY**  
ROOFING LLC

VISIT US AT  
[prodryroofingllc.com](http://prodryroofingllc.com)

RESIDENTIAL  
COMMERCIAL  
NEW or RE-ROOF  
WEATHER DAMAGE  
METAL, SHINGLE, TILE, EDPM & MORE

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

OUR **GAF** LIFETIME ROOF WARRANTY WITH 25 YEARS ON WORKMANSHIP, KEEPS US AT THE TOP OF THE LIST!

CALL TODAY  
(352) 669-6607

**GAF MasterElite**

f



**Call for Appointment!**  
**633-7019**

LADY LAKE  
(352) 633-7019

OCALA  
(352) 671-5374

Voted again 2019  
"Best of the Best"  
READERS' CHOICE  
2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

## Tired of the Wild Ride?

Your retirement "nest egg" may be able to **EARN MORE** and valuable benefits **WITHOUT MARKET RISK!**

FIRST AMERICAN TRUST IS AN ESTABLISHED BBB A+ ACCREDITED BUSINESS THAT PROVIDES AWARD-WINNING FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR OVER 40 YEARS

- Locating and identifying accounts and strategies to minimize risk
- Protect principal with best possible yield and guaranteed income
- Provide excellent features and benefits for surviving spouse and beneficiaries
- EARN MORE, AVOID UNNECESSARY TAXES AND PROBATE

Regular Savings, IRA, 401k, including transfers

**FIRST AMERICAN TRUST** of CENTRAL FLORIDA

THE BETTER WE KNOW YOU, THE BETTER WE CAN HELP

For County District 1, we are supporting **Gary Search**. Gary advocated strongly for Sumter County taxpayers, both at the Sumter County Commission open hearings regarding the proposed tax increase and afterwards. His experience as President of his Township Commission in Pennsylvania is impressive, and he has demonstrated fiscal conservatism.

For County District 3, we are supporting **Craig Estep**. Craig has served with distinction as a Villages CDD 1 Supervisor and has long

demonstrated his independence, knowledge, and dedication to those residents. He is a known quantity, and he is well qualified.

For County District 5, we are supporting **Oren Miller**. Oren launched the Reverse One Sumter initiative, and, like the other candidates that we are supporting, opposed the 25% property tax increase. He has monitored the County Commission meetings for the past five years, and he has thereby gained considerable

*Fair Government continued on page 15*



*Fair Government continued from page 14*

insight into county issues and government. His qualifications and dedication will be an asset for the citizens of Sumter County.

**The Pledge to You by Our Endorsed**

**Challengers.** Candidates Craig Estep, Gary Search, and Oren Miller have each pledged to do the following:

- Roll back the massive tax hike, with the lost revenue being paid for by a higher (fair) impact fees and other prudent actions. (Impact fees are per-house county charges, assessed to a builder. They are intended to pay for infrastructure.)
- Oppose more aquifer-depleting water pumping out of our aquifer by commercial bottlers.
- Support everyone in the county and give control of Sumter County Government back to its citizens.
- Give dignity and respect to our citizens because everyone deserves to be heard.
- Support all first-responder personnel, who daily put their lives on the line for us.
- Refuse to accept campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, partnerships, or labor unions.

**For More Information and to Volunteer.**

For more information about Fair Government for Sumter, please go to [www.fg4s.org](http://www.fg4s.org). or send an e-mail to [fairgovernmentforsumter@gmail.com](mailto:fairgovernmentforsumter@gmail.com). To donate, mail a check, made payable to Fair Government for Sumter, to Fair Government for Sumter, 333 Colony Blvd., #160, The Villages, FL 32162. **Do Not Send Checks to the POA; they will be returned.**

**Editor's Note:** The POA has provided leadership to help restore fair government to Sumter County, and applauds the volunteer efforts of this new PAC. This article was provided by fg4s and was edited by the POA Bulletin Editor.

The POA is not involved in the PAC, has not and will not make any financial contributions to the PAC or any individual candidates. We encourage the fair and respectful treatment of ALL candidates, and further encourage residents to do their own due diligence before making their decisions to vote. ■



# JERRY MARTIN

## IRRIGATION LLC.

**3398 SW 74th Avenue, Bay 101, Ocala**

**MARCH SPECIAL!**

# \$49<sup>99</sup>\*

## 10% OFF

### Completed Repairs

\* Offer expires 03/31/20. Call for details.

Licensed & Insured • Certified Irrigation Auditor  
Member of Florida Irrigation Society  
Marion C-7085, Sumter C-2899, Lake C-21151

*Serving Marion & Surrounding Counties Since 1982*

**(352) 237-5731**

- Reset Controller
- Adjust Sprays & Rotors to Correct Spray Pattern *(unless they are broken or leaking)*
- Complete System Inspection







Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries



Solatube®  
brightens your home  
with natural light

Book now before prices go up

- FREE In-home design consultation
- 2-hour installation
- No major modifications to your home

ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER GREAT PRODUCTS



GARAGE FANS



SOLAR ATTIC FANS

DON'T MISS

# 30%

TAX CREDIT  
ENDING SOON!

☆☆☆



Call for Free In-Home Consultation

## 352-553-2797

[www.TheSolarGuys.com](http://www.TheSolarGuys.com)

Fully Licensed & Insured  
#CBC1260615 | #CCC1330841 | CVC57042



POA BULLETIN DELIVERY (Stop/Restart Date)

Email: [delivery@poa4us.org](mailto:delivery@poa4us.org) Call Shelley Pfaff: 352-325-1540

Please let us know the DATES you will be away, at least 2 WEEKS before departing, and we will stop delivery of the Bulletin during that time.

February Meetings continued from page 10

This is an important opportunity for residents to have input into the amenity projects that are being considered.

AAC member Carl Bell questioned whether the AAC should reprioritize its projects and put the License Plate Recognition program ahead of the First Responders Recreation Center. He believes the license plate program is a vital public safety issue, while in his view there has been relatively little interest in the new recreation center. Mr. Baier said that if the new recreation center is deemed a lower priority there will be a ripple effect that may also impact the rebuilding of the Paradise Recreation Center.

### Aluminum Cans Continue to be Problem at Postal Stations

AAC member John Wilcox raised a concern again about the unsightliness of aluminum cans that are being deposited at various postal stations north of CR 466 to be picked up by the local Lions Club. They are supposed to be contained in marked garbage cans provided by the Lions but there are bags that are often sitting next to the containers. District Manager Richard Baier said that the Lions has increased the number of times it is making daily pickups and that there is really no way to coordinate when residents drop off the cans and when they are picked up.

### CDD 4 Supervisors Sign Vote

After conducting a town hall meeting in October and a tie vote at its November meeting, Community Development District (CDD) 4 supervisors voted at its February meeting to enforce the sign restriction as written in the District's adopted Rule and the Affirmation and Consent from the Developer using compliant-driven process. The enforcement was effective immediately and violations are subject to Community Standards violation process. ■



**352-812-3613**

**\$40 Complete System Check!**

- Check System for leaks and broken sprinklers.
- Check Controller for correct programming.
- Adjust Sprinklers for optimal water coverage.
- Check Rain Sensor.

*Get a jump start on Spring!*



## In-Home Services for Seniors by Seniors

Mature Responsible Caregivers

There's a huge difference in the kind of home care you can receive from someone who really understands what your life is like as a senior.

Our loving and compassionate seniors are there to help. We offer the services you need to stay in your own home, living independently.

- Meal Preparation
- Transportation
- Doctor Appointments
- Companion & Homemaker Services
- Relief for Family Members
- And More! ®



...A WAY TO GIVE AND TO RECEIVE®

**352.288.0444**

shstrish2@comcast.net

**SeniorsHelpingSeniors.com**

©2019 Each office is independently owned and operated. HCS #232850

## Still Cleaning Your Dirty Grout With This?



## There Is A Better Way!

- Tile & Grout Cleaning
- Grout Restoration
- Color Matched Caulking
- Granite Sealing
- Loose & Hollow Tile ReBonding
- Shower Repairs & Regrouting






Call & Schedule Your Free In-Home Demonstration

**(352) 396-7813**  
[www.groutsmith.com](http://www.groutsmith.com)

Ask About Our 10 Year Warranty



**\$99 Granite Cleaning & Sealing w/Any Other Service**

EXPIRES 3.31.20





YOUR #1 REALTORS FOR LISTINGS/SELLING REAL ESTATE IN THE VILLAGES AND SURROUNDING AREA.

## For all your real estate needs in and around The Villages, contact Foxfire Realty

Lady Lake/The Villages 352-750-5110 • Summerfield/The Villages 352-307-0304

*Real Estate School With Live Instructors. Call Bob (352) 430-5249 or Connie (352) 307-0304*



Ed Buyers 727-580-2234  
Terry Buyers 727-580-7469



Tiffany Calhoon  
386-218-8443



Charlie De La Torre  
215-779-1233



Greg Wood  
352-210-8186



Bob Woodsford  
352-430-5249



Mike Palmer  
352-446-6596



Mike Aretakis  
860-303-1491



Teresa Ouellette  
352-801-0199



Robert Loiselle  
352-653-8948



Jill Ruell  
609-425-4190



Marilyn Fletcher  
908-591-1909



Sharon Smith  
352-409-0672



Linda Sanfilippo  
239-595-1098



Randy Erb  
352-431-8179



Joyce Ann Ellis  
352-266-2022



Brian Loving  
219-628-4700



Giti Kiewiet Reavill  
727-347-7323



Debbie Braham  
501-655-0167



*Leading*  
REAL ESTATE  
COMPANIES  
OF THE WORLD

# LIGHTNING MATTERS

By Len Hathaway

A look back at the 2019 lightning experience and a look ahead to 2020

Local experience shows that lightning can strike in the same place twice. In 2019 the number of thunderstorm days decreased from a six-year high in 2018 of 124 days to 97 days according to unofficial recordkeeping by local weather observers. According to the National Weather Service the average number of thunderstorm days for our area is 80. Locally, our six-year average is 109 thunderstorm days and that's a lot of lightning! On August 30th the US National Lightning Detection Network recorded 34 cloud-to-ground strikes within one mile of the Bridgeport at Miona Shores entrance.

**Remember: Florida is the Lightning Capital of the US (but not the world).**

Homes were struck in Poinciana and Rio Grande Villas rendering them uninhabitable

requiring extensive repairs. At this writing neither home has been reoccupied. Local fire departments responded to about another dozen homes (including the first for the Fenny area) that experienced direct lightning strikes causing minor structural damage. An unknown number of homeowners experienced lightning induced surge damage from indirect strikes causing damage to appliances and electronics that were not properly protected by primary and secondary surge protection devices.

**Remember: Lightning loves technology!**

Two local area churches can attest that lightning does strike in the same place twice. These two churches were struck in 2018 and again in 2019. The Villages Daily Sun reported that the Open Bible Lutheran

Church's bell tower was stuck in August and caused \$68,000 in damage. The church also experienced significant electronic damage throughout the church including the \$35,000 organ. As a result, they have now installed a lightning protection system (lightning rods) as have many of the other area churches and the synagogue.

## Looking ahead to the forthcoming 2020 lightning season

If your club, organization, church, or civic group would benefit from a free non-commercial educational Power Point presentation, Lightning Tips for Villagers that addresses personal lightning safety, lightning surge protection for appliances and high-valued electronics, lightning protection systems, and debunking ten common lightning myths contact Len Hathaway at **LHATHA@AOL.COM**. ■



## HEALING THE VILLAGES COMMUNITY ONE STEM CELL AT A TIME!

### Healthcare Partners Family Medicine

1501 US-441 North, Ste 1704 | The Villages, FL 32159

**352-750-4333** ON SITE FINANCING AVAILABLE



**GRETTA ELLIS, ARNP**  
Over 10 years experience!

- Chronic Disease
- Gastro-Intestinal Disorders
- Alternative Medicine
- SIBO/Leaky Gut
- Bio Identical Hormone Replacement - BHT
- ER and Internal Medicine Experience
- Vaginal Tightening Procedure



**JACLYNN SOLA, LMT**  
Over 10 years experience!

- Raindrop Therapy-Aromatherapy
- Under Deep Tissue/ Sports Massage/Golf
- Cranial Sacral Spectra Vision
- Reiki Master - Tuning Forks
- Cupping for Pain relief and Lymphatic drainage
- Colonics
- Hot Stone Massage
- Body Scrubs/Wraps
- Reflexology/Foot Massage



**KARIN PANYKO**  
Licensed Aesthetician  
Over 13 years experience

- Micro Derm Abrasion
- Spa Facial/Galvanic (tightens and tones cheek muscles)
- High Frequency Therapy
- Light Therapy
- Facial Massage - Deep Tissue

**EXOSOMES:** The Next Generation in Regenerative Therapy and Stem Cell Therapy! The possibility of Repair and Restoration of Youthful appearance is within our grasp without the use of surgical interventions. Now we know the correct signals to send our cells.

**You Only Live Once - Live It To The Fullest!**  
Make Your Appointment Today:

**352-750-4333**



**DR. NELSON KRAUCAK**  
Your Neighborhood Family Practitioner  
For Over 25 Years!

- Peptides
- Stem Cell Therapy
- Bio-Identical Hormone Replacement Therapy
- Erectile Dysfunction Therapy
- Chelation and IV Nutrient Therapy

*\*Individual responses may vary.*



Do you have...  
damp clothes? long dry times?

**FIRE  
HAZARD!!!**

*The Only Certified Dryer Exhaust  
Technicians Within 40 Miles*

**Dryer Vent  
Cleaning**

**LINT FACTOR'S SERVICE:**

- ✓ Reduces Drying Time
- ✓ Lessens Dryer Wear & Tear
- ✓ Saves Energy & Big Bucks
- ✓ Doubles Dryer Useful Life
- ✓ Prevents HOME Disasters

**Lint Factor LLC**  
[www.LintFactor.com](http://www.LintFactor.com)  
Bonded • Certified • Insured  
Background Checked

**352-301-VENT (8368)**

**\$125  
VALUE DRYER VENT CLEANING \$80**  
Includes 1-story asphalt roof access (not to exceed 6/12 pitch)  
Must present coupon. Not valid with other offers. Expires 3/31/20. POA

## Sign Up for POA Bulletin Email Delivery!

**JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS!** There is so much going on in The Villages these days you don't want to chance missing any updates if you're away. And, you'll have no more worries about stopping and starting driveway delivery when you go away!

Every month we get a few hundred more people who have decided to get the POA Bulletin delivered in their email inbox. You'll get it earlier than driveway delivery and don't have to worry about it getting wet or blowing away.

Help us reduce the costs of producing *The Bulletin* and do a good thing for the environment

**All you have to do is go to POA4us.org and select e-Bulletin START/STOP from The Bulletin drop down menu.**

And we'll take care of the rest. You don't have to be a POA member, but for only \$10 a year, you will be supporting the ONLY true property owners' advocacy group in The Villages! Champions of Residents' Rights Since 1975! ■



**POA BULLETIN DELIVERY** (Stop/Restart Date)

Email: [delivery@poa4us.org](mailto:delivery@poa4us.org) Call Shelley Pfaff: 352-325-1540

Please let us know the DATES you will be away, at least 2 WEEKS before departing, and we will stop delivery of the Bulletin during that time.



# Love Your Vision

**Complete medical and surgical services in The Villages® community**

- ♥ Comprehensive eye exams / blurry vision
- ♥ Cataract evaluation, management, and surgery
- ♥ Multifocal, enhanced-depth, and astigmatism-correcting lens implants
- ♥ Diabetic eye exams
- ♥ Glaucoma evaluation, management, and surgery
- ♥ iStent® Glaucoma implant at the same time of cataract surgery
- ♥ In-office laser surgery
- ♥ Golf-car accessibility

*If you've been diagnosed with **Cataracts** and want a clear view of your treatment options with an accurate assessment of your current eye health, call our Villages office today or visit [HCSVillages.com](http://HCSVillages.com) to request an appointment!*

**Call today or request your appointment online!**



**Hunt Cataract  
Specialists**

**[HCSVillages.com](http://HCSVillages.com)  
(352) 571-6485**

Located in Palm Ridge Plaza  
across from Southern Trace Publix  
11938 CR 101, Suite 130,  
The Villages, FL 32162





# Gardening Spot

## Spring Fever!

by Anne Lambrecht Fanatical Gardener mrsanne04@gmail.com

Yes, we really do have Spring in north central Florida. Have you noticed the crisp, brown leaves on the live oaks? They sprinkle down as in fall and right behind them are the light verdant shades on their new growth. Have you seen the red buds on the swamp maples, the light green buds on the willows and cypress, the pink and white phlox on the medians? Our grass is coming alive again, the birds are chirping and chattering, and increased insect activity is all around us.

Spring has sprung in the Villages. The sunrises and sunsets are spectacular. It's not humid yet and it hasn't begun to rain. Spring is a great time to be here. I think it's our prettiest season.

Our last frost date here in Zone 9a is March 10th. Technically, we should not be doing any pruning (except on hardwoods and roses) until after that date. Here is the reason: we don't want to encourage new growth - as what happens in spring - just to get it zapped by a late season freeze. And, we've got Spring Fever!

To test to see if a plant has died from the winter is to find some green on it. Scrape the bark with your fingernail and if it's green, then it is alive. If the center leader on your palms is green, then you should be OK.

Many plants have not died during the winter and will become leggy and ugly if they are not trimmed back. The plants that have actually died from freezes can be looked upon as opportunities. Once you remove it, you've got a ready-made hole for something else.

### Here's what you should be doing in March:

#### General Clean up

Weed, rake, check the soil: if the soil is packed, you need to spade or till it about 7-8" deep and turn the soil over to give it some air. Amend with compost,

manure, humus and/or topsoil, especially if you have sandy soil. Clean tools and pots, rake up oak leaves and mix them in with your garden soil or use them as mulch. Clean up wilted foliage from shrubs and tender plants.

#### Fertilize

Use a basic all-purpose, slow release fertilizer, preferably with minor elements including manganese, copper, zinc, iron. Try to get it with a low middle number, phosphorus, of which our soil has plenty. There are special fertilizers out there for specific plant species: palms, citrus, roses, azaleas and camellias. The fertilizer you use on your lawn is not good for your palms: too much nitrogen.

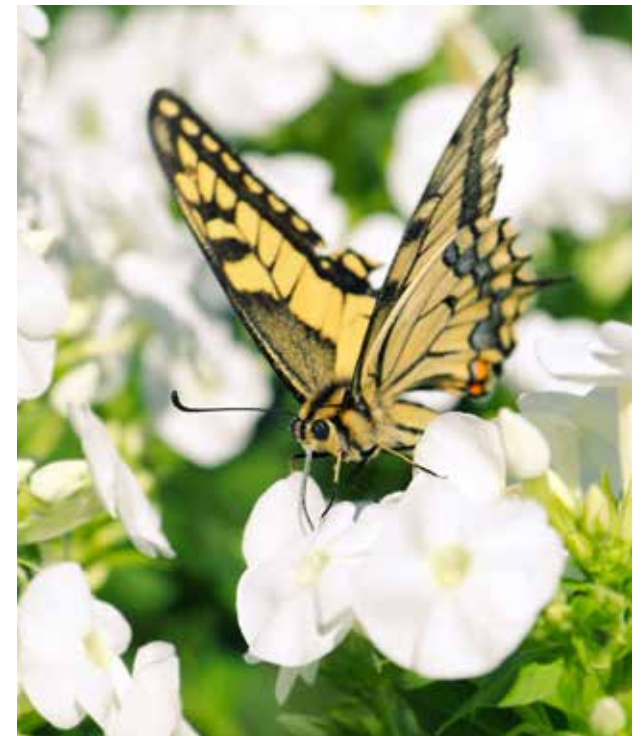
#### Prune/weed

Trim back dead or leggy growth from winter freezes or after flowering has occurred and cut 1/4" above a node at an angle on the green part. Now is the time to trim your crepe myrtles and other shrubs before they bud out.

Weed all the weeds that didn't die over the winter (which is all of them).

#### Plant/repot your containers/refresh soil

Use a good basic potting mix to repot containers, plant seeds and repot volunteer plants from around your garden.



#### Refresh mulch

Pine needles, Melaleuca mulch, pine bark. The pine adds acid back into the soil and the Melaleuca is environmentally sound. It spares our native cypress trees and uses up an invasive non-native species.

#### Watch for insects

Aphids and other creatures will show up on new growth. Power spray them off with your hose. Remember, if you want butterflies and birds to visit, do not use harmful insecticides or other chemicals in your garden.

### Here are some wonderful events to attend and stock up on some plants for spring:

Marion County Master Gardeners Spring Festival  
Ocala March 14 8am- 4pm,  
March 15 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Kanapaha Botanical Garden Festival Gainesville  
March 21 & 22 - 9 A.M. -5 P.M.

McIntosh Seedling Festival, McIntosh  
April 4 - 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Cedar Lakes Wood & Gardens, Williston  
May 2 - 9:30 A.M. -5 P.M.,  
May 3 -9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. ■



# HELP WANTED

**Delivery person for the monthly POA Bulletin**

Once a month, 12-14 hours.

*For various routes in The Villages.*

Attractive compensation.

Must have reliable gas golf cart, able to lift 15 lbs.,  
able to read a map, and be able to pick up  
your bulletins in Oxford.

For more info, Email your **name, village, and phone #**  
to **Delivery@poa4us.org**

Put "delivery driver position" in the subject line.

## BETTER INGREDIENTS BETTER GOLF CARS FOR LESS



**AVOID THIS...  
SELF-CANCELING  
TURN SIGNALS ARE HERE!**

### Don't Be Mislead....The Difference Is In The Details!

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Standard Equipment on Premium Cart</li> <li>✓ Self cancelling turn signals</li> <li>✓ Exclusive "SoftTouch" Locking Fastners</li> <li>✓ 13QT Engle® premium cooler/drybox</li> <li>✓ Superior Handcrafted Enclosure with Lifetime Warranty on all materials and workmanship</li> <li>✓ Marine Grade Fabrics</li> <li>✓ Top of the line zippers</li> <li>✓ Exclusive "Easy Release" Locking Fasteners</li> <li>✓ Curve Side Panels</li> <li>✓ Windshield Care Kit</li> <li>✓ Garage Floor Protector</li> <li>✓ Tech package featuring full color navigation with theft protection guarantee</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Integrated Rear Window</li> <li>✓ LED headlights with high beam and low beam</li> <li>✓ Custom Seats with folding armrest</li> <li>✓ Vented Windshield</li> <li>✓ Exclusive Rear Pillar Padding</li> <li>✓ Signalized LED swing out side mirrors</li> <li>✓ Tech Package featuring full color navigation</li> <li>✓ LED safety strips</li> <li>✓ And of course, genuine OEM powertrain parts</li> <li>✓ Exclusive 5 year warranty on all remanufactured golf cars</li> <li>✓ 24 hour cart club roadside assistance *6 months free</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## PLEASE COMPARE!

**THE MORE YOU SHOP, THE BETTER WE LOOK!**

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IS OUR #1 GOAL.

NOBODY MATCHES OUR QUALITY, VALUE, OR 5 YEAR WARRANTY!



*Village Ready!*

OVER 400 COLOR CHOICES!

**2018 Yamaha Gas**

# \$8395

or  
**\$0 Down \$159 PER MO.**



**10 YEAR  
SERVICE  
ASSURANCE  
PROGRAM**

see dealer for details.

## VILLAGE DISCOUNT GOLF CAR

**OPEN SAT & SUN TIL 3:00pm**

## SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS 352-633-8480

[www.villagediscountgolfcar.com](http://www.villagediscountgolfcar.com)

ALL PAYMENTS ARE BASED ON FINANCING 100% OF THE FULL PURCHASE PRICE AT 4.75% INTEREST. RATE IS BASED ON CREDIT SCORE OF 700 AND ABOVE WITH LENDER APPROVAL. FINANCING OF SALES TAX IS POSSIBLE BUT UP TO THE LENDER APPROVAL AND WILL AFFECT PAYMENT AMOUNT. CUSTOMER MUST PUT SALES TAX DOWN TO ACHIEVE PAYMENT SHOWN. LOAN PROCESSING FEE MAY APPLY.



**2 LOCATIONS**

16330 S US HIGHWAY 441  
SUMMERFIELD

SANTA FE CROSSING PLAZA  
8590 E CR 466, LADY LAKE  
ADJACENT TO THE VILLAGES® COMMUNITY™  
1 MILE NE OF LAKE SUMTER LANDING





# Seniors vs. Crime

## Self-Defense Against Scams

To everyone who hangs up on unwanted calls, learns about the latest scams, and checks with friends about suspicious offers: good news! According to Bridget Small, a Consumer Education Specialist with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), people who did all those things were less likely to lose money to a scam than people who didn't.

Many other experts agree. According to Exposed to Scams: What Separates Victims from Non-Victims?, a report from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, the BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust, and the Stanford Center on Longevity, the group surveyed more than 1,400 people who had reported a scam. They found several differences between people who did and didn't lose money. The people who avoided scams:

### Didn't interact with a scam offer.

Nearly half the people surveyed said they had ignored emails, thrown away mailers, and deleted friend requests. They had also hung up on bogus tax and debt collection calls, and imposter phishing scams.

### Learned about scams and scammers' tactics.

People who knew more about specific scams and scammers' tactics were more likely to reject an offer and avoid losing money. News stories were the top way to get information about frauds and scams for the majority of people surveyed.

**Talked to someone.** The people who had someone to talk with about the offers were less likely to lose money. Some people who were caught up in scams were helped by store

cashiers, bank tellers, or wire transfer employees who talked them out of sending money. Sometimes sharing what you know can help protect someone you know from a scam.

**The FTC as well as Seniors vs. Crime has resources to support you — and the people you care about — to avoid scams.**

Sign up for email updates about recent scams at [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFTCCONSUMER/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USFTCCONSUMER\\_8](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFTCCONSUMER/subscriber/new?topic_id=USFTCCONSUMER_8).

Go to **BulkOrder.FTC.gov** to order free publications to read and share in your community.

To keep up with the latest scams in our community, LIKE 'Seniors vs. Crime Region 4' on Facebook.

And please, if you spot a scam, report it at **FTC.gov/Complaint**. By reporting fraud, you can help the FTC identify scammers.

If you need assistance with understanding any aspects of scams, contact the nearest Seniors vs. Crime office in The Villages for advice or assistance. There is never a charge for their services.

## Paradise Pavers & Coping, LLC

"Paving Your Way To Paradise"

**352-753-2156**

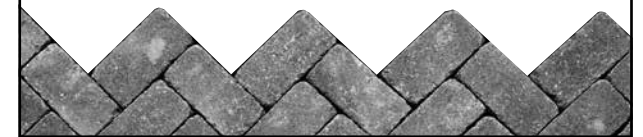
DECORATIVE WALLS REPAIRS RE-SEALS

**Free Estimates**

**No Deposits Required**

**\$25 Gift Card**

Installation of your choice OR 10% Off  
Pressure Wash or Re-Seal



If you need assistance with understanding any aspects of romance scams, contact the nearest Seniors vs. Crime office in The Villages for advice or assistance. There is never a charge for their services.

### Seniors vs Crime can be reached at:

The Fruitland Park Police Department Annex  
in the Moyer Recreation Center in The Villages  
(352) 674-1882

The Marion County Sheriff's Office  
in The Villages – (352) 753-7775

The Sumter County Sheriff's Office  
in The Villages – (352) 689-4600, Ext. 4606

The Wildwood Police Department Annex  
at Brownwood in The Villages – (352) 753-0727

Seniors vs. Crime does have a Speakers Bureau that will gladly come to your club, church or group to speak about scams. To schedule a presentation, contact any of the offices above.

Volunteers at all four offices are ready, willing and able to assist you. To keep up with the latest scams, LIKE 'Seniors vs. Crime Region 4' on Facebook. Hablamos Español. Por favor pregunte por Yolanda. Martes a Viernes: 10:00 A.M. a 2:00 P.M., (352) 689 4606. ■



# DISCOUNT PARTNERS

Another benefit for POA members is this Discount Partner program.

Most vendors will ask you for your current POA Membership card to receive the offered discount. If you have a favorite business who is currently not offering a POA Discount, tell them about our program. Please say "thanks" to our Discount Partners for their participation.



**The up-to-date list of Discount Partners can always be found on our website [poa4us.org](http://poa4us.org).** Click 'Discount Partners' on the left menu.

## NEW DISCOUNT PARTNER

### FIREHOUSE SUBS

13757 US Hwy. 441, Lady Lake  
352-430-3870

The FIREHOUSE SUBS of Lady Lake, FL *under new Management* will offer a SPECIAL DEAL to POA members with a valid POA ID of \$2.00 off a SPECIAL COMBO consisting of a medium sub, drink and chips. Offer is equivalent to a 20% Discount. Visit the Firehouse Subs today.



## Distinguished Service Award

2018 Elaine Dreidame

## POA Hall of Fame

- 2017 Myron Henry
- 2016 Frank E. Carr
- 2013 "Class Action Five"  
Elaine Dreidame  
Bill Garner  
Joe Gorman  
Rich Lambrecht  
Irv Yedwab
- 2012 Joe Gorman
- 2011 Pete Cacioppo  
Betty Cunningham
- 2009 Dorothy Morehouse-Beeney  
Vinnie Palmisano
- 2008 Ray and Lori Micucci  
Win Shook
- 2007 Rose Harvey  
Dorothy Hokr
- 2006 Charlie Harvey  
Carol Kope  
Frank Renner
- 2005 Sadie Woollard
- 2004 Russ Day  
Eva Hawkins  
William Rich, Jr.  
Glen Swindler  
Jean Tuttle

## The Property Owners' Association

8736 SE 165th Mulberry Lane,  
PMB 111, The Villages, 32162

## 2020 OFFICERS

President..... Cliff Wiener 418-7372  
V.P..... Jerry Ferlisi 391-5261  
Treasurer..... Donna Kempa 716-445-4008  
Secretary..... Reb Benson 874-0179

## Directors

Vicki Alkema ..... 941-587-4150  
Ken Copp ..... 751-0086  
Andrew Curtis ..... 315-0333  
Tita Dumagsa ..... 391-4828  
Cathy Peppers ..... 305-676-2710  
Bill Schikora ..... 552-1059  
Peg Tackett ..... 775-4837  
Sal Torname ..... 350-2218

## POA STAFF

Membership ..... Bill Schikora 552-1059  
IT Tech ..... Ken Copp 751-0086  
Bulletin Editor Deb Butterfield 219-508-6863

**POA Email [president@poa4us.org](mailto:president@poa4us.org)**

**POA Website [poa4us.org](http://poa4us.org)**

**POA Telephone 352-418-7372**



## ADVERTISERS:

For Ad Rates & Advertising Information  
Contact **Cliff Wiener**,  
POA President 352-418-7372  
[bulletinadvertising@poa4us.org](mailto:bulletinadvertising@poa4us.org)

**POA BULLETIN DELIVERY**  
(Stop/Restart Date)  
Email: [delivery@poa4us.org](mailto:delivery@poa4us.org)  
Call: 352-325-1540

## POA SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

For Your Group or Club.

Call **Cliff Wiener**  
POA President  
352-418-7372



# Robert Boissonneault Oncology Institute Introduces Groundbreaking Treatment for Metastatic Malignant Melanoma

*Twice-daily low-dose approach yields unexpected results in a disease resistant to radiation.*

**M**ore than 59,000 people worldwide die each year from metastatic malignant melanoma. For almost half a century, this disease has been resistant to radiation. Standard, once-daily radiation that has successfully treated other cancers does not work for melanoma. Increasing the radiation dose has offered little benefit while risking significant damage to normal tissues.

Melanoma's aggressive spread and resistance to radiation has generally made the use of smaller radiation doses given twice a day infeasible. However, research led by Dr. Norman Anderson at the Robert Boissonneault Oncology Institute has shown that giving even lower doses of radiation more frequently can eliminate all signs of the disease, reduce side effects significantly, and extend patient survival.

This type of radiation has also eliminated tumors even in untreated areas, a historically rare phenomenon called the abscopal effect. Such tumor reduction beyond the treatment area

may be due to an immune response resulting from the repeated lower radiation doses.

"The use of twice-daily treatment for malignant melanoma is a radical change from what is considered 'state of the art,'" Anderson explains. "[T]he belief that malignant melanoma is radiation resistant at low doses is now shown to be a false assumption since these cells prove sensitive with twice-daily treatment."

Anderson's research stemmed from his successful treatment of a man whose metastatic melanoma had produced 23 brain lesions. Knowing that standard methods of care would be ineffective, Anderson performed whole brain radiation, administering low doses twice a day. More than two decades later, his patient remains cancer-free, with no adverse effects from the radiation.

That discovery led to a study involving 19 patients: 12 men and 7 women. Together, their melanomas had metastasized to the brain, other areas of the head, neck, lung, abdomen, liver, pelvis, and

extremities, along with lymph nodes at various locations (adenopathy). Each patient received low-dose radiation twice a day; all experienced complete remission where treated. In addition, evidence of an immune inflammatory response may relate to the elimination of tumors outside the treatment area.

"This represented a group without alternatives for treatment; and yet, their improved survival is significant," Anderson says. "Without the use of immune or targeted therapy, our data demonstrate unexpected results after twice-daily radiation. The occurrence of further disease elsewhere over time is markedly diminished, if not eliminated, now approaching and beyond 10 years for some patients." In addition, this radiation can be delivered at a small fraction of the cost of other treatments.

Anderson adds that further study may determine whether immunotherapy, combined with this approach, can lead to a cure.

The study was published in *Cureus*.



*A Higher Standard*

**The Villages** 352.259.2200 / **Ocala** 352.732.0277  
**Timber Ridge** 352.861.2400 / **Inverness** 352.726.3400  
**Lecanto** 352.527.0106 / **RBOI.com**

**Norman H. Anderson M.D.**  
 Radiation Oncologist | CEO

