



The Villager

Vol. LVIII No. 4

Published the first and third weeks of the month and distributed Fridays

February 19, 2026

The News this Week

- **Bylaws 2026 Election Results**
(See item on page 1)
- **Fireside Chat with the General Manager**
(See article on page 3)
- **Leadership Development Committee**
(See article on page 3)
- **Next E-waste event is March 14**
(See article on page 4)
- **Association Board Candidate Application**
(See articles on pages 12 & 13)

Trips, Classes & Events

See pages 10 & 11

Update on The Villager Online

You may recall *The Villager Online* went offline in October. We initially planned a redesign to better meet your needs, but after listening to community feedback, it became clear a standalone website isn't needed right now.

Instead, we are pivoting to a new approach that better serves you: *The Villager Mini*. We announced this concept at the Jan. 27 Board meetings and received positive feedback. We plan to launch it in March.

To see a mockup, visit the Member Portal under Club/Meeting Documents (select Report) or go to <https://vlgcc.com/jan27-cbod-report> (page 8).

Inside The Villager

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Somewhere over the rainbow... Wet weather arrives



Cribari resident Jeanette Campa was at the right time in the right place when this rainbow showed up.

Women's Tennis team at Nationals



The Villages Women's USTA 65+ at the Nationals in Surprise, Arizona. Our women's team trekked to Arizona for a thrilling tournament where they were one of only 16 teams in the country. (Read Betty Olsen's two-part recap in the Sports sections of the February 5 and 19 editions of *The Villager*.)

Amended and Restated Bylaws 2026 Election Results

The Villages Golf and Country Club

Passed

For—942 votes

Against—391 votes

Votes returned—1,352

Invalid ballots—19

Coming in March: The Villager Mini

In March, we will launch *The Villager Mini* – Featured Events Edition, a new digital publication focused on upcoming events and activities at The Villages.

The *Villager Mini* will be released during weeks when there is no printed *Villager*, helping maintain a steady flow of information about upcoming community events. It will be available at <https://thevillageronline.com>.

This is the link to *The Villager Mini* FAQ: <https://thevillageronline.com/villager-mini>

NOW: Attend the 'Navigating Our Web' Thursday sessions

Join us for our weekly class, "Navigating Our Web," to be held every Thursday in the Communications Office in Building C. These sessions are for those who want to improve their online skills, such as navigating the Member Portal, becoming familiar with FastNews and general support with Villages' electronic communications.

This weekly one-hour session, hosted by the Communications staff, is offered to those wanting to trim their skills and enjoy learning with a small group of fellow Villagers. (Space is limited so register in advance.) The class runs from 2 to 3 p.m., with any remaining time dedicated to one-on-one assistance with the Member Portal and FastNews. Register by visiting <https://vlgcc.com/now> or calling 408-223-4681.



Webmaster Mariam Ibrahim helps Villagers.

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 it to the Communications Advisory Committee, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA 95135.

2 Pulse letters received.
0 Pulse letters not meeting Pulse Letter Requirements.
2 Pulse letters 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.

The bylaw change to establish a Capital Fund fee paid when a home is purchased is touted as new revenue that does not come from existing residents. That might be true if purchasers don't care how much they pay. But since there is competition, a \$500K purchase elsewhere will be compared against a cost of \$500K here including the \$10K fee, so every seller will wind up with the fee subtracted from their home's value.

—Peter Groot

Publisher's Comment: *It is possible a purchase-at-close fee influences resale pricing over time, but it is not entirely accurate to say it will always reduce a seller's price dollar-for-dollar. That depends on the market and how buyers value The Villages compared to other options.*

I attended our third Del Lago Roof Replacement Town Hall since the arrival of our General Manager, Theresa Ostrander, and AGM Ryan Bell. It was truly a pleasure to listen to the carefully researched and detailed presentation on what the roof project involves. Originally we had been advised that the roofs would cost \$12 million!

Once Ryan became involved, he examined every condo complex, removing tiles to study the underlayment and existing tile condition, and then adjusted costs accordingly. Ryan gave a comprehensive report, including a final cost of \$6 million. We will be getting an entirely new, improved roof with a roof life of 45+ years! Samples were available for review and we were assured residents will have input to the process. In fact, we got to vote on the kind of roof we preferred.

The votes of the 75-100 attendees were unanimous, which is what can happen when projects are fully explained by very competent and concerned staff.

There are significant benefits to attending DAC and Town Hall meetings. It's the perfect opportunity to listen, learn, ask questions and support those who are truly working in the best interest of our community.

—Melinda Dobbs

ABOVE & BEYOND

It is a thankless job that requires incredible time commitment and the backbone to bear the brunt of discontent. Yet—somebody has to do it. Kudos to those who serve on the Club Board, who utilize a lifetime of experience and skills to guide the ship that is The Villages. Kudos to the staff that steers the ship and the volunteers on the Association and Homeowner Boards, the DACs and the various committees that support them. Where would we be without these dedicated volunteers?

—Arlene Versaw

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who participated in the holiday light wrapping and unwrapping of the Verano trees. The lights were exceptionally beautiful and festive this year. We thank you for your time and physical/agility skills both Saturday mornings. A job well done. With grateful hearts, thank you.

—Kerry Besmehn and Loanne Rube

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Gleeson

September 2, 1924—February 9, 2026

(Please see obituary in the Classified Advertising section.)

Kyu Baik Lee ("Kyu")

February 12, 1932—January 31, 2026

(Please see obituary in the Classified Advertising section.)

S. Louann Partridge

November 20, 2025

There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Please RSVP.

(Please see obituary in the Classified Advertising section.)

Jan Holland

October 25, 1935—December 5, 2025

There will be a Celebration of Life for Jan Holland on Saturday, February 28 at noon in Montgomery Center.

DEADLINES

General Copy: All general copy, other than sports, is due by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. For editorial information email editorial@the-villages.com or call 408-223-4657.

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 1 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Holiday deadlines differ. For more information, email advertising@the-villages.com or call 408-223-4657.

Display Ads: Display ad rates and placement may be arranged by emailing advertising@the-villages.com or call 408-223-4657.

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 outside *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, FastNews and the website. Residents having relevant concerns may attend meetings or call committee members by phone: Chair Gary Holmquist at 408-332-8581, and Co-Chair Janis Silver at 408-274-6605.

HOURS

The Villager editorial and advertising hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 408-223-4657 for more information.

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:

Andrew Altman	President
Diana Hallock	Vice President
Larry Versaw	Secretary
Michelle Breslin	Treasurer
Howie Blumstein	Director
Judy Owen	Director
Richard Zahner	Director

Villager Personnel:

Theresa M. Ostrander	Publisher
Anita Leung	Communications Manager
Scott Hinrichs	Managing Editor
Kory Tran	Associate Editor
Mariam Ibrahim	Webmaster

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Visit The Villages website at thevillagesgcc.com

BOARDS & COMMITTEES



Fireside Chat with GM Theresa Ostrander Let's Talk Staffing & Service

Cut through the noise and get the facts on how our team serves you.

Curious about who does what at The Villages?

Join us for a straightforward, open discussion about hiring, organizational structure, and how decisions are made. Come get the real scoop directly from the source.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Wednesday, February 25, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Clubhouse Fairway Room
and on Zoom: Dial: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 841 0667 2207
Passcode: 375922

Complimentary Coffee, Tea, & Cookies provided.

We look forward to seeing you there!

From the Technology Advisory Committee

The Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) will present its research, vendor comparisons, and recommendation regarding the community's future bulk internet service at The Villages at the Club Board meeting on February 24.

Over the past year and several months, TAC has evaluated broadband technologies and explored options from several vendors. After careful review, the field has been narrowed to proposals from AT&T and Comcast. The Committee has analyzed infrastructure, cost, reliability, long-term scalability, and community survey feedback.

Both providers are proposing Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) technology to improve performance and position The Villages for reliable, future-ready connectivity. The Board discussion will focus on TAC's findings and its recommendation on which provider is best positioned to deliver fiber.

At this time, TAC is not making a recommendation on the bulk cable television agreement with Comcast, which does not renew until April 2027. TAC will continue evaluating television options, including Comcast and DirecTV.

Members are encouraged to attend, listen, and learn more.

Members may review the TAC presentation and Town Hall Q&A documents on the Resident Portal. Questions, comments, or feedback may be directed to TAC@the-villages.com.

<https://vlgcc.com/TACpres>
<https://vlgcc.com/QA121>
<https://vlgcc.com/QA123>

Sincerely,
Technology Advisory Committee

Stay in touch with FastNews!

If you haven't already signed up to receive FastNews, The Villages' email news blast, email memberportal@the-villages.com with your name and house number or follow the instructions at vlgcc.com/fastnews-manage

You'll receive the following FastNews editions:

- Monday** Golf and Pro Shop updates, golf group news
- Tuesday** Public Safety notices and updates
- Wednesday** Clubs, Events and Religion news
- Thursday** Recreation updates, available trips and classes
- Friday** Notices from the Governing Boards and associated committees
- Saturday** Public Works notices and updates
- Sunday** Clubhouse notices, events and restaurant specials

Message from the Association Water Committee

Did you know that water costs are approximately 25% of the Association's expenses? So, it is very important that we don't waste water.

According to Valley Water and the city of Gilroy about 90% of residential water leaks are from toilets. It is not unusual to lose 100 gallons or more per day to a leaking toilet. That adds about \$75 every two months to your water bill at the current water rates. The water committee recommends everyone check their toilets twice a year. Valley Water provides a video on how to do this at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OD0ymHyNDeA>

You can get blue dye tablets or food dye to put into the toilet tank, and if the toilet is leaking the color will appear in the bowl. Another method is to check the water level in the tank then turn off the water to the toilet for 20-30 minutes and check to see if the water level in the tank has gone down. Generally, changing the flapper will solve these problems. Be sure to recheck your toilet after changing the flapper. Sometimes the fill level is not set right so the water keeps overflowing. If you still have a leaky toilet after changing the flapper please contact a plumber to troubleshoot and fix the issue. If you want blue dye tablets Valley Water will supply them free at: <https://cloud.valleywater.org/ords/r/appweb/shopping-cart/start>

For more information on water saving ideas for your home visit Valley Water's Do-It-Yourself Water Wise Indoor Survey Kit at: <https://cloud.valleywater.org/ords/r/appweb/shopping-cart/start>

Leadership Development Committee seeking volunteers to serve

The Leadership Development Committee is looking for engaged Members who are curious, committed, and interested in learning how The Villages' governance works, and who may be ready to serve in future leadership roles.

Leadership Development Committee was created to recruit, train, and encourage qualified Members to step into leadership roles across The Villages' Boards, Committees, and clubs.

In 2025, we proudly graduated our first class of eight Members—now actively serving in governance and committee leadership. In March 2026, we launch our next class of eight.

This once-a-month, in-person program is your opportunity to learn how The Villages' governance truly works—its structure, responsibilities, and impact. Come learn, grow, and prepare to serve with confidence.

Interested? Contact Board Services at BoardServices@the-villages.com on or before March 6, 2026 to express your interest and be considered for the next class.

More BOARDS & COMMITTEES,
MANAGEMENT and COMMUNITY
NOTICES on pages 4, 5, 12, 13 & 31

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MANAGEMENT

Love Where You Live—The Villages Earth Day Celebration

Villagers love where they live—and what better theme for Earth Day 2026 than promoting sustainability in the beautiful place you call home?

The community-wide Earth Day event will take place on **Saturday, April 18**, at the Cribari Center, where a variety of organizations, vendors, and clubs will offer engaging and educational information focused on sustainability. Art in the Park will also be part of the Love Where You Live experience at Gazebo Park.

On Monday, April 13, Sustainability Services and the Clubhouse will host a beer tasting featuring sustainable breweries from the Bay Area and Central Coast, Devil's Canyon Brewery and Firestone Walker Brewery. Devil's Canyon, a Business of the Year award recipient, is recognized for its Culture of Reutilization ethic. With the motto "From gear to beer," the brewery aims to leave a zero-carbon footprint. The Firestone Walker brewery brews entirely by the sun, powered by a 2-megawatt solar array. They also close the loop on sustainability by capturing nearly 5 million pounds of carbon dioxide annually through a CO₂ recovery system rather than releasing it as greenhouse gas emissions.

A wine tasting will also be offered on Monday, April 20, featuring Wente Family Vineyards, a Livermore winery certified as a sustainable vineyard and winery by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance. Their practices focus on sustainability in soil health, water use and recovery, energy efficiency, and packaging. In addition, the winery is a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, demonstrating a strong commitment to environmental stewardship.

For additional information contact Sustainability Services, sustainability@the-villages.com or 408-754-1334.



Comcast/ Xfinity virtual appointments

Deisy Gomez, The Villages Comcast/Xfinity Account Manager, is available for virtual appointments every Friday by appointment from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

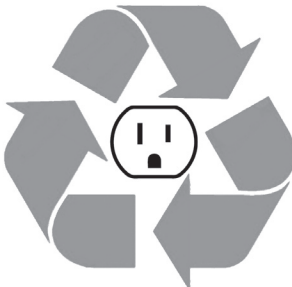
Please use the link: <https://vlgcc.com/comcastsupport> to make an appointment

Next E-Waste Event is Saturday March 14

A community Villages e-waste event will be held on **Saturday, March 14** from **9 a.m. to noon** in the Cribari East Parking Lot, sponsored by Sustainability Services in partnership with Zero Waste Silicon Valley. This no cost drive up recycling event is a great way for all Villagers to properly recycle unwanted electronic e waste items.

Accepted items are listed below :

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Televisions | Arcade Machines |
| Monitors | Cell Phones |
| Computer Systems | Household Phones |
| Laptops | Digital Cameras |
| Fax Machines | Computer Components |
| Copiers/Printers | Video Cameras |
| Scanners | Network Equipment |
| Projectors | Flash Drives |
| Stereo Equipment | Miscellaneous Wiring |
| I Pods | Music Instruments |
| MP3 Players | Audio Equipment |
| CD Players/DVD Players | Microwave Ovens |
| Video Game Consoles | Small Household Appliances |
| Retail and POS Systems | |



Just place items in your car or cart and drive them to the East Cribari Parking Lot (behind the hobby rooms) between 9 a.m. and noon on March 14 and a Zero Waste Silicon Valley employee will take it from there.

Questions? Please contact Sustainability Services at 408-754-1334 or Sustainability@the-villages.com. Remember, recycle right!

THANK YOU

Thanks to the many residents and friends who attended the Bluegrass Jam on February 1 for their acts of kindness and for their concerns extended to me after my recent injury. My recovery has been helped greatly by the many cards, phone calls, food and flowers I received. I appreciate everyone's kindness and empathy.

I look forward to playing with the Scotch Creek Band at the next Bluegrass Jam.

—Peggie Romanow

Thanks to the people who helped me with my recovery after my second hip replacement surgery.

Kimberly Nowlin took me to the hospital and picked me up the next day. And she stayed with me my first night home. She was concerned I might need help.

Aloma Lazetera took care of my dog, Ben, for my first week post-op. Once Ben came home Aloma and Irene Estelle have continued to walk Ben every morning. We are coming up on five weeks now, and I can make it around the block but the ladies and Ben's pack walk around Lake Albano. I'm not there yet. (Ben's pack—Steffi, Tinker Bell and Bailey—Ben waits for them every morning.)

Also thanks to Sheila Robinson, who took me to my first post-op ortho appointment and the grocery store. Bruce Bilnn who took me to a doctor's appointment. And Tamara, who walked Ben in the afternoon. All the assistance is so appreciated. To just say the words "Thank you" does not cover the gratitude for all you have done for me.

—Gretchen Tucker Greco

Recycling Right—the American Flag

With Presidents' Day just behind us, it is good to know how to respectively retire your American flag. The Villages Veterans Club sponsors a flag retirement ceremony each June. They publicize in advance. Other options are:

• American Legion and VFW posts conduct regular retirement ceremonies and often have drop boxes for worn flags.

- American Legion, 360 N. White Road, San Jose, 95127
- VFW, 1504 Minnesota Ave. San Jose
- Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops perform flag retirements as part of their civic education.
- Boy Scouts, 1900 The Alameda Ste 100. San Jose, 95126
- Girl Scouts, 1310 S Bascom Ave, San Jose, 95128





**HIRZ LAW
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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

THE DACs

Estates DAC to meet February 25

The Estates DAC Budget Meeting with the Homeowners' Corporation Board is Wednesday, February 25, at 9:30 a.m. in the Vineyard Center.

Fairway DAC to meet March 3

The Fairway DAC will meet Monday, March 3, at 5 p.m. in the Cribari Patio Room.

Glen Arden DAC to meet March 11

The Glen Arden DAC will meet Wednesday, March 11, at 6 p.m. in Foothill Center.

Hermosa DAC to meet March 17

The Hermosa DAC will meet Tuesday, March 17 at 3 p.m. in Montgomery Center.

AC NOTICE

Association applications for Owner Alteration Requests for the month of March are due to the Architectural Committee on or before **Friday, February 20**. Call Elissa at the Corporation Yard office to obtain an application. The meeting date is scheduled for **Thursday, March 5 at 9 a.m. at Montgomery Center**.

More COMMUNITY NOTICES

(SRS) SENIOR RESOURCE SERVICES

How much is the 2025 Standard Deduction?

The Federal 2025 Standard Deduction Amounts:

- Single & Married Filing Separately: \$15,750
- Married Filing Jointly/Qualifying Surviving Spouse: \$31,500
- Head of Household: \$23,625

Additional Deduction Amounts for Age and/or Blindness:

People age 65 or over and/or blind get an additional Standard Deduction of \$2,000 (single) or \$1,600 (married per person) for each of the additional deduction amounts on top of the basic Standard Deduction. For example, if you are single or Head of Household and both blind and over 65, your additional standard deduction is \$4,000, making your total standard deduction the base amount (e.g., \$15,750 for Single) plus \$4,000, resulting in a total of \$19,750. For Married Filing Jointly, it's an extra \$3,200 (\$1,600 per spouse) for age plus an extra \$3,200 (\$1,600 per person) for blindness, resulting in a total of \$9,600.

New Standard Deduction for tax years 2025-2028:

In addition, there is a new temporary \$6,000 per person deduction for tax years 2025-2028, on top of the basic Standard Deduction.

These changes may make it more advantageous for some taxpayers to take the Standard Deduction rather than itemize (taxes, medical expenses, property tax, mortgage interest, charitable contributions, etc.).

The California 2025 Standard Deduction Amounts are:

- Single & Married Filing Separately: \$5,706
- Married Filing Jointly/Head of Household/Qualifying Surviving Spouse: \$11,412

The California Standard Deduction is doubled for Seniors. Also, for the 2025 tax year, the federal state and local tax (SALT) deduction cap is significantly increased to \$40,000 (from \$10,000), allowing more California itemizers to deduct property, income, or sales taxes, though it phases out at higher incomes. However, California's state income tax rules still apply, meaning you must itemize and benefit from these changes on your federal return, while California has its own separate deductions and credits. Always compare your total itemized deductions (including SALT, mortgage interest, charitable giving, etc.) to California's standard deduction to see which provides a greater tax benefit.

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 villagessrs@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.

BOARD MEETINGS

Three Boards

- Three Board FY26/27 Insurance Renewal Approval (Directors Only) is **Tuesday, February 24**, at **4 p.m.** in Vineyard Center and on Zoom.

Association

- The Villages Association Board of Directors Monthly Board hybrid meeting—open to all—is **Tuesday, February 24 at 9:30 a.m. in Vineyard Center** and on Zoom

Meeting ID: 917 8108 3392; Passcode: 223468; Dial: 1-669-900-6833

- The Villages Association Board of Directors Budget Work Session (Directors Only) is **Friday, February 27 at 1:30 p.m.** in Vineyard Center.
- The Villages Association Board of Directors Preliminary Budget Review Draft #2 (Directors Only) is **Tuesday, March 17 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Sequoia Room.

Club

- The Villages Golf & Country Club Board of Directors Executive Session Re: Disciplinary Hearing is **Tuesday, February 24 at 12 p.m.** in Vineyard Center.
- The Villages Golf & Country Club Board of Directors regular hybrid meeting—open to all—is **February 24 at 1:30 p.m. in Vineyard Center** and on Zoom

Meeting ID: 961 5036 4740; Passcode: 260616; Dial: 1-669-900-6833

- The Villages Golf & Country Club Board of Directors Budget Work Session (Directors Only) is **Friday, February 27 at 10:30 a.m.** in Vineyard Center.
- The Villages Golf & Country Club Board of Directors Preliminary Budget Review Draft #2 (Directors Only) is **Tuesday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Sequoia Room.

Homeowners

- The Villages Homeowners' Board of Directors Budget Work Session (Directors Only) is **Friday, February 27 at 9:30 a.m.** in Vineyard Center.
- The Villages Homeowners' Board of Directors Preliminary Budget Review Draft #2 (Directors Only) is **Tuesday, March 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Sequoia Room.

Deadline for editorial materials is Wednesday, a week before the date of publication. Please email your copy to: editorial@the-villages.com

Get to know the EVF

New residents often ask, "What is the EVF?"

The Evergreen Villages Foundation (EVF) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to funding lasting capital improvements that make life at The Villages better for everyone. For almost 20 years, the EVF has played a meaningful role in enhancing the amenities and shared spaces that our residents enjoy every day.

The Evergreen Villages Foundation is Club-project focused. When a capital improvement project is approved by the Club Board of Directors and the project supports the EVF mission, we work closely with the Club and management to help fund project costs. Over the years, EVF support has helped bring many valued projects to life, including the pickleball courts, clubhouse and bistro patio enhancements, new fitness center equipment, and most recently, golf course bunker and bocce court improvements.



EVF believes that investing in our amenities strengthens the quality of life, desirability, and long-term vitality of The Villages. A full list of supported projects, along with details on how to get involved, is available at our website evfsj.org.

EVF makes charitable giving simple and impactful through programs such as the Sustaining Member Program and the Planned Giving Program. If you'd like to support the EVF, you can become a Sustaining Member for as little as \$5 per month or make a one-time donation at any time through the website evfsj.org.

More BOARDS & COMMITTEES and COMMUNITY NOTICES on pages 12, 13 & 31

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, February 20

8 a.m. Catholic Mass CR
 8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:30 a.m. Arts & Crafts: Card Making F
 10 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. Line Dance Club Advanced A
 10 a.m. Quilters PR
 12:30 p.m. ACBL Bridge Game RED
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 2 p.m. Chapel Organ Rehearsal A
 3 p.m. VMS Handbell Rehearsals CR
 6 p.m. Chinese Club Line Dancing VC
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Dominoes MC
 7 p.m. Jewish Service A

Saturday, February 21

8:30 a.m. Tai Chi FC
 10 a.m. Ukulele Sing-a-Long SEQ
 10 a.m. Watercolor Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. Quilters PR

Sunday, February 22

7 a.m. Catholic Mass A
 7 a.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal CR
 9 a.m. Chapel Choir Rehearsal SEQ
 10 a.m. Chapel Worship Service A
 11 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 1 p.m. Table Tennis Social Event MC
 7 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A

Monday, February 23

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:45 a.m. Search the Scripture VC
 10 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 1 p.m. Stitchery PR
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 2 p.m. Senior Academy Meeting MC
 2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A
 5 p.m. VMS Dancer Group 1 A
 7 p.m. Bridge Duplicate RED
 7 p.m. Hiking Meeting & Speaker VC

Tuesday, February 24

9 a.m. Art Class Acrylic/Oil AR
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
9:30 a.m. Association Board Monthly Meeting (ABOD) VC
 10:30 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Beginner FCP
 11:45 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Advance FCP
 12 p.m. CBOD Executive Session - Disciplinary Hearing VC
1:30 p.m. Club Board Monthly Meeting (CBOD) VC
 1:30 p.m. Art Journaling Class AR
 2 p.m. Free Art Film CR
 2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A
 4 p.m. 3 Board Special Open Mtg VC
 5:30 p.m. Desi Club: Social Hour SEQ
 6 p.m. GV: Healthy Eating MC
 7 p.m. Tennis Board Meeting PR
 7 p.m. VMS Concert Band A

Wednesday, February 25

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:30 a.m. Watercolor Art Class AR
 9:30 a.m. Estates DAC Budget Mtg VC
 11:15 a.m. QiGong A
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 2 p.m. Chapel Organ Rehearsal A

2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal VC
 3 p.m. Fireside Chat with GM CH
 5:30 p.m. VMS: Dancers Group 2 A
 6 p.m. VMS: Voices Rehearsal FC
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Dominoes MC
 7 p.m. Bridge Duplicate RED
 7 p.m. VMS Dancer Group 3 VC

Thursday, February 26

8:30 a.m. SRS: Free Tax Preparation MC
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9 a.m. SG: Line Dance Class A
 9:30 a.m. Arts&Crafts: Pastel/Drawing AR
 10 a.m. Line Dance Club CR
 10 a.m. VMA: Parkinson's Support Grp PR
 10:30 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Beginner FCP
 11:45 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Advance FCP
 12 p.m. Ceramics Open Studio AR
 12:30 p.m. Chapel Bible Study SEQ
 1:30 p.m. Ukulele Club Meeting VC
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 3 p.m. Chapel Choir Rehearsal CR
 4 p.m. Arts&Crafts Board Mtg AR
 4 p.m. VMS: Dance Leadership Mtg VR
 6 p.m. VMS Dancers Rehearsal MC
 7 p.m. The Villages Folksters VC
 7 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A

Friday, February 27

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:30 a.m. HBOD Budget Work Session (Directors Only) VC
 10 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. Line Dance Club Advanced A
 10 a.m. Quilters PR
 10:30 a.m. CBOD Budget Work Session (Directors Only) VC
 12 p.m. Chapel Organ Rehearsal A
 12:30 p.m. ACBL Bridge Game RED
 1:30 p.m. ABOD Budget Work Session (Directors Only) VC
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 3 p.m. VMS Handbell Rehearsal CR
 6 p.m. Chinese Club Line Dancing VC
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Dominoes MC

Saturday, February 28

8:30 a.m. Tai Chi FC
 10 a.m. Ukulele Sing-a-Long SEQ
 10 a.m. Watercolor Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. Quilters PR
 2 p.m. Cat Club Meeting VC
 4:45 p.m. SG: Movie Discussion SEQ

Sunday, March 1

7 a.m. Catholic Mass A
 7 a.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal CR
 9 a.m. Chapel Choir Rehearsal SEQ
 10 a.m. Chapel Worship Service A
 11 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 5 p.m. Jewish Community Purim FC
 7 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A

Monday, March 2

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 10 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. EPC Director's Board Mtg PR
 1 p.m. Stitchery PR
 1 p.m. Art Demo CR
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A
 2:30 p.m. Study Group: French Mtg F

5 p.m. VMS Dancer Group 1 A
 6 p.m. Korean Club Singing Grp MC
 7 p.m. Bridge Duplicate RED

Tuesday, March 3

8:30 a.m. Men's Golf Club Executive Committee Meeting MC
 8:30 a.m. Tai Chi FC
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9 a.m. Art Class Acrylic/Oil AR
 10:30 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Beginner FCP
 11:45 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Advance FCP
 12 p.m. Comcast Drop-In Appts F
 1:30 p.m. Art Journaling Class AR
 1:30 p.m. SG: Flower Arranging Club CR
 2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal VC
 2 p.m. Veterans Club Meeting FC
 2 p.m. VMS Piano Open Studio Mtg A
 3:30 p.m. Catholic Parish Council Mtg MC
 5 p.m. Fairway DAC Meeting PR
 7 p.m. VMS Concert Band A

Wednesday, March 4

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:30 a.m. Watercolor Art Class AR
 10 a.m. Yoga A
 11:15 a.m. QiGong A
 11:30 a.m. Dippy Dolphins Meeting MC
 1 p.m. SG: Stitch and "Share" SEQ
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 2 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal VC
 3 p.m. VMA: Bingo A
 5:30 p.m. VMS: Dancers Group 2 FC
 6 p.m. VMS: Voices Rehearsal FC
 6:30 p.m. GV: Wellness & Spirituality CR
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Dominoes MC
 7 p.m. Bridge Duplicate RED
 7 p.m. VMS Dancer Group 3 VC

Thursday, March 5

8:30 a.m. SRS: Free Tax Preparation FC
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9 a.m. Association AC Meetings MC
 9 a.m. Study Grp: Line Dance Class A
 9:30 a.m. Pastel/Drawing Art Class AR
 10 a.m. Line Dance Club CR
 10:30 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Beginner FCP
 11:45 a.m. Aqua Aerobics Advance FCP
 12 p.m. Ceramics Open Studio AR
 12:30 p.m. Chapel Bible Study SEQ
 1:30 p.m. Ukulele Club Meeting VC
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 3 p.m. Chapel Choir Rehearsal CR
 3 p.m. Homeowner's AC Meeting MC
 3 p.m. Homeowners Architectural Control Committee MC
 6 p.m. VMS Dancers Rehearsal FC
 7 p.m. VAT Spring Show Rehearsal A

Friday, March 6

8 a.m. Catholic Mass CR
 8:30 a.m. Jazzercise A
 9 a.m. Chinese Morning Exercise P
 9 a.m. Game Day RED
 9:30 a.m. Card Making F
 10 a.m. Art Open Studio AR
 10 a.m. Line Dance Club Advanced A
 10 a.m. Quilters PR
 12:30 p.m. ACBL Bridge Game RED
 1 p.m. Hiking: Soup & Supper FC
 2 p.m. Art Open Studio AR
 3 p.m. Bocce Club Bocce Bash BC
 3 p.m. VMS: Handbell Rehearsal CR
 6 p.m. Chinese Club Line Dancing VC
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Dominoes MC

Calendar Highlights

Jewish Group Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 1 at Foothill Center from 2 to 4 p.m.

Hiking Club South America presentation

Monday, February 23 at 7 p.m. in Vineyard Center

Free Art Film Frank Lloyd Wright

Tuesday, February 24 at 2 p.m. in the Cribari Conference Room

Italian Club Crab Feed

Enjoy crab at the Clubhouse on Saturday, March 1 at 5 p.m. sign up at <http://italian.vgcc.club>

How San Jose spends our money

Discussion with San Jose Councilmember Candelas Wednesday, February 25 at 7 p.m. in the Cribari Conference Room, sponsored by the Democratic Club.

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
- FCP 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—Mont.
- VC Vineyard Center
- VR Voyage Room—Mont.

CLUB CALENDARS

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ARTS & CRAFTS?

All Villagers are invited to participate in Arts and Crafts Activities. Visit villagesartsandcrafts.org

EVENTS

March 31: Free Art Film: Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry with host Marion Rose, Tuesday, 2 p.m. Cribari Conference Room. Free popcorn!

March 2: Gathering of Artists Featuring Guest Artist Elena Mukhina's Leatherwork Demo. Monday, 1:45 p.m. in Cribari Conference Room. First at 1:45 p.m. a short VACA business meeting, followed by our Guest Artist.

ART CLASSES AND OPEN STUDIOS

Open Studio in the Art Room: Monday and Friday mornings, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons, starting at 2 p.m.

Art Classes—Register by emailing plremingt@gmail.com. All art classes are in the Cribari Center Art Room, unless noted otherwise.

February 20, and 27: "Drawing Trees" with Greg Cheung. Fridays, 2 – 4 p.m. \$45.

March 4, 11, 18 and 25: Watercolor Plus Mixed Media with Doug Canepa. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. \$70.

March 6 and 20: Card Making Group with Mandy Book. Fridays, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in Cribari Forum Room. Free. No instruction.

March 7 – 28: Free Watercolor Open Studio with Doug Canepa. Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon.

March 24 and 31, April 7 and 14: "Printing without a Press" with Pat Remington. Tuesdays, 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. \$60.

Ceramics Room: Open Studio days for members who have received initial training and safety instruction in the use of tools. For Open Studio hours and classes, go to villagesceramics.com

Stitchery Group: Meets Mondays 1 to 3 p.m. in Patio Room. Call Roberta at 408-218-8372.

HIKING CLUB SCHEDULE

Bring water, snacks, poles, and lunch, as necessary. Wear layered clothing for the current weather. In addition to scheduled hikes, the following hikes occur regularly: **Every Wednesday and Saturday – Villages Hill Hike, 8:30 a.m.** from Foothill Center. All hiking abilities are welcome. **Every Monday – Walk around the Golf Course** with Terri Vivoli and Cheryl Allmen. Meet at the Clubhouse parking lot (next to the driving range) at **8:20 a.m.**, leave at 8:30.

Rambler Hike - Wednesday, February 25 - Sandy (530-412-1744) and John Petrin (530-927-7024) will lead a hike to Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont. There is a \$5/car parking fee via an automated machine at the entrance. Drive ahead about a mile to the Visitor Center where there is plenty of parking. The hike is along a mostly level, paved path along Bayview Trail and curves around Red Hill and back to the park entrance for about 3.6 miles. Along the way there is an optional detour to the top of Red Hill (200 ft+/- elev. gain) for those so inclined—pun intended. This vantage point provides some excellent views of SF Bay and adds about 0.5 to 1.6 miles to the hike depending on which connector path one chooses. Also, there is a small museum (depicting the lifestyle of the indigenous peoples that lived in the area), picnic tables, bathrooms, etc., at park headquarters at the base of Red Hill. Dress in layers, bring water and a snack. There will be an optional lunch after the hike just outside the park at a nearby shopping center. It is the Fairwood Cafe (Chinese) at 35204 Newark Blvd for those interested. R/T mileage is approx. 50 miles. We will meet at Cribari Center at **8:45 a.m.** and depart at 9 a.m.

Rambler Lite - Wednesday, February 25 - 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 - Wednesday March 4: Al Girolami (209-531-6553) will lead a hike to our nearby Montgomery Park and its historic hill. It's historic as John Montgomery lost his life here in 1911 while experimenting in the advancement of aviation. We will meet at the Main Villages Gate parking lot at **8:45 a.m.** for a 9 a.m. departure on foot. It will be a less-than-5-mile round trip with a loop around the park and then through the Evergreen Valley College campus. The only difficult part is a 3/10 of a mile 18° climb on a very wide packed earth trail that can be switch backed if desired. The base starts at 442 ft and the top is only 578 ft (much easier than our own hill) but with a great view of our Valley. Poles and water are recommended. Before returning home, we can stop for coffee and snacks at the Strip Mall at Yerba Buena and San Felipe.

Rambler Lite - Wednesday, March 4 - Katy Peretti (408-531-0917) will lead a hike to Glen Arden and Highlands. We'll walk around Glen Aden then along Caledonia to Buckhaven and back to Foothill. Meet at foothill at **9 a.m.**

Rambler Lite - Wednesday, March 11 - Katy Peretti (408-531-0917) will lead a hike through Hermosa. We'll walk up to Chenin Blanc Lane along the southern border and down through the Winery Ct water way and back to our cars. Meet at Montgomery Center at **9 a.m.**

Wednesday - March 18 - (Rambler Hike) Sandy & John Petrin (530-412-1744/530-927-7024) will lead a hike at Martial Cottle Park in San Jose. The hike will be approximately 3+ miles with a driving distance to the trail head of about 8 miles. Parking will be along Chynoweth Ave along the south side of the park. The hiking route is all paved so wet weather, with the exception of steady rain, will not be a problem. Afterwards there will be an optional stop for coffee and perhaps a treat at the nearby Dunkin' Donuts. We will meet at **8:30 a.m.** at Cribari with an 8:45 departure.

RV CLUB SCHEDULE

More information and photos from recent outings are on <https://villagesrvclub.org>

(Most outings are four nights; in and out dates are shown.)

February 23-March 1 - Harbor Village, Half Moon Bay

March 16-20 - Jackson Rancheria, Jackson

April 13-17 - Sugar Barge, Bethel Island

May 18-22 - Yosemite RV Resort (Bass Lake), Coarsegold

June 15-21 - Moss Landing KOA

June 27 - Open House at RV storage lot

July 27-31 - Petaluma KOA

July 31, Aug 1-4 - Giant Redwoods, Myers Flat

September 14-18 - Olema Ranch, Point Reyes

September 27 - Annual BBQ

October 12-16 - Zephyr Cove, Lake Tahoe

November 9-13 - Morro Bay State Park (book early!)

December 1-5 - New Brighton State Beach



VMA EVENT CALENDAR

REGISTER ONLINE: VMAVILLAGES.VGCC.CLUB

OR CALL: 408-238-4029

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



Upcoming Programs

Please note—we ask you to register for all programs

Hearing Aid Clean and Repair and ClearCaptions -

Hearing Life will be offering free hearing aid clean and repair

on **Tuesday, March 17** in Montgomery center from **10 a.m.**

to noon. Please call the VMA office at 408-238-4230 to

make an appointment. ClearCaptions will be there to explain

their free caption phone service as well.

Placement Decisions – Roxana Dumitrescu, a Certified

Senior Advisor with Senior Care Consulting LLC will discuss

caregiver burnout, when it is time for more care and what

it is like working with a professional placement specialist.

Please join her on **Thursday, March 19 at 10 a.m.** in the

Sequoia room.

Support Groups

Grief Support Group: The support group begins again

on **Monday, March 9** in the Sequoia room at **10:30 a.m.**

Booklets are required for the group and are available in the

Chapel office. Here are some other contacts:

GriefShare – griefshare.org – 800-395-5755

Hospice of the Valley – hov.org – 650-530-6970

With Grace Hospice – withgracehospice.com – 408-444-5500

Caregiver Support Group: Judith London Ph.D. con-

ducts this monthly group where caregivers meet to share,

listen, and learn. **Thursday, March 19 at 10:30 a.m. to 12**

p.m. in the **Patio Room** and via Zoom. Please contact Judy

for all meeting specifics at judithlondon@sbcglobal.net or

call 408-784-3325.

Parkinson's Support Group: This monthly group is for

all people interested in discussing Parkinson's. Next meeting

takes place **Thursday, February 26 at 10 a.m.** in the **Patio**

Room. (Please note room change for the whole year).

No need to register, all are welcome.

Reminder: Articles are due by noon
Wednesday—a week before publication

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
408-223-4687
Press #2**

Soup of the Day



For the week of 2/23 to 3/1
Monday, February 23
 Vegetarian Lentil
Tuesday, February 24
 Barley Beef
Wednesday, February 25
 Chicken Macaroni
Thursday, February 26
 Italian Sausage & White Bean
Friday, February 27
 Clam Chowder
Saturday, February 28
 Chef's Choice
Sunday, March 1
 Chef's Choice
Chili Beef Soup available
 Cup \$6 Bowl \$9

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 Press #2,
 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 408-223-4687 Press #2. Call us again when you get to the Clubhouse curbside and we will bring it out to your vehicle. **A 15% 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: State 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 Clubhouse staff uses 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 in the locked comment card box at the Clubhouse foyer.

The Villages Golf & Country Club

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 or visit:
<http://vlgcc.com/menus>



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

Weekly Specials

Breakfast Special:

Tuesday 2/24 to Sunday 3/1

Cowboy Breakfast Tacos: Smoked Brisket with Scrambled Eggs, Cheddar Cheese & Salsa on Flour Tortillas with Baked Beans & Country Potatoes. **\$19**

Lunch Specials:

Monday 2/23 to Sunday 3/1 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spanish Seafood Ceviche: Octopus, Shrimp, Imitation Crab, Avocado, Onions, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Cilantro, Clamato with Fried Tostadas. **\$19**

Chimichanga: Fried with Carnitas, Black Beans, Spanish Rice, topped with Salsa, Sour Cream & Guacamole w/ Side of Tortilla Chips. **\$15**

Dinner Specials:

Tuesday 2/24 to Sunday 3/1 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

With Choice of Small House Salad or Small Caesar Salad

Petite Filet Mignon: 5-oz. Angus Beef Tenderloin, Béarnaise Sauce with Choice of Two Sides. **\$28**

Game Hen: Half Roasted Game Hen with Lemon Thyme au jus and Choice of Two Sides. **\$27**

Weekly Dessert Special (limited only)

Molten Lava Cake A La Mode \$9

Pound Cake with Fresh Berries and Whipped Cream \$7

CURBSIDE: Whole Rotisserie Chicken \$15.99
 Order by 1 p.m. for 5 p.m. Same Day Pickup

See the FastNews Clubhouse edition every Sunday for Clubhouse menus and updates

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 2 p.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.

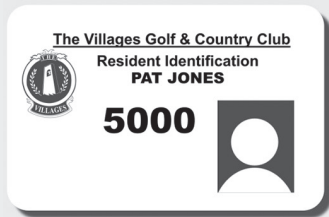
Main phone line: 408-223-4687

Reservation: Press #1, Curbside Order and Pick-up: Press #2
 Manager on duty: Press #4, Events and Catering: Press #5

Online Reservations, please use the Member Portal

Email: theclubhouse@the-villages.com

Please remember to bring your Member 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.



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 5 p.m.



Shared table. Every Wednesday at 5 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 at: www.clubhouserreservation.com

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.



Dinner For Two

Grilled Tri-Tip \$55 Whole Chicken Asada \$45

CURBSIDE ONLY
Pre-order 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
For 5 p.m. same-day pickup



WHOLE CHICKEN ASADA \$45

- House salad with balsamic dressing
- Dinner Rolls & Butter
- Cilantro Lime Rice
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Corn Tortilla
- Pico De Gallo



GRILLED TRI TIP \$55

- House salad with balsamic dressing
- Dinner Rolls & Butter
- Roasted Yukon Gold Potatoes
- Roasted Cremini Mushrooms
- Grilled Jumbo Asparagus
- Green Peppercorn Demi Glace

FROM THE CLUBHOUSE MANAGER

Dear Members,

We hope this message finds you and your families well.

When dining at the Club for any meal service, we kindly ask that you please present your membership card at the end of your visit when your check is delivered. This will help us ensure that charges are posted accurately to the correct member account.

We truly appreciate your cooperation and support in helping us maintain smooth and efficient service for everyone.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the Club.



Warm regards,
George W. Arnold, CCM, CCE

See the FastNews Clubhouse edition on Sundays for Clubhouse menus and updates

A friendly reminder




Dear Members,

As you step off the golf course, please be mindful of the health and safety concerns associated with tracking goose droppings and wet grass into the Clubhouse.

To help maintain our facilities, we kindly ask that you change your shoes before entering or ensure they are thoroughly clean and safe for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding.




ROTISSERIE

Chicken

To Order Call Curbside: 408-223-4687 #2

Orders Taken Daily until 1 p.m.
Pickup Available at 5 p.m.

\$15.99 Plus
Service Charge
and Tax



RECREATION

Recreation info.
also available on the
Thursday edition of
FastNews

The Recreation Services office is in **Building D** and is open **Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to noon** and from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**
The following events are sponsored by The Villages. Please call 408-223-4643 for additional information.

See San Francisco Giants vs. San Diego Padres

Date/Time	Cost
Wed, May 6, 10:15 a.m. - 6 p.m.	\$152
Location	Attendant
San Francisco	M. LeGrand
Reg. Deadline	
April 23 at 4 p.m.	



Join us for an exciting trip to Oracle Park to watch the San Francisco Giants take on the San Diego Padres! Experience the thrill of live baseball, stunning bay views, and the electric atmosphere of one of MLB's most iconic stadiums. **Seats**

are available for the Premium Lower Box - Rows 16-19.

A meal ticket is included with the trip, so you can enjoy classic ballpark food while cheering on the Giants. This is the perfect outing for sports fans and friends looking for a fun day in San Francisco. Don't miss your chance to be part of the action and create unforgettable game-day memories! Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/sfgiants5-6-26> or with Recreation Services in Building D.

See San Francisco Giants vs. Houston Astros

Date/Time	Cost
Wed, Aug. 12, 10:15 a.m. - 6 p.m.	\$157
Location	Attendant
San Francisco	M. LeGrand
Reg. Deadline	
July 22 at 4 p.m.	



Join us for an exciting trip to Oracle Park to watch the San Francisco Giants face off against the Houston Astros! Feel the energy of the crowd, enjoy breathtaking views of the bay, and experience live MLB action in one of baseball's most iconic

stadiums. **Seats are available for the Lower Box Section 105 - Rows 39 and 40.**

A meal ticket is included with the trip, so you can savor your favorite ballpark food while cheering on the Giants. This is the perfect outing for baseball fans looking for a fun and memorable day in San Francisco. Don't miss out on this action-packed game-day experience! Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/sfgiants8-12-26> or with Recreation Services in Building D.

Take scenic tram tour around Angel Island

Date/Time	Location	Cost
Thursday, April 9, 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	San Francisco	\$136
Attendant	Reg. Deadline	
M. LeGrand	March 26 at 4 p.m.	

Escape to Angel Island and experience one of San Francisco Bay's hidden gems! Join us for a relaxing and scenic tram tour around the island, where you'll soak in breathtaking views of the skyline, Golden Gate Bridge, and Alcatraz. Learn about the island's rich history while enjoying the fresh bay air and stunning natural beauty. After the tram tour, we'll head to a delicious lunch together perfect for unwinding and sharing highlights from the day. Don't miss this chance to explore, learn, and enjoy a memorable day on Angel Island!

Register on the Member Portal at <http://vlgcc.com/angel-island49> or with Recreation Services in Building D.



Gets hands-on at Cal Academy of Science

Date/Time	Location	Cost
Thursday, April 30, 8:45 a.m. - 5 p.m.	San Francisco	\$149
Attendant	Reg. Deadline	
M. LeGrand	April 16 at 4 p.m.	



Join us for an unforgettable trip to the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco! Spend the day exploring amazing exhibits, including a living rainforest, world-class aquarium, and hands-on science displays. This exciting experience is perfect for anyone curious about the natural world. Lunch will be provided, so you can relax and enjoy the day without worrying about meals. Discover, learn, and have fun in one of San Francisco's most iconic museums. Don't miss this incredible day of science and exploration!

Register now on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/calAcademy4-30-26> with Recreation Services in Building D.

Take exciting trip to Hiller Aviation Museum

Date/Time	Location	Cost
Tuesday, Mar. 31, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	San Carlos	\$138
Attendant	Reg. Deadline	
M. LeGrand	March 16 at 4 p.m.	

Join us for an exciting day trip to the Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos, where you'll discover captivating exhibits that celebrate the history and innovation of flight. Explore vintage aircraft, interactive displays, and unique aviation artifacts at your own comfortable pace. Knowledgeable staff and engaging presentations make this museum a standout experience for all interests. Afterward, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch at West Park Bistro, known for its fresh, flavorful dishes and welcoming atmosphere. Relax, dine, and share the day's highlights with fellow travelers. Don't miss this uplifting outing filled with discovery, good food, and great company! Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/hiller3-31-26> or with Recreation Services in Building D.



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 after the registration deadline.

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.

Restore balance and vitality with QiGong class

Date/Time
Wed., Mar. 4 - Apr. 8, 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Cost
\$80
Instructor
Mariko D.

Location
Auditorium
Reg. Deadline
Feb. 27 at 4 p.m.



Experience the flowing rhythm of Qi Gong, an ancient practice that combines slow, intentional movement with breath and mindful awareness to cultivate and balance the body's natural energy, or qi. Often described as "meditation in motion," this practice encourages relaxation, improved circulation, and a calm, centered state of mind. The gentle, continuous movements make Qi Gong accessible to all levels while offering a deeply restorative experience. The session price includes six classes. Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/qigong34> or with Recreation Services in Building D.

Transform your body with Yoga

Date/Time
Wed., Mar. 4 - Apr. 8, 10 to 11 a.m.
Cost
\$80
Instructor
Mariko D.

Location
Auditorium
Reg. Deadline
Feb. 27 at 4 p.m.



Move, stretch, and strengthen in a yoga class designed to energize both body and mind. Each session flows through purposeful sequences of postures that build strength, improve flexibility, and enhance balance while supporting healthy alignment and mobility. Guided breathwork links movement to motion, helping participants release tension, increase focus, and leave each class feeling refreshed, recharged, and ready for the day ahead. Please note: participants should be comfortable moving to and from the floor unassisted. The session price includes six classes. Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/vlgcc.com/yoga34> or with Recreation Services in Building D.

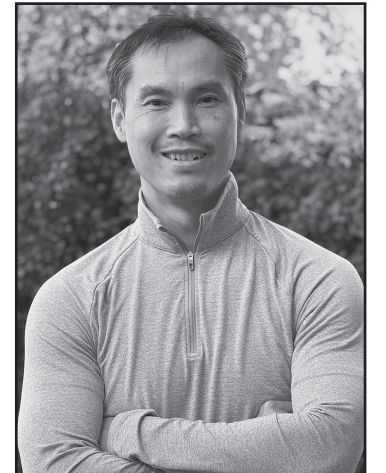
Sign up for fitness sessions with our personal trainers!

The Villages is thrilled to announce we have two new personal fitness trainers, Ted Mitchell and Andy Le, available to help you! These trainers bring a variety of experience, specialties, and training styles designed to support residents at all fitness levels. Whether you're just beginning your fitness journey or looking to refresh your routine, our trainers are ready to support and motivate you.

If you are interested in registering and would like more information about our trainers' schedules and rates, please email Susi at SSteengrafe@the-villages.com. Space is limited, and sessions will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.



Ted Mitchell



Andy Lee

Take Beginner or Advanced Aqua Aerobics

Date/Time
Tuesdays, Mar. 24 - April 28
Beginner, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Advanced 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Cost
\$80
Instructor
Ted M.

Location
Foothill Pool
Thursdays, Mar. 26 - April 30
Beginner, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Advanced 11:45 a.m. - 12:45p.m.
Reg. Deadline
Mar. 17 at 4 p.m.

Make a splash with Aqua Aerobics, a fun and invigorating workout that delivers results without stressing the joints. The beginner class features easy-to-follow movements that build strength, mobility, and confidence in the water, while the advanced class raises the energy with upbeat routines and cardio-focused exercises designed to challenge and energize. Whether you're looking to ease in or turn up the pace, there's a class ready to keep you moving and feeling great. The session price includes six classes. Activity Level(s): Beginner: Moderate. Advanced: Intense.

Register for the class(es) on the Member Portal at:

- Tuesday Beginner Class - <https://vlgcc.com/aquaBeg324>
 - Thursday Beginner Class - <https://vlgcc.com/aquaBeg326>
 - Tuesday Advanced Class - <https://vlgcc.com/aquaAdv324>
 - Thursday Advanced Class - <https://vlgcc.com/aquaAdv326>
- Or sign up in person with Recreation Services in Building D.

Sign up for Elkhorn Slough Safari Experience

Date/Time
Tuesday, May 19, 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Attendant
M. LeGrand

Location
Moss Landing
Cost
\$168
Reg. Deadline
April 24 at 4 p.m.

Discover the wild beauty of California's coast with an unforgettable trip to Elkhorn Slough Safari in Watsonville! Glide through peaceful waterways on a guided safari tour and spot sea otters, harbor seals, birds, and other incredible wildlife up close. After your adventure, enjoy a delicious lunch at the beloved Trolley Car Rotisserie, known for its flavorful rotisserie chicken and fresh sides. This trip blends nature, relaxation, and great food into one perfect day getaway. Don't miss your chance to explore, unwind, and savor the best of the Central Coast! Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/elkhorn5-19-26> or with Recreation Services in Building D.



Explore rich history of Mission San Juan

Date/Time
Friday, Mar. 19, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Attendant
M. LeGrand

Location
San Juan Bautista
Cost
\$126
Reg. Deadline
March 5 at 4 p.m.



Step back in time and savor the flavor on our day trip to Mission San Juan Bautista and Smoke Point BBQ, which calls itself "The Best BBQ in San Juan Bautista"! Join us for a delightful day of history, friendship, and delicious food as we explore California's largest mission. Wander through the beautiful gardens, tour the museum, and soak in the stunning architecture and rich history of this timeless landmark. Afterward, we'll head to Smoke Point BBQ for a mouth-watering lunch, featuring tender smoked meats, savory sides, and vegetarian options—all served in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. The trip includes comfortable round-trip transportation, a guided mission tour, lunch, and plenty of time for photos and fellowship.

Reserve your seat today for a day full of fun memories and history! Register on the Member Portal at <https://vlgcc.com/sanjuan3-26> with Recreation Services in Building D.

New Guest Room check-out policy

We'd like to share a small update to our Guest Room check-out process.

To help us better track keys and prepare rooms promptly for incoming guests, we are updating our key return procedure. After your guest's stay, Guest Room keys must now be returned directly to a staff member at one of the following locations:

- Recreation Services Department (Building D) during regular business hours
- Front Gate at any time

Going forward, keys may no longer be left inside the room or placed in the drop box.

We truly appreciate your help with this change, as it allows our team to ensure rooms are secured and ready for the next reservation. Your cooperation plays an important role in helping us provide a smooth and positive experience for all residents and guests. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Recreation Services Department—we're always happy to help!

The Villages Association Solicitation of Candidates Form

The Association director election will be conducted in May and June 2026 for three director positions, two terms of three years and one term of two years. The deadline for nominations for candidates for The Villages Association Board of Director candidates is Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

Pursuant to California Civil Code §5105(a)(3), The Villages Association Bylaws Section 6.1.2, and The Villages Association Election Rules Section 3.2.1, any Member who satisfies the qualifications and is not otherwise prohibited from running for the Board may place their name in nomination by completing this "Solicitation of Candidates Form" and submitting this form with attached candidate statement to the President (Michael Schwerin) or Secretary (Deborah Gordon) of the Board before the above posted deadline.

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY 2026 Election of Directors

I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors of The Villages Association.

Member's Name

Property Address(es) within The Villages Association.

Mailing Address, If Different

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

The attached statement explains my qualifications to serve as a director and, if elected, my goals for the community. Statements are limited to 250 words. Sample candidate statements and formatting guidelines are available in the General Manager's office or by contacting BoardServices@the-villages.com. Please attach your candidate statement to this form.

This form and candidates' statements must be received no later than **March 10, 2026** and may be sent to The Villages Association c/o Board Services, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA 95135, or BoardServices@the-villages.com.

Qualified candidates' names and addresses will be included on the Candidate Registration List and statements will be published in the voting materials that accompany the ballots in the election of directors, as well as published in *The Villager* newspaper. Telephone numbers and email addresses are for internal use only and will not be published with the statements.

As noted, the **deadline for nominations** for The Villages Association Board of Director candidates for this year's election is **March 10, 2026, at 9 a.m.**

See Qualification of Candidates on page 13.

The Villages Association Candidate Statement Guidelines As Part of the Election Package

Candidate resumes/biographies will be included as part of the election package.

Candidate resumes/biographies are limited to 250 words.

As we must print candidate biographies as submitted please proofread carefully and use the following format:

Paper – 8 ½ x 11" and white in color

Font – Ariel; size 14 with corporation and candidate name in ALL CAPS and corporation and candidate name and address in **bold type**.

Margins – 1" for top, bottom, and side margins

Alignment – Justify

Heading – State corporation on first line followed by and Nominee for Director, then candidate name and address
– Single spacing for text with double spacing between heading and paragraphs

Please contact Board Services at BoardServices@the-villages.com with any questions or concerns.

See Qualification of Candidates on page 13.

NOTICE The Villages Association

The deadline for nominations for The Villages Association Board of Director candidates for this year's election is **Tuesday, March 10, 2026**.

Pursuant to California Civil Code §5105(a)(3), The Villages Association Bylaws Section 6.1.2, and The Villages Association Election Rules Section 3.2.1, any Member who satisfies the qualifications and is not otherwise prohibited from running for the Board may place their name in nomination by completing the "Solicitation of Candidates Form" and submitting the form and attached candidate statement to the President (Michael Schwerin) or Secretary (Deborah Gordon) of the Board on or before the above posted deadline.

The Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Corporation provide that there shall be seven directors. Those whose terms continue during the ensuing year are Deborah Gordon, Patrick Barber, Stephen Gilbert, and Dave Dimmick. The three directors for which terms expire as Michael Schwerin, Patricia Reardon, and Rob Howe.

The three director vacancies include two terms of three years and one term of two years. Because directors are being elected for differing terms of office, election by acclamation is not permitted for this director election. (Bylaws Section 6.6). The three persons receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected and, of those elected, the one receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected to the longest position term and the one receiving the lowest number of votes shall be elected to the shortest position term. In the case of a tie for any position, a run-off election will be conducted.

See Qualifications of Candidates on page 13.

Questions for the CBOD or ABOD?

Both the CBOD and ABOD appreciate having your questions addressed. For questions for The Villages Golf and Country Club Board of Directors, please email Julia Meadows at: jmeadows@the-villages.com.

For questions to The Villages Association Board of Directors, place your question in the drop box in Building A's parking lot.



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.

THE VILLAGES ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS RULES

ARTICLE 3 CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD AND NOMINATION PROCEDURES

3.1 Qualification of Candidates. Candidates for the Board must be Members at the time of their nomination and must meet all other qualifications or restrictions set forth in these Election Rules. In the case of a Member that is not a natural person (such as a corporation or other entity), the entity Member shall have the power to appoint a natural person as the "Member" for purposes of director elections. The Association shall disqualify a nominee for the Board for any of the following reasons:

3.1.1 The nominee is not a Member.

3.1.2 The nominee, if elected, would be serving on the Board at the same time as another owner of the same separate interest and the other person is either properly nominated for the current election or is an incumbent director.

3.1.3 If the nominee, at the time of nomination, is delinquent in the payment of regular and/or special assessments. A nominee shall not be considered "delinquent" if the delinquency relates to the payment of fines, fines renamed as assessments, collection charges, late charges, or costs levied by a third party and/or if the nominee: (a) has paid the regular or special assessment under protest; (b) has entered into a payment plan for repayment of the delinquent assessments and is not delinquent in payments due under the plan; or (c) has requested and has not been provided an opportunity to engage in internal dispute resolution.

3.1.4 If the nominee has been a member of the Association for less than one year.

3.1.5 If the nominee discloses, or if the Association is aware or becomes aware of, a past criminal conviction that would, if the Member was elected, either prevent the Association from purchasing the fidelity bond coverage required by Civil Code section 5806 or terminate the Association's existing insurance coverage required by Civil Code section 5806 as to that person should the person be elected.

3.1.6 If the nominee has served the maximum number of terms or sequential terms allowed by the Association's governing documents.

3.2 Nominations.

3.2.1 Solicitation of Candidates. At least thirty (30) days before the deadline for submitting a nomination, the Association shall provide general notice (per Civil Code section 4045) of the procedure and deadline for submitting a nomination for the Board. Any Member who satisfies the qualifications and is not otherwise prohibited from running for the Board may place their name in nomination for the Board by submitting the nomination before the published deadline for receiving nominations. In addition, the Board may recruit qualified candidates and/or may appoint a nominating committee to nominate qualified candidates. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Election by Acclamation is going to be considered, the Association must follow the procedures in Section 2.5 ("Election by Acclamation"), above.

3.2.2 No Write-Ins. No "write-in" candidates shall be permitted on the ballots in the election of directors.

3.2.3 No Nominations from the Floor. Nominations of candidates from the floor of membership meetings shall be prohibited in the ballots in the election of directors.

3.3 Candidate Registration List. The "Candidate Registration List" shall mean the list of candidates who will appear on the ballot and shall include the names and addresses of individuals nominated as a candidate for election to the Board. Upon request, the Association shall permit candidates to verify the accuracy of their individual information on the Candidate Registration List at least thirty (30) days before the ballots are mailed. The candidate shall report any errors to the Inspector of Elections who shall make the correction within two business days. The Association may, at its discretion, report any known errors to the Inspector of Elections. The Candidate Registration List shall be retained as "association election materials" as required by law.

3.4 Notice of Known Candidates. The names of all persons on the Candidate Registration List shall be set forth on the ballot.

3.5 Candidacy Statements. Any candidate who wishes to submit a candidacy statement may only do so using the Association's authorized form. The content of any candidate statement shall be limited to a statement of the candidate's qualifications to serve as a director.

3.6 Qualification of Directors. A director must comply with the same requirements set forth in Section 3.1 ("Qualification of Candidates"), above, pertaining to the qualifications for a candidate for the Board. The Board by a majority vote of the directors who meet the qualifications for directors, may declare vacant the office of any director who fails or ceases to meet any required qualification for directors that, pursuant to the Bylaws or the Election Rules, was in effect at the beginning of that director's current term of office. In addition, the Board, by a majority of a quorum, may declare vacant the office of any director who fails to make available any and all information the director and/or the Association is legally obligated to provide to a governmental agency for Association compliance with federal or state law requirements, including, without limitation, the requirements of the federal Corporate Transparency Act.

Bulky Bins Arriving February 24

The popular bulky bin service will be available to Villagers again on **Tuesday, February 24**. Green Team provides two dumpsters in the lower driving range parking lot. The bins are available from the time they are delivered on Tuesday (between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.) until they are picked up on Thursday, (between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.)



We kindly remind everyone to please follow the self-serve guidelines for bin use.

Last year unnecessary Villages employee labor and hazardous waste fees resulted by misuse of the bins. The bins are for the convenience of Villagers—not vendors doing work on behalf of Villagers.

Important Reminders:

BIN USE REQUIREMENTS:

• **All items must be placed fully inside the bin and pushed to the back. No items may be left outside or at the opening of the bin.**

• **Please no overfilling top of bin.** Improper disposal increases unbudgeted labor for cleanup and hazardous waste handling.

• **Restricted items**—The following items are not allowed for disposal at these dumpsters:

- o Concrete, dirt, tires, engine parts, oil
- o Propane tanks
- o Televisions, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dryers and other appliances
- o Medical waste or hazardous materials such as paint, antifreeze, motor oil, and pesticides
- o E-waste (examples include computers, monitors, chargers, keyboards, printers, laptops, and electrical components)

• **No garbage in bulky bins**—Garbage is strictly prohibited in the bulky bins. Contaminated boxes will not be removed from the premises until all garbage is removed.

This free community service relies on everyone's participation and respect for the rules. Let's work together to keep the service going and The Villages looking great.

Battery and Light Bulb Recycling dates through the end of March

When: Fridays, February 27, March 13, and March 27 (weather permitting).

Time: 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. (No early drop-offs, please)

Where: Lower Driving Range Parking Lot

What: Household batteries only (A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9-V, and button batteries)

- Corroded batteries must be bagged in plastic
- No e-waste please

What: Light Bulbs

Recycling Limits:

- Fluorescent Tubes:
 - o Up to 4 feet long
 - o Must be unbroken and taped together
- CFL Bulbs (Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs):
 - o Must be unbroken, sealed in paper with tape or in a sealed bag
- LED Bulbs:
 - o Must be unbroken, sealed in paper with tape or in a sealed bag

Light bulbs must be sorted by type and sealed in paper or in a plastic bag

The following options are also available outside of The Villages:

Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Disposal site, visit hhw.org or call 408-299-7300 to schedule a free appointment or find drop-off locations to dispose of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).

Small quantities of household batteries and some lightbulbs (please verify quantity in advance) may also be taken to:

- Outdoor Supply Hardware 1751 Capitol Expressway, San Jose 669-699-5249
- Ace Hardware Payless Rockery 2927 S. King Road, San Jose 408-274-4922

For all book lovers...visit the Library Book Sale

Visit the Villages Library Book Sale to discover your next read! Favorite authors, new books, special interest and more are added each week. Every sale supports our outstanding Villages Library. The prices can't be beat: hardcovers \$2, paperbacks \$0.50. There is also a wide selection of jigsaw puzzles.



Come check us out in Cribari Center near the Post Office every **Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.**

Support the advertisers who support us!

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It Starts With Questions

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Clubs and Events
also available on the
Wednesday edition of
FastNews

CLUBS & EVENTS

How San Jose spends our money: A discussion with Councilmember Candelas



Residents are invited to join a public discussion on the City of San Jose's budget for the coming fiscal year with San Jose District 8 Councilmember Domingo Candelas on **Wednesday, February 25** at **7 p.m.** in the Cribari Conference Room.

This event is sponsored by the Villages Democratic Club and is open to all.

This meeting will provide an overview of the City's current fiscal outlook, an explanation of the budget process, and an opportunity to discuss the challenges and decisions ahead.

Meet friends at Cat Club meeting

By Bette Loomis

Over 50 Cat Club members attended the January meeting where a lively discussion was held about the care and well-being of cats. A wealth of cat supplies and food were brought to the "leave something, take something" table. This continues to be one of the best features of the club meetings. What a great way to try something free for your cat from water fountains cat trees, beds, toys food all *free to take and try*.



Sydney and Suki adopted by Diane Taylor.

The meetings now are only an hour long, so plan to arrive early and stay late so you can continue meeting other Villagers with cats. We have 10 new men who have already joined the club!

In February, we will have five club members give a five-minute presentation about themselves. We will continue with these short presentations throughout the year until everyone has been introduced; this is one way to become better acquainted with the club members. Hopefully this will encourage shared cat-sitting responsibilities with your neighbors, saving money and meeting new friends!

The meeting will be held **Monday, February 23** in the Vineyard Center from **2 to 3 p.m.** Please register for this meeting through the website at sites.google.com/view/villages-cat-club or by email. You can also text me at 408-234-9798.

Villages Jewish Community invites you to

A Purim Carnival Sunday, March 1 at Foothill Center

2 to 4 p.m. Enjoy playing all eight themed games
4 p.m. prizes awarded

Refreshments and Surprises

All Villagers and children are welcome
Purim Masks provided for everyone

See article for more details on page 17.

RSVP to deegarfinkle@bellsouth.net (space is limited)

Let's celebrate Purim together!

In the Healthy Eating Kitchen: Mastering Béchamel

The Global Village Club is very happy to have Chef Marie-Paule back to lead our Healthy Eating class on **Tuesday, February 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** in Montgomery Center. This month, we turn our attention to one of the great cornerstones of classic cuisine: Béchamel Sauce.

Béchamel is one of the five "mother sauces" of French cooking, meaning it serves as the foundation for countless recipes. In our session, you'll learn the straightforward technique behind it: how to create a smooth roux, how to properly incorporate warm milk, and how to achieve that perfectly silky consistency without lumps. These are skills that elevate everyday cooking. Master this one sauce and you gain the technique and confidence to create dozens of elegant variations.

For example, we'll take it one step further and transform our Béchamel into a Mornay sauce. This is a simple, yet elegant variation enriched with cheese. This creamy, flavorful sauce is a natural companion to vegetables, pasta and more. And of course, we won't stop at theory. Using our freshly prepared Mornay, we'll assemble a comforting cauliflower and potato gratin. You'll see how a basic white sauce becomes the backbone of a beautifully baked dish with a golden top and tender layers beneath.

Best of all, everyone will have the chance to taste the finished gratin. After all, learning is important—but tasting is the true reward. If you've ever wanted to strengthen your kitchen fundamentals while enjoying good company, this is the perfect month to join us. Come ready to learn, stir, and savor with Marie-Paule & Darrel

This event is for GVC club members. RSVP at tinyurl.com/4vznm69 or email he.gvclub@gmail.com. Last date to register or cancel is February 20.



Sign up for March Mah Jongg lessons

By Meril Smith

What is that game with crazy looking tiles all about? What is a "bam," "crak," or "soap"? Ever wondered why so many people in The Villages play Mah Jongg on a regular basis? Now you can find out!

A new Mah Jongg class will begin in March. Judy Rogers is teaching a class of up to 10 people starting people starting **Wednesday, March 18**. Groups meet once a week, usually up to 8 weeks. Classes will be held at 8051 Chardonay Court (Hermosa Village). If you are interested, please contact Judy at 408-465-6776 or judy.rogers488@gmail.com



Come to the dedication of new organ in Cribari

The Villages Community Chapel is delighted to announce the arrival of an Allen Q325 organ. This beautiful instrument was purchased by donations from Chapel members and music lovers from across the Villages. It features three manuals (keyboards) and can hold over 250 pieces in its presets memory bank—a huge assistance to the organist. Our former Baldwin organ could only hold 8 presets and had several keys sadly beyond repair. So what happened to our former organ? A church in the central Valley has the same organ so our beloved Ms. Baldwin has been moved there to provide parts...yes, she's now an "organ donor."

Our new organ came to us preowned from a church in the Los Angeles area that had lost their organist. They recognized it needed to be played and are thrilled it has found a new home where it will be loved and appreciated. None of this would have been possible without the incredible assistance of Trent Alameda, Ryan Bell, Dominic Broadhead and the whole Villages staff that helped with scheduling, moving, reinforcing, and installing the Allen but we would be very remiss in not acknowledging the tremendous volunteer efforts of Villager Gerry Stillman, electronics engineer extraordinaire that kept our old Baldwin going for so many years. Thanks one and all.

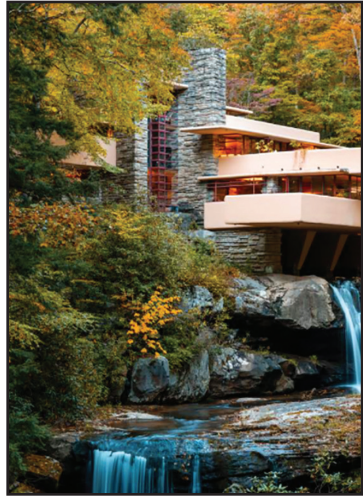
The Allen organ will be dedicated at **10 a.m. on Sunday, March 1**, during our morning Chapel service in the Cribari Auditorium with Catherine Ellacer, our Minister of Music, at the keyboards. All are welcome for this exciting debut. Of course, we will be featuring the Allen at our annual organ concert in October.



Free Art Film: Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry

On **Tuesday, February 24 at 2 p.m.**, the Villages Arts & Crafts Association will present two short and inspiring films on two of the greatest architects of our times. Hosted by Marion Rose, this event will be in the Cribari Conference Room.

Frank Lloyd Wright built over 500 buildings and was best known for his final one, the Guggenheim Museum in New York. His buildings express an idea about how we should live and view the world, that his buildings should grace the landscape, and belong where they are built. He destroyed the use of boxes within boxes so typical of other architecture and set the stage for the likes of Frank Gehry who has turned buildings into sculptural art forms in motion.



Come join us for two short films about them both (both showing in under two hours) that will inform, and delight and inspire you. An art related door prize will be presented at the end of the film.

Free to all Villagers and their guests. Popcorn will be served.

Come to Hiking Club's Game Night

Have fun and make new friends at the Hiking Club's Game Night on **Thursday, March 12 from 6 to 9 p.m.** at the Sequoia room in Cribari Center. Bring your favorite board game or cards to play with table-mates. Snacks will be provided, bring your own beverage.

No RSVP is necessary. We hope to see you there!

Join Watercolor Plus Mixed Media

Join Doug Canepa to go beyond traditional watercolor with his popular class, Watercolor Plus Mixed Media!

Bring your own watercolor materials and Doug will furnish burnishing tools, charcoal, colored pencils, acrylics, texturing paste, charcoal pencils and ink to bring an exciting new dimension to your work. Doug has a wide array of suggested class projects for students to consider or bring your own subject of interest. Beginners and experienced watercolorists alike will enjoy this class!

Watercolor Plus Mixed Media will take place **Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 9:50 a.m. - 12 p.m.** in the Cribari Center Art Room.

The fee for this class is \$70, payable to Doug Canepa by check or Venmo. This also includes four Open Studio dates on Saturdays for students who want more time to paint with Doug.

Register with Pat Remington at plremingt@gmail.com or text 407-506-9219.



Calling all artists for Art in the Park

Are you a maker? An Artist? A Crafter? Join us to show and sell your items at Art in the Park on **April 18** at Gazebo Park. It's fun, it's easy and we want you to join in the fun. Every year, over 40 artists set up on the picnic tables as hundreds of Villagers and their friends and families come out to shop. Sponsored by the Villages Arts & Crafts Association, Art in the Park is scheduled for **Saturday, April 18 at Gazebo Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

For more information, visit villagesartinthepark.com or contact Diane Finley at dianefinley1@gmail.com



The Villages Arts & Crafts Association

Hiking Club presentation: 'Roaming High and Low in South America'

If you've ever wondered about traveling to South America (without visiting Patagonia), then please join Gordon Carbonetti who will talk about his 2025 trip to South America at the Hiking Club meeting on **Monday, February 23 at 7 p.m.** at **Vineyard Center**. Along with wife Loretta and daughter Courtney, their 19-day adventure involved stops in Peru, Bolivia and Chile, with many spots above 10,000 feet elevation.

Many sites visited were archaeologically and historically significant, and of cultural interest. Highlighting Peru were visits to Lima, Cusco, Ollantaytambo, and Machu Picchu all with much Inca history. Travel to Bolivia focused on the capital of La Paz (world's highest capital city) and the Tiwanaku/Puma Punku World Heritage Site. Lastly, stops in Chile include the capital Santiago, Vina del Mar and Rapa Nui (Easter Island), which is famous for its massive stone statues called Moai. Easter Island, in the Pacific five hours by air from Santiago, is also one of the most remote and isolated places on earth. Happily, Easter Island returned us to sea level.

Gordon also plans to talk about how they traveled to and around South America, including some information on the tours and accommodations, as well as showing many photos.

The program will follow a short club business meeting and a break for socializing with snacks and beverages. The meeting is free, and open to all Villagers.



The Enigmatic Voice

March 7 & 8, 2026
at the **California Theatre**

Originally commissioned for the coronation of King George II, **Handel's Zadok the Priest** is an anthem is a timeless masterpiece exuding majesty, triumph, and divine grandeur—a celebration of power, tradition, and unshakable glory!

Dona Nobis Pacem, **Ralph Vaughan Williams's** stirring plea for peace, blending the timeless words of the Latin Mass with the haunting poetry of Walt Whitman. Written in 1936 as the world teetered on the brink of war, this dramatic and deeply moving cantata resonates as powerfully today as it did then.

Filled with mystery, emotion, and brilliance, *Enigma Variations* is a masterpiece in orchestral story telling. Each variation is a musical portrait of **Edward Elgar's** closest friends, woven together with an elusive hidden theme—an enigma that has intrigued audiences for more than a century.

Tickets from **\$35 to \$115**

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All Villagers invited to Purim Carnival, March 1

The Villages Jewish Community (VJC) will be hosting a Purim Carnival on **Sunday, March 1** at Foothill Center from 2-4 p.m. All Villagers are invited to take part in the fun and refreshments will be provided. Families and children are welcomed as well. The Carnival will consist of eight themed games and prizes will be awarded at 4 p.m. Purim masks will be provided to all. Please RSVP by e-mail to deegarfinkle@bellsouth.net. There is no charge and space will be limited. Hope to see you there!

For those not familiar with the holiday of Purim the description below will explain: Purim is one of the most festive and boisterous holidays in the Jewish calendar, celebrating the deliverance of the Jewish people from a plot to annihilate them in the ancient Persian Empire. The story, recorded in the **Biblical Book of Esther (the Megillah)**, centers on a royal advisor named Haman who planned to kill all Jews in the empire. His plot was thwarted by the bravery of Queen Esther and her cousin Mordecai, leading to a day of great joy and celebration instead of tragedy.

The holiday is characterized by its unique “flipped” atmosphere, where things are not as they seem. This theme of “**hiddenness**” is central to the day: Esther hid her Jewish identity until the crucial moment, and the name of God does not appear once in the Megillah, suggesting that the divine hand was working behind the scenes. To reflect this, children and adults alike wear **costumes and masks**, symbolizing how the miraculous can be found within the mundane and how people’s true essence is often hidden beneath the surface.

There are four primary religious obligations, or *mitzvot*, performed on Purim. First is the **reading of the Megillah**, where listeners “blot out” the name of the villain Haman by making noise with rattles called graggers. Second is Mishloach Manot, the sending of **food gift baskets** to friends and neighbors. Third is *Matanot La’evyonim*, giving charity to the poor to ensure everyone can celebrate. Finally, there is the *Seudah*, a festive afternoon banquet filled with wine, music, and laughter.

Food plays a starring role in the festivities, most notably the **Hamantaschen**. These are three-cornered pastries filled with poppy seeds, fruit preserves, or chocolate. Their triangular shape is traditionally said to represent Haman’s hat or his ears, and eating them is a symbolic way of “consuming” the memory of the enemy. Because of the celebratory nature of the day, the atmosphere is often compared to a carnival, with parades, plays called *Purim Shpiels*, and general merriment.

Ultimately, Purim serves as a powerful reminder of **resilience and Jewish survival** throughout history. It is a day that transforms fear into courage and mourning into dancing. While it commemorates an ancient victory, its message of standing up against injustice and celebrating community remains vibrant and relevant every year.

Help Villages Quilters honor Veterans

The Villages Quilters need your help. We are looking for veterans! Men and women who served our country in any capacity are qualified by their service to our country to receive a quilt of Valor.

Quilts of Valor is a national organization that aims to present quilts to those who have paused their lives for their service to our country. Many of our vets will not speak of their time in the service. They may say that they didn’t do anything important. The rest of us who did not serve, don’t believe that. Troops need food, supplies, functional equipment, and safe transportation. Our veterans served their country, often putting their plans and dreams on hold for us. The least we can do is to recognize this service.

Why a quilt you ask? Because it can wrap you in warmth and give the hug and comfort so many did not get when they returned home. The Villages Quilters have made and presented 40 quilts to our Villages vets. We have quilts ready to present, but our humble vets are reluctant to apply some thinking that being overseas or in combat is a requirement.

The following veterans received their Quilts of Valor in 2025, though we did not have photographs. August 2025: William (Bill) Tibbs, Victor Barbella, Richard Natfzger, Ann Jackson, Don Jackson. September 2025: Richard Stowers.

Please help us honor and thank more vets by encouraging them to apply for a Quilt of Valor. Friends, spouses and children can apply on behalf of a veteran as long as the nominee agrees (no surprises allowed). Application forms can be found online (on the Quilts of Valor website— just return them to Nancy Chesterton rather than the organization), or in the Patio Room on Fridays or Saturdays, the pastor’s office, from any member of the Villages quilters or from Nancy Chesterton (Villages quilters liaison with QOV).



Left to right: Tony Gonzales, Lorraine Navone, Nancy Chesterton, Chuck Benjamin, Sue Taylor and Dick Schroeder.

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Wednesday, March 11 • 12:00 pm

Join us for the third presentation in our **Aging Brilliantly** series! Discover the benefits of Tai Chi and a healthy lifestyle. Presented by our own team member, Jackie, experience a Tai Chi exercise session and enjoy lunch with us afterwards.



Photo Credit: David Schacher Photography

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More CLUBS

Global Village Club: Peaceful Mind Series, Part Three: 'What Do You Really Want?'

In March, the Global Villages Club's Peaceful Mind Series continues by turning to the practical teachings of Michael A. Singer—author of "The Surrender Experiment" and "The Untethered Soul." All are welcome to this event on **Wednesday, March 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** in the Cribari Conference Room. There is no fee, however, it will help us with seating if you register in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/4vznmb69>.

Singer's core idea is straightforward: you are not the voice in your head; you are the awareness that can notice it. From that "witness" perspective, peace becomes less about controlling life and more about releasing the inner resistance that keeps you tense.

This session is designed to build naturally on what we've already practiced. Earlier months helped you strengthen attention (Kabat-Zinn – notice what is happening) and return to the present (Eckhart Tolle – The Power of Now). Michael Singer adds the next step: staying open when you'd normally tighten up. He teaches a simple approach—observe the mind's commentary, feel the impulse to react, and let the energy move through without acting it out. Over time, that habit of relaxing and letting go can change how you handle stress, difficult conversations, and the constant "to-do" pressure.

As our shared centerpiece, we'll listen to a couple of videos with Michael Singer and use them as a springboard for discussion and a short, guided practice. The question sounds simple, but Singer's angle is surprising: we often chase outcomes while ignoring the one thing we truly want—feeling okay inside. When that becomes the priority, everyday decisions get clearer.

No experience necessary. Just bring your curiosity and, if you like, a notebook. You'll leave with repeatable techniques you can use anytime—at home, in traffic, or in the middle of a busy afternoon.

Study Groups Club: Learn how nuclear power works

By Judy Rogers

The Villages Study Groups Club has another fascinating program for you!

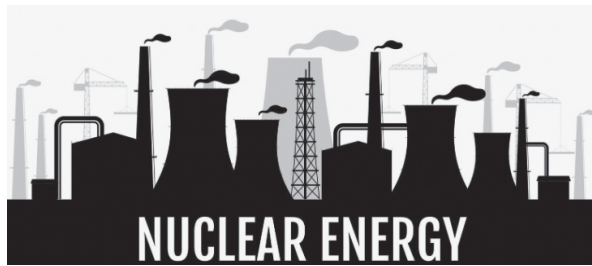
Have you ever wondered how nuclear power works? Did you know that nuclear energy provides about 10% of the world's electricity, is a major source of low-carbon power, and uses fuel that is incredibly energy-dense—with tiny amounts of uranium supplying power for years?

Beyond electricity generation, nuclear technology plays a role in space exploration, medical isotopes, naval vessels, and even everyday items like smoke detectors. And amazingly, the sun itself is a giant fusion reactor!

Here is your chance to explore this important topic in depth and learn more about this vital energy source. On **Tuesday, March 24 at 5 p.m.** in Montgomery Center, the Study Groups Club's Israel Littman will cover topics such as:

- How a present-day fossil-fuel electric power plant works
- How a present-day nuclear electric power plant works
- The nuclear reaction explained
- Nuclear fuel fabrication and types of nuclear power plants operating today
- Advantages and disadvantages of existing nuclear plants
- New nuclear power plants currently under construction

Don't miss this opportunity to better understand one of the world's most powerful—and often misunderstood—sources of energy.



Mark your calendars for Bingo!

The next afternoon bingo begins **Wednesday, March 4** in Cribari Auditorium. Doors open at 3 p.m., and games start at 3:30. Cards are \$1 per card, or six cards for \$5. Complimentary coffee, tea and cookies are available. Admission is free. All money collected for cards is paid back to winners.

The next night bingo is **Wednesday, April 15** through the Clubhouse. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with no-host bar, dinner at 6 p.m., and games follow. Players need to make reservations through the Clubhouse. Night bingo cards are \$2 per card or three cards for \$5. All money paid to buy cards is returned to bingo winners.

VMA office offers convenient items

The Villages Medical Auxiliary (VMA) has some very useful items available in the office that may be of interest to you.

Villager Alice Pratte created beautiful cloth wine gift bags in various colors and patterns. Some are embroidered with The Villages logo. Dick Frey created jar openers that can either be mounted under a cabinet or held in your hand. It makes opening jars much easier. These items are available in the VMA Office in Cribari, nextdoor to the Post Office.

The VMA asks for a \$10 donation for the jar opener and wine bags with the logo, or \$5 for non-logo wine bags, payable by cash or check. The office is open Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Stop by at your convenience to pick up these items.

Arts and Crafts to host Demo; Membership meeting with Elena Mukhina



By Michael Sunzeri

At **1:45 p.m.** sharp on **Monday, March 2**, the Arts and Crafts Association is presenting a local artist with a talent we must all see. In 2025, Elena Mukhina gave a demonstration at an East Valley Artist meeting. We were engaged and able to participate in the technique of Leather Art. Elena supplied us with an idea, base, product, and tools to create. Her art looks like a painting as you can see from photos on her website. It is all leather, even though she does paint and uses other genres. This demo will concentrate on leather but since our attendance is usually three times as much as East Valley Art, we will have to be happy observing unless Elena plans to have a workshop here at some time.

Here is a bit about Elena Mukhina in her own words: "For the past 10 years, I have had the opportunity to create art for myself. Gouache, acrylic, ink, paper, and canvas help me to express my feelings of what I have seen, read, and heard. Books, movies, and songs contain a chain of events, acquaintances, and amazing interconnections that make me empathize both emotionally and physically. Over time, emotions about experiences fade, so it's important to start the creative process in time. In the works presented, the viewer will get to know my first and most vivid impressions. I have been experimenting with different forms of 2D and 3D art mediums and during this time I developed a technique to decorate wine bottles and framed cards while trying to discover my own style. I have a particular interest in the way that different textures and materials can be used to create depth and movement in my work. I have been using leather to create collages, which allows me to play with light and shadow in a unique way."

Study Groups Club: Calling all sports fans!

Are you the kind of person who never misses a big game, loves dissecting a season, or has a very strong opinion about that controversial call? Do you enjoy spirited conversation, friendly debate, and sharing the thrill (and agony) of sports with others who get it? Then it's time to grab a seat at the table!

The Study Groups Club is forming a Sports Discussion Group for fans of all kinds—whether your passion is football, baseball, basketball, hockey, golf, tennis, or beyond. This group will be all about:

- Talking games and teams
- Breaking down seasons and standout players
- Sharing hot takes (respectfully, of course!)
- Laughing, debating, and enjoying great conversation with fellow sports lovers

You don't have to be an expert—just enthusiastic. If you enjoy watching, talking, or arguing (good-naturedly!) about sports, you'll fit right in.

Let George Schiffner at 631-678-7109 know if you are interested in joining and if you would like to lead the group.



Join Italian Club for Crab Feed

Come sail away to the Isle of Capri! Join the Italian Club for a Crab Feed on **Saturday, March 7 at 5 p.m.** at the Clubhouse.

We'll feast on Dungeness crab, French bread, green salad, and pasta, all while enjoying music by Dave Johnson. This is a casual affair—yacht wear encouraged!

Sign up at <https://italian.vgcc.club> to join us. The cost is \$100 for members, \$110 for non-members.



FROM THE VMA

VMA Presents: Placement Decisions Discussion

For many of us, there comes a time when we can no longer live independently in our own homes. We need more support than we can afford at home. Roxana Dumitrescu of Senior Care Consulting will come to the Sequoia Room on **Thursday, March 19, from 10 to 11 a.m.** to talk to you about when it's time for professional care and what options are available to you. Caregivers, often our spouse, feel stressed and burnt out. Roxana will discuss this in her presentation and will explain how a Senior Professional can help you to find the right place for your unique needs. The thought of having to move to a strange place can be scary and the search for the right place can be daunting. It's much easier when you have an experienced professional who knows what is available to assist.

Roxana Dumitrescu is a Certified Senior Advisor with Senior Care Consulting LLC. She has over 25 years of experience working with seniors. She has worked in a skilled nursing facility as a Social Services Director/Social Worker. She was an advocate for those in her care. Upon discharge, it was Roxana's job to find the right place for the patient, either at home or a reputable facility. Senior Care Consulting provides free assistance and advice to families looking for board and care, assisted living, memory care and in-home care and independent living for seniors. Plan to come hear Roxana as she explains how she can help you. And bring her any questions you have.

Please reserve your spot now online at <https://vmavillages.vgcc.club/register-for-programs> or at 408-238-4029.



Roxana Dumitrescu,
Certified Senior Advisor

Dr. Russell Hancock to speak at VMFSC meeting

On **Tuesday, March 10**, the Villages Men's Fun Social Club luncheon will feature Dr. Russell Hancock, President and Chief Executive Officer of Joint Venture Silicon Valley, as the guest speaker. Widely recognized as a civic leader and advocate for regional cooperation, Dr. Hancock has played a central role in shaping Silicon Valley's approach to economic growth, public policy, and problem-solving. Under his leadership, Joint Venture



has assembled a potent board filled with mayors, CEOs, and University Presidents.

Social Club members should make lunch reservations at least a week in advance on the computer website referenced in the Social Club newsletter. Non-member guests are invited to attend and should arrive at the Clubhouse by **12:15 p.m.**

Dr. Hancock was recruited to Joint Venture at a time when the organization was in a period of transition and instability. He is credited with the growth and increasing influence of the organization, to the point today, Joint Venture is Silicon Valley's recognized clearing house for regional analysis and approaches to solving the region's problems. He founded the Institute for Regional Studies and the annual state of the valley conference, which draws more than 1,500 leaders and features the influential Silicon Valley Index, which is followed nationally and internationally. Dr. Hancock's work has taken him around the world advising regional governments, and his insights regularly appear in major national and international media.

Before joining Joint Venture, Dr. Hancock served as Vice President of the Bay Area Council where he helped lead efforts to extend BART to San Francisco International Airport. Educated at Harvard and Stanford, he holds a Ph.D. in political science and currently teaches public policy at Stanford University. Beyond public life, he is an accomplished concert pianist. He lives in Palo Alto with his wife, Marguerite, and is the father of three grown children.

We look forward to Dr. Hancock's presentation and encourage you to attend.

VMA Presents: Cremation Plan—Right for You?



Landon Elfstrom, Pre-Arrangement Counselor

As sad as it may be, we all have an expiration date. The goal for many of us is to be as prepared for this as possible. We hope to make this difficult time as easy on our loved ones as possible. This may include creating a trust; clearing out the closets and garage; or selling those family collections that our kids just don't want. There is one more thing to consider: the plan for your final resting place. Some of us want a burial plot. Some of us prefer cremation. If you have wondered about or considered cremation, you will want to come hear Landon Elfstrom of the Neptune Society speak on **Wednesday, March 25 at 1 p.m.** in the Sequoia Room. Landon will discuss the benefits of pre-arranging your end-of-life plans. Have you wondered what happens at the time of death? Who do you call? What options exist for your cremated remains?

All of these questions will be answered, as well as any other questions you may have.

Neptune Society of Central California has been serving our community for over 45 years. Landon Elfstrom is their pre-arrangement counselor and has helped many families with their end-of-life arrangements. If you have questions or would like help making your own plans, plan to attend this presentation.

Please reserve your spot now online at vmavillages.vgcc.club/register-for-programs or at 408-238-4029.

Free incontinence supplies at VMA

VMA has an overabundance of incontinence supplies, all brands and sizes. Call the VMA office at 408-238-4029 to arrange delivery of whatever you can use. The VMA office at Cribari also has a good supply on hand if you wish to stop by and pick up yourself.

VMA Presents: Lunch Buddies

It's a brand new year and time for the first of four Lunch Buddies luncheons. Join us for the best of times and a lovely lunch to boot! Lunch will be **Wednesday, March 11 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Clubhouse. We'll have a special guest dropping by. She won't stay for lunch; she'll be there because she's heard good things about Lunch Buddies. Any ideas about who you think it might be?

With all the excitement of the holidays, many of us experienced some degree of overwhelm. Too much going on, too many people, and too much to deal with! Are you ready to move forward? Then join Lunch Buddies and have lunch with others who want company, who love to talk, and who appreciate a willingness to listen.

Lunch will be a half sandwich, a small salad, ice cream for dessert, along with iced tea, lemonade, and coffee on request. And don't forget those delicious dill pickles! The cost remains the same: \$12 per lunch, charged to your house account.

Call the VMA office at 408-238-4230 by **noon on March 9** to make your reservation. Remember to let VMA know if you'll need a ride. Someone will pick you up at your home and bring you back after lunch. Take care all. We'll see you on March 11 at 11:30 a.m.!

There is a
place for
you at
our table...





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Study Groups Club learns art of Ikebana



By Judy Rogers

On Tuesday, February 2, Cristine Van Aken led a wonderful flower study demonstration. The group consisted of 20 members of the Villages Study Groups creating individual Ikebana flower creations. Christine explained that Ikebana differed from western flower arranging in its minimal use of items creating beautiful form in order to capture the essence of nature. Ikebana started in Buddhist temples. It's still a spiritual and artistic practice creating harmony and balance. Christine went over the elements of this Japanese form of flower arrangement, emphasizing form, line, space and color. The participants were able to select their flowers and branches from a wide variety of choices. By the end of the session, everyone went home with a beautiful art piece to decorate their homes. If you are interested in flower arrangements, join the Study Groups Club and contact Bassima Story at bassima03@yahoo.com or Tina Parsley at tinalafioraia@gmail.com



VMA Presents: Hearing Screening, Hearing Aid Cleaning, and Phone for Hard of Hearing

Did you know that every other month, Lori Coyle from Hearing Life will provide a *free* hearing screening and/or hearing aid cleaning? Often at the same time, Elli Tehrani from ClearCaptions will speak with villagers about a possible *free* phone and service that will display a written transcription as you speak. Both Lori and Elli will be at the Montgomery Center on **Tuesday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Please call 408-238-4230 to reserve your spot!

Join walk-dancing to improve leg strength

Walk-dancing is a gentle but powerful way to strengthen the leg muscles by keeping the lower body moving in steady, rhythmic patterns that build endurance, balance, and control. Each step activates the thighs, hips, calves, and ankles, helping the



muscles that support standing, walking, and climbing stairs grow stronger. LSAL Fitness Club is here to help you strengthen your body to make performing your daily activities feels easier, reduce leg fatigue, and support better balance and independence. Classes are on **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** in Cribari Auditorium. The class is suitable for all fitness

levels and is open to everyone, so bring friends and join us. The first class is free. Sign up in class.

Friends of SJSU to present The Need for Social Sciences in Today's TechWorld

Discover why human insight matters more than ever in a tech-driven world at an engaging luncheon hosted by the Friends of San José State University. The program, "The Need for the Social Sciences in Today's Tech World," will feature Dr. Anne Marie Todd and take place at **11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 18**, in the Clubhouse Fairway Room.

Dr. Todd will explore how the social sciences add essential perspective to today's rapidly evolving technologies. Drawing on innovative work from SJSU's College of Social Sciences, the presentation will highlight three timely areas: thinking critically beyond basic AI literacy, understanding how technology affects communities, and shaping a more sustainable ur-ban future. The talk will also cut through the hype surrounding artificial in-telligence and introduce the emerging field of Public Interest Technology.

A dynamic leader at San José State University since 2002, Dr. Todd is a professor of Communication Studies and dean of the College of Social Sciences. She oversees eleven diverse departments dedicated to understanding human behavior and improving the ways people live, work, and connect.

Friends of SJSU, a Villages club founded in 1999, welcomes residents with an interest in or connection to the university. The cost for the lunch-eon and presentation is \$35, conveniently charged to members' account numbers. For more information, contact Bette Loomis at dbloomis@sbcglobal.net or call 408-234-9798.



Find Your Glow

Demystify the Wide Range of Beauty Treatments at the

Montgomery Ladies Luncheon

Saturday, March 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Clubhouse Fairway Room

\$35 per Montgomery Resident

\$37 per Non-Resident

Choice of

- **Vegetable Quiche** with house salad, balsamic vinaigrette dressing
- **Taco Bowl Salad** with Angus ground beef, romaine hearts, black beans, corn, tomato grape, cheddar cheese, red onions, cucumbers, chipotle ranch dressing on taco bowl shell
- **California Salad** with romaine hearts, quinoa, avocado, tomatoes, hard boiled eggs, walnuts, avocado ranch dressing

All entrees include dessert - Complimentary Mimosa

Dr. Vasantha Natarajan, MD, a board-certified family practitioner, will present the latest antiaging technologies and treatments including noninvasive cosmetic facials, laser therapies, and body contouring. Dr. Natarajan founded Evergreen Wellness Clinic as a provider in wellness and medical aesthetics.

RSVP with entree choice by March 24 to Celia Schiffner at montgomeryvillagefun@gmail.com. Include names of all attendees (indicate who is a Montgomery resident and who is a non-resident), member account number and phone number. This event has assigned seating. We will try to accommodate all requests. **No refunds after March 23.**

Slice of Humor



Edith: Did you see me leave that bar completely sober? I'm so proud of myself!

Edna: Honey, it was a salad bar.

RELIGION

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

‘Living Lent’

By Margaret Lam

Ash Wednesday on February 18 marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is a sacred 40-day season where Catholics seek profound spiritual conversion, in preparation for the holiest liturgical celebration, the Easter Triduum.

The hallmarks of Lent are prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Each Catholic makes their own Lenten journey, it is personal. But the Church offers rich practices and traditions for Lent. Here are a few examples:

Ashes - Ashes symbolizes our mortality (dust to dust). When Jesus started his ministry, He preached, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” (Matthew 4:17). Ashes are a call to repentance, to turn our hearts back to God.

Forty - The Israelites spent “40 years” in exile in the Desert before reaching the Holy Land. Jesus spent “40 days and 40 nights” in the wilderness fighting Satan’s temptations before He began his ministry. I like to spend my 40 days reading and getting to know Jesus. Matthew Kelly’s “Rediscover Jesus” has 40 chapters; one for each day. Another favorite read is Jesus, a Pilgrimage by Fr. James Martin, S.J., a spiritual encounter with Jesus through the author’s personal journey into the Holy Land.

Purple - Purple is the color of Lent, a complex tone embodying the kingship of Christ; penance; sacrifice and suffering. During Lent, priests wear purple vestments to celebrate mass and when conducting the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Stations of the Cross - The Stations of the Cross is a guided meditation on the passion of Jesus Christ. On Lenten Fridays, I like to pray the Stations at St. Christopher Church; where Fr. Chris hosts a unique way of combining music, imagery, prayers and reflections on each station, a powerful and moving experience.

Almsgiving - Some use the “Rice Bowls” which are collection boxes for the Catholic Relief Services. Almsgiving is a way to stand in solidarity with the poor and hungry as Christians. Jesus said, “I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink.” (Matt 25:35-45).

Pretzels - Made from water and flour, pretzels seem to have an unusual association with Lent. According to the History Channel, “Legend has it that the story began around A.D. 610, when Italian monks presented their young students with treats of baked dough twisted in the shape of crossed arms. At the time, crossing one’s arms was the traditional posture for prayer. As the custom spread through medieval Europe, the pretzel’s three holes came to represent the Holy Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit...” Fasting, abstinence, and eating simply during Lent release our attachment to worldly indulgences.

The start of Lent sometimes gives us the question: “Oh, what should I give up for Lent?” But it is more important to think of what we would gain from the journey: transformation, rebirth, hope, and a new life in the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES



Search the Scriptures Club—a non-denominational discussion of God’s Word—warmly invites you to join us on **Monday, February 23** as we explore John chapter 6 and Jesus’ extraordinary miracle of

feeding the 5,000—the only miracle recorded in all four Gospels (besides His resurrection). We gather at the Vineyard Center from 10 to 11:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Whether you enjoy sharing your thoughts or simply listening, we would love for you to join us. For more information, contact Maggie Dahlman at 480-553-7327.

COMMUNITY CHAPEL

‘Give This Some Thought’

By Pastor Bill Hayden

When asked the question, “What do you think?”, this can open the door to futile thoughts or brilliant concepts. Some thoughts are not even worth mentioning because they may be a danger to yourself or someone else. What if you responded under stress to every thought that you had about a person or a situation? If you were to be honest, many of those thoughts would be harmful to you or someone you may be thinking about.

Have you ever been cut off on the road and given a “rude sign” by a driver for driving too slowly? Was your first thought about the driver, “Oh, it’s an emergency, may God bless him to arrive safely at his destination?” I’m sure that would not be a response from many people.

What about seeing a person with a handicap sticker, but not seeing them on a walker or cane as they exit their vehicle? Do you think that the person really isn’t handicapped because you formed an opinion on how a disabled person should look?

Was there ever a time that you greeted and waved at someone, and they did not respond? Your thoughts could lead to a negative response from others who may resemble you in the future. We really should guard our thoughts and responses because they can shape our character. As you think, so do you become and react.

Let’s not rush to judgment by entertaining futile thoughts that do not edify another person. You probably can’t count the times that people misjudged you, so let’s not be guilty of the same crime. It feels good when you don’t act upon a negative thought about a person before you discover who they really are. I have met some wonderful people who have become endearing friends over the years. What about you?

Philippians 4:8 ESV Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

John 15:14 NLT “There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Celebrate with us 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 [villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvillagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club)

VILLAGES JEWISH COMMUNITY

Next Shabbat Service: Friday, February 20, 7 p.m. in Cribari Auditorium

Next VJC Board Meeting: Monday, March 9, 10 a.m. in Montgomery Center.

Upcoming Event: Sunday, March 1 – Purim Carnival, 2 p.m. at Foothill Center

‘What is Religion About?’

By Rabbi Modercai Miller

Let’s start with a reality check.

Given the undeniable fact regarding our mortality. Think back as far as you can go:

- Do you remember your parents? (Probably “yes,” but not a certainty if you were adopted).
- Do you remember your grandparents?
- Do you remember—or can you say anything about—your great-grandparents?
- Can you go back any further in time regarding your family?

While there are, in fact, people who can trace their ancestry even further back, the degree to which they can say “they know”—or “knew” their ancestors, is minimal in comparison to the actual day-to-day lives those ancestors experienced.

We can assume that by five generations, at least, we will be totally forgotten as individuals.

Even when it comes to important historical personages, we are limited to the extreme by the culture in which we reside. Even within the United States, when it comes to our Presidents; unless we’re students of U.S. History, how much can we say about such presidents as Martin van Buren or Zachary Taylor?

Let’s look at the Universe.

The science of Astronomy has given us the opportunity to sense the immensity of the world in which we live. Given our individual spheres of influence, how do we stand in the face of such vastness?

And so the most important question we could ask ourselves—consciously or unconsciously—turns out to be:

- **“Why was I born?”**

(The following questions are different formulations of the same essential question.)

- Is there a reason for my existence?

- **Does my life have any significance?** And if so, what might that be?

The task of “religion” (and I would say, “any religion”) is to find a way to examine our relationship to the Universe in which we live and see if there’s a way for us to discover “significance.”

My hope is to share—to some extent—the way in which Judaism answers this question.

SPORTS NEWS

Golf and Pro Shop
also available on the
Monday edition of
FastNews

TENNIS TALK

By Betty Olsen

(Continued from February 6 Villager.)

The second day of competition at Nationals was Saturday, January 25 with first match at 9 a.m. against Midwest. Villagers have 1 win, 1 loss from Friday. We needed two wins to be in the running for Sunday semi-finals. #1 doubles (Helen Varenkamp/Gail Tuft) won, but #3 doubles lost in two sets. #2 doubles were putting up a fight. We lost the first set, won the second set which already took two hours. The 3rd set match tiebreak was a nail biter. We have our very own Sabalenka team member, but instead of a screech, she has a grunt, Mitzi Macon. We were ahead, then behind, then ahead, but finally lost 10-8. It was a thrilling match with great sportsmanship.



Villages USTA 65+ team at Nationals in Surprise, Arizona.

We made sure everyone got a chance to play with new pairings for our 1 p.m. match against Southwest (North Carolina), which we lost 0-3. By winning all three matches, Southwest qualified for the semi-finals with a record of 3-1. No team won all four of their matches.



Helen Varenkamp and Gail Tuft, The Villages' #1 team at the tournament.

Our fans to the east and the west affirm we are the best!

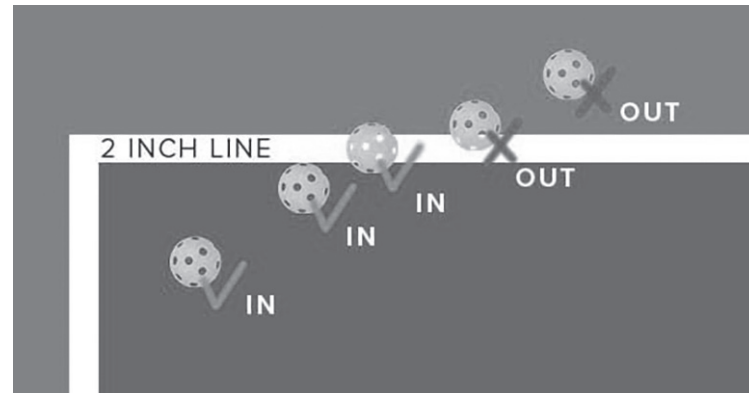
Our fearless leader, Betty, juggled 13 personalities with agility. No small task! Brett gave us primo coaching tips and we didn't even have to ask! Betty's Airbnb was party central, a place for us to gather one and all. The Olsen daughters know hospitality and made our gatherings fit for the champions we are...so put a feather in your cap...we are awesome and have made The Villages proud!"



At left: Sherry Benz, Cheryl Diltz, Joy Rem and Julie Hawkinson enjoy dinner at the team house. At right: Husbands in Surprise, Arizona to support their wives in the tournament.



PICKLEBALL



Why Players See 'In' or 'Out' Differently on the Pickleball Court — Part 2

By Kim Silverman

(Continued from the February 5 Villager.)

Spectators and the Audience Viewpoint

And then there's the audience—the unofficial “fifth line judge,” chirping from the fence line with total confidence and absolutely terrible geometry. Spectators often feel they have a clear view of the ball, but their vantage point typically works against accuracy. They're usually elevated, positioned off to the side, or viewing from the other side of the fence—none of which line up with the exact point where the ball lands. From these angles, depth and distance compress which makes the ball appear closer to the line than it actually is. While spectators may offer observations, their perspective rarely provides the level of precision needed for a reliable line call.

So Who Gets It Right?

Almost always, the person closest to the bounce — the one directly aligned with the line — has the true, undistorted view. Everyone else is dealing with inherent visual distortion, even when they feel confident in what they saw.

Sometimes the two team members on the same side will have split calls. One might call it “in” while the other calls it “out”. Remember the teammate closest to the ball has the best viewpoint. If the team member furthest from the ball remains adamant about their own call and they disagree with each other, it is best to call it “in” to keep the game flowing.

Most players do tell the truth with their calls. In fact, the vast majority of questionable calls aren't coming from people trying to sneak points — they're coming from people who genuinely believe they saw the ball land differently because of their angle. That's the whole issue: their eyes aren't lying, but their perspective is.

In recreational play, intentional bad calls are actually rare. What's far more common is:

- Overconfidence from the wrong angle
- Distance distortion
- Parallax tricking the brain
- Players assuming they saw it clearly when they didn't

When people understand how heavily angle affects perception, you start seeing more players say: “I thought it was in, but you had the better view — your call.”

That's good culture. That's healthy club play. And it's far more common than the cynics give credit for.

The Bottom Line

At the end of the day, line calls in pickleball aren't about perfection—they're about perspective. Four players, four vantage points, and one plastic ball skidding across a painted line can create four genuinely different interpretations. When the player with the best view calls it out, trust that angle. And when the view is muddy for all four players and even the closest person isn't sure...just replay it or give the other team the benefit of the doubt by calling it in. This sport thrives on goodwill, camaraderie, and keeping the rally going!

18 HOLE WOMEN

By Diana Hallock

The Villages Women's 18 Hole Golf Association was founded in 1968 which means we are starting our 58th year. There are six golf clubs here in The Villages but our group is quite unique. We always have lunch together and for many, we have a bridge game after lunch. What does that tell you about us? We are social! Webster's dictionary says an

association is a "connection or cooperative link between people." Our Captain's job is to foster that link between us, bring us together to play, to have fun and to support each other. Our Past Captains certainly created cooperative connections between all of us.

Barb Nilsen won last year and was the hostess for this year's Past Captains luncheon. Barb introduced all attending past captains and reminded us of their Invitational Themes. What a delightful trip down memory lane! This year's winner and next year's hostess is Cindy Fuller! Congratulations, Cindy!

Attending Captains: Kathy Apgar (2003), Barbara Nilsen (2006), Vivian Brown (2010/19), Linda Schlageter (2013), Jan Kiernan (2014), Bev Poellot (2015), Judy Rodriguez (2016), Cindy Fuller (2017), Chris Leisy (2018), Vicki Krattli (2020/21), Diana Hallock (2022), Gloria Landry (2023), Patti Bell (2024), Helen Varenkamp (2025).

A full field of members enjoyed beautiful weather. Birdies were shot by Gisele Barber, Laura Swenson, Gail Tuft, Vicki Krattli and Helen Varenkamp with Lyn Strong shooting two birdies! Chip ins were won by Gisele Barber, Lyn Strong, Valerie Dimmick, Chris Leisy, Judy Rodriguez, Vicki Krattli and Patti Bell.

Upcoming Events:

- March 2 General Membership Meeting & Captain's Trophy
- March 12 Guest Day (date change)
- March 19 Alzheimer's Tournament (date change)
- March 21 Saturday Tournament #1
- March 26 No Sweeps (due to course aeration)

IRONMEN

By David Hathaway

The Ironmen are playing the 9-hole par 3 course Thursday afternoons with check at the driving range from 12:30 to 12:45 p.m. and a shotgun start on the course at 1 p.m. (we change to morning play, teeing off at 10 a.m., starting in April).

Our Secretary, Jim White, has been out-of-pocket the last few weeks so nothing has been posted to the Villager. This report gives the results from just the last four weeks. I'll report weekly here on.

2026/01/22

First place went to Mario Silva with a net 27.
 Second place went to Taf Taffarodi with a net 28.
 There was a three-way tie for third with Paul Belknap, Dave Hathaway, and Kerry Lambert all shooting net 30s.
 Lowest gross was a tie between Dave Hathaway and Kerry Lambert with both shooting 33s.
 Taf Taffarodi had the only birdie on the day with only 2 strokes needed on hole 5.
 Taf Taffarodi is declared golfer of the day with a second-place win and the only birdie.

2026/01/29

Chuck Benjamin came in first with a net 28.
 Paul Belknap and Kerry Lambert tied for second with net 29s.
 Dan Love and Sang Nam tied for third with net 30s.
 There were two birdies today, both Kerry Lambert and Dan Love birdied hole 8.
 Kerry Lambert had the low gross with a 32.
 Kerry Lambert gets golfer of the day with a second place net, a birdie and the low gross.

2026/02/05

Kerry Lambert came in first with a net 27.
 Taf Taffarodi came in second with a net 29.
 Dan Love came in third with a net 30.
 The only birdie today was by Kerry Lambert on hole 2.
 Kerry Lambert also had the low gross with a 30.
 Golfer of the day was Kerry Lambert with a first place, the low gross, and a birdie.

2026/02/12

First place went to Walter Lucas with a net score of 26 - one under par.
 Second place went to Gene O'Donnell with a net score of 27 - par.
 Third place went to Kerry Lambert with a net score of 28 -m one over par.
 There were no birdies.
 Low gross today was a 4-over 31 by Kerry Lambert.
 Golfer of the day was Walter Lucas with his first-place win.



Back row (left to right): Vicki Krattli, Barb Nielsen, Vivian Brown, Jan Kiernan, Gloria Landry, Linda Schlageter, Patti Bell. Front: Bev Poellot, Chris Leisy, Kathy Apgar, Cindy Fuller, Judy Rodriguez, Helen Varenkamp and Diana Hallock.



9 HOLE WOMEN

By Kathy Apgar

The course was awash in shades of pink, red and white, with hearts throughout, setting the perfect atmosphere for our Galentine's tournament held on February 10. This special event brought together 88 players to enjoy a nice morning of golf before the rain started. A shout out to Tournament chairs Pam Short and Gloria Lowery who organized the event.

A memorable feature of the tournament was the creative touch added by the greenkeepers. They drew large hearts surrounding the flags on holes #4 and #11, contributing to the festive Galentine's atmosphere and making those holes stand out during play.

On hole #4, Vicki Krattli delivered an impressive drive, placing her ball just 5 feet 2 inches from the hole. Similarly, Jo Ann Bundgard showcased her skill on hole #11, sending her ball a mere 11 inches from the pin.

Tournament players competed in teams of four with scores calculated according to the unique rules of Cha Cha Cha. At the conclusion of play, prizes were awarded to four teams who played on the front nine and four teams playing on the back.

Also to be recognized were the three birdies made today, Laura Swenson #15, Janelle Salvatierra #6, and Janis Le Compte #8, equaled by three chip ins, Susan Anderson #16, Barbara Weisend #3 and Patti Bell #9.

Galentine Tournament chairs Pam Short and Gloria Lowery

Watch this column and the Fast Lane for details on an exciting new event—"WOW", Women on Wednesdays. Golf on the short course and optimally to be followed by libations and small bites in the Bistro.

Editor's Note: The Captain's Trophy winners' photos were omitted from last week's FastNews. The photos appear below.



Vicki Krattli and Jo Ann Bundgard



Galentine Tournament chairs Pam Short and Gloria Lowery



At left: Josephine Chan, Back Nine Captain's Trophy winner for February. At right: Bev Poellot, Front Nine Captain's Trophy winner for February.

FROM THE PRO



By Scott Steele, PGA Head Golf Professional

February 2026 Golf Schedule

Tuesday, February 24 - Tuesday, March 3 – Member Golf Trip to Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico

Upcoming Fitting Days

Callaway Fitting Day – Wednesday, March 11 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come out and get fit for your new **Callaway Quantum** woods and irons. As played by PGA Tour stars Rory McIlroy, Scottie Scheffler and Tommy Fleetwood as well as LPGA stars Nelly Korda, Brooke Henderson and Charley Hull.

Taylor Made Fitting Day – Wednesday, March 11 from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Come out and get fit for your new **Taylor Made Qi4D** woods and irons. As played by Tour Stars Xander Schauffele, John Rahm and Si Woo Kim as well as LPGA stars Jeeno Thitikul, Rose Zhang and Minjee Lee.

Cobra Fitting Day – Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Come out and get fit for your new Cobra OPTM woods and irons. As played by Tour Stars Max Homa, Ricky Fowler and Gary Woodland as well as LPGA star Lexi Thompson.

Winter Golf Course Conditions

This time of year, the course conditions can change rapidly on a daily basis due to varying weather conditions. For a daily update on the status of the golf course conditions, please call the Maintenance Hotline at 408.223.4663. You can also phone the Pro Shop for the course conditions at 408.274.3220 x1 if the Maintenance Hotline is not functioning.

There is also a colored flag at the driving range indicating course conditions as such:

Green Flag – Golf course open with golf carts permitted anywhere

Red Flag - Golf course open with golf carts limited to cart paths only

Yellow Flag – Frost Delay – Golf course & practice areas temporarily closed until frost melts

Black Flag – Golf course & practice areas closed due to potentially dangerous and unplayable conditions

Also please be aware of wet areas roped off areas to cart traffic. You can still play your ball from a roped off wet area, but please do not drive your cart withing the roping.

And occasionally there could a hole or several holes closed to carts and cart path only due to saturated conditions. In those instances, there will be a sign at the tee indicating carts on path for those holes. Thank you for your cooperation!

Fairway Aeration & Top Dressing—Our Spring fairway aeration and sand top-dressing program will start on February 17 (weather permitting) and run through most or all of March. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Winter Rules—Preferred Lies

We are currently playing Preferred Lies defined as 6-inch relief, pick-clean-and place, no nearer the hole everywhere including the rough **except for penalty areas and sand bunkers**. If/when that condition changes, we will let you know.

Vineyard Practice Green—The Vineyard practice green in temporarily closed due to necessary sod removal to facilitate the repairs to the green on Hole #6. We apologize for the inconvenience. Thank you for your cooperation!

Hole #11/#15 Lake Project—While the lake construction project on Holes #11 & #15 is in process, please play the entire area including the emptied lake as Ground Under Repair. You may take free relief defined as 1-club length from the point of entry, no nearer the hole with no penalty.

GC Quad Complimentary Drop-in Sessions Now Available— with Assistant Professional Eric Hansen. Wednesdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Fridays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. / Sundays 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Ball Fitting Now Available! Try any brand or style of golf ball or bring your own and we can compare ball brands and styles and see which ball goes the furthest for you. The ball you use makes a huge difference.

The Foresight GC Quad Launch Monitor uses high-speed, high-resolution cameras to capture and measure golf ball data such as ball speed, launch angle, spin rates, carry distance and total distance. We also have the “Golf Club Add On” which enables the GC Quad to capture and measure golf club data such as club-head speed, contact efficiency/Smash Factor, face angle, club path, attack angle, loft/lie.

This will allow us to evaluate your equipment, your golf ball, perform a comparative analysis for club fittings and capture data for golf instruction and total game improvement.

Tips from the Pro—Fairway Woods versus Hybrids

We all know there are lots of clubs out there to use, but how often do we truly evaluate our set of clubs based on our age, skill level and mechanics. For instance, do you know if your swing matches up better for a fairway wood, or a hybrid? There are hybrids of every loft, but there are also fairway woods of every loft as well...all the way up to a 9-Wood which has about 26 degrees of loft, and an 11-Wood which has about 30 degrees of loft. If you tend to lack turn in you swing and tend to scrape the ground a bit prior to impact, a high lofted fairway wood will be a better option for you...due to its larger mass and sole and lower center of gravity, you will get more distance and trajectory with a fairway wood. If you tend to be a good iron player and you take a divot, then a lofted hybrid will be a better option for you due to its sharper leading edge and lower profile which will allow you to more easily compress the ball for loft and spin.

As a testimonial – I used to play a 3-hybrid for the last 20+ years...last year I switched to a 5-wood. Although the two clubs have exactly the same loft, the 5-wood goes higher and further for me. So I am very happy that I tried the 5-wood and ultimately made the change. It has proven to be a valuable addition to my set of clubs.

So don't be afraid to try one of the many available DEMO clubs in the Pro Shop that might perfectly match your swing profile, or fit a gap that you are looking to fill, and see if it helps... we have fairways woods and hybrids to try! **Let us know if these tips help. Email ssteele@the-villages.com for a lesson!**

MEN'S CLUB

By Doug Moore

Upcoming Events

St. Patty's Day Tourney, March 14, 8 a.m. shotgun – 4-four-man teams, 2BB Net (with a Shamrock Ball) I have an extremely passionate dislike for that stupid Shamrock Ball... but that's another story for another time. Flighted, Optional Pot-O-Gold Cash Pool. Coffee & Donuts before play

The 2026 Presidents Day—Hope you played well enough to place. And if you didn't you are still very much appreciated by the gentlemen that finished ahead of you.

And a very special thanks to Clayton Krinard, Guy Juarez, and Jeff Steinberg for putting this tournament together. These gentlemen always make sure we have a great time! And shout out to Scott Steele and the Pro Shop for presenting us with another stellar tournament.

Putting Green—The next time you get ready to step onto the putting green, either to practice or to lose quarters to Leo Ruth, please take a minute to appreciate how great our putting green flagsticks look now.

You have only **Gary Sharps** to thank for it. Giving time without expectation is a selfless act. Gary used his wood-working skills to restore our worn flag sticks, making them look even better than before for everyone to enjoy.

Gary has been a valued member of the Men's 18-Hole Golf Club for many years. Thank you, sir, for your contributions.



Thanks also to Clayton Krinard for sharing Gary's photo with us.

The Men's 18 Hole Golf Club thanks you.

The 2026 Green Book—Thanks to Kyle Finley, our 2026 Green Book has been posted to our website for anyone to view.

Our new VMGC website is LIVE!

The Villages Men's Golf Club (VMGC) has joined the Villages Webmasters Guild. Utilizing their tools and services, we have successfully created a new website. The new website address is vmgc.vgcc.club. The old website address no longer works. Please save and use this new website address to get the latest news and information about our club.

Executive Committee Meeting: The Men's Golf Club Executive Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the Montgomery Center. The next meeting will be **March 3, 2026**. MGC Members are always welcome to attend.

If you haven't attended a meeting yet, we welcome you to join us, ask questions, and share your thoughts. We sincerely encourage more members to get involved. See you there!

Pro Shop Hours of Operation

Monday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday through Sunday: 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closing hours to change upon the arrival of Daylight Saving Time.

SHONIS



By Teddy Morse

Twenty-six gals played in our Valentine's Day game Tuesday, February 10. The refreshments organized by our Social Coordinator Sabrina Kupperberg were delicious. The festive Valentine headbands put us in the holiday mood.

There were a lot of positive comments about the game itself which got everyone involved playing as a team. I could hear cheering all over the course today as teammates encouraged each other.

Thirteen stayed for lunch. This is often the most fun part of the day as we socialize and learn a little bit more about each other. We appreciate the Clubhouse staff arranging a spot for us each week in the cozy atmosphere of the Clubhouse restaurant.

See the list of winners on the Scoreboard page.

Congratulations to all and a special thank you to Sabrina, Manoli Kelly and Julianna Wahlgren for setting up the refreshments.

Lost in the excitement of Tuesday's game was Marge Pritchard's completion of her fifth qualifying game. We'll celebrate Marge's accomplishment on February 17 when we have our membership meeting. Christine VanAken played her first qualifying game with us. Christine joined us as a guest on February 3, and we didn't scare her away because she returned to start the qualifying process. Welcome, Christine!

BOCCE NEWS

By Vivian Hobbs

And we're off! The Beginner Tournament started Monday the 8th. Fresh out of Boot Camp, these new players now get to try their skills and enjoy the competition of a real tournament. The Volo tournament started Saturday the 14th—a Saturday tournament for those who work? I think that's just me, sigh. We will follow these events and offer a lot of news in future articles about more Boot Camps, Referee trainings (come on—we need you!), some rule changes, themed bashes, lovely additions to our courts, and the latest in Bocce fashion!



Meanwhile, Bocce members know how to party. We had a lovely Pre-Game brunch on the 8th at the Clubhouse. The food was outstanding, spirits were high, and everyone was happy to reunite. Red tulips on every table and David Johnson doing his magic to get people up and dancing made the day all the more special. We are ready to roll!



Meanwhile, Bocce members know how to party. We had a lovely Pre-Game brunch on the 8th at the Clubhouse. The food was outstanding, spirits were high, and everyone was happy to reunite. Red tulips on every table and David Johnson doing his magic to get people up and dancing made the day all the more special. We are ready to roll!

SCOREBOARD

9 HOLE WOMEN

Tuesday, February 10

Front Nine

1. Nancy Dawn, Susan Sunzeri, Wendy Ledamun, Karen Carlson
2. Nancy Carson, Caral Begley, Linda Cuyea, Pamela Leonard
3. Jean Beattie, Barbara Nilsen, Marion Whittaker, Barbara Weisend
4. Janis Le Compte, Lyn Strong, Vicki Krattli, Cindy Fuller

Back Nine

1. Josephine Chan, Liiwan Ma, Patricia Sear, Janice Mahoney
2. Joy Rem, Terry Holmquist, Sherry Benz, Judi Falarski
3. Gail Tuft, Mary Wagle, Laura Swenson, Valerie Dimmick
4. Mary Jo O'Neill, Kathleen Kyne, Lynn Peters, Carol Zaccheo

18 HOLE WOMEN

Thursday, February 12

Flight 1

Low gross: Susan Anderson 91
Low net: In Kim 72

2 Tee Flight 1

Low gross: Camille Giuliodibari 87
Low Net:

1. Jay Lee 73
2. Marky Olsen 73
3. Laura Swenson 73

2 Tee Flight 2

Low gross: Won Cha 101
Low Net:

1. Debbie Moore 72
2. Valerie Dimmick 75
3. Suzy Kim 75

2/1 & 1 Tees Flight

Low Gross: Helen Varenkamp 88
Low Net:

1. Cindy Fuller 74
2. Judy Frey. 76
3. Vivien Brown 76

Captain's Flight

- 1st Place – Cindy Fuller Net 74
2nd Place – Vivian Brown – Net 76
3rd Place – Patti Bell – Net 78

SHONIS

Tuesday, February 10

Winning Teams (gross score)

First Place

Jeanne Chiaramonte, Teddy Morse, Amy Song 38

Second Place

Sabrina Kupperberg, Teruko Matsumura, Linda McChesney 40

Third Place

Jonna Robinson and Meg Rogers 41

BRIDGE

Monday, February 2

Tied 1-2 Hank Koransky - Jane Michaels; Mary LeGrand - Jonna Robinson

3. Alan Waltho - Maureen Waltho

Wednesday, February 4

1. Hank Koransky - Jane Michaels
2. Ed Logg - Jonna Robinson
3. Jan Kiernan - Sumi Minami

Friday, February 6

1. Ed Logg - Jonna Robinson
2. Maureen Waltho - George Welch
3. Art Lind - T.R. Fu

Monday, February 9

1. Jane Michaels - Guest
2. Jonna Robinson - Roy Tsai
3. Alan Waltho - Maureen Waltho

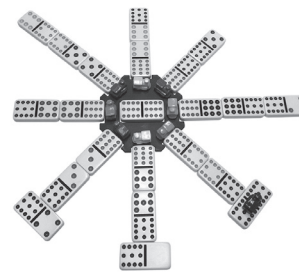
Wednesday, February 11

1. Hank Koransky - Jane Michaels
2. Jonna Robinson - Roy Tsai
3. Bonnie Taylor - Maureen Waltho

Friday, February 13

1. Art Lind - T.R. Fu
2. Mary LeGrand - George Welch
3. Hank Koransky - Jane Michaels

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES



Wednesday, February 4

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Sylvia Rozewicz | 180 |
| Bev Waller-Wharton | 251 |
| Aloma Lazetera | 295 |
| Margaret McDaniel | 296 |

Friday, February 6

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Maribeth Berlie | 108 |
| Shirley Bellavance | 169 |
| Sandy Gardiner | 230 |
| Margaret McDaniel | 232 |

Wednesday, February 11

- | | |
|----------------|-----|
| Bassima Story | 168 |
| Kit Hultquist | 176 |
| Sandy Gardiner | 218 |
| Bonnie Barrett | 252 |

Friday, February 13

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Kit Hultquist | 120 |
| Margaret McDaniel | 131 |
| Shirley Bellavance | 236 |
| Remy Pessah | 272 |



nigel.jahn@gmail.com
408.599.9704

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Nigel's Handyman Service

LANDSCAPE & MAINTENANCE

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Landscape Maintenance

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

A high-level map and up-to-date outline of the vendor's various activities for February will be distributed weekly through FastNews and is currently available on the member portal. The schedule reflects days for mowing, com-bined mowing/cleaning, cleaning, and detailing. Detailing includes pruning, pulling weeds, and detailing plant material.

• Hard Pruning

o The annual hard pruning of specific plants is in progress through the Winter season by BellaVista. This is a common maintenance practice that will continue through March, possibly April.

- What is hard pruning? "Hard pruning is a horticultural technique that involves strategic plant re-duction by removing a large portion of its branches, stems, and/or foliage. It is typically done to rejuvenate a plant, control its size, or promote healthier and more vigorous growth. Hard pruning typically involves the strategic removal of 50%-75% of the plant's overall size, sometimes down to just a few inches from the ground, depending on the species."

o For more information on plant types, the purpose of hard pruning, and photo examples, visit the Public Works tab on the member portal.

• Pest Control

o Treatment for voles, moles, gophers, and squirrels will occur on:

- Tuesday, 2/24 in Village Montgomery, Village Del Lago, and Village Sonata.
- Monday, 3/2 in Village Verano, Village Cribari, and Village Fairways.
- Tuesday, 3/10 in Village Valle Vista, Village Glen Arden, and Village Highland.
- Monday, 3/16 in Village Olivas, Village Del Lago, and Village The Heights.

o (Giant Destroyer (EPA #10551-1) and Talpid Mole Bait (EPA #12455-101))

• SavATree is scheduled to be working at:

The tree maintenance inventory maps and the tree maintenance plan are now available on The Villages member portal.

- o Village Montgomery on 2/23 and 3/10.
- o The Estates on 2/23.
- o Village Cribari on 2/24 and 3/4.
- o Village Highland on 2/25.
- o Village Hermosa on 3/5.
- o Village Fairways, Village Heights, Village Sonata on 3/9.
- o Village Olivas on 3/11.
- o Village Glen Arden on 3/12.
- o Village Del Lago on 3/16.
- o Village Verano on 3/17.

• Mulching

o No new mulch will be placed within zone zero of community centers or within zone zero of homes within The Villages. The Landscape and Firewise Committees are discussing which alternative material will be used there instead.

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.

Club Maintenance

• SavATree Club Maintenance Schedule

o SavATree will be doing general maintenance on certain club properties on 2/19, 2/26, 3/2, 3/3, 3/11, 3/18, and 3/19.

• Foothill Center Closure for the month of February

o Foothill Center is closed the full month of February for video/audio enhancements. Construction started on February 2 and is expected to be completed by the start of March.

• Montgomery Pool Fencing Project

o The Montgomery Pool fencing will be under construction to comply with Santa Clara County Department of Health and comply with ADA standards. The Montgomery pool fence replacement is expected to start on February 23, weather permitting. Start date is subject to change.

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 FastNews. 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.

Maintenance Emergencies/Advice

Public Works general work hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you experience a maintenance emergency during those hours, please call the office right away at 408-223-4670. Even if you are certain the emergency is your responsibility, we can provide a list of contractors that are familiar with The Villages and may be helpful for the repair.

If a maintenance emergency occurs outside of general work hours or during a holiday, please call Public Safety at 408-223-4665. Public Safety will contact the on-call technician and/or the appropriate contractor. Together, they will all help to resolve your maintenance emergency.

Report Irrigation Issues

Please report broken sprinklers or other irrigation repair issues by calling Maintenance Customer Service at 408-223-4670 or online at: workorder@the-villages.com

For after hours or on holidays, contact Public Safety at 408-223-4665



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2007004

State Farm, Bloomington, IL

FEATURES

The Roots of Evergreen series

The Roots of Evergreen installments will be published in *The Villager* the third week of every month. This month's installment is about some of the oldest and most elegant trees in The Villages—our native Coast Live Oaks.



This grand old Coast Live Oak stretches up and out in a spectacular display of serpentine limbs and evergreen foliage. You can see this one on the very end of Wehner Way—on the edge of the golf course west of Hole #16.

Our proud, old, Villages Coast Live Oak trees (part 2)

If you consider yourself a Californian, then you surely must love our beautiful native oak trees grouped in the genus *Quercus* meaning “fine tree” in Latin. There are more than 500 species native to the northern hemisphere some are deciduous, dropping their leaves every fall, and some retain their leaves year round like our Coast Live Oaks. Oak trees are unique because of their fruit, the acorn, which is key in identifying oak species. The beauty of our local trees comes from their shape and size with multiple trunks and serpentine, scraggly branches stretching out forming sprawling, shady canopies. California's oaks once dominated the landscape and sustained the indigenous people of the region for thousands of years. A staple food, the acorn, dominated the diets of an estimated 75% of native Californians. In the Bay Area, the Ohlones began their new year with the acorn harvest. With the health and care of the oaks in their best interest, they held rituals and danced amongst the oak groves each season to promote a good harvest. Entire families would go out to collect the acorns of individual large trees—a daylong task. The women would take the acorns, shell them and grind them into a fine powder using mortars and pestles—and for the people living in harmony with the earth, these activities were joyous social events. To become edible, the acorn flour had to undergo a lengthy process of leaching to remove the bitter tannins. Once processed, the sweet, acorn flour was ready to eat, being made into soups, mush, and even bread. The unground, shelled acorns could be stored for almost 10 years.

None of the oaks at The Villages are old enough to have been under the care of the indigenous people, but there are several mature trees worthy of note. The Villages golf course is home to a wide variety of large, old trees that define the character, beauty and sense of place of the community. One of the arborists working for The Villages compiled a list of notable Coast Live Oak trees on the golf course. (*Remember to stay off the golf course during hours of play.*)

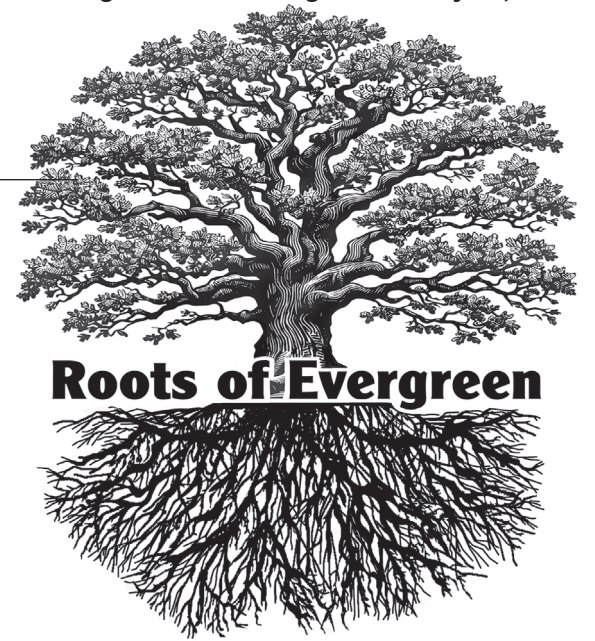
The following short list only includes a few of the exemplary Coast Live Oaks on the golf course. (Of course, there are so many species growing in the community that listing all would be a task too large to accomplish.) The trees on this list were chosen for their size, structure, location and prominence along the course, and are actively maintained as part of The Villages tree management program.

- The “**Signature**” **Coast Live Oak** at the focal point of the golf course at the #1 tee near the Pro Shop and Clubhouse complex. It's the massive tree you see where most golfers begin or end their rounds. The tree's broad canopy and strong structure makes it one of the most recognizable trees on the course. The tree has been professionally pruned and is monitored reflecting The Villages' commitment to long-term tree care.
- The graceful **oak near tee #3** on the Verano side, stands out with its graceful form and long branches that frame the view of the fairway. Its structure typifies the beautiful shape of mature Coast Live Oaks.
- The big oak adjacent to the **Bocce Courts at Gazebo Park**. This attractive oak provides wonderful shade and a welcoming presence in a high-use area with its balanced canopy and healthy form.
- The **Landmark Coast Live Oak near Hole #12**, with its impressive size and unique appearance, adds depth and visual interest to the course.
- The **oak along the Hole #13 fairway** has a broad canopy that provides shade and structure to the surrounding area.
- The handsome, shapely tree just **west of Hole #16 at the very top of Wehner Way** offers a strong visual presence with its long limbs gracefully stretching out in all directions.

Another oak tree worthy of mention is the grand, old tree across the street from the golf course at the **entrance to Hermosa Village on Fairway Drive**.

All the trees mentioned above are part of The Villages' ongoing tree stewardship program that includes pruning, mulching and periodic evaluations to the trees that grace this beautiful community.

—*The Roots of Evergreen* series is compiled and written by S.R. Hinrichs and will be published the third week of each month in *The Villager*.



Estimating an oak's age— give or take a half century

The only way to accurately figure the age of a tree—without killing it—is to take a core sample of the trunk and count the growth rings. Of course, not having that option I had to take a less accurate route to satisfying my curiosity. I looked online to find out how to calculate the age of an oak tree.

An English expert arborist said—as a general rule of thumb—that each inch of circumference of an oak equals about a year of growth. Sure, he was talking about trees in the UK, but oaks are found worldwide.

Another method presented by American conservation groups is to measure the circumference of the trunk at a height of about 4-1/2 feet, then take the circumference in inches and multiply it by pi (3.14) to calculate the diameter. Then multiply the diameter (in inches) by a growth factor assigned to that particular species of tree. The Coast Live Oak has factors between 3 and 4.5 depending upon the tree's location and quality of soil. (There are so many variables influencing those numbers!) Our trees on the rocky hardpan of the Evergreen hills might be closer to the factor of 3, compared to trees in a water-rich alluvial soil.

With those methods in mind, I measured a couple of the oldest looking trees here at The Villages. One was the “monster” at the corner of Hermosa and Fairway, just across the road from the golf course. With a girth that defied my 16-foot tape measure, I had to add three feet. Nineteen feet comes to 228 inches, so by the English expert's rule of thumb, this massive old oak might have begun its life in 1798. (Now that I have the local botanists and arborists spitting out their coffee, I must say that my numbers are only rough estimates and in no way accurate—if I'm lucky, my calculations probably have a variance of 50 years, maybe more.)

Using the two methods for our local species, if the big daddy on Hermosa was a “happy” oak near water in good soil (factor of 4.5) it might have sprouted in 1736, but being on the dry chapparal hillsides of Evergreen (factor of 3) it might have come to life in 1808. Chances are good that the Spanish were here a couple decades before this giant began photosynthesis.

The other tree I measured was the amazing old tree at the very top of Wehner Way just west of the 16th hole (pictured above). Its circumference was 14 feet, 4 inches—merely a grandchild of the big boy at the Hermosa entrance. Using the English expert's rule of thumb it might have sprouted in 1854. And using the other formula with the low factor of 3, it probably saw the sun early in the Civil War, perhaps in 1862.

Even if my numbers are “all wet,” I experienced the magic presence of ancient trees. While hugging the massive trunks as I measured, I felt a tiny bit of what the native Ohlones might have felt as they lingered in the shade of their old oaks. Our fast paced society has divorced us from nature—whether you're chasing your own tail in business or hurrying across the golf course, pursued by another foursome, it might be therapeutic to stop and experience the magic you'll find lingering under an ancient tree. (*But please, for safety's sake, stay off the golf course during the hours of play!*)

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Classified ads are published in the printed edition of The Villager, which is published on the first and third Thursday of every month. Copies are available starting Thursday afternoon in the news bin outside Building B.

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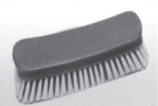


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OBITUARY

With Love We Remember
S. Louann Partridge

The family and friends of S. Louann Partridge are very sad to share that on November 20, 2025 Louann left in peace surrounded by loved ones in Rocklin, California. Please join us for a Celebration of Louann's Life, to celebrate and share all the things we knew and loved about her.

Friends and family are especially welcomed to join in and share stories, pictures and sentiments with all of us.

The event will be held:

On Saturday, February 28, 2026
 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Villages Clubhouse,
 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA 95135

Please text or call Louann's daughter, Brooke, with RSVP &/or any questions: 650-387-7592



OBITUARY

Ruth Gleeson

September 2, 1924 – February 9, 2026



Ruth Gleeson peacefully passed away in her home at 101 years old, held by loved ones.

Born in Britton, South Dakota, she was proud of her sturdy midwestern roots but moved west at 18 years old. Living in Seattle, one fateful night she attended a U.S.O. dance and met James T. Gleeson of San Francisco. The two hit it off, and began a steady correspondence during his service in WWII. In 1947, they were married at St. Paul's Church in San Francisco and began a long, loving and fun life together.

Always a classy lady, she was a dedicated wife, mother, aunt and grandmother and created a comforting and beautiful home for her family. A striking beauty with a sharp wit, Ruth was very athletic and a skilled golfer, scoring two hole-in-ones during tournament play. During her 37 years living

in The Villages, she enjoyed being active, especially with the 18 Hole Ladies Golf Club.

She was strong and graceful, sensible and charming, competitive and gracious, always with a radiant smile. She is preceded in death by daughter, Gayle, son, Timothy, and husband of 67 year, J.T. Survivors include son James, grandchildren Aka, Luka, Devon and Terra, great-grandchildren, Makana, Pono, Piper, and Penny and one very young great-great grandson, Kamauwai.

May her dignity and grace continue to ripple through the many lives she touched.

Obituary notices may be placed in the Classified Advertising section for a fee. For more information, please contact us at advertising@the-villages.com or 408-754-1341 or 408-223-4657.



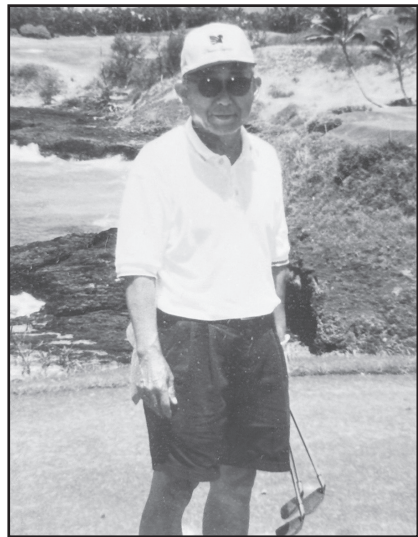
Please notify Member Services of death of household member

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OBITUARY

In Loving Memory Kyu Baik Lee (“Kyu”)

February 12, 1932 – January 31, 2026



Kyu Baik Lee, known as “Kyu”, passed away on January 31, 2026. He died comfortably at his home in San Jose, California. He was 93 years old.

Kyu was born in Yecheon-gun in North Gyeongsang Province in South Korea on February 12, 1932. He was the second of three sons to Lee Byong Yong and Cho Chang Soo.

In 1950, Kyu enlisted in the Korean Navy and served as a Korean liaison to a group of American officers. This is where he befriended U.S. Navy Commander Harry Swanson, who would eventually be the person to sponsor Kyu to come to the United States. Deeply appreciative of Mr. Swanson’s friendship and generosity, Kyu would often refer to Mr. Swanson as his “savior” or “angel” for giving him this life changing opportunity.

In 1955, Kyu arrived in the U.S. with the support and guidance of Mr. Swanson. Kyu was welcomed to the Swanson home in Astoria, Oregon where he lived for 3 years. Kyu was able to complete his high school education and graduated from Astoria High School in 1958. In the following years, he worked at the cannery in Astoria to send money to his mother in Korea and save for college. He graduated from Oregon State University in Corvallis, where he received two Bachelor of Science Degrees in General Science in 1964 and Business Administration and Technology in 1965.

In 1965, Kyu became employed by U.S. Steel where he worked as a Technology Systems Engineer. He was assigned to the plant in Pittsburg, California. He relocated to Walnut Creek, California at this time. Being that these were the early days of computer technology, at U.S. Steel he designed the computer systems in the plant to automate the machinery for better efficiency. He was a valued employee, highly respected and ahead of his time.

In 1966, Kyu traveled back to Korea to marry Huh Chi Haeng (“Chi”) and brought her to the U.S. In 1967, Kyu and Chi welcomed twin girls, Ann and Jane. They raised them in Concord and then in 1970, he bought a house and settled in Antioch, California.

Kyu was passionate about golf. He played golf every weekend, participated in local tournaments and filled their house with golf trophies. After retirement, Kyu and Chi moved to San Jose to be closer to Ann’s family. They resided in The Villages Senior Community, which he chose for its championship golf course. He was able to happily play golf two to three times a week up until the last month of his life.

Kyu is survived by his wife of 59 years, Chi, and two daughters Ann Wolfe and Jane Lee. He has seven grandchildren Jordan, Kristin, Lauren, Max, and Natalie Wolfe, and Nathaniel and Jeremy Ashley, and two great grandchildren Noah and Mariah Rendon. He was grateful and proud of the life he lived and that he was eventually able to bring his and Chi’s families to the U.S.

More COMMUNITY NOTICES

Villages Birders Complete Christmas Bird Count

The holidays of 2025 produced more than wonderful social events, celebrations and sparkling decorations. Eight Villagers completed an annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count on the golf course on December 27. Eight members of the Villages Birding Group and the Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance took part in the 2025 Christmas Bird Count for the Calero-Morgan Hill area. The Christmas bird count is a long running community science project conducted between December 14 and January 5 each year.

The Christmas Bird Count team covered an area extending from The Villages to the Silver Creek Valley Country Club.

Bird Count organizer, Nancy Mori, provided the data from the team. They recorded a total of 61 species across the count area which included both Villages and SCVCC golf courses, Villages ponds and hill lands, and surrounding habitats. The Villages produced a total of 59 species, with 39 species recorded on the golf course. The observers tallied a combined 1,654 individual birds during the count period. Villages highlights included golden eagles sighted over Montgomery and Olivias, a hybrid mallard/gadwall duck on the golf course and a greater white-fronted goose spotted days before the count.

Overall, the count highlighted the importance of varied habitats, from managed golf courses to ponds and woodlands, in supporting a rich and abundant winter bird populations.

The Villages golf course is part of The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP). It is an award-winning education and certification program that helps golf courses protect the environment and preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf.

Villagers are encouraged to join the birding group email list to receive notifications about beginner bird walks and meetings. Email Frank Langben flangben@gmail.com

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 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 planned outages, get outage updates and look at the outage map for your locality on the PG&E website at: pge.com

For those who are technologically challenged and don’t have computers or advanced phones, call the Customer Service number at 1-800-743-5000 to update your contact information so you can receive critical information. 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 an outage, contact PG&E and report it or get more information.

The PUZ-LER



You know folks, when I put these puzzles together I kind of anticipate the number of responses that I might get from you. You really surprised me this time as the winner list is very small. The following Villagers that told me that the word “incorrectly” is always pronounced incorrectly is Larry Rosene, Hansel Wan, Joanna Robinson, Harriet Fernandez, Peter Groot and Larry Broderick. Hey, c’mon!

Let’s try a little math: What number comes out the same if you add 1-1/2 to it or you multiply it by 1-1/2? Put your collective heads together and email your answer to me, Mike Bailey, at michsp@aol.com. Be sure to put PUZZLE in the subject line and your full name in the text.

Do you have a favorite puzzle that you would like to see here? Send it to me.

Thought for the day: My friend went bald years ago but he still carries around an old comb with him. He just can’t part with it.



Sue Lassetter,
M.A., CLC, SRES

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AVAILABLE FOR YOU, 7 DAYS A WEEK - CALL 408-659-0001



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE OLIVAS **\$925,000**

2Bd | 2.5Ba | 1415sf

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED SINGLE LEVEL, END UNIT
MustSee!!

FOR SALE - RODDA REALTY TEAM



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE CRIBARI **\$679,000**

2Bd | 2Ba | 1348sf

Don't miss this UPDATED SINGLE LEVEL, END UNIT
STUNNING FOOTHILL & GOLF COURSE LOCATION!!

FOR SALE - RODDA REALTY TEAM



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE MONTGOMERY **\$725,000**

2Bd | 2Ba | 1340sf

Don't Miss this light, bright, open & updated home
Beautiful setting - walk to pool!!

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JUST LISTED

VILLAGE HIGHLAND **\$1,599,999**

2Bd+Den|2Ba | 1945sf

GORGEOUS INSIDE & OUT - SINGLE FAMILY HOME
Low maintenance - Low HOA Dues

FOR SALE - RODDA REALTY TEAM



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE DEL LAGO **\$1,150,000**

2Bd+Den|2Ba | 1679sf

SPECTACULAR INTERIOR DESIGNERS HOME
Beautifully Remodeled Top to Bottom

FOR SALE - RODDA REALTY TEAM



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE OLIVAS **\$1,399,999**

2Bd+Den|2.5Ba | 2043sf

Beautiful single level, updated, end unit home
GORGEOUS serene & peaceful setting!

FOR SALE - RODDA REALTY TEAM



JUST LISTED

VILLAGE SONATA **\$1,100,000**

2Bd+Den | 2Ba | 1746sf

Beautiful, updated single level, end unit home
Gorgeous, serene & peaceful setting!

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JUST LISTED

VILLAGE OLIVAS **\$1,125,000**

2Bd+Den | 2.5Ba | 1675sf

Don't miss this UPDATED SINGLE LEVEL END UNIT
Perfect - serene setting!

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JUST LISTED

VILLAGE HIGHLANDS **\$998,888**

2Bd+Den | 2Ba | 1751sf

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