

The Villages of Benning

December Monthly Newsletter

Holiday Traditions at The Villages of Benning



The centennial year may be coming to a close; however, holiday traditions continue to be carried on at The Villages of Benning!

For its fourth consecutive year, The Villages of Benning’s “Winter Wonderland” will take place on Friday, December 14th, from 6-8:00 PM at Indianhead Village.

All the way from the North Pole, Santa himself will visit The Villages of Benning to “Meet and Greet” with residents and their families! Not to be outdone, Mr. Grinch will

also be in attendance mingling and taking pictures with the crowd!

In addition to meeting our special guests, enjoy hot cocoa and cookies, and take a magical ride on Santa’s Sleigh. So that Santa is able to travel “lighter” and prepare his sleigh for his upcoming “around-the-world” trip on Christmas Eve, Gold City Corral will be providing Santa with a beautifully lit horse-drawn carriage. The carriage will be drawn by two Clydesdale Horses, who were hand-selected by Santa himself!

For the past four years, Gold City Corral has worked closely with The Villages of Benning and Santa Claus to provide carriage rides to all residents at the “Winter Wonderland” Event. For years previously, the company has also provided carriage rides at Porter Village’s Santa Event, which takes place in Dahlonega, Georgia.

Independently owned and operated, Gold City Corral & Carriage Company is located within the Forrest Hills Mountain Resort, eleven miles outside of Dahlonega, Georgia, within the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. From horseback trail rides, to carriage rides and dinner wagon rides, this company offers unique experiences for the whole family!

Do you want to build a snowman?? This year, in addition to Santa and Mr. Grinch, “Frozen” will be shown on a big screen under the stars, and Elsa will make a grand appearance!

Don’t miss out on this memorable holiday experience! Visit **Page 3** to view the official flyer for The Villages of Benning’s most popular event!



601 Lumpkin St.
Ft. Benning, GA
31905



Events are
betteratbenning



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Cold Weather Preparedness

Every winter season, pipes in your home are at risk of damage from freezing conditions. Low temperatures can cause your water pipes to freeze, and in some cases burst. The following tips can help you safeguard your home before, during and after a pipe freezes.

Prevent Your Pipes from Freezing

- Allow a faucet to drip slightly (lukewarm water) in order to minimize freezing.
- Keep your house temperature at 65 degrees or higher, even if you're leaving the house for an extended period of time.
- Open cabinet doors below sinks to allow heat from the home to circulate.
- Disconnect all gardening hoses and install covers on all outside faucets.
- Close all windows near water pipes; cover or close open-air vents. Freezing temperatures, combined with wind drafts, can cause pipes to freeze more frequently.

Monitor Freezing Pipe Conditions

- The first sign of freezing is reduced water flow from a faucet.
- Check your faucets for water flow and pressure before you go to sleep and again when you wake up.
- Check pipes around your water meter, in unheated areas, near exterior walls and in crawl spaces.

If a Pipe Freezes

- If a faucet or pipe inside your house freezes, you can thaw it using a good hair dryer. (For safety purposes, avoid operating a hair dryer around standing water.)
- To thaw a frozen pipe, heat water on the stove, soak towels in the hot water and wrap them around cold sections of the pipes.
- When thawing a pipe, start thawing it nearest to the faucet. Make sure the faucet is turned on so that melted water can drip out.

If a Pipe Bursts

- Shut off water at the main valve.
- If the break is in a hot water pipe, the valve on top of the water heater should be closed.
- Contact Maintenance directly at 706.685.3929.

Lead Based Paint

Oftentimes, it is found that housing built prior to 1978 contains lead-based paint. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, lead-based paint that is in intact condition is not hazardous. Lead-containing paint chips and dust, however, can form when lead-based paint deteriorates over time, or when it is disturbed. Such instances may occur at friction surfaces when windows and doors are frequently opened and/or closed. Because of this, cleaning and periodic repair of painted surfaces is an important element of maintaining a home free from lead-based paint hazards.

With that being said, please keep in mind that the areas around painted windows, doors and other interior painted surfaces of your home should be kept clean and in good condition. Residents are reminded to notify maintenance by calling 706.685.3929 to report any chipping or peeling paint. The Villages of Benning is committed to responding to resident concerns as promptly as possible.

For additional information regarding lead-based paint, please review the Lead Warning Statement Addendum and the EPA pamphlet entitled, "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home," that were provided at your lease signing. This information can also be obtained from your village management office upon request.

Upcoming Events

Fort Benning



Dahlongega



Light IT UP CONTEST

Porter Village and Villages of Benning Residents, here is your chance to show off your Holiday creativity! Beginning December 1st, each village will participate in a holiday decorating contest, which will allow one home to be chosen, from each village, for the BEST exterior Holiday decorations. Each winner will receive a \$50 VISA Gift Card! Winners will be announced Thursday, December 20th. Don't forget the Holiday Decoration Regulations! We can't wait to see your creativity!

Resident Referrals

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO



The Villages ...of Benning!

\$150 Resident Referrals Happening Now!!

*Contact your Management Office for Additional Information.

Santa will Visit **Camp Merrill Saturday, December 15th**, from **6-8:00 PM!** Join us for:

- Visits and Pictures with Santa Claus
- Hot Chocolate
- Cookies
- Carriage Rides

For additional information on events happening in **Dahlongega** and the surrounding area, visit www.daholega.org.



Holiday Traditions on Fort Benning

Santa Visits Riverside: Santa will visit Riverside Thursday, December 6th, from 5:30-8:30 PM. The event will include the lighting of the post Christmas Tree, prizes, games, face painting, cookies, cocoa and visits with Santa! Dress warmly and expect long lines- this event is an installation favorite!

Trees for Troops: Friday, December 7th, Trees for Troops returns to Ft. Benning! Active duty soldiers and families will receive 1 free Christmas Tree while supplies last. The event will take place on Wetherby Field beginning at 10:30 AM. If trees are unloaded early, there will be early distribution.

Discounted Tickets & Travel: MWR Tickets & Travel have discounted tickets for events in Columbus and the surrounding area. Contact 706.626.7644 for additional information.



Resident Reminders

As Is Move-Outs

Need Some **Extra Cash** around the Holidays?? Don't forget- you can receive **up to \$600** at Move-Out when you leave your home in "Move-In Ready" condition! *Contact your Community Management Office for details!

Happy Birthday!

Is your birthday in December? We want to celebrate with you! Sign up, in your Community Management Office, to win a birthday surprise! Birthday boxes are now in all management offices, and drawings will be held monthly!

Holiday Safety Tips

The Holiday Season is now upon us! While this is a joyous time of year to celebrate with family and friends, there also tend to be many crimes of opportunity. Please reference the below tips to prevent a "Grinch" from stealing your Holiday!

- LOCK your cars and home.
- REMOVE all shopping bags from your vehicle.
- DO NOT leave boxes at the curb, alerting thieves that expensive items are inside.
- HOLD all mail at the Post Office.
- DO NOT send money through the mail.
- ALARM your cars and home.
- SUBMIT a Quarters Check through the Military Police Station and/or your Community Management Office.

As you "deck the halls" this holiday season, remember to also be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas Tree can grow large very quickly.

- Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from any heat sources, such as fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights. Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.
- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for the correct number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate your tree.

ActiveBuilding!

Sign up for The Villages of Benning's new **Resident Portal**, ActiveBuilding! Stay connected with your community; receive updates and information on community events and submit service requests!

Bulk Trash

Bulk Trash is picked up weekly, and pick-up times coincide with scheduled Trash Pick-up days, as seen below, with the exception of McGraw. All Bulk Trash for McGraw will be picked up on Monday.

Week of Christmas and New Year's:
12/24-1/04

Bulk trash for Tuesday, December 25th, will be picked up on Monday, December 24th, and bulk trash for Tuesday, January 1st, will be picked up on Monday, December 31st.

Trash Pick-up Schedule

Monday: Indianhead, McGraw* (All of McGraw with the exception of 5 streets scheduled for Tuesday.)

Tuesday: Lower Davis, Kawamura, Port, Fernandez), EMP (Austin Loop, Lower Baltzell, Eames, General Officer's Homes, Miller Loop, Norton, Perkins, Sigerfoos, Lumpkin), MacDonald, McGraw* (Seminole Loop, Baker Street, Arrowhead, Chickasaw, Kialegee Way)

Wednesday: Custer

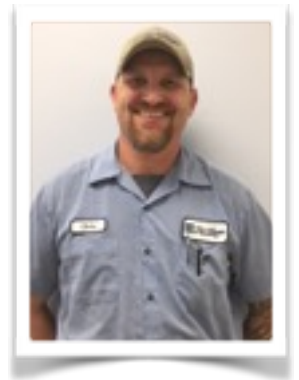
Thursday: Bouton, Upper Davis (Hartsock, Langhorn, Lozada, Warren), EMP (Iron Triangle, Rainbow, White Elephants)

Friday: Patton, Upatoi

Waste Management will run regular services on **Monday, December 24th; all other routes, for the week, will run one day behind.*

Employee of the Month:

“Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.”- Mattie J.T. Stepanek



The Villages of Benning is honored to introduce Chris Mott as December’s Employee of the Month.

Chris joined the Villages of Benning’s Team on July 17th, 2017 as a Maintenance Technician for the community of East Main Post. March 26th, 2018, Chris was promoted to the position of Lead Maintenance Technician for East Main Post, and he also serves as the primary technician for the Commanding Generals Quarters.

Chris was nominated by his peers for always being kind and courteous to both coworkers and residents. He does his job effectively and seeks out opportunities to help other when needed. He is also recognized by residents for his outstanding job performance!

Outside of work, Chris enjoys spending time with his fiancée, and loves to watch Alabama football.

Thank you, Chris, for all that you do! We are lucky to have you as a valued member of our team!

THE VILLAGES OF BENNING COMMUNITY DIRECTORY:

Welcome Center

Director: *Joe Gandara* 706-685-3939

Indianhead Village

Manager: *Lori Bowers* 706-685-3933

McGraw Village

Manager: *Maggie Portillo* 706-685-3935

Patton Village

Manager: *Connie Grafton* 706-610-5500

Custer & Upatoi Village

Manager: *Keri Parsons* 706-685-3930

Davis & Bouton Village

Manager: *Chelsea Matheric* 706-685-3940

East Main Post

Manager: *Candy Miles* 706-685-3925

24-Hr. Maintenance

706-685-3929

RCI:

706-545-8119

December 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						Rent is Due 1
2	3	4	Newcomer’s Brief- 9 AM ACS Santa Paws1-7:00 PM Ft. Benning Vet Center 5	Rent is Late Santa at Riverside 5:30-8:30 PM 6	Trees for Troops- 10::30 AM Wetherby Field 7	8
9	10	11	Newcomer’s Brief- 9 AM ACS 12	13	Winter Wonderland- Indianhead 6-8:00 PM 14	Santa Visits Porter Village- Camp Merrill 6-8 PM 15
16	17	18	Newcomer’s Brief- 9 AM ACS 19	20	21	22
23	Christmas Eve- Offices Closed 24	Christmas- Offices Closed 25	Newcomer’s Brief- 9 AM ACS 26	27	28	29
30	New Year’s Eve 31					