



Senior Services

AARP Offers Safe Driving Courses

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 12 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.

March 06 and March 07, Colony Cottage, Paul Scannell, 399-6414

March 07* Harbor Chase, Al Cloutier, 633-2793

March 13 and March 16, Laurel Manor, Pete Cronas, 753-7249

March 21* Sumter Grand, Pauline Howell, 205-3880

March 17 and March 24, Paradise, John Shepard, 399-2344

March 19 and March 22, Savannah, Don Walker, 430-0610

April 3 and April 4, Colony Cottage, Jack Haughn, 352-603-1420

April 10 and April 13, Laurel Manor, Wink Daniel, 352-753-8563

April 11*, HarborChase, Chet Kowalski, 352-430-1833

April 16 and April 19, Savannah, Charlie Webb, 352-693-2562

April 18*, Sumter Grand, Jack Haughn, 352-603-1420

May 01, and May 02, Colony Cottage, Paul Scannell, 352-399-6414

May 08 and May 11, Laurel Manor, Al Cloutier, 352-633-3793

May 21 and May 24, Savannah, Jack Haughn, 352-603-1420

May 16* Sumter Grand, Jack Haughn, 352-603-1420

May 19 and May 26, Paradise, John Shepard, 352-399-2344

June 05 and June 06, Colony Cottage, Pauline Bolwell, 352-205-3880

June 12 and June 15, Laurel Manor, Paul Scannell, 352-399-6414

June 13, Harbor Chase, Al Cloutier, 352-633-3793

June 16 and June 23, Paradise, John Shepard, 352-399-2344

June 18 and June 21, Savannah, Charlie Webb, 352-693-2562

All available courses are listed at www.aarp.org/findacourse or call 877-846-3299.

AARP Tax-Aide

Taxpayers who use Tax-Aide service in The Villages, FL and surrounding areas will be able to make their appointments for the upcoming tax season online beginning December 17, 2017! We will only open a portion of appointments initially and will add more after the January volunteer training is completed.

There will be a new Express Lane appointment at Colony Cottage Recreation Center. This will be for simple returns with fewer than 6 forms (no Sch C, brokerage statements, or itemized deductions). Longer appointment times will be available after mid-March for those with complex returns that generally take over an hour and a half to prepare. Email appointments@villagestaxaid.com to schedule an appointment. In-person appointments are available: January 15 & 16, 9am-1pm at Colony Cottage Recreation Center; January 16 & 17, 9am-1pm at La Hacienda Recreation Center.

SHINE Provide Free, Unbiased help with Medicare questions

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is increasing its counseling sites considerably during the annual enrollment period. Volunteers will be available to assist clients with Medicare related questions including drug, Medicaid, Medicare Advantage, and Medigap plans. Counselors will be at the following locations to assist area residents for one on one counseling on the indicated days:

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 9-11:50 a.m. Eisenhower Recreation Center

1st & 3rd Friday, 3-5:50 p.m. Chula Vista Recreation Center

2nd & 4th Tuesday, 9-11:50 a.m. Lake Miona Recreation Center

2nd & 4th Wednesday 2-4 p.m. Lady Lake Library

The service is free and reservations are not taken. For more information, call 800-963-5337. "Understanding Medicare" a group presentation geared toward those turning 65, is scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month February - October, 1-3 p.m. at Manatee Recreation Center.

Finally, SHINE has certified presenters who are trained to speak to groups. If interested, please contact the number, above, to schedule a presentation.

Military Retiree Activities Office

The Military Retiree Activities Office was established to provide assistance to all military retirees, dependents, widows, widowers and divorcees on all programs and benefits to which they may be entitled. The office provides assistance on military pay matters, health and dental insurances, ID card procurement, survivor's benefits and more. The office is located in the Lake County Sheriff substation at 108 La Grande Blvd. in The Villages. Hours are 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For information call 430-1679.

Seniors vs. Crime offers free dispute resolution assistance and scam awareness speakers

Seniors vs. Crime, a project of the Florida Attorney General's Office, is available to assist all Floridians in resolving disputes of any nature. Seniors vs. Crime also has a speaker's bureau. Any social, civic, religious or community service organization can get a speaker for their meetings to discuss scam awareness and avoidance. Visit or contact any office for personal assistance or to arrange for a speaker. The Marion County office is located in the Marion County Sheriff's Office at 8230 Mulberry Lane in The Villages. They are open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesday or 753-7775. The Sumter County office is located in the Sumter County Sheriff's Office at 8035 County Road 466 in the Sumter County Villages Annex. They are open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays form 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. or 689-4600, ext. 4606. The Wildwood Office is located in the Wildwood Police Department Annex next to Barnstorm Theater, 2722 Brownwood Blvd. They are open Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. or 750-1914. The newest location can be found at 3000 Moyer Loop. They are open from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. or by call 674-1882.