

July 1, 2026

Caring Neighbors News

Mission

To provide free non-medical services that enhance the quality of life for residents of The Villages, Florida. We offer vital support for residents through a trusted network of thoroughly vetted resident volunteers.

Vision

To build a compassionate, community-wide volunteer network that provides non-medical services to ensure every resident feels supported, thereby empowering residents to age in place with confidence, dignity, and peace of mind.

Fun Fact

July is National Ice-Cream month.

Make sure you celebrate with your favorite flavor.



Meet our President

Ellen Broedelin

A resident of the Village of Hadley, Ellen moved to The Villages in 2009. Ellen and her husband, Dennis, like many of us came to The Villages just to visit and **quickly** fell in love with the concept...in Village speak that's called "Drinking the Kool-Aid".

Originally from the state of Connecticut, Ellen had an exciting career in the city of Bridgeport as the Executive Assistant to the Chief Administration Officer. In addition to her duties of making local government function, she was responsible for the physical operation of city hall facilities. As if that was not enough, her dedication and organizational skills caught the eye of the mayor who tasked her with managing two local venues the city operated. Both were theaters; one offering Broadway style shows and the other featuring local



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talent. After several years at city hall, Ellen made a significant career change joining Blue-Fish, an Eastern baseball league organization. At Blue-Fish, Ellen held the role of Business Manager for seven years before deciding to retire.

Ellen had a track record of giving back to her community while living in Bridgeport:

- Chair – Breast Cancer Awareness
- Chair – Operation Fans

Living in The Villages, Ellen has dedicated her time and talents to Caring Neighbors. She is one of the original Volunteers starting in 2016. Ellen served as Service Coordinator through June 2025 when she accepted the position of President. Ellen expressed a strong desire to build a legacy of sustained growth for the organization.

Editor – Scott Prenavo

Did You Know?

Wildwood Soup Kitchen

The Wildwood Soup Kitchen has relocated to a larger location, allowing the team to transition from a church kitchen setup into a fully institutional kitchen designed for high-volume meal preparation.

New Address:
610 N. Main Street
Wildwood, FL 34785

www.wildwoodsoupkitchen.org

May Statistics

Villages
Covered

63

Client
Services

607

Responding
Volunteer

373

Volunteers
Hours

2,476

Upcoming Events

July 4th – 250th Anniversary of our Nation's Independence

Check The Village news for local celebrations.
Weather permitting, several communities outside
of The Villages are hosting fireworks events.

July 20th – Go Live of our Beta group on Monday.com platform

Project **Stronger Together** is the modernization of our
software platform designed to improve the effectiveness in
serving our resident clients.

August 28th – Board Meeting at Colony Cottage (10am)

Participation from Service Coordinators and
Directors is encouraged.

Executive Board

Ellen Broedelin

President

Vicky Giraud

V.P. Special Projects

Debbie Caskey

V.P. Fundraising

Brian Holdsworth

V.P. Technology

Scott Prenavo

V.P. Communication

Pam Taylor

Treasurer

Lynn Higgins

Secretary

Anne Bosler

Founder

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