

The Villages of Benning

January Monthly Newsletter

Happy New Year!!

“The New Year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written.” - Melody Beattie

As New Year Resolutions and plans are made, have you checked out everything Fort Benning and the Villages of Benning have to offer?

- Shred Event** As you say “*Out with the Old, and In with the New,*” join The Villages of Benning Friday, January 18th, for its first ever “Shred Event.” Shredding important documents is an important precaution to protect your identity. River Mill Data Management will be onsite from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM to properly shred any sensitive material at no additional cost! *Additional information can be found on Page 3.*
- Fort Benning Fitness** Do you have a New Year’s Resolution to start a healthier lifestyle or to become more active? The Villages of Benning offers four fitness centers at four different community management offices! Fitness centers are located at Indianhead, Custer, McGraw and Patton Villages. Prefer fitness classes? Visit Smith Fitness Center on the installation to take a group fitness class. A *Fitness Marathon* will be held Saturday, January 19th, from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. Kick-start your way to a fitter new year by trying a variety of 30-minute sessions! The outdoors also offer a variety of fitness options. Hike one of the many walking trails connected to your village, or take a bike ride all the way to the Columbus Riverwalk!
- MWR Storage and Travel** Did you receive any new outdoor equipment for the holidays? If so, contact MWR Outdoor Recreation at 706.545.7978 for storage rental opportunities and availability. Planning upcoming family vacations for the new year? Be sure to contact MWR Tickets and Travel for discounted tickets and offers for attractions nationwide!
- ActiveBuilding** The Villages of Benning will host monthly events throughout 2019, consisting of both family-oriented and adult events. Sign up for our new Resident Portal, *ActiveBuilding*, to stay connected! In addition to information on Community Events, you can receive community e-mails and updates and can submit service requests! Don’t forget too also like us on our Facebook page, The Villages of Benning, and visit our website for information on upcoming events! We look forward to the new year and to serving you!



601 Lumpkin St.
Ft. Benning, GA
31905



Events are
betteratbenning



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Stop! Please Don't Flush That!

When we use our toilets, showers, washing machines, garbage disposals and/or dishwashers, waste water leaves our home through a series of pipes that connect to the city water system. By putting the wrong items down the drain, we can damage our system, creating back-ups and potentially causing sewage to release into the environment.

What Not to Flush:

Many household cleaning products are labeled and marked as “disposable,” however, they do not break down in the system. Therefore, these items should ultimately not be flushed down the toilet. Some of these common household items include:

Mop Refills, Disinfecting Wipes, Baby Wipes, Flushable Wipes, Paper Towels, Rags, Dental Floss, Diapers, Cat Litter, Food Products, etc.

When these items are disposed of by being flushed down the toilet, they mix with other solids, grease and debris which could potentially cause a sewer backup in your home. Items, such as flushable wipes, are marketed in a variety of ways, including "septic safe," "breaks down like toilet paper," and "safe for sewer and septic;" however, they are more likely to clog septic sewer lines. Such items have also been proven to take longer to break down than traditional toilet paper, prolonging potential backups if they were to get stuck. Such back-ups can create potential property damage to your home and/or your personal belongings. Next time you use one of these products, we ask that you please utilize the trashcan to dispose of them.

Lead Based Paint

What is lead, and where is it found?

- Lead is a soft, dense, blue-gray metal that can be found naturally in all parts of our environment (*i.e. the car, ground, soil and water*).

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, lead-based paint that is in intact condition is not considered a hazard. Over time, however, lead-containing paint chips and dust can accumulate when lead-based paint deteriorates or when it is disturbed.

U.S. Government Regulations

- 1978- Lead was banned in the production of paint. *More than 36 Million structures across the U.S still remain today, however, that contain lead-based paint.*
- 2014- The U.S. Government banned the use of lead in the manufacturing of bathroom and kitchen fixtures. *The Government changed the standard of manufacturing from 8% lead in fixtures to 0.25%, which is their definition of "Lead Free."*

Lower your Chances of Exposure to Lead:

Simple steps like keeping your home clean and well-maintained will go a long way in preventing lead exposure. You can lower the chances of exposure to lead in your home, both now and in the future, by taking these steps:

- Inspect and maintain all painted surfaces. If you see peeling or chipping paint, contact maintenance.
- Address water damage quickly and completely.
- Keep your home clean and dust-free, and use a damp, disposable cloth to periodically wipe window sills.
- Let the water run after long gaps in use before using for eating and/or drinking.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and/or toys often, and teach children to wipe and remove their shoes after playing outdoors.
- Soldiers- be sure to wash your hands and clothes before playing with kids after a day at the range.

For additional information on lead-based paint, visit the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) website, www.epa.gov. You can also contact your Community Management Office or Maintenance Team at 706.685.3929.

Upcoming Events

Fort Benning



SHRED EVENT

Friday, January 18th, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Welcome Center



Out with the old. In with the new! Shredding important documents is an important precaution to protect your identity. Friday, January 18th, bring your documents to The Villages of Benning's Welcome Center and have River Mill Data Management shred them FOR FREE! Start looking through your documentation now to take advantage of this opportunity!

Moving is no easy task, especially when there is so much to keep track of! Whether you have just moved to the Villages of Benning or are cleaning out documents for the new year, join us and River Mill Data Management on Friday, January 18th, to properly shred your documents! River Mill will be on-site, at the Welcome Center, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.



Get Paid... to Pick Your Neighbors!!

Wouldn't it be great to choose your neighbors? At The Villages of Benning, you can!!

\$150 Resident Referrals Happening Now!!

Contact your Community Management Office for additional information.

Happy Birthday!



Is your birthday in January? If so, we want to celebrate with you! Don't forget to sign up, in your Community Management Office, for your chance to win a birthday surprise! Birthday boxes are now in all management offices, and drawings will be held monthly!

Light IT UP CONTEST WINNERS



Custer/Upatoi- 7652 Pintail



Indianhead- 203 Lavoie Ave.

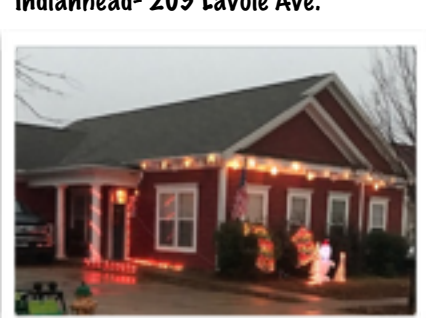


Davis/Bouton- 501B Hartsock

McGraw- 8222 Chickasaw



Porter- 643 Rabel Dr.



Patton- 5296 10th Armored St.



EMP- 227 Austin Loop

Resident Reminders

FCC Providers

Are you interested in becoming an FCC Provider? Did you know that individuals who provide childcare in their home for more than 10 childcare hours per week, on a regular basis, must become a certified FCC provider?

Please refer to the below installation policy, in reference to the AR-608-10:

- Unauthorized childcare is prohibited in Fort Benning Family Housing. Unauthorized childcare is defined as “care in excess of 10 childcare hours per week on a regular basis.” Individuals providing unauthorized childcare risk losing Fort Benning Housing privileges.
- The Child and Youth Services (CYS) Family Childcare (FCC) Program trains and certifies qualified applicants. The program’s purpose is ensuring that care-giving environments support every child’s growth, development and well-being.
- Anyone providing more than 10 hours per week of childcare in his/her home must be certified as an FCC provider. Caregivers must register with FCC when care is provided outside the child’s home. If care is provided for children in their own homes, the parent is responsible for ensuring the caregiver is qualified.
- The FCC providers (Family members-generally spouses) are independent contractors, trained, certified and authorized to offer childcare in Residential Communities Initiative Housing by the Garrison Commander through Army CYS. The FCC Program staff is responsible for recruiting, training, supporting and monitoring childcare providers.

Please also refer to the Villages of Benning’s policy, found within the Resident Responsibility Guide (RRG), for Family Child Care in the Home:

Section 7.14, Family Child Care in the Home

In accordance with AR 608-10, housing can be used as an authorized Family Child Care (FCC) home. Residents must contact the Fort Benning Child & Youth Services Office in order to apply for FCC certification and approval. Only those residents who have successfully completed the FCC requirements are eligible to function as a Family Child Care Home in FBFC communities. Residents providing FCC in their homes agree to hold harmless FBC against action arising from the use of their home as an FCC facility. The cost of adding any equipment or service required to use the home as a FCC facility is the responsibility of the resident. Department of Defense, Army and FBFC regulations and policies require individuals who provide childcare in their home for more than 10 childcare hours per week on a regular basis to become a certified Family Child Care (FCC) provider.

For additional information, please contact Mrs. CaSandra A. Hill, FCC Director, DFMWR at 706.545.7945 or via e-mail, casandra.a.hill.naf@mail.mil.

Curfews and Post Regulations

Don’t forget to follow all Garrison and Village Regulations, particularly regulations pertaining to children and quiet hours. Curfew and quiet hours must be followed according to Fort Benning’s MCOE 210-5.

3-3 Quiet Hours

Quiet hours will be observed between 2200 and 0800 Sunday through Thursday, and between 0001 and 0800 on Friday and Saturday. Outside of established quiet hours, residents are required to control the volume of stereos, televisions and musical devices within their home so that they do not disturb the residents of other homes.

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. Please refer to the modified schedule below for the first week of January:

Bulk Trash Pick-Up 12/31-1/4

Monday: Indianhead, McGraw, MacDonald, Austin, Eames, General Officer’s Homes, Miller, Norton, Perkins, Sigerfoos, Lumpkin, Lower Davis

Tuesday: Off for New Year’s Day

Wednesday: Custer

Thursday: Iron Triangle Rainbow, White Elephants, Upper Davis, Bouton

Friday: Patton, Upatoi

*Waste Management will run regular services on **Monday, December 31st**; however, all other routes, for the remaining week, will run one day behind schedule.*

Custer Road Closure

Fort Benning has closed a portion of Custer Road between Morris R. McBride Elementary School and the Sand Hill gate. The closure, which is allowing the installation to complete immediate crucial maintenance and repairs, began on Monday, December 17th, and is scheduled to continue into January. Those who regularly commute on this portion of Custer Road must plan to use an alternate route. Detour signs will be posted to facilitate travel between Sand Hill and Main Post. In addition, the Sand Hill and Harmony Church gates will remain open 24 hours a day for the duration of the project.

The Villages of Benning: Mayor's Corner

December 2018 Mayor Meeting Notes

Freeze Warnings

As a reminder, should we experience freezing temperatures, 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. Please make sure you have disconnected any hoses you may have outside and leave your faucets dripping in your home.

Grease

Please do NOT dispose of cooking grease down the drain! During the holidays, when cleaning up after your holiday dinner and guests, do NOT dump cooking grease from deep fryers or cooking pans down the drain during clean up. Grease will cool and congeal in your drain pipes, becoming a solid with other debris in the lines and cause a back up. To dispose of the grease properly, consider grease reclamation, but if not available, double bag the grease in a plastic and throw it away in the regular trash.

Safety Tips during the Holidays

Please refer to the below safety tips before, during and after the holiday season:

- Celebrate responsibly! Use a designated driver to ensure yourself and all guests make it home safely after a holiday party. Alcohol, over-the-counter or illegal drugs all cause impairment.
- Make sure every person in the vehicle is properly buckled up no matter how long or short the distance being traveled.
- Put cell phones away! Distracted driving causes one quarter of all crashes.
- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained, and keep an emergency kit available at all times.
- Check the weather before you go. Be prepared for heavy traffic and/or possibly heavy snow.
- Fill out a Quarters Check Form with the MP station or your local Community Management Office for periodic checks of your quarters while away.
- Utilize light timers to make it look as though you are home.
- Have the neighbors pick up the mail or place a hold on your mail at the post office. Ask neighbors to keep watch for and to report any suspicious activity.
- Lock all doors and windows, including garage doors, and secure all outside and/or yard equipment.
- Do not post vacation departures on social media; only tell a few family and friends when and where you are going.
- Do not leave expensive items in plain sight.
- Cover purchased items while unattended in vehicles.

As Is Homes

Need some extra cash for the holidays? Leave your home in "Move-In Ready" condition, and you can receive up to \$600 at Move-Out. Contact your local Community Management Office for details.

Employee of the Month:

“May you be proud of the person you are and the difference you make”



The Villages of Benning is honored to introduce Kayla Chouccoli as January’s Employee of the Month.

Kayla joined the Villages of Benning’s Team on May 21st, 2018 as a Leasing Specialist. Nominated by her peers, Kayla is known for her bubbly personality and for always putting a smile on everyone’s face. Her hard work and strive for perfection make Kayla a value to the Leasing Team!

Outside of work, Kayla enjoys interior decorating and spending time with her family, including her two children.

Thank you, Kayla, 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

RCI: 706-685-3929

RCI: 706-545-8119

2019 JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year!! Offices Closed Rent is Due	2 Newcomer's Brief- 9 AM ACS	3	4	5
6 Rent is Late	7	8	9 Newcomer's Brief- 9 AM ACS	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Newcomer's Brief- 9 AM ACS	17 Parent-to-Parent Workshops 8:30 AM-1 PM ACS	18 Shred Event- Villages of Benning Welcome Center 9AM-1PM	19 Fitness Marathon 10 AM-1 PM (Smith Fitness Center)
20	21 MLK, Jr. Day- Offices Closed	22	23 Newcomer's Brief- 9 AM ACS	24	25	26 Scenic Hike in FDR State Park 8AM-2PM (Bldg. 1707)
27	28	29	30 Newcomer's Brief- 9 AM ACS	31 Golf Scramble- Golf Course		