

OUR CORE VALUES

Hospitality

Stewardship

Creativity & Innovation

Hard Work

The Villages®

Community Development Districts

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

PURPOSE

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

VISION

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

MISSION

To provide responsible and accountable public service that enhances and sustains our community.

Maintaining the Momentum

The first day of fall has come and gone. During the week of September 19, 2021, I released your Momentum update and several of you have viewed it and commented back. This update provides our valued team members information on enhancements within the areas of customer service, governmental transparency, technology, and efficient/effective gains in our District. During the same week, the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners voted 5-0 to retain both VPSD and its own County Fire and EMS Departments but also to place ambulances and transport within the fire departments. Kudos go out to all of the employees of all departments who supported VPSD in order to retain its excellent urbanized branded customer service for the residents of The Villages. Special kudos go out to Chief Cain and his staff for their support and all of their public outreach efforts which resulted in over 600 persons attending the Sumter County BOCC meeting. Now, the District as urged onward by its County Commissioners and the VCCDD is taking the necessary initial steps to create a Special Independent District per FS 191 in order to provide our resident population with the governance and transparency in funding they deserve.

Richard Baier, P.E. LEED AP
District Manager



In the Spotlight

Lory Hatch ~ Recreation & Parks ~ Recreation Administrator

Where were you born & raised and went to school? I was born in Maine but grew up all over the eastern seaboard as a service brat.

Tell us about your family, people in your life (including pets!) I have two successful sons living in Atlanta and Colorado, two talented granddaughters and I am here in The Villages caring for my aging mother. I have a 15-year old Party Cocker Spaniel named Yoyo who loves the world and it loves her. Yeah, she's a little spoiled. Over the past couple of years, I have developed some wonderful friends here, that I couldn't do without.

Who has been the most influential person in your life and why? Mr. Larry Woodward, an All-State choir coach. He believed in everyone's capacity for good. He encouraged everyone he met to humbly strive to treat the earth and each other with respect and gratitude. I aspire to his level of sincerity.



What's the best advice you have ever received? Live honestly, love passionately, hug with gusto and the rest will fall into place.

What is the most interesting thing you have ever seen? It's a toss-up between the Aurora Borealis and Cathedral Notre-Dame de Paris.

What is your favorite aspect of working for the District? The camaraderie.

What was special about where you are from? The dramatic changes of the seasons and the glorious scenery. There is a nostalgic small town feel where everything is close enough to walk or bike, weather permitting...sometimes snowshoes are required apparel. Let's not forget the lobster!

Hobbies? Favorite activities? Dancing, hiking, boating and cards. My favorite thing in life is hanging out with my granddaughters.

What is the career & training path that led you to the District? I've been in administrative roles for better than 20 years inclusive of human resources, payroll, software training and implementation. While my degree is in IT, I heard exceptional things about recreation and strived to become part of this well-oiled machine.

Can you tell us about your day-to-day responsibilities? I review and call candidates for employment, schedule interviews, call references and send packets to human resources for determination. Upon acceptance I notify managers and new hires of additional training and maintain rosters. I review and submit incident reports, produce and maintain on call schedules and flyers. Prepare standard operating procedures and assist in any other administrative functions as needed.

My favorites...Movie: Brave Heart...**Television Show:** Whose line is it Anyway
Sports Team: GA Bulldogs / NE Patriots...**Vacation Spot:** Bahamas
Restaurant: Salt Water Grill in Panama City, Best grouper imperial ever
Food: Crab Legs...**Dessert:** Raspberry cream creampuffs

IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS

Are you looking for a career change, or know someone who is seeking employment? Our current job openings include:

Administration

Fleet Administrator-FT \$41,638.24 annual

Budget

Budget Analyst-FT \$51,573.41-\$56,730.75 annual

Community Watch

Gate Operations Attendant Substitute-PT \$10.00 per hour

Public Safety

Fire Inspector-FT \$46,346.46-\$69,177.61 annual
Public Education Technician-FT \$10.49 per hour

Recreation & Parks

Facility Specialist-PT \$10.00 per hour
Fitness Assistant-PT \$10.00 per hour
Recreation Assistant-PT \$10.00 per hour
Recreation Assistant-Boats-PT \$10.00 per hour
Recreation Assistant-Softball-PT \$10.00 per hour
Recreation Service Representative-PT \$11.07 per hour
Recreation Service Representative-Ezell-FT \$11.07 per hour

Keep an eye out for emails from Terianne Carroll, HR Administrator, for future openings within the District.

Or use our internal link to apply for internal positions:

<https://www2.appone.com/Search/Search.aspx?>

[Internal=yes&ServerVar=villagescentercommunitydevelopment.appone.com](https://www2.appone.com/Search/Search.aspx?Internal=yes&ServerVar=villagescentercommunitydevelopment.appone.com).

If you have questions on job openings or how to apply, please call Terianne at 352-674-1905

or email terianne.carroll@districtgov.org.

Community Watch

National Night Out

October 5, 2021
Brownwood Paddock Square
5-6pm

Meet your public safety & local law enforcement agencies. It services as a way to recognize law enforcement agencies and raise awareness for its community programs. Be on the lookout for the police and fire vehicle parade starting at 4pm in Spanish Springs Town Square, passing through Lake Sumter Landing Market Square and the final destination at Brownwood Paddock Square for a meet and greet with officers and firefighters.

Participating Partners

The Villages Public Safety Department
Marion County Sheriff's Office
Sumter County Sheriff's Office
Lake County Sheriff's Office
Sumter County Fire Department
Fruitland Park Police Department
Lady Lake Police Department
Wildwood Police Department



Welcome TO THE TEAM

Recreation & Parks

Daniel McConnell
Marlene Pirtle
Vicky Powell
George Rodriguez
William Weidle
Angelo Agrafiotis
Majid Al-Falahi
Linda Dodds
Kenneth Kaye
Edward Meunier
Arthur Miglio
Kathleen Murphy
Michael Orndoff
Arlene Schuchmann

Community Watch

William Ammerman
John Hawck
William Kerrigan
Richard Pullen
Derek Dressendorfer
John Goodwin
James Livers
Everett Robinson

Public Safety

Joshua Neebling

Customer Service

TracyAnne Brown

Administration

Madison Guinn

Employees On The



Finance

- **Angel Steffani** was promoted from Billing & Collection Technician to Senior Billing & Collection Technician.
- **Susan Serafini** was promoted from Billing & Collection Technician to Accounting Technician-Revenue Specialist.

Purchasing

- **Candice Harris** transferred from Deputy District Clerk to Buyer.

Customer Service

- **Rebecca Perkins** was promoted from Customer Service Supervisor to Customer Service Manager.

Community Watch

- **William Scott** was promoted from Gate Attendant to Patrol Driver.
- **Sherry Waller** was promoted from Gate Operations Attendant Substitute to Dispatcher.

Recreation

- **Janice Collom** transferred from Customer & Administrative Support Representative to Recreation Assistant.
- **Monica Lui** transferred from Recreation Supervisor to Recreation Supervisor-Customer Service.
- **Joseph McKenna** was promoted from Facility Specialist to Recreation Supervisor.
- **Michael Evans** was promoted from Recreation Assistant to Facility Specialist.

Property Management

- **Jerica Adams** transferred from Staff Assistant-Community Standards to Staff Assistant-Property Management.

CELEBRATING OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

John Goodwin	1	Community Watch
Laura Agosto	1	Recreation & Parks
Sharon Kryvanis	1	Public Safety
David Parris	2	Community Watch
William Cole	2	Community Watch
John Bellante	3	Recreation & Parks
Daniel Hayasaka	3	Public Safety
Donald Laranjo	4	Community Watch
Joseph Rudd	5	Recreation & Parks
Fredric Springer	5	Community Watch
Allen Colpitts	5	Recreation & Parks
Katherine Trulli	5	Recreation & Parks
Hubert Johnston	6	Public Safety
Henry Feingold	7	Community Watch
Lawrence Gerszewski	7	Recreation & Parks
William Easton	7	Community Watch
Tracy Whitten	7	Recreation & Parks
Richard Allain	8	Community Watch
Terry Pyle	8	Community Watch
Justin Cicero	8	Public Safety
Joseph Fazio	9	Community Watch
Dawna Dean	9	Recreation & Parks
Rocky Hartman	9	Public Safety
Meri Lynn	10	Recreation & Parks
Elizabeth Lesser	11	Recreation & Parks
Bridget Chianese	11	Finance
Carolyn Wescoe	12	Recreation & Parks
Richard Magan	12	Community Watch
Danny Reed	12	Community Watch
James Edgar	12	Community Watch
Charles Warren	12	Community Watch
David Robertson	12	Community Watch
Wesley Roe	12	Public Safety
Bryan Landerman	13	Community Watch
Cindy Larsen	13	Customer Service
Christopher Green	13	Public Safety
Gay Ratcliff-Seamens	14	Recreation & Parks
Verna Bronersky	14	Community Watch
Balsina Fischer	14	Community Watch
Thomas Dietrich	14	Community Watch
Rowlettia Gossard	14	Recreation & Parks
Frank Antonuccio	15	Community Watch
Kathleen Hyatt	15	Community Watch
Edward Sobeck	15	Recreation & Parks
Melinda Lodge	15	Recreation & Parks
Christopher Roberts	15	Public Safety
Trevor Stalbaum	15	Public Safety
Faith Vander Snow	16	Community Watch
Michael Fortier	16	Recreation & Parks
Nichole Leonardi	16	Public Safety

Emily Andrews	16	Recreation & Parks
Thomas Sherlock	17	Community Watch
Terrone Carpenter	17	Recreation & Parks
Frederick Hellmig	17	Community Watch
Lawrence McLaughlin	17	Community Watch
Susan Ambrecht	17	Recreation & Parks
Debra Toole	17	Recreation & Parks
James Goodworth	17	Public Safety
Rebecca Armstrong	17	Finance
Brandun Herbert	17	Public Safety
John Keegan	18	Community Watch
Joan Ferrara	18	Finance
Kelly Ward	18	Recreation & Parks
Nadia Whittaker	18	Recreation & Parks
Margaret Twidale	19	Recreation & Parks
Richard Jensen	19	Community Standards
Leo Shelko	19	Community Watch
Cody Pratt	19	Public Safety
Richard Lipski	20	Recreation & Parks
Barbara Fogarty	20	Community Watch
Linda Dodds	20	Recreation & Parks
Darian Raws	20	Recreation & Parks
Philip Cook	21	Community Watch
Earl Budd	21	Community Watch
Kathy Delaney	21	Community Watch
Deborah Ballard	21	Community Watch
Pamela Cunningham	21	Recreation & Parks
Lonny Abramsky	22	Community Watch
Mark Werner	22	Recreation & Parks
Terry Waller	23	Community Watch
Richard Rocchio	23	Recreation & Parks
Robert Riccadonna	23	Community Watch
Hugo Muller	23	Public Safety
Josue Santiago-Reyes	23	Property Management
Ronald Fox	25	Recreation & Parks
Daniel Sciacchetano	25	Recreation & Parks
Michael Farrar	26	Recreation & Parks
Scott Hondzinski	26	Recreation & Parks
Bruce Grisham	27	Recreation & Parks
Linda Jordan	27	Recreation & Parks
Michael Vasilko	28	Community Watch
Michael Firkey	28	Community Watch
Hervey Forward	28	Recreation & Parks
James Ferebee	29	Recreation & Parks
Thomas Glass	29	Recreation & Parks
Gordon Laughlin	30	Recreation & Parks
Frank Fauci	30	Community Watch
Patricia Bledsoe	30	Community Watch
Barbara Andrews	30	Recreation & Parks

Happy October Anniversary! Thank You For Your Service!

Eugene Whitaker	10/15/2003	18	Community Watch
Eugene Grossey	10/01/2004	17	Recreation & Parks
Nancy Gibson	10/05/2005	16	Recreation & Parks
Daniel Krehl	10/14/2005	16	Community Watch
Elisa Hurst	10/23/2006	15	Public Safety
Adelisa Luciano	10/23/2006	15	Public Safety
Vincent Walczak	10/23/2006	15	Public Safety
Scott Rylski	10/23/2006	15	Public Safety
Molly Farrar	10/03/2007	14	Recreation & Parks
Roy Keen	10/03/2007	14	Property Management
James Vigliarolo	10/01/2008	13	Recreation & Parks
Mary Morris	10/01/2008	13	Community Watch
Charles Marchiano	10/07/2009	12	Recreation & Parks
Ginny Mills	10/07/2009	12	Recreation & Parks
William Cole	10/14/2009	12	Community Watch
Michael Smith	10/28/2009	12	Recreation & Parks
Bridget Chianese	10/28/2009	12	Finance
Wayne Wescoe	10/27/2010	11	Recreation & Parks
Donald Klein	10/26/2011	10	Recreation & Parks
Joseph Rudd	10/26/2011	10	Recreation & Parks
James Magee	10/26/2011	10	Community Watch
Robert Smiley	10/01/2012	9	Public Safety
Michael Stephens	10/01/2012	9	Public Safety
Eric McFarland	10/01/2012	9	Public Safety
Hardy Forkapa	10/08/2012	9	Recreation & Parks
Albert Flower	10/08/2012	9	Community Watch
Kelly Lambert	10/08/2012	9	Finance
Edward Dockham	10/15/2012	9	Community Watch
Timothy Kinne	10/29/2012	9	Recreation & Parks
Charles Adams	10/29/2012	9	Recreation & Parks
John Spillane	10/29/2012	9	Community Watch
Dawn Doucette	10/07/2013	8	Public Safety
Balsina Fischer	10/14/2013	8	Community Watch
John Hackney	10/14/2013	8	Community Watch
Catherine McGarity	10/28/2013	8	Recreation & Parks
Donald Melcher	10/28/2013	8	Recreation & Parks
Mabel Haddock	10/28/2013	8	Finance
James Black	10/13/2014	7	Recreation & Parks
Gail Firestone	10/13/2014	7	Recreation & Parks
Donald Doucette	10/27/2014	7	Customer Service
Thomas Esposito	10/27/2014	7	Recreation & Parks
Jennifer Schuler	10/27/2014	7	Recreation & Parks
Ernest Casalini	10/27/2014	7	Community Watch
Daniel Lucin	10/27/2014	7	Property Management
Karen Rolph	10/12/2015	6	Recreation & Parks
Gerald Van Blarcom	10/26/2015	6	Community Watch
John Mills	10/26/2015	6	Community Watch
Patricia Garfield	10/26/2015	6	Finance
Robert Andrews	10/10/2016	5	Community Watch
James Hurrey	10/10/2016	5	Community Watch
Jeffrey Watson	10/10/2016	5	Community Watch
Dennis Godfrey	10/24/2016	5	Recreation & Parks
Amanda Brooks	10/24/2016	5	Recreation & Parks
Joseph Bagnato	10/23/2017	4	Recreation & Parks

Paul Lubenow	10/23/2017	4	Recreation & Parks
Faith Vander Snow	10/23/2017	4	Community Watch
Russell Stehn	10/23/2017	4	Community Watch
Dwayne Goode	10/23/2017	4	Community Watch
Leroy Thompson	10/08/2018	3	Recreation & Parks
Kelly Ward	10/08/2018	3	Recreation & Parks
Howard Wapner	10/08/2018	3	Community Watch
Steven Stein	10/08/2018	3	Community Watch
Anne Flanagan	10/15/2018	3	Customer Service
Robert McClure	10/22/2018	3	Recreation & Parks
Lawrence Reese	10/22/2018	3	Recreation & Parks
Gregg Mullens	10/22/2018	3	Recreation & Parks
Lindsay Collier	10/22/2018	3	Community Watch
Jeffrey Donnelly	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Melvin Stockdale	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Stanley Noval	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Charles Carr	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Brian Curran	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Wayne Ellison	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
MaryAnn Esposito	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Paul Kirsulis	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Cheryl Pierce	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Steven Pierce	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Thomas Phillips	10/07/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Frank Moravcik	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Rick Priewe	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Charles Warren	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Michael Davey	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Horace Roqueta	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Valerie Gould	10/07/2019	2	Community Watch
Antoinette Marsinelli	10/21/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Melinda Hallquist	10/21/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Vasima Stagl	10/21/2019	2	Recreation & Parks
Dennis Brown	10/21/2019	2	Community Watch
Daniel DiSanto	10/21/2019	2	Community Watch
Dale Cash	09/21/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Timothy Hoard	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
Pei Ma	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
Steven DeVita	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
William Grady	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
Leonard Clark	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
Albert Cooper	10/05/2020	1	Community Watch
Mary Lynn Golota	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Douglas Gossard	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Joseph Grassi	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Jocelyn Johnson	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Rowlettia Gossard	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Rebecca Alessandrine	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Tracy Osborne	10/19/2020	1	Recreation & Parks
Lee Blainey	10/19/2020	1	Community Watch
Timothy Herter	10/19/2020	1	Community Watch
Maureen Rose	10/19/2020	1	Community Watch
Thomas McDonnell	10/19/2020	1	Community Watch
Donna Willson	10/19/2020	1	Community Watch

Congratulations!

Thank you for your years of service!



*Elisa Hurst
Lieutenant*



*Vincent Walezak
Lieutenant*



*Scott Rylski
Firefighter EMT
Driver Engineer*



*Adelisa Luciano
Lieutenant*



*Donald Klein
Facility Specialist*



*James Magee
Patrol Driver Substitute*



*Joseph Rudd
Recreation Assistant*



Recognizing Our Core Values In Action!



Cindy Bennett, Staff Assistant
“Just a quick note to comment on an excellent employee. I have dealt with Cindy for the past few years, and she never fails to impress me. She is quick, bright, and a marvelous problem solver. She continuously finds solutions and is ever so pleasant. I know you probably receive many notes of complaint about various personnel so I thought you might enjoy a mention of a service star.”

**Tammy Lopez
Administrative Assistant**

“I connected him with Tammy. She was attentive and helpful.”

**Anne Flanagan
Customer & Administrative Support Representative**

“Thank you for going above and beyond to provide Mikki (Mom) with a view of the types of plaques available. We will circle back as soon as possible, as we wish to go forward with Dad's plaque to honor his legacy. With gratitude for all your time, patience, kindness and above all, gracious support, it means the world.”

**Eric Kellum
Environmental & Infrastructure Supervisor**

Eric recently coordinated with the design team to replace all the lights on a bridge with a new type after one got broken because the original style is no longer being manufactured. It was quite a task for several months.

**Pam Cunningham, Recreation Service Representative (L)
Dahlann Disher, Recreation Service Representative (M)
Meryl Boyd, Recreation Supervisor (R)**

A resident submitted a thank you letter to the Daily Sun newspaper expressing her gratitude for Pam, Dahlann, and Meryl's assistance rendered for their event. “These ladies are the epitome of what customer service is supposed to be! They're always courteous, helpful, and knowledgeable of their job. Thank You!”



Recreation & Parks Department

“We want to thank you and the Recreation Department for helping make our show on September 4th one of the best we ever had. The great ads in the Recreation & Parks publication got us much advance attention, judging by the many phone calls we received. The staff at the Savannah Regional Recreation Center did a fantastic job. Patrick helped make a safe, workable room setup, and the team on the day of the event was a great help. We had over 300 people attend the event and everyone had plenty of space, so there was never a problem. Savannah supplied sanitizer, and we had masks and rubber gloves for anyone who wanted to wear them. Thanks so much.”

**Don Neebling (L)
Division Chief of Admin.
Kimble Billingsley (R)
Professional Standards Officer**

A cookie gram was sent to Don & Kimble to thank them for their kindness. They provided a resident a ride to her residence after she was in a motor vehicle accident. “I will remember their caring concern and compassion as well as the ride home in the Division Chief's vehicle.”



**Sara Theriault
Recreation Assistant**

“I am writing to let you know that Sara was exceptional at our recent event at Laurel Manor Recreation Center. Her attention to detail in every aspect of arranging the room, seating, and AV equipment is greatly appreciated. Sara accomplished everything ahead of schedule (with a smile!) and helped us all enjoy our meeting. Please pass along our thanks to her for a job well done.”



**Bart Graham
Water Resources Manager**

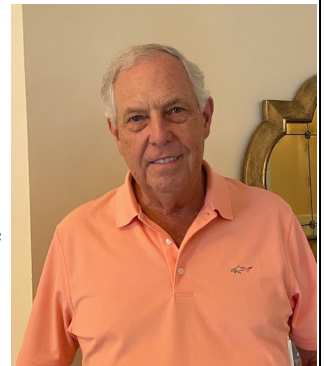
“I just got off the phone with Bart in Water Management. He couldn't have been more accommodating! I have an algae issue in my pond and he said he'll schedule a spraying this week. I would appreciate it if you could say something to him or better yet, forward this to him. He's keeper!”

A message from Mark Hayes, District 4 Supervisor

I would like to take some of your time to compliment you, your command staff and personnel for the efforts you all expended to make the BOCC, Sumter County to realize a unanimous vote on the issue of Transport Services for Sumter County and the VPSD. I am sure there were times when the outlook was not good. You hung in there and the result was a plus for your agency. Now the hard work must start to make this a success. I have no doubt you and your staff will do it correctly and professionally. Continued success as you move forward.

**Bruce Grisham
Recreation Assistant**

A new resident who recently moved into the Pine Hills area was feeling overwhelmed with the recreation scheduling and trying to find out how to get started with all the activities. She said that Bruce at the Moyer recreation center was accommodating and took the time to review all the different activities. Bruce also offered to assist with any questions she might have in the future. She wanted to let us know how wonderful he was to her.



Recognizing Our Core Values In Action!



Dan Bridgewater
Recreation Assistant (L)
Paul Kirsulis
Recreation Assistant (R)

Recently a family had a Celebration of Life at La Hacienda Recreation Center. "That evening, the recreation assistants went beyond expectations using "Creativity" to solve a music issue by loaning out their phone to the family for their special event. Those small things that

you all do each day make a big difference to our Residents."

Justin Sarka, Landscape Supervisor
David Van Vleet, Water Resources Supervisor

A resident called to compliment both Dave and Justin for addressing an issue so quickly.

James Morris, Landscape Manager
Chris Ryzoc, Landscape Assistant Manager

A resident called in to say that the vendor that provided service to the Bonnybrook Postal & Pool is a keeper. The resident was very happy with how the hedges were trimmed and was very happy with the results.

Cheryl Bidwell, Administrative Assistant (L)
Joshua Neebling, Public Education Technician (M)
Megan Conatser, Administrative Assistant (R)

A resident stated he was so grateful for Josh's services which were done quickly and efficiently and could not believe his chirping detector was handled on the same day as his request. He was also grateful for the girls at the front desk for being kind and courteous in handling the call.



**Outstanding performance by all employees,
as always!**

Recreation & Parks

Summer Intern



Elina Berzina joined the Recreation & Parks Department this summer as an Intern. Elina is attending St. Leo University, where she is in her final year working towards her MBA in Sports Business. Throughout the summer, she helped plan and execute recreational opportunities within the department to include Camp Villages, Socials,

and worked closely with volunteers to set up a demo of a new sport, Touch Tennis. We wish Elina the best in her final year at graduate school! Pictured L to R: **Chris Arrowood, Recreation Area Manager, Elina Berzina, Intern & Nadia Whittaker, Recreation Area Manager.**

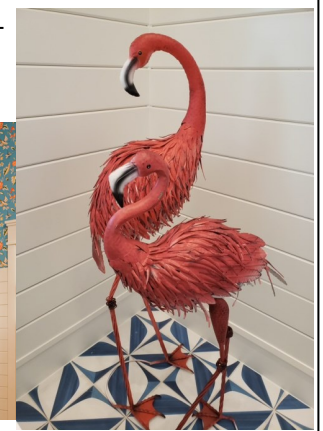
Touch Tennis Demo Day

On Thursday, August 19th, Recreation & Parks held a demo for a relatively new sport, Touch Tennis. This event was held at the Eisenhower Regional Recreation Complex and led by Elina Berzina, summer Intern. Touch tennis is played on a platform tennis court with a youth tennis racquet and a softer "nerf" type ball; between the size of a tennis and softball. Residents and recreation staff alike enjoyed the brief lesson and then the opportunity to play a few games. Plans are already being prepared to have a similar event in October.



Aviary Village Recreation Center – 2021 FRPA Facility Showcase Winner

Each year the Florida Recreation & Park Association recognizes newly designed or recently renovated facility spaces that serve the community. The Aviary Village Recreation Center was one of the few centers selected for the 2021 Facility Showcase. Aviary is in The Village of Hawkins, set amongst an eagle preserve, and features a theme focused on birds. This Showcase is The Villages Recreation & Parks twelfth recognized facility in the last ten years!



The Veterans' Memorial Park

The Villages held its annual ceremony to commemorate the events of 9/11, 20 years ago. Heirs Baxley, Inc, supplied the American Flags which were placed around the ceremony site the day before the event. Tom Miller, the Vice President of the Veterans Memorial Park group gave the welcome followed by the invocation by Chaplain Tom Feenaghty. The National Anthem was sung by Debra Perina, who served during the 9/11 attacks twenty years ago. **Deputy Chief James Goodworth** gave a speech to the crowd followed by a rifle salute performed by the Local Sheriffs Honor guard. The Villages Sound of Scotland once again had their bagpipers play during the ceremony. Attendance at the event was approximately 200 people.



Memorial Stair Climb

Each year firefighters participate in the 9/11 stair climb. The event is in honor of the FDNY 343 firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11/2001. Firefighters climb 110 flights of stairs in their gear which is equal to the number of stories in the world trade center.

District staff that took part include:

Kimble Billingsley Professional Standards Officer **Ryan Lavender** Firefighter Paramedic/Dr. Eng.

James Schnitker Firefighter Paramedic

Alec Brown Firefighter EMT

Angel Ferrer Firefighter EMT

Cameron Bryan Firefighter EMT



Public Safety

Open House

On September 20th The Villages Public Safety Department held an Open House at Station 47. Station 47 is located at 4856 S. Morse Boulevard and is the newest of all the Village's fire stations. This was the fourth open house held in the last few months. Over 100 residents were treated to tours of the station as well as explanations of the apparatus, what they carry and what each vehicle is designed for. The residents enjoyed getting an up-close look at the apparatus and now have a better understanding of what is on board when the firefighters respond to calls.



Property Management

Strategic Planning & Training



Anthony Valadez
Landscape Supervisor
(Left)



Angela Pattillo
Training Manager
(Right)



October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month



CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

The overarching theme for Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2021 is “Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart.” The theme empowers individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyberspace. If everyone does their part – implementing stronger security practices, raising community awareness, educating vulnerable audiences or training employees, our interconnected world will be safer and more resilient for everyone.

Know The Terms:

Malicious Email- can look just like it comes from a financial institution, an e-commerce site, a government agency or any other service or business.

- It often urges you to act quickly, because your account has been compromised, your order cannot be fulfilled or there is another urgent matter to address.

If you are unsure whether an email request is legitimate, try to verify it with these steps:

- Contact the company directly – using information provided on an account statement, on the company’s official website or on the back of a credit card.
- Search for the company online – but not with information provided in the email.

Spam- the electronic equivalent of junk mail. The term refers to unsolicited, bulk – and often unwanted – email. Reduce spam by reporting it. Most email clients offer ways to mark an email as spam or report instances of spam. Reporting spam will also help to prevent the messages from being directly delivered to your inbox.

Phishing attacks- use email or malicious websites (clicking on a link) to collect personal and financial information or infect your machine with malware and viruses.

Spear phishing - involves highly specialized attacks against specific targets or small groups of targets to collect information or gain access to systems.

Tips for Avoiding Being a Victim

- ⇒ Don’t reveal personal or financial information in an email, and do not respond to email solicitations for this information. This includes following links sent in email.
- ⇒ Before sending or entering sensitive information online, check the security of the website.
- ⇒ Pay attention to the website’s URL. Malicious websites may look identical to a legitimate site, but the URL may use a variation in spelling or a different domain (e.g., .com versus .net).
- ⇒ If you are unsure whether an email request is legitimate, try to verify it by contacting the company directly. Contact the company using information provided on an account statement, not information provided in an email.
- ⇒ Keep a clean machine. Keep all software on internet-connected devices – including PCs, smartphones and tablets – up to date to reduce risk of infection from malware.

What to Do if You Are a Victim

- Report it to the appropriate people within the organization, including the IT coordinator. They can be alert for any suspicious or unusual activity. Make use of the phishing and spam buttons in Outlook to report emails.
- If you believe your financial accounts may be compromised, contact your financial institution immediately and close the account(s). Then watch for any unauthorized charges to your account.

Protect yourself with these STOP. THINK. CONNECT. Tips:

When in doubt, throw it out: Links in email and online advertising are often how cybercriminals try to compromise your information. If it looks suspicious, it’s best to delete or – if appropriate – mark it as junk.

Think before you act: Be wary of communications that implores you to act immediately, offers something that sounds too good to be true or asks for personal information.

Make your passphrase a sentence: A strong passphrase is a sentence that is at least 12 characters long. Focus on phrases that you like to think about and are easy to remember (for example, “I love country music.”) Having separate passphrases for every account helps to thwart cybercriminals.

This Month and Always— **Do your part, be cyber smart.**

Source: <https://staysafeonline.org/stay-safe-online/identity-theft-fraud-cybercrime/spam-and-phishing/>





DISTRICT UNIVERSITY
Training & Development Programs: October 2021
 All professional development training workshops are open to all District Staff members.



Class Title	Instructor	Class Info	Relevant to	Date	Time	Location
New Hire Orientation	Varied District Staff	Welcome to the Team! This class provides new team members with a wide range of topics to help you navigate your first 60 days as a member of the team. Topics covered include District Core Values, Mission Statement, policy & procedures, diversity & inclusion, and safety practices.	<i>All New Team Members</i>	4th 18th	8:00am To 12:30pm	Colony Cottage 510 Colony Blvd.
Built to Last	Deb Franklin Director, Strategic Planning & Training Development	What separates “good” organizations from “great” ones? Based on the concepts from the book “Built To Last”, this class reinforces how our District Core Values serve as a compass to guide each of us, regardless of position, in providing responsive, responsible customer service that sustains us as a great organization.	<i>All New Team Members</i> <i>Mandatory within 60 days of employment</i>	27th	9:00am To 11:00am	Laurel Manor Recreation Center 1985 Laurel Manor Drive
Public Records & Ethics	Brionez & Brionez	Each of us, as members of the District, are responsible in our positions to be aware of and fully understand what information is protected under Public Records Law, how long to retain certain records, how to handle public records requests and Government Sunshine Laws.	<i>Mandatory for all District Staff. Attendees will be assigned by their department.</i>	12th	9:00am To 12:00pm	Webinar

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

To Register:

- **All Community Watch staff:**
Contact **Sharon Gwin (352-750-8203)**
- **All Recreation staff:**
Contact **Lory Hatch (352-674-1800)**
- **All Finance staff:**
Contact **Linda Sojourn (352-753-0421)**
- **All other District staff:**
Contact **Angela Pattillo, Manager, Training & Instructional Design** Angela.Pattillo@DistrictGov.org