



The Villager

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See The Villager Online: news.thevillagesgcc.com

December 5, 2024

The News this Week

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The Villager Online now active; traditional Villager delivered first & third weeks

The Villager Online is available to you 24/7. In tandem with the printed version, The Villager Online is just a click away, while The Villager newspaper is available to you in its traditional format on the **first** and **third Thursdays** of the month. If you haven't seen The Villager Online, please visit: news.thevillagesgcc.com

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Voices' 'A Winter Spectacular' Saturday tickets still available

By **Barbar F. Zahner**

Cookies baking. Candles flickering. Musicians tuning up. Feel the joy! Come hear and see the Village Voices sparkle at "A Winter Spectacular" this weekend. Tickets are still available for **Saturday, December 7 at 7 p.m.** (Sunday, tickets are sold out) in the Cribari Auditorium. You can buy tickets at the door for \$20 each. Pay cash or charge your house number. You can also purchase tickets online at: tinyurl.com/voiceswinterconcert2024.



Pick up your tickets ordered online at "Will Call" in the Cribari Lobby at least 15 minutes before the show. At intermission, enjoy hot chocolate, baked treats, and time to purchase tickets for the drawing for holiday baskets and gift cards. Plus—our own gifted pianist Larry Broderick will fill the Cribari Lobby with holiday musical medleys before and after the show.

Inside the auditorium, delight in special songs from Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and Appalachia sung by our talented 42-member Voices. Soloists Carol Baker, Sandy Burke, Peter Groot, Walter Hlavacek, Christine Leisy, Brigid Moreton, Nancy Miller, Margaret Nymoen, Margaret Orandi, and Aileen Reid will enliven your holiday spirit. Expect to tap your toes as the nine members of the Village Dancers sweep and leap across the stage. Be carried to Christmas Past hearing the six members of the handbell choir chime their notes. For a touch of holiday whimsy, delight in the voices of sisters Calyn and Elyana Ellacer, daughters of Voices Director Catherine Ellacer. Finally, for musical magic, savor pianist Tammy Welch playing solo pieces from the "Polar Express," and then join soloist Catherine Ellacer in a tender rendition of "Believe."

Need a ride? Call the VMA at 408-238-4230. Treat yourself to a holiday lift on December 7 and 8 in Cribari. Buy your tickets from any Voices member, at the door or online.

Villages Concert Band to perform joyful 'Christmas Winds'

By **Pamela Pierson**

Anticipate the holiday season! The "Christmas Winds," a concert by The Villages Concert Band, brings joy to Cribari Auditorium on **Sunday, December 15 at 2:30 p.m.** Buy your \$20 tickets at the door.

From popular music by Mariah Carey and James Ployhar to "Christmas Winds" by Douglas Wagner with a medley of traditional carols, the program includes a variety of music for the holiday season. A traditional selection includes "A Hanukkah Festival" by Chris M. Bernotas. For a bit of contrast in music styles, you will hear an arrangement of "We Three Kings" by Paul Clark with an offbeat pile-driving rock feel as well as a medley or two of well-known holiday favorites in a traditional style.

The Villages Concert Band, a part of the Villages Music Society, welcomes musicians of all ages—Villagers and members of the nearby community, including students. No auditions required. The band rehearses on Tuesday evenings. Join us on our musical journey, even if you haven't played in years. It's never too late to start. Rehearsals for 2025 begin Tuesday, January 7 at 7 p.m. in Cribari Auditorium.

See VillagesMusicSociety.org for more information.

Four Villages vets receive their Quilts of Valor on Veterans Day

By **Nancy Chesterton**

Four Villages veterans—Paul Miner, James (Jimmy) Halliwell, John Suhr and William (Bill) Beardsley—received their Quilts of Valor on Veterans Day, November 11.

To date, 30 quilts have been presented to our Villages veterans. Do you know of any veterans who put their lives on hold for service to our country? Are you one? Would you like a quilt to wrap yourself in during those down moments? Let a quilter know, or call me, Nancy Chesterton, for an application form. You or your family only need to apply. No surprises allowed. These are meant to be like a hug from your fellow countrymen for your service to our country in our time of need.

Please see more photos of the Quilts of Valor presentation on The Villager Online at news.thevillagesgcc.com.



Paul Miner gets his quilt from Nancy Chesterton and Sandy Juracich

COMMUNITY NEWS

PULSE

Dear Readers:

The Villager welcomes everyone's voice sharing ideas, opinions and accounts of life in The Villages in the Pulse column. Please follow the guidelines carefully.

All Pulse letters are posted on The Villager Online. Pulse letters submitted for the print-on-paper Villager are published the first week and the third week of the month. If you have a preference for any specific edition, please submit letter prior to the deadline for that particular edition.

Pulse deadline is 4 p.m. on Thursday of the week prior to publication. Pulse letters will be published in complete or abridged form at the discretion of the Publisher and in accordance with the editorial policies and rules established by the Club Board of Directors. (See VGCC Rule 1.30.) Opinions expressed by Pulse letter authors do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Villager Publisher, staff, boards of directors or management.

All Pulse letters must be 200 words or fewer on a single topic relating to life in the Villages. Letter authors are limited to one published Pulse letter per month. Each letter must also include name, address, phone number, date and number of words.

Letters may be submitted electronically through the Submission Form on The Villager Online: news.thevillagesgcc.com/article-submission-form/, or emailed to Villager Managing Editor S. Hinrichs: shinrichs@the-villages.com.

E-mailed letters must include the text within the body of the email and the subject line must read PULSE LETTER.

Typed or legibly written letters must include your signature and may be hand delivered to The Villager office in Building B or by mailing to the Communications Advisory Committee, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA 95135.

- 1 Pulse letter received this week.
- 0 Pulse letters not meeting Pulse Letter Requirements.
- 1 Pulse letter published this week.

Note: Pulse authors are solely responsible for the statements and opinions contained in the Pulse letters. The Villager does not verify the accuracy of any statements.

All Pulse letters that are published are retained by the Communications Advisory Committee (CAC) for a period of 12 months. Pulse letters not meeting Pulse Letter Requirements are not shared with anyone outside the CAC, management or Club Board and staff liaisons for the reason of confidentiality.

I would like to thank our new Executive Chef for the transformation he has performed in the Clubhouse. The new menus are exciting and ambitious and yet well carried through. I have eaten there and enjoyed it more in November than ever before and each meal has been a delightful success.

John Ilagan's enthusiasm has flowed through to the staff who seem to be uplifted by the improved range and quality of offerings and are enthusiastic to be part of the whole new experience.

Congratulations to John and thanks to the management team that secured his services for The Villages.

— Tony Berg

Office closures and holiday deadlines for The Villager

Villages business offices are closed for the Christmas holiday and New Year's Day—**Wednesday, December 25, Thursday, December 26 and Friday, December 27.**

Offices will close for New Year's Day **Wednesday, January 1.** Because of these office closures, *The Villager's* editorial deadlines will change: For the January 2 paper edition of *The Villager* the deadline is **Monday, December 23.** Classified ad deadlines are still on Mondays.

Materials needing to be published before Christmas will be published in the December 19 paper edition. The editorial deadline for that edition is **Thursday, December 12.**

The Communications Team wishes our contributors and readers the happiest and best of holidays!

Remember the EVF During the Holiday Season

As the holiday season approaches, we take a moment to appreciate our blessings and express our gratitude. We're fortunate to reside in a supportive and caring community that's also stunning in its beauty. The Evergreen Villages Foundation (EVF) extends its heartfelt thanks for your ongoing contributions and support over the years. Your generosity has allowed us to continue to strengthen our General Fund and help finance new and popular amenities as they are approved by the Club Board.

This year, our focus for the EVF Annual Giving Campaign is to bolster our General Fund, enabling us to efficiently fund projects. We're committed to continually conveying the value of the EVF to the Villages community.

We kindly ask for your help in spreading the word to your friends and neighbors about how the EVF has significantly improved the quality of life here in The Villages such as the new Bocce area.

If you wish to make a donation to our efforts you can easily do so by visiting our website at evfsj.org. Additionally, don't forget about the Planned Giving Program, which offers you an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy in our wonderful community. Once again, we express our deep appreciation for your steadfast support of the EVF, and we look forward to a joyful and happy 2025.



IN MEMORIAM

**Mignon Gibson
1951—2024**

(Please see obituary in the Classified Advertising section)

**Carmel Margaret Smith
July 13, 1948—November 6, 2024**

(Please see obituary in the Classified Advertising section)

**Obituaries are now also available online at
news.thevillagesgcc.com/in-memoriam**

DEADLINES

General Copy: All general copy, other than sports, is due by 4:30 p.m. Thursday, seven days prior to publication. For editorial information call 408-754-1341 or 408-223-4655 or email ktran@the-villages.com.

Sports: Sports copy is acceptable after deadline only by permission of the Managing Editor, 408-223-4655.

Classified Ads: Classified ads, renewals, cancellations and changes are due by 4 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Holiday deadlines differ. Please use The Villager Online submission form at: <https://member.thevillagesgcc.com/static/submit-article/> or, e-mail to: ktran@the-villages.com. For more information, please call 408-754-1341 or 408-223-4655.

Display Ads: Display ad rates and placement may be arranged by calling 408-223-4657. Display advertising information is available on The Member Portal at: <https://member.thevillagesgcc.com/static/advertising/>

Delivery: *The Villager* is published the first and third Thursdays of the month and distributed to all residents Friday morning. Extra copies of the latest editions are available in *The Villager* office, in Cribari Center and in the Library. Call 408-223-4655 to report missed deliveries.

POLICIES

Publication of advertising in *The Villager* does not constitute endorsement. Licensed real estate professionals advertising in *The Villager* are required to name themselves as agent or broker, or list the name of the brokerage for whom they work as part of their ad. This is in compliance with Real Estate Law Section 10140.6.

All copy is subject to editing and must be submitted with that understanding. *The Villager* reserves the right to reject or discontinue advertising or articles that are deemed unsuitable.

The Villages Communications Advisory Committee develops operational plans, reviews rules and policies, and advises the General Manager and Club Board on issues pertaining to *The Villager*, including Pulse letters, Channels 26 and 27, FastLane and the website. Residents having relevant concerns may attend meetings or call committee members by phone: Chair Barbara Clurman at 669-234-4180, and Co-Chair Debbie Champion at 408-960-6994.

HOURS

The Villager editorial and classified advertising hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *The Villager* display advertising office hours are by appointment. Call 408-223-4657 to schedule.

The Villager is the official and legal communication medium for The Villages, a Senior Community. Its mission is to provide residents with timely information about activities, facilities and services at The Villages, and to promote a sense of community by documenting and celebrating those common experiences highlighting life at The Villages.

The Villager is published the first and third Thursdays of the month under policies established by the

Club Board of Directors:

Richard Zahner	President
Judy Owen	Vice President
Andrew Altman	Treasurer
Liz Kung	Secretary
Larry Versaw	Director
Michelle Breslin	Director
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Scott Hinrichs	Managing Editor
Kory Tran	Associate Editor
Jerry Marquez	Design Editor
Mia Ahlstrom	Advertising/Customer Service
Mariam Ibrahim	Webmaster

The Villager is published by The Villages Golf and Country Club, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, California 95135. Copyright 2024. All rights reserved. Visit The Villages website at: thevillagesgcc.com

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

2024 – A Year of Progress and Achievements

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to share the incredible strides made in enhancing The Villages Golf and Country Club. These accomplishments reflect our dedication to maintaining a vibrant, welcoming community in which to live, work and play!

2024 Highlights

- **Stables Replaced the Hay Barn:** An actual haybarn has been installed and looking forward to the completion of the drainage around the site to ensure our equestrian facilities continue to be a safe and well-maintained asset.
- **Bunker Renovations:** Sand traps are being upgraded to enhance both functionality and aesthetics on the golf course.
- **Fitness Center:** New equipment and an improved floor flow provide a modern, efficient workout environment.
- **New Chef:** A talented chef has joined us, elevating our dining experiences with fresh flavors and exciting menus.
- **Bocce Courts:** Renovated two courts and installed a new third court along with shade, new storage building, misc. others (benches, tables) are now completed, adding to our rich array of recreational amenities.
- **Hill Land Trail Project:** This long-awaited project has been successfully completed, improving accessibility and enjoyment for all.
- **Turf Reduction & Irrigation Upgrades:** Along Villages Parkway, upgrades near Sonata, Del Lago, and Montgomery are well underway to support sustainability and efficiency.
- **New Electronic Doors:** This three-year project has been finalized, enhancing convenience and accessibility across the Club.
- **Cribari Sound & Audio Upgrades:** These long-planned enhancements have been approved and are now heading to contract.
- **Bistro Patio Pergola (Phase 1):** The removal of the tent marks the start of this exciting project, alongside firepit repairs that are now in progress.
- **Business Operating Infrastructure Projects:** From server modernization to Wi-Fi and network upgrades, these advancements are fortifying our technology backbone.
 - o ERP System: Implementation of a new system to streamline operations, improving overall efficiency.
 - o Maintain X: Work Order System
 - o Enhanced The Villager with quality improvements, including introducing QR codes for Clubhouse menus.
 - o Launched new communication platforms: redesigned public website and FastLane to FastNews, brand new Member Portal, first-ever Member Mobile App, and The Villager Online, plus new online advertising framework and design services for advertisers.
 - o Introduced Fireside Chats as a new GM outreach forum.
 - o Sustained community technology transitions with WOW sessions, Tech Corner, and ongoing member support.
 - o Integrated Member Portal walkthroughs into Welcome presentations.
- **Fully redesigned Building C** to reflect an enhanced member-inspired experience.
- **Integrated Member Portal** walkthroughs into Welcome presentations.

Join us in celebrating a year of remarkable progress and innovation at The Villages.

The Villages Community Progresses Toward Firewise Designation

A dedicated group of Villager volunteers has been hard at work since early November, conducting in-person property assessments gathering data that will be considered for enhancing wildfire resilience within The Villages. To date, approximately 13% of homes have been assessed. It is anticipated that by March 2025, all assessments for condominiums and those requested by single family homeowners will be completed. Once finalized, any home owner will be able to request a data report for their property.

The Villages is actively pursuing recognition as a Firewise community, a national designation that provides a structured approach to improving wildfire resilience. Recently, a core team of Villager community leaders, management, and representatives from the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council collaborated with the San Jose Fire Department to complete a perimeter risk hazard assessment—an essential requirement for Firewise designation.

The Firewise program promotes collaboration between residents, local fire departments, and other key stakeholders to strengthen home and community defenses against wildfires. Supported by CAL FIRE's Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation Division, this initiative aligns with California's broader wildfire preparedness strategy, providing guidance and resources for communities to reduce risk and increase safety.



Shape the Future: Join the Leadership Development Committee!

The Club Board is launching a Leadership Development Committee (LDC) program designed to prepare and inspire members interested in serving as future Board Directors and Committee members. Members will gain valuable insights into the Villages' governance structure, roles, and responsibilities of directors on all three Boards. Topics to be covered include strategic planning, the role of Board members in non-profit governance, budgeting and financial oversight.

As part of this program, members will also collaborate on a purposeful project, culminating in a recommendation to the appropriate Board for consideration. The program runs from January through October, with monthly two-hour educational sessions.

If you are passionate about leadership and community involvement, this is your opportunity to make a difference.

To express your interest in this exciting initiative, please contact Club Board President Richard Zahner at rrrcbod@gmail.com by Friday, December 20.

We look forward to your participation in shaping the future leadership of The Villages!

Questions for the CBOD or ABOD?

The Club Board of Directors (CBOD) appreciates the need of having your questions answered. If you have any questions, please email them to Julia Meadows at jmeadows@the-villages.com.

The Association Board of Directors (ABOD) appreciates the need of having your questions answered. If you have any questions, please email them to Liz Ramos at LRamos@the-villages.com

Or, for either Board, submit your questions to *The Villager Online* through the article submission page, or you can put a written question in the drop-box in the parking lot of Building A.





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MANAGEMENT

GM CORNER

Dear Villagers,

We understand you may be experiencing slower internet speeds, buffering, or intermittent connectivity across our Club Facilities. These issues, caused by outdated technology infrastructure, have been increasingly magnified across the administrative offices. Our business operating systems have also faced constant disruptions, including Wi-Fi and internet issues, login challenges, and service interruptions affecting critical tools like point-of-sale systems and credit card machines.

To address these challenges, we are undertaking a major technology upgrade that will stabilize connectivity across The Villages, including public Wi-Fi at amenities such as the Clubhouse, Fitness Center, and Community Centers, as well as in the business offices:

• **Server Upgrade:** Our current servers, running on Microsoft 2008, have not received critical updates for years. We are upgrading to the 2019 system to ensure security, stability, and improved functionality.

• **Switch Installations:** New switches are being installed at the Security Plaza, Pro Shop, and Clubhouse, with upgrades to all other locations to replace non-working or outdated equipment. This initiative aims to improve network reliability, enhance connectivity, and support current and future technological needs across The Villages.

• **Access Points:**

o **Upgrades:** Aging Wi-Fi access points at Villages amenities are being replaced with modern, high-capacity equipment to improve connectivity for public and business networks.

o **Coverage:** The upgrades include the Villages Public Wi-Fi network and the connectivity within our business offices.

• **Network Closets and Power Supply:** Outdated network closets are being cleaned up, and Uninterruptible Power Supplies (UPS) are being installed to enhance reliability and protect against outages.

These upgrades, alongside the migration to Microsoft 365, will ensure faster, more reliable connectivity across The Villages. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work toward a more connected and efficient community.

—Villages General Manager Theresa Ostrander

Battery Collection dates for remainder of 2024

The Villages continues to offer household battery collection service twice monthly, weather permitting. The final collection date for the remainder of 2024 is:

When: **Friday, December 13** between **9 a.m.** and **10 a.m.** (no early drop off)

Where: Tennis court parking lot near air station

What: Household batteries only (A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9-volt and button batteries)—corroded batteries need to be bagged in plastic—please, no e-waste or rubbish.

DACs—Make appointment by the Wednesday before the recycle date with Sustainability Services (408-754-1334 or mtatum@the-villages.com) for a drop off time and quantity. Only 125 pounds can be transported at one time—California State Health and Safety Code, HSC 25218-5.1

If the above dates/times are not convenient, please contact the Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Drop Off Site directly for an appointment at 408-299-7300.



WOW sessions now scheduled online only

The WOW Member Portal help sessions, previously held in the Sequoia Room at Cribari Center, are now scheduled online by going to the link: tvgcc.co/book/aleung

You may also email memberportal@the-villages.com or call Anita at 650-582-2223 to get on the schedule and receive assistance with the Member Portal.

Comcast/Xfinity onsite and virtual appointments available

Deisy Gomez, The Villages Comcast/Xfinity account manager, will be available for virtual appointments every Friday by appointment from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please go to <https://calendly.com/deisygomez1326/the-villages> to make an appointment



What to do with gift bags

Gift bags often appear glossy if they are made from a paper-plastic mix. This type of material can't be recycled because the paper and plastic can't be separated.

Generally, gift bags can't be recycled if they have ribbons, bows or glitter. If your gift bag is 100 percent paper, it is OK to recycle but remove all of the adornments first.






Estate Planning and Probate Attorneys

We have many family members, friends and clients who call The Villages their home.

We have assisted many Villagers establish their estate plans, and we look forward to the opportunity to assist many more.


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GOVERNANCE MEETINGS

Ad Hoc Insurance Committee to meet Wednesday, December 11

The Ad Hoc Insurance Committee will meet Wednesday, December 11 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom
 Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83944566617?pwd=1jY0VlKxUNnaMp4sIELQiPjQlcA5M0.1>
 Meeting ID: 839 4456 6617; Passcode: 056539; Dial: 1-669-900-6833

Deadline for editorial materials is the Thursday before the date of publication. Please email your copy to: ktran@the-villages.com

More COMMUNITY NOTICES

(SRS) SENIOR RESOURCE SERVICES

Changes to Medicare Premiums in 2025

In 2025, Medicare recipients will see changes to their Medicare premiums and to the surcharge tiers.

2025 Tiers and Premium Amounts				
Income Individuals	Income Couples	Medicare B Premium	Medicare B Surcharge	Medicare D Surcharge
Up to \$106,000	Up to \$212,000	\$185		
\$106,000 – \$133,000	\$212,001 – \$266,000	\$185	\$74	13.70
\$133,000 – \$167,000	\$266,001 – \$334,000	\$185	\$185	\$35.30
\$167,001 – \$200,000	\$344,001 – \$400,000	\$185	\$259	\$57
\$200,001 – \$500,000	\$400,001 – \$750,000	\$185	\$406.90	\$78.60
More than \$500,001	More than \$750,001	\$185	\$443.90	\$85.80

High income taxpayers pay an additional surcharge for Medicare Part B and D. High income is defined as more than \$106,000 for a single taxpayer and \$212,000 for a couple. This is an annual calculation based on your gross income from two years before. Consequently, your surcharge for 2025 is based on your 2024 income tax return.

You can appeal the surcharges if your income has substantially decreased since 2024 because of certain life changing events. Examples include the following: getting married or divorced or becoming widowed; you or your spouse retire or reduce your work hours; or you lose income-producing property due to a disaster. Social Security Form SSA-44 is used to request a recalculation.

Unfortunately, a substantial gain on the sale of your previous personal residence is not considered a life changing event. Remember this is an annual calculation. If you had a windfall in 2023 creating a large surcharge in 2025, your 2026 premium will be calculated using your more usual income from your 2024 tax return.

Note: The Senior Resource Services (SRS) office hours for drop-in assistance are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to noon. The SRS office is in the Cribari Center across from the Post Office. You may also leave a message at 408-239-5253 or e-mail SRS at villagesrs@sbcglobal.net. The purpose of SRS is to provide education and general business and financial information. All assistance is free and confidential. You should ask your professional advisor about your individual situation.

SRS Reminder:

Property tax bills

2024-25 property tax bills were mailed out starting October 1, 2024. The first installment of property tax payments for fiscal year 2024-25 is due **November 1** and becomes delinquent after **December 10**.

December 10 is the last date for paying your first installment of your Santa Clara County real estate tax without paying a 10% penalty and late fees.

You may pay online at <https://payments.sccgov.org/propertytax>. There is no fee for paying electronically. Just have your checkbook handy so you can enter the bank routing number and your account number.

A 2.22 percent convenience fee with a \$1.49 minimum will be charged by the payment processing vendor when using a debit or credit card.

If you pay with a paper check, your payment envelope needs to be postmarked by December 10. Paying online eliminates the worry as to whether or not the post office processes your mail by the due date, or the County loses your envelope.

BOARD MEETINGS

Association

The Villages Association Board of Directors Monthly Board hybrid meeting is **Tuesday, December 10 at 9:30 a.m.** in Foothill Center and on Zoom. Meeting ID: 917 8108 3392; Passcode: 223468; Dial: 1-669-900-6833

Club

The Villages Golf & Country Club Board of Directors Regular Meeting is **Tuesday, December 10 at 1:30 p.m.** in Foothill Center and on Zoom. Meeting ID: 961 5036 4740; Passcode: 260616; Dial: 1-669-900-6833

Homeowners

The Villages Homeowners' Corporation Board of Directors FY 24/25 Quarterly Business Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Thursday, December 19 at 9 a.m. in Montgomery Center.
 Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 9 a.m.
 Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Renew your guest barcodes for the year

As the end of the year approaches, the Public Safety Department reminds residents that the annual renewal of guest barcodes is just around the corner. To ensure uninterrupted access for your guests, please take the necessary steps to confirm the barcodes associated with your account.

Please note, a renewal fee of \$6 per vehicle will be applied to accounts in January. This fee helps maintain the efficiency and security of our barcode system, ensuring smooth access for all authorized guests. For residents without a monthly charge account, a letter will be sent via mail with instructions for submitting payment by check.

Don't delay—confirm your guest barcodes today to ensure continued access for your visitors. For any questions or further assistance, please contact Public Safety at PublicSafety@the-villages.com or stop by Building C during regular business hours.



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RECREATION

The following events are sponsored by The Villages. Please call 408-223-4643 for additional information.

Building B business hours

The Recreation Services office in Building B is open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Register now for Yoga!



Discover the transformative power of yoga in our class designed for all levels! This session combines easy moves that enhance body awareness, flexibility and range of motion. You'll strengthen your muscles and improve balance through

standing poses, along with seated, prone (lying face down), and supine (lying face up) postures on the mat.

With options for both beginners and those seeking a more advanced challenge, our slow and mindful movements let you connect deeply with your body and breath. Participants should be able to get up and down from the mat.

This session runs **Wednesdays, January 15 to March 5** from **10 a.m. to 11 a.m.** in the Cribari Center Auditorium. The session price includes eight classes and is **\$105** per person.

Don't wait to find your flow! Registration for this class is open now in Building B. Register by **Monday, January 6** and take the first step toward a healthier, more balanced you.

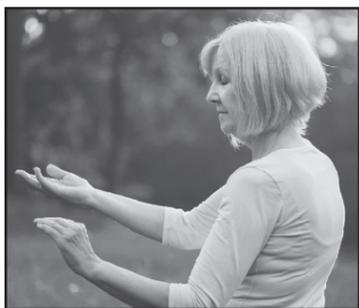
Join new QiGong class and find your balance!

Qigong, an ancient Chinese practice combining gentle movement, breathing techniques and meditation, offers a holistic approach to wellness anyone can enjoy.

This centuries-old practice harmonizes physical movement with mindful breathing to improve energy flow, reduce stress and promote overall well-being. Whether you're seeking physical fitness, mental clarity, or a peaceful escape from daily stress, Qigong offers something for everyone.

This session runs on **Wednesdays, January 15 to March 5** from **11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.** in the Cribari Center Auditorium. The session price includes eight classes and is **\$105** per person.

Don't wait to find your flow! Registration for this class is open now. Register by **Monday, January 6** and take the first step toward a healthier, more balanced you.



Explore cutting-edge exercise with Nirvana® Fitness!



Nirvana® fitness classes blend Yoga and Pilates movements with mood-enhancing music. This unique combination provides the ideal rhythm for breathing throughout the entire session. The result is an enhanced mind-body connection. In these classes, you'll do movements both standing and on the floor. You need to get down to and up from the floor on your own. This class requires you to bring your own yoga mat. Kneepads are also recommended.

Barbara Bitonti is a certified FWA Wellness Health Coach, a Nirvana® fitness instructor and an immunologist. With a solid medical background, she stays updated on health and wellness

best practices. Barbara advocates for holistic well-being and invites you to explore the benefits of this cutting-edge exercise technique.

This session runs on Mondays, from **9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. from Jan. 13 to March 10**, in the Cribari Center Conference Room. There will be no class Monday, Feb. 17. The session price includes eight classes and is **\$90** per person. Don't wait to find your strength! Registration for this class is open now in Building B. Register by Monday, Jan. 6 and take the first step toward a healthier you.

Register now for Zumba Gold—a fitness class for everyone!

Register now for Zumba Gold, a class tailored to meet the needs of participants with different fitness levels and abilities, offering easy-to-follow choreography that improves cardiovascular health, flexibility, balance and coordination. Whether you're a seasoned dancer or a total beginner, Zumba Gold welcomes everyone.

Designed for active older adults or anyone seeking a lower-impact version of the classic Zumba workout, Zumba Gold blends dynamic Latin-inspired dance moves with a pace that's just right for you.

This session runs on **Mondays, January 6 to February 24** or **Wednesdays, January 8 to February 26** from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Cribari Center Conference Room. You can register for either day or both! The session price includes eight classes and is **\$105** per person.

Don't wait to find your rhythm! Registration for this class is open now. Register by Monday, December 30 and take the first step toward a healthier, more balanced you.



Check out new equipment at Fitness Center

The Village's Fitness Center, behind Cribari Center, just received delivery of some new modern equipment and we're inviting the community to come see it for themselves! Whether you're a seasoned gym goer or just beginning your wellness journey, there's something for everyone. The new additions include a recumbent bike, rower, heavy punching bag, chest press, shoulder press and more. Designed with your health in mind, the equipment offers smoother motion, customizable settings, and interactive features to keep you motivated and challenged.

As a reminder, if you are a new Fitness Center user you will need to go to a Fitness Center orientation session first to gain access. You can register for an orientation session online through the Calendar of Events on the Member Portal or by contacting Recreation Services staff in Building B during regular business hours. The orientation sessions are held **every Thursday evening starting at 7 p.m.** and also the **second Saturday of each month starting at 9:30 a.m.**

We can't wait to see you all using and enjoying the new equipment!

RESIDENT EXCURSION PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Recreation Services office offers a wide variety of activities for the enjoyment of the Villages residents. *Please check your personal calendars prior to committing to an event, class or trip. Once registered for an activity, you are responsible for*

the cost of the activity. All sales are final.

Registration is limited to residents only for the first two weeks.

Management assumes residents and guests are able to participate in our sponsored

activities independently. We reserve the right to evaluate the participant's ability to participate based on each individual's physical abilities and/or demonstrated behaviors. You may always take a caregiver with you to help with your needs.

Employees are not permitted to provide physical assistance to participants. If personal assistance or a wheelchair is needed, the participant must arrange for a caregiver with paid reservation to accompany him/her.

Employees, residents and their guests represent the Villages Golf and Country Club off site. It is expected that all participants will conduct themselves in a dignified, cooperative and congenial manner.

Hop on a time travel adventure with 'Back to the Future: The Musical'

On **Thursday, February 13**, get ready for a thrilling journey through time! Don't miss this exciting day trip to see "Back to the Future: The Musical" live onstage in San Francisco. Join fellow fans for great food and exhilarating entertainment as this experience will be a crowd-pleaser.



Settle into your seats for an electrifying afternoon as the beloved classic "Back to the Future" comes to life in musical form. This stage adaptation brings together catchy songs, high-energy performances and incredible special effects, recreating Marty McFly and Doc Brown's time-traveling ad-

venture in a fresh, exhilarating way. Whether you're a longtime fan of the movie or new to the story, the musical promises something for everyone with its mix of nostalgia and dazzling new twists.

Before the show, we will enjoy a delicious lunch at Max's Opera Café with entrée choices including a BBQ beef brisket plate, grilled salmon salad, roasted beet salad, Grandma's honey roasted chicken or jambalaya fettuccini. You will also get to choose your dessert between cheesecake, ultimate chocolate cake, Niagara Falls cake or ice cream.

The trip cost per person is **\$237** and includes musical tickets, lunch, trip escort and round-trip transportation. Gratuity for the driver is already included in the price. Additional tipping is at your discretion.

We will depart from Cribari East Parking Lot at 9 a.m. with an estimated return time of 5 p.m. The activity level is moderate.

Registration for this trip now in Building B. The signup deadline is **Thursday, January 2**, or sooner if seats sell out.

Dive into Art and Flavor: Learn Theatrical Design and enjoy a New England Lobster Boil!

On **Wednesday, January 29**, art lovers, theater buffs, and anyone with a taste for adventure won't want to miss this exciting day trip to San Francisco's Legion of Honor Museum, featuring The Art of Theatrical Design exhibit! This trip combines a cultural feast for the senses with a classic New England dining experience at The New England Lobster Market & Eatery.

The Legion of Honor's latest exhibit, The Art of Theatrical Design, celebrates the magic behind the scenes, showcasing the artistry and ingenuity that brings stories to life onstage. Visitors will journey through costumes, stage sets, and design sketches from some of theater's most iconic productions. It's a must-see for anyone interested in the creative process, offering a rare glimpse into the world of theatrical design and the artistic mastery that drives it.

Following the museum tour, the group will head to the New England Lobster Market & Eatery for a traditional lobster boil. Each participant will receive 1.25 lb. of fresh, savory lobster, shrimp, sausage, artichokes, corn on the cob, potatoes, onions, garlic and sourdough baguettes, perfect for this authentic New England-style meal. This feast is the perfect way to end the day, giving participants a chance to unwind, savor delicious seafood, and enjoy the company of fellow art and food lovers.

The trip cost per person is **\$239** and includes entrance to the museum, lunch, trip escort and round-trip transportation. Gratuity for the driver is already included in the price. Additional tipping is at your discretion.

We will depart from Cribari East Parking Lot at 8 a.m. with an estimated return time of 4 p.m. The activity level is moderate.

Registration for this trip now in Building B. The signup deadline is **Thursday, January 2**, or sooner if seats sell out.

Journey to the stars at the Chabot Space & Science Center

On **Friday, February 28**, we are calling all space enthusiasts, science fans and adventurers! Don't miss this exciting trip to the Chabot Space & Science Center, where you can explore the wonders of space, experience hands-on exhibits and enjoy a unique day with fellow travelers. From its modern planetarium to interactive exhibits and historic telescopes, the Chabot Space & Science Center is a true Bay Area gem. Dive into the mysteries of the cosmos with exhibits that explore planets, stars, and galaxies, and learn about humanity's journey to understand the universe.

After our out-of-this-world experience, we will dine at NIDO's Backyard for a flavorful Mexican-inspired lunch buffet. Known for its lively ambiance and delicious, locally sourced ingredients, NIDO's offers a true taste of Oakland's culinary scene. Enjoy dishes like chicken or carnitas tacos, arroz mexicano, frijoles pintos, house-made tortillas, and fresh guacamole while relaxing. It's the perfect way to unwind and recap the day's discoveries with fellow adventurers.

The trip cost per person is **\$145** and includes entrance to the museum, lunch, trip escort and round-trip transportation. Gratuity for the driver is already included in the price. Additional tipping is at your discretion.

We will depart from Cribari East Parking Lot at 8 a.m. with an estimated return time of 4:30 p.m. p.m. Activity level is moderate.

Registration for this trip now in Building B. The signup deadline is **Thursday, January 2**, or sooner if seats sell out.

Experience History and Luxury: Travel with us to the Blackhawk Museum!

On **Friday, January 17**, get ready for a day filled with history and culture! The Blackhawk Museum is home to an incredible array of exhibits, from its iconic collection of rare classic cars to the Spirit of the Old West, an exhibit dedicated to the history of America's Native peoples and the pioneers of the American West. Visitors will also enjoy "Into China," a collection that showcases the culture and treasures of ancient China. The museum's exhibits captivate visitors of all ages, bringing history and



artistry to life in a unique and engaging way. We will receive a docent-led tour through their extensive world-class collection of rare vehicles, then get to explore the rest of the breathtaking exhibits on our own!

After our time at the museum we will head over to the Blackhawk Grille where we will enjoy a delicious lunch in the beautiful Blackhawk Plaza. Your lunch choices are an old-fashioned cheeseburger, South-west beyond burger, grilled chicken or fish sandwich.

The trip cost per person is **\$136** and includes entrance to the museum, lunch, trip escort and round-trip transportation. Gratuity for the driver is already included in the price. Additional tipping is at your discretion.

We will depart from Cribari East Parking Lot at 8 a.m. with an estimated return time of 5 p.m. The activity level is moderate. Registration for this trip now in Building B. The signup deadline is **Thursday, January 2**, or sooner if seats sell out.



We will depart from Cribari East Parking Lot at 8 a.m. with an estimated return time of 5 p.m. The activity level is moderate. Registration for this trip now in Building B. The signup deadline is **Thursday, January 2**, or sooner if seats sell out.

See Doox of Yale perform

On **Saturday, January 4**, see the Doox of Yale perform at Cribari Auditorium from **2 to 3 p.m.** Tickets are **\$20** per person. The Doox of Yale has a long history of entertaining audience members with their timeless classics, dynamic performance energy and heartfelt singing. This group of talented tenor and bass a cappella singers was formed in 1952 with the name, The Duke's Men, but in 2017 the group became mixed-gender and changed their name. The Villages has joined the diverse venues who have hosted them, including the White House, the Smithsonian and Drew Barrymore's birthday party. Their repertoire includes nostalgic rock ballads, soulful jazz standards, classic folk tunes and even some catchy pop songs. Pre-registration is required in Building B.

Register during office hours before **Monday, December 30** or sooner if spots fill up.



THE CLUBHOUSE

For Information:
408-223-4687

2800 The Villages Fairway Drive, San Jose CA 95135

All Clubhouse & Bistro menus can be found at thevillagesgcc.com

**To order
Curbside
Grab and Go,
call
408-370-8553**

Soup of the Day



For the week of 12/9 to 12/15

Monday, December 9
Chicken Lentil Soup

Tuesday, December 10
Pork Posole

Wednesday, December 11
Red Thai Coconut Curry
with Chicken

Thursday, December 12
Sweedish Meatball Soup
with Pasta

Friday, December 13
Clam Chowder

Saturday, December 14
Chef's Choice

Sunday, December 15
Chef's Choice

CLUBHOUSE RESTAURANT, THE BISTRO & BAR GRAB & GO ORDERS AVAILABLE

The following details will be in effect at the Clubhouse:

Restaurant Main Dining Room: Reservations are strongly suggested by emailing, calling or making an online reservation.
Email: theclubhouse@the-villages.com, Phone: 408-223-4687, Online: clubhouserreservation.com

- **Patio Dining** reservations for the patio are for 6 or more persons.
- **The Bistro alcove** can be reserved for parties of 8 to 10 people.
- **The kitchen will still close at 8 p.m.**, last seating at the Bistro, Patio, curbside takeout and Restaurant main dining room is 7:30 p.m.
- **Bistro Bar closes at 9 p.m. Last call is at 8:30 p.m.**
- Dress code for the main dining room will be enforced. During summer months, dress shorts and dress sandals will be allowed.
- Credit cards and house charges will be accepted.
- Cash will not be accepted for payment but can be left as a tip.

How does Curbside Grab-and-Go work?

First, call in your order at 408-370-8553. Call us again when you get to the Clubhouse curbside and we will bring it out to your vehicle. **A 15 percent Service Charge and Tax will be added to the price.**

Notice for our Curbside customers: Due to the increased volume of orders at dinnertime, we are recommending that you call and place your order between the times of 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. We will take your order and coordinate a pick-up time later that evening. While this is not required, it should help alleviate any wait times during the peak dinnertime hours of 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

ATTENTION CURBSIDE CUSTOMERS: New legislation prohibits "Take-out service" from providing any single-use foodware accessories or standard condiments to customers unless they are requested. This is in effect now. Our staff will ask if customers need condiments such as ketchup, etc. or plastic utensils such as forks, etc. when taking orders.

We want your opinion!

Have you seen the comment cards in the Bistro and Clubhouse? They are available in the main entrance or in your bill folder. The Food and Beverage staff use them to recognize excellence in their employees, to make adjustments to the menu, and to help patrons when things aren't perfect.

Thanks for taking the time to let us know what you think!
Please deposit comments directly to the locked comment card box at the Clubhouse foyer.

The Villages Golf & Country Club

Dear Customer—As of March 2024, a 3% service charge will be applied to all credit card purchases.* This surcharge helps The Villages manage costs associated with credit card transactions more responsibly and fairly.

You may avoid this extra fee by paying with check or using your house account.

* Only debit cards with the Visa or Mastercard symbol can be accepted.

Scan the QR code to see Clubhouse Menus

To access all Clubhouse menus, hours of operation, reservation information, specials and special offers, please scan this QR code with your phone



Take your cell phone, press the camera icon and frame the QR code to access the Clubhouse web pages.

See all menus on The Villager Online:
news.thevillagesgcc.com/menus

Weekly Specials

For the week of 12/9 to 12/15

Breakfast Special:

Tuesday 12/10 to Sunday 12/15

Fried Chicken & Waffles: Chicken Wing Joints with Honey-Maple Hot Sauce and Fruit Cup **\$21**

Lunch Specials:

Monday 12/9 to Sunday 12/15—11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sweet & Sour Pork: with Bell Peppers, Onions, Pineapple, Steamed Seasonal Vegetables and Jasmine Rice **\$23**

Honey Walnut Prawns: with Steamed Seasonal Vegetables and Jasmine Rice **\$26**

Dinner Specials:

Tuesday 12/10 to Sunday 12/15—5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Braised Beef Short Ribs: with Burgundy Wine Reduction, Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables **\$32**

Coq Au Vin (Braised Airline Chicken): Pancetta, Mushrooms, Pearl Onions, Carrots, Braised in Red Wine with Creamy Polenta **\$28**

Clubhouse Indoor, Patio Dining and Curbside Hours of Operation

Monday

Lunch:
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bistro Menu
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. *

Tuesday to Friday

Breakfast:
8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Lunch:
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bistro Menu:
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. *
Dinner Menu:
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. *

Saturday and Sunday

Saturday Breakfast:
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Sunday Breakfast:
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Lunch:
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bistro Menu:
2 p.m. to 8 p.m. *
Dinner Menu:
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. *

* Last seating at 7:30 p.m.

Main phone line: 408-223-4687

Reservation: Press #1, Curbside Order and Pick-up: Press #2

Manager on duty: Press #4, Events and Catering: Press #5

Online

Reservation or Curbside Order: Clubhouserreservation.com

Email: theclubhouse@the-villages.com

Please remember to bring your Villages ID Card with you whenever ordering services at the Clubhouse or Curbside Services. This will help us serve you faster and eliminate inaccurate charges. Thank you.



More CLUBHOUSE
NEW YEAR'S NOTICES on pages 22 & 23



Whole Rotisserie Chicken

Order between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. For pickup between 5 and 7:30 p.m.

New Price \$9.95 plus Service Charge & Tax

408.223.4687 opt 2 or online at clubhouserreservation.com



Christmas Eve Curbside
Tuesday, December 24

12 p.m. Pickup Time

Salad

Clubhouse Baby Mix Salad with Ranch and Balsamic Dressing
Rolls & Butter

Duo Entrée Plate

Honey Baked Ham with Mustard Grain and Honey Glaze
Sliced Roasted N.Y. Strip with Red Wine Demi
Mashed Potatoes
Steamed Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Chocolate Peppermint Cheesecake with Wild Berry Compote

\$35 per order plus 18% Service Charge & Taxes

For Reservations

Call 408-754-1337 or email theclubhouse@the-villages.com
Information needed: Full name / Member number / Phone number / Number of meals

Final order deadline is Thursday, December 19 by noon.

Clubhouse Special Offers

No corkage will be charged Wednesdays & Thursdays—Dinner service only.



Bring your favorite bottle of wine* and your friends any and every Wednesday or Thursday at the Clubhouse and enjoy our no-corkage fee offer.

* No corkage will be charged with purchase from the Dinner Menu, Lighter Side, and Entrée items. One-bottle limit per two guests. Standard sized bottles only. This special offer is every Wednesday and Thursday.

Single Diners' Night

Let's dine together every Wednesday at 6 p.m.



Shared table. Every Wednesday at 6 p.m. when you come as a single with your favorite bottle of wine and share your table with another single dining member, the corkage fee is on the house!* Please see restrictions below.

Free corkage will be applied with purchase from the Lighter Side and Dinner Entrées from the Dinner Menu. Please make reservations and note: "Single Diners' Reservation"



Buy One Appetizer*, Get One Half-Off!

Appetizer Special in effect 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

* Item must be of equal or lesser value. Service charge and taxes still applied to all items. For dine-in customers only.

5 5 5 Bistro Happy Hour

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday, All Day on Monday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



\$5 House Cocktails

\$5 House Wines

\$5 Draft Beers 16 oz.

Price subject to service charge and tax

Online Meal Ordering

A fast and convenient way to order meals from the Clubhouse—Phone/Tablet/Desktop



To help streamline the process of ordering, the Clubhouse now has, in addition to phone orders, an online meal ordering system. The system will be a fast and easy way for guests to choose meals and pickup times for their orders. This will also be a great way for golfers to order a meal from their phones while still on the course.



I love this town.

Bob Fillhouer, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0786250
www.myagentbob.com
www.myagentbob.com
www.myagentbob.com

Thanks, Residents of The Villages.

I love being here to help in a community where people are making a difference every day. Thank you for all you do.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Missed your Villager?

The Villager newspaper is being printed on the first and third weeks of the month. If you missed delivery of your copy of *The Villager*, please call 408-223-4655 after 11:30 a.m. to report it.

You may pick up a replacement copy of your paper at the newsstand at the entrance of Building B or on the table outside The Villages Post Office in the Cribari Center hallway.



Friday, December 6

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise	A
9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	CR
9 a.m.	Chinese Morning Exercise	P
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
9:30 a.m.	Comm. Chapel Music Cmte.	SEQ
10 a.m.	Art&Craft Member Studio	AR
10 a.m.	Line Dance Club-Advanced	A
10 a.m.	Quilters	PR
11:30 a.m.	Crimson Charmers Party	MC
12:30 p.m.	Bridge Club	RED
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
3 p.m.	Handbell Ensemble	CR
5 p.m.	Arts&Crafts Cookie Party	AR
5 p.m.	Bocce Club Holiday Party	A
6:30 p.m.	Mexican Train Dominoes	MC

Saturday, December 7

8:00 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 1	CR
8:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 2	CR
10 a.m.	Watercolor Class	AR
10 a.m.	Quilters	PR
10 a.m.	Ukulele Sing Along	SEQ
5:30 p.m.	Italian Club Party	CH
6 p.m.	Village Voices Concert	A

Sunday, December 8

7:30 a.m.	Catholic Choir	CR
8:15 a.m.	Catholic Mass	A
9 a.m.	Comm. Chapel Choir Rhrl	SEQ
10 a.m.	Community Chapel	A
10 a.m.	Dog Club Bake Sale	RED
10 a.m.	Quilters	PR
2 p.m.	Village Voices Concert	A
5:30 p.m.	Tennis Holly Jolly Party	CH

Monday, December 9

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise	A
9 a.m.	Chinese Morning Exercise	P
9 a.m.	Nirvana Fitness	CR
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
9:30 a.m.	Jewish Community Board	MC
9:45 a.m.	Search the Scriptures	VC
10 a.m.	Art&Craft Member Studio	AR
10 a.m.	U-Jam	A
10:30 a.m.	VMA Grief Support	SEQ

11 a.m.	Quilters Holiday Lunch	CH
1 p.m.	Stitchery	PR
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
5:30 p.m.	Village Dancers 1	A
7 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	RED

Tuesday, December 10

8 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 1	CR
8:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 2	CR
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
9:30 a.m.	Assoc. Board (Hybrid/Zoom)	FC
10 a.m.	Art Class	AR
11:30 a.m.	LSAL Fitness	A
12:30 p.m.	Shoni Holiday Luncheon	CH
1 p.m.	Senior Academy Infinity	CR
1:30 p.m.	Club Board (Hybrid/Zoom)	FC
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
2 p.m.	California Wines History	VC
3:30 p.m.	Village Voices Board	PR
5 p.m.	Music Society Board	PR
7 p.m.	Monthly Meeting	SEQ
7 p.m.	Amateur Radio Club	FC
7 p.m.	Concert Band Rehearsal	A

Wednesday, December 11

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise	A
9 a.m.	Chinese Morning Exercise	P
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
9:15 a.m.	VMA Board	MC
10 a.m.	Art Class	AR
10 a.m.	Cribari Social Cmte.	PR
11 a.m.	Folk Dance	CR
1 p.m.	Club Board Work Session	FC
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
4 p.m.	Jewish History	SEQ
5 p.m.	RV Club Holiday Party	CH
5:30 p.m.	Village Dancers Group 2	A

6:30 p.m.	Mexican Train Dominoes	MC
7 p.m.	Art Class	AR
7 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	RED
7 p.m.	Village Dancers Group 3	VC

Thursday, December 12

8 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 1	CR
8:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Group 2	CR
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
9 a.m.	Pool Advisory Cmte.	VR
10 a.m.	Art Class	AR
10 a.m.	Line Dance Club	CR
10 a.m.	LSAL Fitness	A
11:30 a.m.	18-H Women's Golf Lunch	CH
1 p.m.	Bible Small Group	SEQ
1:30 p.m.	Ukulele Club	VC
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
3 p.m.	Comm. Chapel Choir Rhrl	CR
3 p.m.	Villages Golf Cmte.	MC
4 p.m.	Membership Meetings	PR
5 p.m.	Paint Night Class	AR
5:30 p.m.	Desi Club Social Hour	SEQ
7:30 p.m.	Chinese Club Leadership	MC

Friday, December 13

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise	A
9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	CR
9 a.m.	Chinese Morning Exercise	P
9 a.m.	Game Day	RED
10 a.m.	Art&Craft Member Studio	AR
10 a.m.	Line Dance Club-Advanced	A
10 a.m.	Quilters	PR
11:30 a.m.	Jazzercise Lunch	CH
12:30 p.m.	Bridge Club	RED
2 p.m.	Art Open Studio	AR
3 p.m.	Handbell Ensemble	CR
5 p.m.	LSAL Fitness Potluck	FC
6:30 p.m.	Mexican Train Dominoes	MC
7 p.m.	World Today	PR

Report Coyote Activity

Please report all coyote sightings to Public Safety and Vector Control at the following email addresses:

- Public Safety at mhidalgo@the-villages.com and include in email the location day and time of the sighting.

- Vector Control at vectorinfo@cep.sccgov.org or 408-918-4770. Residents can use this to report coyote / wildlife incidents directly to the county.

Villages Medical Auxiliary • Since 1976

Office: 408-238-4230

Hours: Monday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Service Coordinator: 408-238-4029



Register online at: vmavillages.vgcc.club or call: 408-238-4029

Upcoming Programs

Holiday Lunch Buddies – Come join the fun, **December 11** at 11:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse. See full article in the Clubs and Events section. Please call the VMA office for reservations at 408-238-4230.

Nothing Bundt Cakes will be donating 10 percent of their Villager sales for **Saturday, December 14**. Please place order over the phone or in the bakery. They are offering free delivery only to The Villages on that day, December 14. To order call 408-238-7500 and use the code “Villages.”

Grief Support Café – Dr. Kiem Le, PhD, chaplain and counselor at With Grace Hospice will provide a specialized session on grief management during the holidays, **Tuesday, January 7** at 10:30 a.m. in the Sequoia Room. The session is limited to 15. Light refreshments provided. Register online at vmavillages.vgcc.club or call 408-238-4029.

Dementia and Caregiving – Maria Nicolacoudis, Executive Director of Hearts and Minds Activity Center will provide an overview of Alzheimer's and signs of dementia. She also will discuss the importance of activities and social interactions in maintaining your loved one's abilities for a longer period of time. **Thursday, January 16** from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Vineyard Center. Register online at vmavillages.vgcc.club or call 408-238-4029.

Support Groups

Grief Support Group: Chaplain Dale Poland, M.Div, BCC – from Hospice of the Valley-Sutter Health meets with those facing loss in their lives. The group will meet the first few weeks in December—Mondays, December 9 and 16 from 10:30 a.m. – noon in the Sequoia Room. Please call 408-238-4029 with any questions.

Caregiver Support Group: Judith London Ph.D. conducts the monthly group where caregivers meet to share, listen and learn. Thursday, December 19 at 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Patio Room and via Zoom. Please contact Judy for all meeting specifics at judithlondon@sbcglobal.net or 408-784-3325.

Parkinson's Support Group: This monthly group is for all people interested in Parkinson's. Meetings take place on the third Thursday—December 19 at 10 a.m. in the Forum Room (note room change). No need to register, all are welcome!

EVENT LOCATIONS

A	Auditorium	(Cribari)
AR	Art Room	(Cribari)
BC	Bocce Courts	
CER	Ceramics	(Cribari)
CH	Clubhouse	
CR	Conference Room	(Cribari)
F	Forum Room	(Cribari)
FC	Foothill Center	
FHP	Foothill Pool	
GP	Gazebo	
L	Lobby	(Cribari)
MC	Montgomery Center	
P	Patio	(Cribari)
PC	Pickleball Courts	
PR	Patio Room	(Cribari)
RED	Redwood Room	(Cribari)
SEQ	Sequoia Room	(Cribari)
TR	Terrace Room	(Cribari)
TS	Tennis Stand	
TTC	Table Tennis Center	(Montgomery)
VC	Vineyard Center	
VR	Voyage Room	(Montgomery)

CLUBS & EVENTS



Verano volunteers needed

Verano Volunteers are needed to put up tree lights on **Saturday, December 7 at 9 a.m.** The taking down of the lights will be Saturday, January 11, 25 at 9 a.m. Meet at the upper Verano Monument near the Bocce Courts. Call or text Kerry Besmehn at 408-499-1773

Dog Club to host Bake Sale supporting dog rescue

The Villages Dog Club invites you to their Annual Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 8 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the Redwood Room. Please help with your donations of baked goods, or just come and purchase some Christmas treats. 20 percent of the proceeds will go to support Muttville Senior Dog Rescue. Your donation and support will make it possible to rescue wonderful senior dogs and find them loving homes. Because of you many more dogs and humans will have healthier and happier lives. You can email barbarasunseri4u@gmail.com and let her know how you can support the dog club and animal rescue.



Sign up for Paint Party with Nicole Alexander



Nicole Alexander taught a very successful Paint Party in February for all Villagers. On **Thursday, December 12**, she will be leading another Paint Party from **5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** in the Cribari Center Art Room. This workshop is for people with no experience can complete an acrylic painting in the two hours.

We hope that Villagers who work might find this class timely. All materials—canvas, paint, brushes, easels and refreshments—will be furnished. You

may want to wear an apron or an old shirt. The fee for the Paint Party is \$45, and all Villagers are welcome! Register by emailing barb.gottesman@gmail.com.

Bailamos! Get ready for fun Latin dance steps

By B. Brown

Born in Madrid, Spain; Enrique Iglesias is the December featured artist of the Monday Night dance group. And yes; he is the son of Julio Iglesias, who famously sang "To All The Girls I've Loved Before."

"Bailamos" (In English: "We Dance") is a single by Enrique Iglesias sung in English with some lines in Spanish. The song was released in 1999 as part of the soundtrack to the film Wild Wild West. Fun fact: Enrique performed on the "Donny & Marie show" in 1998!

Let's dance our way through the month of December with easy-to-move-to Latin dance steps. The choreography will include Salsa, Bachata, Merengue, Cha-Cha-Cha and Samba. This is going to be awesome!

Dance, socialize and exercise with us every Monday night at 5:30 p.m. in Cribari Auditorium. No partner needed. All are welcome. Each month brings a new dance theme, loads of fun and even a few new friends!

Bernice Toy is the Club President and choreographer of The VMS Village Dancers. She can be reached at vms.dancers@gmail.com Please see the Music Society website: <https://villagesmusicociety.org/about-us-3> The Village Dancers charge an annual \$20 membership fee to participants. All monies go towards support of the club. While there is no fee to join the Monday dance sessions; donations are welcome.



Holiday Lunch Buddies— Let's get together to celebrate

By Liz Adams

Here comes Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year's Eve, and Mak-ershantra, to celebrate the wind. There's a lot to rejoice in over the next several weeks. However, sometimes it's difficult to get out, or you're by your- self. Then Lunch Buddies



on **Wednesday, December 11** at the Clubhouse is absolutely for you! Together we'll share an abundance of joy as we head into 2025! Join us at the Clubhouse for an amazing Holiday Luncheon chosen for us by the new chef and put on by the Villages Medical Auxiliary just for you. Again, your holiday luncheon will be \$11, charged to your house account. Call the VMA Office no later than **December 9 at noon** at 408-238-4230 to reserve your spot. Make sure to let the office know if you need transportation to and from the Clubhouse. We'll have a wonderful time with each other, celebrating each other, and eating very well!

Remember, the Holiday Lunch Buddies will be December 11 at 11:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse. Dress up a bit as we gather together to celebrate life.

Warm Coat Drive to conclude December 13

By Toni Thunen

The One Warm Coat Drive has been a very successful drive with more than 100 coats and jackets donated by generous Villages. The coats and other warm clothing have been donated to Citi Team Ministries who have outreach efforts with the unhoused and others who are needing these garments.

A reminder that the Coat Drive will continue through December 13. You can drop your items in the box labeled with "One Warm Coat" logos and is located in the 8345 Riesling Way driveway. If it is raining, please leave your coats at the front door. Also if you need to have the coats picked up at your residence, please call 408-809 4856.

The Villagers' participation has been very appreciated. Know that your donations are being very "warmly" received by those in need.





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Join Hiking Club for Holiday Lights Walk

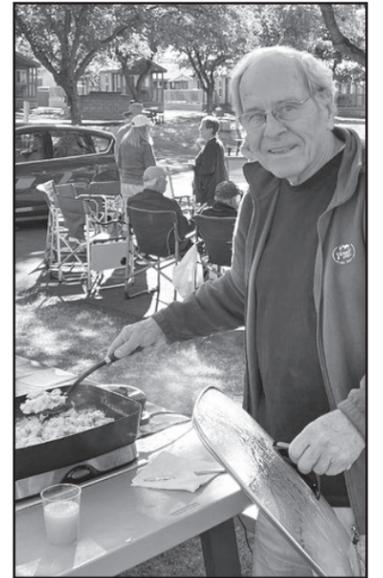
Join the Hiking Club on **Friday, December 20 at 6 p.m.** for this year's Holiday Lights Walk to view and enjoy the festive holiday decorations throughout The Villages. We will meet at Vineyard Center. After the walk we will gather for coffee, tea, and hot chocolate.



Participants are asked to bring cookies and/or an appetizer to share. All Villagers are welcome. Please dress warmly and bring a flashlight.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Arbaugh at 408-789-7657.

RV Clubs members hit the road to California's Gold Country



Clockwise from lower left: Amy Lo (with white dog), George Figone, Linda Koski, Joel and Sandy Pollack, Keith Uhlin, Diana and Steve Thornburg, Ron McChesney, Barb Sunseri, Linda McChesney, Vince Sunseri, and Karen Uhlin.

Support VMA fundraiser with Nothing Bundt Cakes

Nothing Bundt Cakes off of Aborn is offering 10 percent of their earnings on orders for **December 14** to the Villages Medical Auxiliary (VMA). All you have to do is use the code **VILLAGES** when you place your order for pickup or delivery on December 14 (you can place the order beforehand). Arrangements have also been made by a Villager for *free delivery* on the 14th! Nothing Bundt



Cakes freeze beautifully, so your Christmas party does not have to take place on the 14th for you to order!
Happy Holidays from the VMA!



Cakes freeze beautifully, so your Christmas party does not have to take place on the 14th for you to order!
Happy Holidays from the VMA!



By Jim Koski, co-president

Twenty Villages RV Club members recently traveled to California's Gold Country and enjoyed several days at the 49er Village RV Park in Plymouth. We shared a daily 4:30 p.m. happy hour, two dinners at the park and a third at a restaurant in nearby Sutter Creek.

Some members brought ebikes and rode through the historic town and fairgrounds, stopping to check out local buildings and some mid-1800s gravestones at the cemetery. We typically enjoy hanging around camp, sightseeing, hiking, wine tasting, potlucks, board games and Mexican train, relaxing by a campfire, making s'mores and lots of conversation.

The club schedules an outing every month, often at parks within a few hours' drive. New members are always welcome and you don't even need a camper to join. Many RV parks have cottages for rent. To see photos and videos of previous club outings and the 2025 campout schedule, visit villagesrvclub.org.

Opera Lovers to show seasonal folk tale 'Hansel and Gretel'

Please join The Villages Music Society's Opera Lovers on **Thursday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m.** in Montgomery Center, when we present "Hansel and Gretel."

We are familiar with this fairytale of two children lost in the woods and their scary encounter with the wicked witch. The story has both comedy and drama, and of course this opera by Engelbert Humperdinck (the composer, not the popular singer!) adds some beautiful music to the atmosphere.

This Metropolitan Opera production was filmed on Christmas Day in 1982 and stars Bay Area favorite Frederica von Stade as Hansel, Judith Blegen as Gretel and a very funny Rosalind Elias as The Witch.

The Met is so proud of this production that they will air it again this December 28 as their regular weekly radio broadcast. But come and watch it with us, dreaming of gingerbread cookies and candy canes—maybe the dreams will come true! The opera runs just over 100 minutes and is sung in English, but with subtitles.

No registration is needed and all Villagers are welcome to attend. For additional information, please call Mary Stradner at 408-887-3293 and visit <https://VillagesMusicSociety.org> for information about other VMS events. We look forward to seeing you on December 19.






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Time to order 2025 Mah Jongg cards



By Barbara Smith

How time flies! Amazingly the price of Mah Jongg cards remains the same. Small print cards are \$14. Large print cards are \$15.

Barbara Smith is coordinating the sale of Mah Jongg cards again this year. Checks are made out to Barbara Smith. At the end of the sale, one large check is written and all the individual checks are deposited. Please include the number and size of the cards you are ordering in the "memo" place on your check. Checks can be dropped off or mailed to Barbara Smith, 2067 Folle Blanche Dr, San Jose CA 95135.

In late March, your Mah Jongg card(s) will be sent directly to your home from the National Mah Jongg League in New York. Happy Mah Jongg playing.

A Holiday Thank You from the Crafters Club!

A great big Holiday thank you to all of our treasured customers who attended our Holiday Boutique! We enjoyed seeing all of you and finishing the year with a festive and successful show! You make our events a success by supporting our artistic endeavors and attending our shows. We look forward to a brand new year with more shows lined up and some new and exciting changes! Look for us again in March when we will return with our first show of 2025 full of new crafts and fresh ideas for spring! Have a wonderful holiday season and we will look forward to seeing you again in the new year.



We look forward to a brand new year with more shows lined up and some new and exciting changes! Look for us again in March when we will return with our first show of 2025 full of new crafts and fresh ideas for spring! Have a wonderful holiday season and we will look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

Hanukkah Party Villages Jewish Community



Please join us for Hanukkah entertainment and games

**Sunday, December 29 at 5 p.m.
at Foothill Center**

We will supply the Latkas and fixings. You bring a dairy entry (and serving piece). Bring your menorah. Make reservations to janbuff13@yahoo.com by December 18

Attention Storytellers

Storytellers: Do you like to write and share what you wrote? If yes, then the Villages Storytellers group may be for you.



We share our poems, memoirs, stories and any other personal writings. We do not critique.

We meet in a private residence on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, please contact Marty Funcell at 408-933-8423.

VMA: Volunteering – The Lifeblood of the Villages

"When you understand giving, when you understand receiving, you understand that it is all self-organizing. You just have to dance, and in some moments you're asked to give and in some moments you are asked to receive, but your ultimate prerogative is to just dance." - Nipun Mehta from "The Benefits of Volunteering."



Experience and research show that while volunteering is good in and of itself, volunteers may receive as much or more than they give. Some of the benefits: it keeps people active; leads to new friendships, less loneliness, and more social support; it instills a sense of purpose, and improves self-esteem and self-confidence; and they feel a sense of accomplishment. Researchers find volunteering may even help people live longer because of physical health benefits such as reduced inflammation.

How do you give of your time? There are so many opportunities to share your vast experiences to the benefit of others and ourselves here at The Villages. Consider stepping in.

Happy Holidays from the VMA!

ADVERTISEMENT

Real Estate- I Hope your Thanksgiving day was delicious!

The Villages Real Estate market is just rolling along.

At this writing, there are 31 active listing for sale with only 11 pending sales. Sales have picked up slightly from 2 weeks ago. Only 3 of 11 pending sales lowered their price. Not bad. One more listing was canceled last week so most of the sellers are trudging forward with their hope for a holiday sale. Cribari Village is the area having the toughest time of it. We are back up to 11 Cribari homes competing with each other. There is only 1 pending sale of a Cribari home.

Mortgage interest rates are stagnate. Even though the Fed lowered interest rates, a month back, it did nothing for the mortgage rates. Mortgage rates are tied to the 10-year bond. I am not following it closely but did see and hear that the mortgage rates are still just at or below 7%. Properties still seem to be moving outside The Villages, but not at the pace they would with lower interest rates. As I always say, the sales outside The Villages eventually reflects the purchases inside The Villages. Let's hope for lower mortgage rates next year.

You are not going to believe this. I went into Ashley Furniture to take a look at the new furniture and decoration trends. I like to keep my staging up to date. My professional staging partner knows that I have a particular fondness to faux fur. I have many faux throws and blankets ensuring I have them before the style becomes obsolete. To my surprise, the furniture designers winter style is couches and chairs upholstered in faux and corduroy fur. Instead of going out of style for a wool blend, or flannel, the designers chose faux fur! I just had to laugh. Now I can snuggle in a chair made of fur. I think it is a short-term trend, but I love it!

Holidays are finally here. It's Time for family and friends. This year again, I have helped individual and couples move to their final homes, usually near or with their families. I think about the wonderful holidays they will have this year with their families close by. It makes me very happy to have been a part of their journey home. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OF US!



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Hermosa

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DRE #01194339

Montgomery Holiday Party Friday, December 20, 2024, 5 to 9 p.m. Clubhouse Fairway Room

Dance to the music of the Island Wave Band



Menu

Turkey & Stuffing with Gravy,
Whipped Potatoes, Cranberry
\$60 per person

Manatee Pot Roast & Whipped Potatoes
\$60 per person

Vegetarian Wellington & Au Gratin Potatoes
\$55 per person



All dinners include Assorted Rolls & Butter, Butter Lettuce Salad
(Mandarin Oranges & Almond Slices, Creamy Italian & Italian Vinaigrette),
Asparagus with Red Peppers,
Dessert, Coffee, Tea
No Host Bar

RSVP with entree choice by December 16 to:
Celia Schiffner at Montgomeryvillagefun@gmail.com.
Include names of attendees,
house number & phone number.
No refunds after December 13.

Cat Club to hold December social

The next Cat Club meeting will be held Monday, December 16 in the Cribari Conference Room from 2 to 4 p.m. This will be a social—a time to get to know other Cat Club members. You will also hear about the 2025 calendar monthly. Learn what's in store for 2025.

The December meeting will not have a formal agenda, but rather we will focus on visiting, getting to know other Cat Club members and enjoying tasty treats. There will be no "leave one take one table" at this meeting.

Please plan on attending and bring at least two dozen cookies for a cookie exchange. If you really don't bake, bring some of your favorite store cookies. Hopefully you will be taking home two dozen different cookies, as well as eating some tasty treats at the meeting.

To register, email villagescatclub5@gmail.com

Thanks to Liz Kung, you can also reply on the website at <https://sites.google.com/view/villages-cat-club>



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Melinda Dobbs

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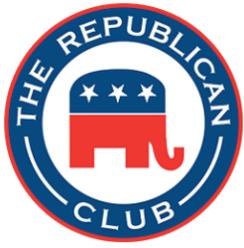


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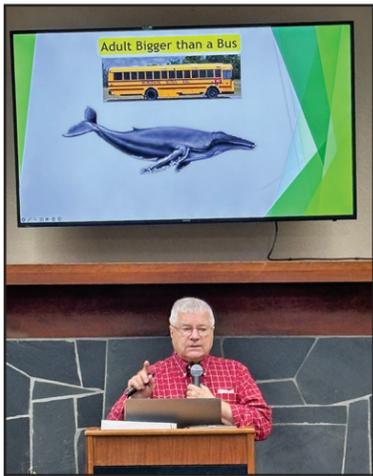


BUY-SELL-RENT-PROPERTY MANAGEMENT-BUY-SELL-RENT



Republican Club at The Villages Inauguration Watch Party
January 20, 2025, 9 a.m. at Foothill Center
 Save the date and time. This will be a watch party with a continental breakfast. There is no cost to attend. If you want, you may bring your own drinks, alcohol or non-alcohol. To register, contact Mary Wagle at marylwagle@gmail.com or 408-829-4021 and text or talk.

Study Group holds presentation on whales and elects new officers



The Villages Study Group Club held its annual general meeting on **Tuesday, November 19** in the Vineyard Center. At the meeting **the slate of officers for the 2025 term was elected:** Martin Schlager - President; Ceila Schiffner - Treasurer; Judy Rogers - Secretary, Membership and Publicity; Joey Stern - Study Group Coordinator; Yvette Katz - Communication; Nan Holmes - Membership; Betty Abelson - Web Master; Howie Blumstein - Member at Large. Our study group leaders gave a short talk about their respective study groups and members were then given the opportunity to sign up for the ongoing study groups. In addition, Richard Holmboe gave a fascinating talk on the different whale species that can be seen right here in the Bay Area. Voluntary donations were made to hurricane victims through Direct Relief.

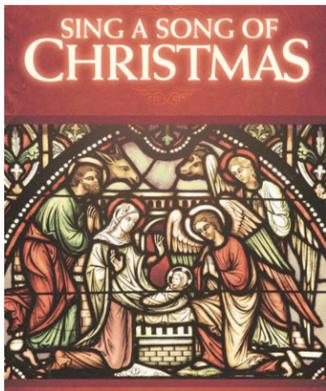


Voluntary donations were made to hurricane victims through Direct Relief.

Sunday, December 22 at 10 a.m. in Cribari Auditorium

Villagers, families, children & friends, are cordially invited to celebrate the season with the **Songs of Christmas!**

The Villages Chapel Choir
 Mark Fish, Director
 Catherine Ellacer, Accompanist



Winter Pool and Spa hours

The Vineyard pool and spa and the Foothill pool and spa will remain open this winter with the same hours (5 a.m. to 10 p.m.) for your enjoyment. **Children's hours at Vineyard** continue to operate unchanged (children under 18 years of age allowed with a hosting resident; children's hours are 2 to 4 p.m.). Remember, only toilet-trained children are allowed; no diapers, swim diapers, etc.

The Foothill Pool and Spa will remain open at all times for adults only.

The Montgomery pool and spa and the Cribari pool and spa are closed for the season.

During the winter off-season, we will complete several projects to improve our pools: updating pool signage, updating pool deck furniture, deep cleaning, and more. So, grab your friends, hop in and let's make waves!



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Join Hiking Club's Holiday Party for hors d'oeuvres, music and dancing

The Villages Hiking Club will host its annual holiday dinner party in Cribari Auditorium on **Saturday, December 14 from 5:30 – 9 p.m.** (Note: doors will open at 5:30 p.m.). All members of the club and their guests are invited to attend.

All guests are asked to bring substantial hors d'oeuvres (appetizers). No chips, dips, salsa, please. The club will be providing Holiday desserts, plates, napkins and utensils.



Bring your own beverages and glasses.

Live entertainment and recorded music by DJ Ed Knott will be provided for listening enjoyment and dancing.

To sign up, contact Linda Arbaugh at 408-489-7657 or via email at linda.e.arbaugh@comcast.net. Members are urged to reserve their seats early as space is limited. The deadline to sign up is **Friday, December 6.**

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ARTS AND CRAFTS?

All Villagers are invited to participate in Arts and Crafts Activities. More details at villagesartsandcrafts.org

Open Studio in the Art Room: Monday and Friday mornings, 10 a.m. - 12 noon and every weekday afternoon, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

December 6: Friday, Cookie Exchange Party with Stephanie Torres, 5 - 7 p.m. in the Art Room.
Art Classes—Register by emailing barb.gottesman@gmail.com

December 12: "Holiday Paint Night" with Nicole Alexander. 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. \$45. All materials furnished. Registration deadline: December 7.

January 7 - 28: "Ink and Alcohol Based Markers for Drawing" with Zoe Caron. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. \$40. All materials included. Registration deadline: December 31.

January 8 - 29: "Watercolor Plus Multi Media" with Doug Canepa. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. \$70. Bring your own watercolor materials. Registration deadline: January 2.

January 9 - 30: "Traditional Oil Painting" with Swati Mohari. Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. \$90 with everything furnished. \$70 for bring your own materials. Registration deadline: January 2.

Ceramics Room has open studio days for approved members only. For Open Studio hours and classes, go to villagesceramics.com

Stitchery Group on Mondays: Patio Room from 1 - 3 p.m. Call Roberta at 408-218-8372. Meeting location schedule at villagesartsandcrafts.org. Learn knitting here.

HIKING CLUB SCHEDULE

Bring water, snacks, poles, and lunch, as necessary. Wear layer clothing appropriate to the current weather. In addition to scheduled hikes, the following hikes occur regularly: **Every Wednesday and Saturday - Villages hill hike** with Russ Glines at 8:30 a.m. from Foothill Center. All hiking abilities are welcome. **Every Monday** - Walk around the golf course with Terri Vivoli and/or Cheryl Allmen, meet at the Clubhouse parking lot at **8:20 a.m.**, leave at 8:30.

Rambler-Hike, Wednesday, December 11: Sandy and John Petrin (530-927-7024) will lead a hike beginning at the parking lot behind Subway/Village Grill by Evergreen Square (across Michelangelo Dr from the Walmart Store). The hike then goes to Lake Murillo and by Evergreen Valley High School, on by Carolyn Clark Elementary School and continues toward the Sikh Temple (but we'll not visit it). Next, we will head to Fowler Creek Park via an off-street paved trail. This then takes us back to the Farmers Market at Evergreen Square. There, folks can buy some fruits and veggies and conveniently bring them home in their cars. This hike is about 4 miles and has a max elevation climb of about 111 feet. We will meet at the Cribari Bell at **8:45 for a 9 a.m.** departure.

Rambler-Lite Hike, Wednesday, December 11: Katy Peretti (408-531-0917) will lead a hike to Larkspur Hill. We'll walk through the Villages gate to San Felipe Road where we'll take a left and walk for about 100 feet to a path on your right which will take us up the slow long hill to the park which overlooks the Villages and the Diablo Range. Meet at the parking lot opposite Public Safety at 9 a.m.

Rambler Hike, Wednesday, December 18: Al Girolami (209-531-6553) will again lead a hike on the Lower Hill Lands, which includes the new Bobcat trail. It's the same hike from 4 months ago, but a number of Rambler Hikers have indicated they were sorry they were not able to join the first one. It is a loop of less than 3 miles with only a 400 ft. elevation gain. We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Cul de Sac at the end of Village View Drive. We will enter the Joe March Trailhead at the Mailbox and then hike on Richter to Oak. Then downhill on Quail and Turkey. At Rawhide, we will proceed downhill and take the new alternate trail to the Garden Steps, which will be named Bobcat, and return to the upper Valle Vista Cul de Sac. Then we can meet for coffee at the Outdoor Bistro. Bring poles and water.

Rambler-Lite Hike, Wednesday, December 18: Katy Peretti (408-531-0917) will lead a walk to the CVS shopping center where you will have an opportunity to buy a coffee at Boulanger. The hike will start at the Clubhouse and continue through the estates to Yerba Buena. We will reverse the route back to the Villages. Meet at the Clubhouse at **9 a.m.**

Rambler Hike Thursday, December 19: Eileen Skinner (408) 529-5801 will lead a hike along the Coyote Creek Trail (starting at Silver Creek Road) to Cottonwood Lake. This is approximately 4 miles roundtrip. There are restrooms in the parking lot at the beginning of the hike and at the lake. Bring water and snacks to enjoy at the picnic area by the lake. It is a mostly flat paved trail. Wear comfortable walking shoes. If you are interested in meeting for lunch afterwards, we can all go to a restaurant after the hike. Meet at the Cribari Bell at **8:30 a.m. for an 8:45** departure.

RV CLUB SCHEDULE

More information and photos from recent outings are on villagesrvclub.org

December 11 - Holiday Party at Clubhouse

January 25, 26, 27, 28 - Fountain of Youth Spa & RV Park, Niland

January 29, 30, 31, February 1 - Indian Waters RV Resort, Indio

March 24, 25, 26, 27 - Black Oak Casino Resort, Tuolumne

April 21, 22, 23, 24 - River Point Landing Marina Resort, Stockton

May 6 - Quarterly Meeting - Sequoia Room (Cribari) 3:30 p.m.

May 9, 10, 11, 12 - Costanoa KOA, Pescadero

June 14 - Open House at the RV Storage Lot

June 22, 23, 24, 25 - Santa Cruz Redwoods RV Resort, Felton

July 21, 22, 23, 24 - Zephyr Cove Resort, Lake Tahoe

August 3 - Annual Barbecue

August 11, 12, 13, 14 - Dumbarton Quarry Campground (full hookups), Fremont

September 26, 27, 28, 29 - Yosemite Lakes, Groveland

October 30, 31, November 1, 2 - Pismo Coast Village, Pismo Beach

November 3, 4, 5, 6 - Wine Country RV Resort, Paso Robles



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RELIGION

Villages Religious Services

Weekly:

Sunday	8:15 a.m. Catholic Mass	Cribari
	Contact: Kathy Schlosser	408-677-4770
Sunday	9 a.m. Episcopal Service	Montgomery
	Contact: Leslie Bailey	408-270-9022
Sunday	10 a.m. Community Chapel	Cribari
	Contact: Del Herfurth	408-440-4649

Regularly Scheduled:

Friday	9 a.m. Catholic Mass	Cribari
	First three Fridays of each month	
	Contact: Louise Connors	408-221-6485
Friday	7:15 p.m. Jewish Shabbat	Foothill
	Next date: TBA	
	Contact: Marilyn Goldsmith	732-672-8601

Everyone is welcome! Please call for more information!

COMMUNITY CHAPEL

‘Having Christmas Fervor’

By Pastor Bill Hayden

It seems that some people experience Christmas fervor right after Halloween. Merchants swiftly remove their Halloween products and set up the Christmas decorations. They want to create early excitement by offering pre-Christmas deals to get a head start in the market.

The Christmas Season is a very stressful time of year for many people, including myself. I go to the storage area at my wife's request, move the boxes in the back, and pull out all the decorations. I reach the artificial Christmas tree, set it up, and check all the lights to ensure none are out.

People who procrastinate end up shopping in the department and grocery stores, waiting in long lines, driving around in parking lots looking for a parking space. Don't forget any items on the list or be ready to repeat the process. Online shopping has given some relief but does not entirely free you from the occasional things that come up during the week of celebration. Sometimes, I can get overwhelmed thinking about all the preparations.

After everything is said and done, I like the food, fun, and spending precious time with family and friends. However, the most challenging part is all the preparations before and the clean-up afterward. I try to enroll my grandchildren to come to dinner and play games a few weeks earlier to help decorate before the Christmas gathering. After all, they are younger and more agile, which has given them a greater appreciation for Nana and Papa over the years.

The best part of Christmas is celebrating God's gift of eternal life through His Son as we praise Him. We are blessed beyond measure as a country and family compared to other people and countries. So, may God continue to bless you as you develop your plan with family and friends this year.

Given all that we are to be confronted with, during these challenging times, be grateful for what you have and follow this rule: *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”* {Philippians 4:6 NIV}.

Please celebrate with us and experience the Good Life at the Villages Community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium every Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life and enjoy coffee and cookies with friends. The chapel is a place for needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace. You can view our worship services on YouTube at www.villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

‘The Hope of Advent’

By Robert A. Dolci, M.Div., M.A.

As we begin our Advent preparation for Christ's rebirth—amid troubling times—God exhorts us to hope for greater life in Christ based on and infused by **acts of love** for all and **prayer for strength** to remain united with Christ. The scripture readings for the First Sunday of Advent speak to this in most helpful ways.

The Prophet **Jeremiah** (33:14-16) preached when Babylonia threatened to destroy Jerusalem and destroy Judah's sacred Temple. He voiced Yahweh's determination to fulfill divine promises and give Judah a hope-filled future by raising up a Savior (“The Lord our Justice”) from David's lineage who would keep them safe and secure.

In the Gospel, **St. Luke** (21:25-28,34-36) exhorted the early Christian community—amid times of fear and persecution—to not behave in ways that trap/ensnare them away from Christ. Rather, he encouraged them to always be vigilant for God's presence and to pray for strength to remain united with Christ.

St. Paul (1 Thes. 3:12-4:2) wrote this earliest New Testament letter to Gentile converts in a newly founded community, asking God to increase their love for all and to enable them to be strong, to stand firm in faith and hope amid new and very challenging situations. He also exhorted them to conduct themselves in ways pleasing to God as Christ taught.

So, let us *actively* seek out those opportunities when we can demonstrate our love of others, even despite our cultural or political differences, and thereby be the hope of Christ in our families and in our community.

Advent at St. Francis of Assisi
5111 San Felipe Rd.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
Saturday, December 7, 6:30 p.m. (Courtyard)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 9, Mass – 8:30 a.m., 12-noon

Advent Reconciliation Liturgy
Wednesday, December 11, 6 to 8 p.m.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Thursday, December 12, 7 p.m.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Search the Scriptures is meeting at **10 a.m., December 9 at Vineyard**. We are meeting on the second and fourth Monday of each month. Any questions, contact Everett Jacobson at 408-629-7210 or Ron Speer at 408-223-2025



EPISCOPAL

‘Mystery and Paradox’

By The Rev. Joel P. Miller

Welcome to another day in Paradox. It's a phrase a friend of mine often says to me when we meet. The phrase makes me chuckle, but it also doesn't allow me to gloss over life with pat and formulated answers. It makes me realize once again for the first time that I'm not yet in paradise. There's work to be done. Seems like that should have been obvious. I shouldn't need to be jarred into the realization that there's more to life. But somehow, I still seem to be learning the same old lesson. Life is a paradox of having yet discovering more. And Advent especially is a time of paradox. Christ has already come, but we prepare for his arrival once again. Theologians describe this as the “already/not yet” paradox of the Kingdom of God. The energy of God's love is fully present and with us, but not yet fully present. In fact, every atom of the universe is infused with this presence, but somehow not yet fully present. Here's how the Apostle Paul describes it:

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

Put simply Christ is already everywhere holding all things together. We are already in paradise but not yet in paradise. We are already in the presence of God, but not yet fully in the presence of God. That's the paradox. That's what the church fathers and biblical writers called the mystery of Christ.

Come join us at Trinity Chapel at the Montgomery Center on Sundays at 9 a.m. as we learn this Advent how to grow into and enjoy this wonderful mystery and paradox.

SPORTS NEWS

TENNIS TALK

Tennis Club thankful for fall and looks forward to 2025



A typical day on the tennis courts—the day before Thanksgiving.

By Betty Olsen

We are coming to the end of 2024 and fast approaching 2025. I don't know about you, but it makes me reflect on an ending and a new beginning. I can't help thinking about how lucky we are to be living here in the villages with almost any amenity you can imagine, friendly neighbors always willing to help, beautiful weather, especially in the fall with a riot of colors along with a sunny Thanksgiving Day.

Don't forget to sign up for our "Hawaiian Christmas" Tennis Club dinner on Sunday, December 8, 5 p.m. at the Clubhouse. You won't want to miss the performance of the Sunshine Dance Club, which includes several tennis club members, and DJ Chris campos formerly of 94.5 will provide the music to dance the night away!

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WOMEN'S 9-HOLE

9 Hole Women to host 'Pajama Party' Holiday Tournament and Luncheon

By Vicki Krattli

After a few days of wet weather, 31 brave ladies went out to play golf and experienced a little moisture on the fairways but beautiful greens. We continue to play the back nine and the work proceeds on our bunkers on holes one through three. It's beginning to look at lot like Christmas especially if you have seen the beautiful white sand in our new bunkers on hole 1 and hole 2 fairway. I imagine Scott and our staff will have members lining up for lessons on sand play.



Our first flight winners included Sachiko, Sheryl Driskell, Judy Steinberg, Joyce Mukuno, Suzanne Fazzio, Valerie Dimmick, Bock Kim, and Mary Wagle.

The second flight winners included Carol Zaccheo, Suzy Kim, Josephine Chan, Lolivic Shaw, Joy Rem, Song Cho, Margaret Davies-White, and Sylvia Rozewicz.

Congratulations to all the winners.

Our final tournament of 2024 will be our Holiday Tournament and Luncheon on December 17.

This year is a **Pajama Party**, so get your warm and cozy PJs and come out and enjoy the fun. I hear there will be several surprises waiting for those getting into the theme. The club is subsidizing the meals so all you will pay is \$10 plus tax and gratuity. Word has it our new chef is planning a special menu.

The signup sheet for the Holiday Luncheon/General Meeting is now available on our website, <https://womens9holegolf.vgcc.club>. It is simple and easy to maneuver. Just copy and paste this link into your browser and scroll down till you see the Christmas flyer. At the bottom you will see a "Click Here to Register" tab....just tap on it and proceed.



Sand being filled in the new bunkers.

SHONIS

By Betty Hall

Well, looks like Tuesday, December 3 was a beautiful day for golf. Sunny, no wind and the only impediment was the sand on the fairways.

Twenty-two golfers took to the greens and welcome back Marianne Wojcik and Barbara Sunseri.

Two golfers are getting into the hang of their putting. The Putting for Peso winners today are the Robinson "girls": Jonna and Lesley. Congratulations, ladies.

Our birdie golfer today is Rose Loy. Her drive put her on the green of 5 and then she dropped her birdie in the cup. Nice job.

Today was one-half of our November-December birthday golfers. So birthday golfers today were Judy Rogers and MaryAnn Haggerty and dropping their worst score got them both sweeps money. *Nice*.

Captain's Trophy day is the first Tuesday of each month. Today's Trophy winner is Teddy Morse. Her low net of 23 gets the crystal trophy plus the low gross of 35. Congratulations.



Captain's Trophy winner Teddy Morse



Men's 18 Hole Golf Club Holiday Tournament



When: Saturday, December 14, 2024
What: Stableford Tournament. MGC Members *only*.
No Guest or Spouses.
Format: Stableford, 4-Man Teams, 2BB
Signup: November 30 through December 12. Sign up
with the

the
Pro Shop either as a team, or individually, and
the
Pro Shop will pair you with other players to form
a team.

Handicaps: 100% of December 12 Handicap
Flights: Flighted, depending on the number of players
Tees: #4/3 Combo, or #3 based on Flight
Tee Times: 8:30 a.m. Shotgun.
Cost: \$50 – This includes green fees and
sweeps.

Coffee and Donuts from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m.

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FROM THE PRO



By Scott Steele, PGA Head Golf Professional

Bunker Renovation Project

The Golf Course Bunker Renovation Project started Monday, November 4. The preliminary timeline for the project is five months through March 2025. The construction team will be working each week (weather permitting) Monday-Saturday. There will be three holes alternately *closed* during the majority of the project. Currently Holes #1, #2 & #3 are closed. Weather permitting, Phase 2 is projected to start on December 16th at which time Holes #4, #5 & #8 will be closed.

Golfers will be playing 15 holes during the majority of the project.

More detailed information regarding golfing logistics, posting scores, tournament play, and guest play is available in the Pro Shop.

Pro Shop Holiday Sale

From **December 10 to 24** all merchandise in the Pro Shop will be on sale right here at the Villages Pro Shop! Plenty of Villages logo merchandise for the non-golfers as well including crew neck sweatshirts, shirts and outerwear, and headwear in many styles.

All Holiday Sale Shoppers who spend over \$40 will qualify for the **Grand Prize** with the winner being chosen on the final day of the sale:

Three free rounds of golf plus \$50 on your range card!

10 Reasons to do your Holiday Shopping at The Villages Pro Shop:

1. Convenient – Shop while at your home within the Villages gates
2. No long lines – no long waits
3. Fabulous selection of all things golf
4. Exceptional Customer Service
5. Close Parking
6. Sale Lasts two weeks for your convenience
7. 10%-70% Off Sale Items
8. No Shipping Fees
9. Leave with what you want – no waiting for boxes to be delivered to your front door
10. No supply chain disappointments – it's right here for you

Golf Winter Schedule now in effect

The Monday shotgun is now at 12 p.m.

The Driving Range closes at 2 p.m. on Mondays.

The Swingers Tuesday 9-Hole Women's shotgun is now at 9 a.m.

The Shonis Par-3 women are now 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays.

The Ironmen Par-3 men are now 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Pinseekers Men's 9-hole Club Friday tee times start at noon.

Winter Rules—From now until further notice we will play Winter Rules defined as 6-inch relief, Pick-Clean-Place, no nearer the hole everywhere including the rough.

Local Rules Update—We have added a new Local Rule for The Villages effective immediately. **Goose Droppings:** If your ball comes to rest on or near a Goose Dropping, and/or that Goose Dropping has adhered on your ball; you are entitled to lift, clean and replace your ball within 6 inches of its original location, with no penalty, and you may move the Goose Dropping to avoid interference.

Please Check In For Golf—Please remember to check in to the Pro Shop when you play golf. It is often difficult for the Pro Shop staff to see all the players who are teeing off on the first hole of the day. This is especially true now that we are starting play from Hole #10 during the Bunker Renovation Project. Checking in can be as simple as poking your head into the Pro Shop and saying hello. Checking in helps us immensely to know who is here in each group. And checking in especially helps mitigate billing errors. So please let us know you are here and ready to go play some golf, we always enjoy seeing you!

Fall Maintenance Schedule

Fall Overseeding will continue through the end of January.

Fairway Sand Top-Dressing has been completed.

2025 Golf Events Calendar—The 2025 golf calendar of events is now posted and available to view on the Website Resident Portal. Keep in mind that this is a live document and is subject to change – any necessary changes will be updated on the Resident Portal as they occur.

December Golf Schedule

Saturday, December 14 - Men's Club Holiday Tournament 8:30 a.m. Shotgun - Open Play Shotgun 1 p.m.

Thursday, December 19 – Open Play All Day

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve – Open Play tee Times 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – All Golf Facilities Closed at 1 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day - Golf Courses, Driving Range, Pro Shop closed all day

Thursday, December 26 – Open Play All Day

Tips from the Pro— Smaller Can Be Better

As we age, we all lose strength and flexibility. So our ability to turn and extend diminishes.

(Continued on next page)

From The Pro...

Here are some tips to help you turn more...Narrow your stance, flare your toes out a minimum of 45 degrees, stand a bit taller at the waist. If you cannot swing with your left arm straight (few of us can), then go ahead and let it bend at the elbow, just limit the bend...you never want your right hand too close to your right shoulder on the backswing. Elbow Bend is OK...think of a punch or karate chop where the arm goes from elbow bend to straight which is a burst of speed and a source of leverage. Another tip is to use your hands and wrists more...Small muscles can supply power too. When big muscles and joints become less elastic, a good thought is to try to hinge your wrists more on the backswing and to make sure that your swing arc is narrower on the downswing than on the backswing (ala Sergio Garcia). Lastly, try swinging with the club more in front of your body, like Inbee Park and Shanshan Feng and Henrik Stenson; so the arms do not turn behind your shoulders, but rather swing above them in a steeper position...this allows for maximum club swing with minimal turn; i.e. less turn and more lift. **To sign up for a lesson with me, email ssteele@the-villages.com**

SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE

Monday, November 18:

1. Art Lind – T.R. Fu
- 2/3. Louann Partridge
- Guest;
Alan Waltho
- Maureen Waltho

Wednesday, November 20:

1. Jan Kiernan
- Hank Koransky
2. Jonna Robinson – Guest
3. Mary LeGrand
- Louann Partridge

Friday, November 22:

1. Ed Logg – Guest
2. Guests
3. Joe Henry - Bonnie Taylor.

Monday, November 25:

1. Art Lind – T.R. Fu
2. Alan Waltho
- Maureen Waltho
3. Mary LeGrand
- Jonna Robinson

Friday, November 29:

1. Ed Logg - Jonna Robinson
2. Guests
3. Joe Henry
- Maureen Waltho

SHONIS

Tuesday, December 3
All Nets

Flight One:

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Judy Rogers | 22 |
| 2. Teddy Morse | 23 |
| 3. Joyce Baptiste | 26 |

Flight Two:

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| 1. Schinae Ogihara | 25 |
| 2. Elena Johal | 26 |
| 3. Peggy White | 28 |

Flight Three:

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. MaryAnn Haggerty | 24 |
| 2. Tied - Rose Loy and
Julianna Wahlgren | 29 |

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

Wednesday, November 27

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Sylvia Rozewicz | 231 |
| Kit Hultquist | 247 |
| Sandy Gardiner | 253 |
| Bev Waller-Wharton | 276 |

Friday, November 29

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Sandy Gardiner | 173 |
| Sylvia Rozewicz | 337 |
| Shirley Bellavance | 338 |
| Remy Pessah | 339 |

Staying safe at the mall

Mall parking lots tend to be magnets for petty criminals prior to the holidays. To avoid being targeted you need to be fully aware of your surroundings and in control of your purse, wallet and tech devices. Also, if you are an after-work shopper, you'll be doing all your business in the dark. Having a small flashlight would be very helpful in a dark parking lot.



Practice These Safety Tips When Parking and Returning to Your Car

- Be aware of your immediate surroundings as you approach or leave your vehicle.
- Have a plan for how you can get to a safe place and call for help if needed.
- Walk with confidence. Keep your head up, eyes scanning the area—not focused on your cell phone.
- If people are approaching you, look directly at them but do not stare.
- Trust your instincts when you feel something or someone doesn't seem right.
- Park near your intended entrance in a highly visible and well-lit area. Or park near the parking attendant, if one is present.
- Always use the main building entrance, avoiding rear or secluded entrances and exits.
- Keep your valuables, including purses, recent purchases and technology hidden out of sight. Always lock them in the trunk if you must leave them in the car.
- Lock the doors and roll up your windows once you are in the vehicle.
- Have your keys ready to unlock the vehicle and a whistle or other personal alarm.
- As you approach your car, look around it and underneath, inside—especially the back seat—for persons who may be hiding. If you are suspicious, walk away. Go to a safe place and call for help.
- Some stores offer carry out services to escort you and your purchases to your vehicle. Take them up on the offer.

Avoid Doing These Things When Parking and Returning to Your Car

- Leaving your vehicle running and unoccupied or with unattended children or pets inside.
- Using more than one parking spot, which may cause angry reactions from others.
- Parking next to large vans, trucks or other vehicles that can offer cover to lurking criminals.
- Using a personal identification tag on your key ring, which can allow access to your car or house if your keys are lost or stolen.
- Approaching someone who is loitering near your vehicle. Walk to a safe place such as a lighted store, house or building. If the person refuses to leave, call mall security.
- Digging in your purse or bag.
- Wearing headphones or engaging in a cell phone conversation.
- Carrying heavy bags or packages that may offer criminals an opportunity to snatch something.

Please remember: If you see something, say something.

**LIBRARY USED
BOOK SALE**

The Villages Library Book Sale is open for business all year long on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. to noon.



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TECH CORNER

Everything you love about The Villager (and more) is now easier to find online!



Based on your valuable feedback, the **Navigation Bar** options at the top of the Villager Online now more closely resembles the sections in our print newspaper. To make navigation easier, the **Boards & Committees, Clubs & Events, Recreation, Religion, Sports, Classified Ads** sections now all have their own tab. Just click on a tab and you'll arrive at a page with articles you are used to seeing in The Villager (and more).

Aside from the new tabs, here are a few more navigation changes we made to simplify the experience:

The **Clubhouse** page now features operating hours, daily specials and quick links to menus directly on the landing page, requiring fewer clicks.

The **Community News** page now consolidates sections by putting Pulse Letters, Bouquets and Thank You notices under **From Our Readers**, showing you more content at a glance.

In addition: Remember that the top tabs are clickable—clicking on a drop-down menu is not required. For example, clicking on Sports takes you to a page that compiles *all* the sports. Clicking on Golf from the drop-down menu takes you to a page with *only* Golf articles.

Our holiday gift to you—FastNews rolls out a new design!

Since FastNews landed in your inbox, The Villager team has been receiving feedback with one popular suggestion to offer more articles to choose from with more content accompanying them. This December, The Villager team will roll out a new design based on what we learned from you.

More Highlighted Articles! Instead of being pushed to The Villager Online via FastNews and remaining online to peruse additional articles, FastNews recipients often attempt to go back to the FastNews email to click on another highlighted article. This frustrates and was never the intention of the FastNews push emails. The new design provides more articles to select from.

More Content! The FastLane offered all the content Villagers wanted at a glance. If we continued this FastLane format, it would compete against The Villager Online and discourage Villagers from transitioning from print to online. We think that this new design accomplishes a nice compromise—without placing too much extra burden on the team. The new design offers more content with punchier links.

On **November 12**, we welcomed Public Safety to the FastNews lineup. With Public Safety news covered on Tuesdays, FastNews now goes out every day!

If you have questions about the new design, please email the Communications team at comms@the-villages.com.

If you have general feedback about any of our online news channels, click the Feedback Form found on the footer of The Villager Online.

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Contacting PG&E during a power outage

You can report or get more information about power outages during stormy weather (and under regular conditions, too) through some of the following ways:

PG&E's 24-hour Customer Service number 1-800-743-5000.

To report or get info about an outage call PG&E's 24-hour Outage Information Center at 1-800-743-5002.

You can report an outage, learn about future planned outages, get outage updates and take a look at the outage map for your locality on the PG&E website at: pge.com

For those who don't have computers, advanced phones or may be technologically challenged, call the Customer Service number at 1-800-743-5000 to update your contact information so you can receive critical information when necessary. PG&E requests the following updates: Your primary home/landline number, your cell phone number, your email address and secondary contact information such as friends or family members who can receive alerts in the event contact cannot be made.

If you experience a power outage, contact PG&E and report it or to get more information about outages in your vicinity.

Reminder: Articles are due by 4:30 p.m. Thursday, one week before publication



2025 Midnight Countdown New Year's Eve Dinner December 31, 2024

**\$90 Plus Service Charge & Tax
7 p.m. Reception / 8 p.m. Dinner
Midnight Champagne Toast**

Reception

Charcuterie Display
Assorted Canapes

Salad

Baby Mix Salad with Pears, Gorgonzola, Candied Pecans,
Pomegranate Seeds with Champagne Vinaigrette

Dinner Rolls & Butter

Entrée

Land & Sea

7-oz. Filet of Beef with Compound Butter, Colossal Prawns
Scalloped Potatoes
Broccoli & Baby Carrots

Dessert

Black Chocolate Truffle Marquise Mousse Cake with Wild
Berry Compote

Reservation Required

Call 408-754-1339 or email: theclubhouse@the-villages.com

LANDSCAPE & MAINTENANCE

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Landscape Maintenance

• General Maintenance Schedule (General weeding control, pruning, and cleaning)

Due to last week's storms, the BellaVista Landscaping Team shifted its regular maintenance services to focus on leaf cleanup, fallen branches, and potential hazards. As the vendor navigates the storm season, BellaVista's maintenance service schedule may change based on evolving weather conditions. Management and Bella Vista are closely monitoring the weather. Please note that we are committed to keeping all residents informed of any updates to the schedule. High-level maps and the up-to-date outline of the vendor's various activities for December can be found on The Villager Online news.thevillagesgcc.com. The schedule reflects days for mowing, combined mowing/cleaning, cleaning, and detailing. Detailing includes pruning, pulling weeds, and detailing plant material.

• Fertilizer

o Four applications to be completed throughout the year. First turf fertilizer application and first pre-emergent applications are to be completed on the week of 12/9–12/13 throughout the districts and Club properties as follows:

- Village Del Lago, Village Sonata, Village Fairways, Village Cribari, Village Glen Arden, Village Highland, and Village Valle Vista 12/9–12/10
- Village Montgomery, Village Verano 12/12–12/13
- The Heights, Village Hermosa 12/11 and 12/13
- Village Olivias, The Estates 12/11–12/12
- Club Properties 12/11

• Pest Control

o Treatment for voles, moles, gophers, and squirrels—Village Valle Vista, Village Glen Arden, and Village Highland—will occur on 12/09.

- (Rozol Vole Bait, Talpirid, Gopher Coetter Type 2 Bait, Rodent Bait Diphacinone .005% and .01%).

o For Pesticide information used by the pest control vendor or the landscape vendor, please contact Customer Service at 408-223-4670 or visit the Corporation Yard at 3401 The Villages Fairway Drive. San Jose, CA 95135 or visit the Resident Portal and click on the pesticides button for pest control or landscape.

• Watering Schedule

BellaVista and management have adjusted/reduced the watering schedule based on the latest weather conditions.

• **Beta Sites/Non-functional turf conversions**—The Villages entry along Sonata/Del Lago in progress. Gachina will start work at the Montgomery Beta Site within the next two weeks.

Association Maintenance

If your village is not listed below, there is not a large-scale project occurring within your community. However, Public Works continues to address ongoing standard maintenance and landscape requests within each village.

- **Village Cribari**—Village gutter cleaning and roof preventative maintenance (PV) is in process.
- **Village Hermosa**—Village gutter cleaning and roof preventative maintenance (PV) is in process.
- **Village Verano**—Village gutter cleaning and roof preventative maintenance (PV) is in process.
- **Village Montgomery**—Management and a third-party vendor are finalizing the schedule for gutter cleaning throughout this village.
- **Village Glen Arden**—Roof replacement is currently in progress for the building at 7859 Prestwick Circle.
- **Village Highland**—The Public Works Department is currently replacing walkway and house lights throughout this community. Our team is currently awaiting the delivery of materials in order to complete this project.
- **Village Valle Vista**—Fire Hardening Project Delayed
 - o Update: Notices have been posted to all residents about the project which will restart next week. Updated schedule as follows:
 - 9048—9054 scheduled on 12/4–12/5
 - 9055—9063 scheduled on 12/5–12/6

Maintenance Project Notice:

All work scheduling is subject to weather, delays and availability of contractor labor and materials. Contractor may start several days ahead or behind plan schedule, pending field and weather conditions. As needed, we update schedules accordingly via FastLane. For your safety, please be aware of and stay clear of project and staging areas. Access is typically restricted in the work areas. Look out for cautionary signage and other measures. Parking facilities and street frontage may be in use on a temporary basis for vehicle, material and equipment staging. Debris, dust, noise, odor and visual inconveniences may result from a project. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

The William Jefferies co.

Lisa Gault

Phone: 408-202-1959

Villager Real Estate agent

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Gaultlisa@gmail.com BRE #01194339

Sign up for the next BellaVista Landscape Town Hall meetings

Join BellaVista for the next Winter Landscape Town Halls on **Monday, December 16**, at **10 a.m.** and **3 p.m.** in the Foothill Center. Since space is limited, please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/2p8ubj9w> or join the meeting via Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/4a5nyb6u> Meeting ID: 825 7120 0042 (see QR code and links on The Villager Online).

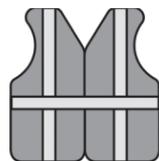
BellaVista will host an interactive presentation about winter hard-pruning activities, irrigation management and lessons learned during their first two months serving our community. There will also be snacks, beverages and some fun with raffle prizes and socializing with your neighbors.

VMA offers free safety vests

It's important to be seen! Evening darkness approaches earlier and earlier these days. Please be sure you are protecting yourself and Villages drivers by wearing bright clothing while walking during dawn or dusk.

Bright yellow/green reflective vests are available through the VMA free of charge to our residents. Stop by and pick up a complimentary vest at the VMA office in Cribari. Our office hours are 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

One size fits all. One per household. Don't be a statistic!



Early Bird Dinner

\$70 Plus Service Charge & Tax
12 p.m. Pickup Time

Salad

Baby Mix Salad with Pears, Gorgonzola, candied Pecans, Pomegranate Seeds with Champagne Vinaigrette

Dinner Rolls & Butter

Entrée

Land & Sea

7-oz. Filet of Beef with Compound Butter, Colossal Prawns
Scalloped Potatoes
Broccoli & Baby Carrots

Dessert

Black Chocolate Truffle Marquise Mousse Cake with Wild Berry Compote

Reservation Required

Call 408-754-1339 or email: theclubhouse@the-villages.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

To Place a Classified Ad

Mia Ahlstrom: 408-223-4657
 mahlstrom@the-villages.com

Ad copy is due Monday at 4 p.m.

The Villages does not endorse or guarantee any advertisement or insert using space in this paper to reach our readers. It is the responsibility of the users of these services to check references and claims made. Residents, please be aware California State law mandates any contractor bidding for a job more than \$500 in parts and labor must be licensed. The Contractors State License Board (1-800-321-2752) may be contacted regarding any questions or concerns about a contractor.

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 No Financial, Health or Personal Issues
 My Place, Your Place, New Place
 Please Call (408) 755-6511 for detailed Voicemail

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Need a professional?

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We Fix PC's / Macs & Networks
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Big changes to your prescription drug plan this year.

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Thuy (Julia) Phung Pedicure / Manicure

Foot Massage
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 Contact Julia
 For Appointments
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 408-205-0873

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Pink Ladies House Cleaning
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 Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly
 Free Estimates
 Licensed, insured

Lucy's House Cleaning Professional Work

Very Trustworthy
 30 years of experience
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 408-202-8644
 Enrique Velasquez
 enriquevelasquez1980@gmail.com
 evlandscaping.com

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Certified Massage Therapist (30+ years)

offers in-home therapeutic massage & stretching for sciatica pain. Professional table & oils. 90 min - \$160.
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Local and long distance
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 Villager - 408-219-1995 - George

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 jamespainting7@comcast.net
 Villages References

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 We also unclog drains.
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 10% senior discounts on labor

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One Year Guarantee
 Serving the Villages for 20+ years
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Painting (cont.)

Happy Holidays to our friends in the Villages community!

Tis the season! To do our part in spreading holiday cheer, we continue to offer a generous discount to our favorite senior community!

All Villages residents will receive 20% off all plumbing services we provide in your home and \$0 dispatch fee exclusively for Villages residents!

Please give us a call to schedule your FREE estimate appointment today, we very much look forward to providing quality plumbing services to you and your community!

Happy Holidays!

Venture Plumbing, Inc.
1-866-483-6887
License # 934775
www.ventureplumbinginc.net

Senior discount offer cannot be combined with any other special offers

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Remodelingamv.com
AMVRemodeling7@gmail.com
408-310-6969

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phil@poseydc.com
Michelle-408-315-6998
michelle@poseydc.com

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Remodeling (continued)

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Servicing The Villages since 2006
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NOLAZCO HANDYMAN WORKS
Remodeling, Flooring, Tile Painting, Windows, Doors
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Home Trouble? Call Louie the Handyman
Repairs, Painting, picture and mirror hanging.
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Villages Resident Handyman
House Repairs, etc.
Call or text Gerhard
408-203-6014
email gerhard@gerrepair.com

Senior In-Home Care (continued)

SENIOR IN-HOME CARE

Caregivers CARE ON CALL

Licensed, Bonded, Insured. Caregivers are employees, Not independent contractors. Trained and supervised. Hourly, Live-in
Free Assessment
References Available.
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EssentialCare Quality, Affordable In-home Care

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A+ ratings
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Live in Caregiver Available

Over 20 years experience with Alzheimer's Excellent Cook, Driver and Companion
Affordable-Reliable-Insured
Please call me to discuss your needs!
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Compassionate, Reliable. 18 yrs working in Villages. Live-in/hourly.
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Serving Villagers for 15 years
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MANAGED BY VILLAGES RESIDENTS
LICENSED
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\$75 OBO.
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Paid \$1000 - will take best offer
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2016 Club Car Excellent Condition
USB, Winter Cover
\$4500 OBO
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Wanted: Sports Cards & Collectibles - Baseball, Football, Basketball, Hockey, Soccer, Hot Wheels, Action Figures, Barbie, Comic Books, Toys & Video Games... etc. Cash for small & large collections.
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The Villages Lost & Found

Located in Building B.
Items are held for 30 days. Items remaining unclaimed after 30 days are donated to a charity.
Please call 408-223-4643 if you have recently lost an item.



Suzanne Rodda

**"#1 REAL ESTATE AGENT
IN VILLAGES SALES
YEAR AFTER YEAR"**

NOVEMBER SALES REPORT FOR ALL HOMES IN THE VILLAGES 2024 — SUZANNE RODDA

Status	Street Address	Total Sq.Ft.	Beds	Bths	List Price	DOM	Sale \$	\$/Per. SqFt	Close Date
Active	8708 Lomas Azules Place	2,043	2	2 1	\$1,300,000	12		\$636.32	
Active	7606 Halladale Court	1,751	2	2 1	\$1,099,000	94		\$627.64	
Active	3123 Lake Trasimeno Drive	1,855	2	2 0	\$997,000	107		\$537.47	
Active	2048 Folle Blanche Drive	1,746	3	2 0	\$950,000	27		\$544.10	
Active	8097 Cabernet Court	1,803	2	2 0	\$899,999	34		\$499.17	
Active	2022 Carignan Way	1,746	3	2 0	\$889,000	116		\$509.16	
Active	3337 Lake Albano Circle	1,776	2	2 1	\$850,000	86		\$478.60	
Active	8502 Grenache Court	1,571	2	2 0	\$819,950	31		\$521.93	
Active	7677 Helmsdale Drive	1,307	2	2 0	\$799,950	18		\$612.05	
Active	7033 Via Valverde	1,837	3	2 0	\$799,000	46		\$434.95	
Active	5176 Cribari Knolls	1,402	2	2 0	\$795,000	54		\$567.05	
Active	8408 Chenin Blanc Lane	1,497	2	2 0	\$749,889	108		\$500.93	
Active	6273 Blauer Lane	1,357	2	2 0	\$749,000	29		\$551.95	
Active	7335 Via Laguna	1,442	2	2 0	\$724,988	138		\$502.77	
Active	7334 Via Laguna	1,442	2	2 0	\$724,988	172		\$502.77	
Active	7248 Via Mimosa	1,386	2	2 0	\$718,888	99		\$518.68	
Active	7774 Beltane Drive	1,490	2	2 0	\$718,000	18		\$481.88	
Active	5140 Cribari Place	1,223	2	2 0	\$699,000	18		\$571.55	
Active	5344 Cribari Dell	1,223	2	2 0	\$550,000	66		\$449.71	
Active	5066 Cribari Bluffs	1,223	2	2 0	\$535,000	84		\$437.45	
Active	5184 Cribari Knolls	1,223	2	2 0	\$529,800	53		\$433.20	
Active	5146 Cribari Place	1,240	2	2 0	\$525,000	53		\$423.39	
Active	5524 Cribari Circle	1,223	2	2 0	\$520,000	18		\$425.18	
Active	5324 Cribari Glen	1,223	2	2 0	\$519,000	44		\$424.37	
Active	5084 Cribari Bluff	1,223	2	2 0	\$499,950	118		\$408.79	
Active	5424 Cribari Ct	1,223	2	2 0	\$455,000	5		\$372.04	
Active	5516 Cribari Bnd	947	1	1 0	\$430,000	47		\$454.07	
Sold	5398 Cribari Crest	1,223	2	2 0	\$485,000	150	\$500,000	\$408.83	11/15/2024
Sold	5036 Cribari Vale	1,240	2	2 0	\$620,000	27	\$615,000	\$495.97	11/15/2024
Sold	7645 Falkirk Drive	1,307	2	2 0	\$755,000	11	\$700,000	\$535.58	11/18/2024
Sold	7692 Galloway Drive	1,751	2	2 1	\$735,000	118	\$735,000	\$419.76	11/7/2024
Sold	7034 Via Valverde	1,837	3	2 0	\$788,000	12	\$778,000	\$423.52	11/22/2024
Sold	8669 French Oak Drive	1,582	3	2 0	\$849,999	21	\$825,000	\$521.49	11/21/2024
Sold	6283 Blauer Lane	1,646	2	2 0	\$925,000	0	\$925,000	\$561.97	11/5/2024
Sold	8673 French Oak Drive	1,675	2	2 0	\$949,888	43	\$925,000	\$552.24	11/7/2024
Sold	7539 Morevern Circle	1,751	2	2 1	\$978,000	5	\$1,000,000	\$571.10	11/21/2024
Sold	8720 Mccarty Ranch Drive	2,043	2	2 1	\$1,200,000	25	\$1,125,000	\$550.66	11/15/2024
Sold	8753 McCarty Ranch Drive	2,205	2	2 1	\$1,198,800	8	\$1,198,800	\$543.67	11/14/2024
Sold	8740 Mccarty Ranch Drive	2,305	2	2 1	\$1,299,888	5	\$1,300,000	\$563.99	11/1/2024

	AVERAGES NUMBER OF SALES	TOTAL SQ. FT. AVERAGES	LIST PRICE AVERAGES	DOM	SALE \$ AVERAGES	\$/PER SQ.FT. AVERAGES
Active	27 ↑ from 31	1,460	\$735,089	65 ↑		\$497 ↓
Cont/Pend	13 ↓ from 14	1,452	\$771,295	47 ↑		\$528 ↓
Sold	12 ↑ from 7	1,714	\$781,900	35 ↑	\$885,567	\$508 ↑

~ All information from MLS Listings data and represents all market activity for the community - deemed reliable, but not guaranteed ~

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12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Wednesday, December 11
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Thursday, December 12
12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

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A photograph of a woman with glasses and a pink top, smiling at a dining table. There are wine glasses and plates on the table. Other people are visible in the background.

Call **669-690-8372** to schedule your visit two days in advance. *Act now – residences are going fast!*

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