

Special Edition

**Celebrating Women's History Month  
Community Restoration Campaign with  
Clayton County Police and Code Enforcement**

**The Villages At Lake Ridge**

**Newsletter**

The Villages At Lake Ridge

**WHERE  
WE CALL  
HOME**



***The VLR Honors District 77 State Representative Rhonda Burnough.***

***ATTENTION VLR RESIDENTS:***

This edition is dedicated to honoring our very own **VLR resident, District 77 State Representative, Rhonda Burnough**, and the efforts of the **VLR Neighborhood Watch Committee**—from partnering with Clayton County Police and Code Enforcement to launching our new one-year campaign to get 100% of the broken fences repaired and 100% of the homes pressure-washed.

**SEE FULL ARTICLES INSIDE**





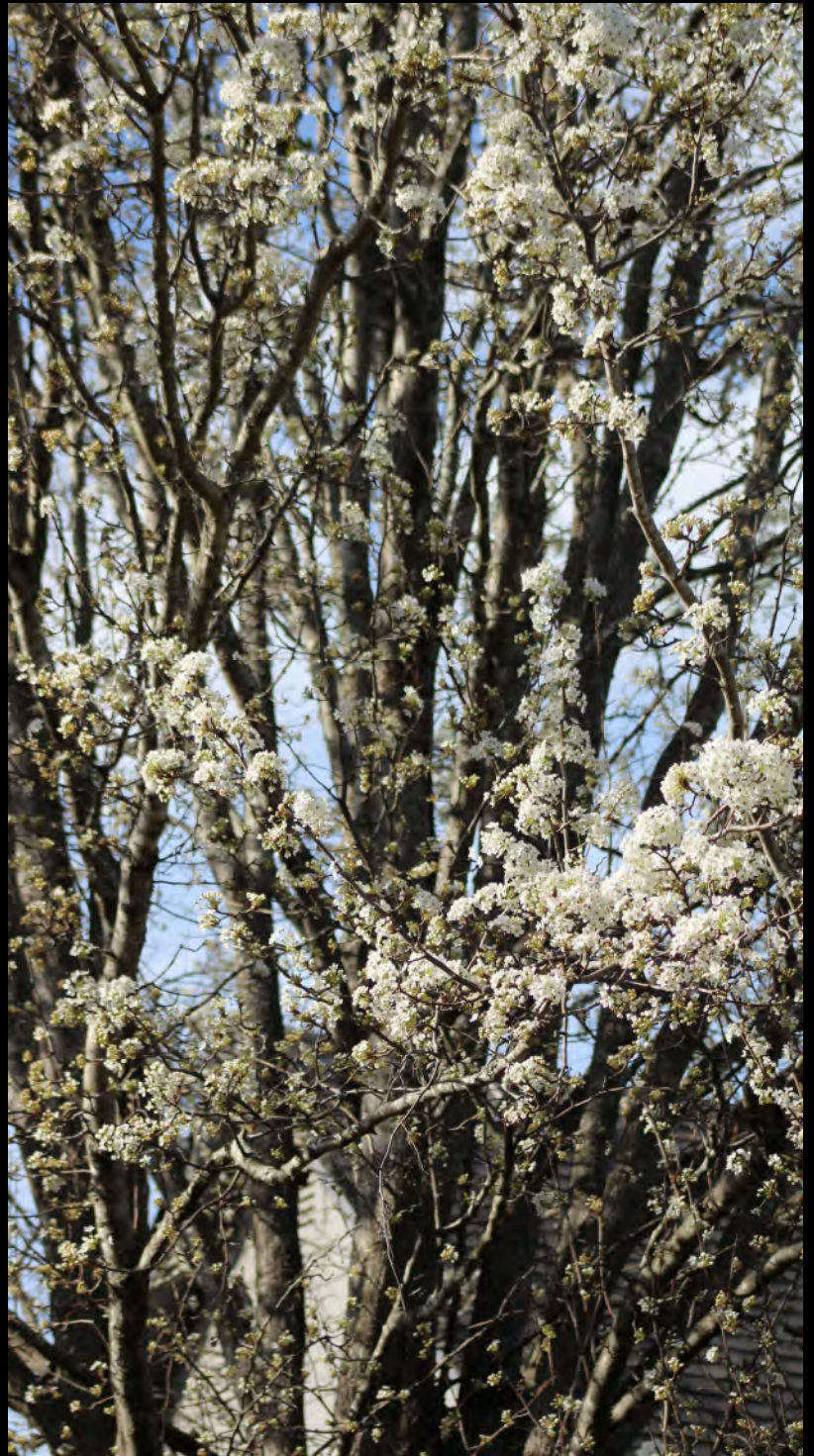
## *In This Issue*

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- HOA Dues - Ways to Pay
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## **The VLR Mission Statement**

- Promote a safe and healthy living environment **which includes having fun and allowing residents to meet and build bonds**
- Maintain and increase property values by enforcing standards as per our covenants
- Commit to engaging with government officials and agencies to support the success of Clayton County
- Offer homeowners the opportunity to express their views and opinions through open forums at meetings and town hall gatherings



# WAYS TO PAY YOUR HOA FEES

## PAYING YOUR HOA FEES HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER



**Listed below are two convenient ways to pay:**

1. **Pay Online** - Simply use the link provided to create a password to access your HOA account: [CLICK HERE](#).
2. **Pay via Mail** - Mail checks to:  
Villages at Lake Ridge HOA  
C/O CMA  
P.O. Box 65851  
Phoenix, AZ 85082-5851  
**Make checks payable to The Villages at Lake Ridge HOA include your property address and account number.**

### **HOA FAQ's**

- Can you pay in installments? YES
- Do you accept checks? YES
- Can you be exempt from paying HOA fees? NO

Homeowners may make payments, establish autopay, update their contact info., make requests, view association documents, calendars, messages, and more.

Visit [www.cmacommunities.com](http://www.cmacommunities.com)

# VLR 2026 NEIGHBORHOOD RESTORATION KICK-OFF

**With Clayton County Police and Code Enforcement**  
Written by Gail Poole - VLR Neighborhood Watch Secretary



Pat McCoy, VLR Board President (center) shares vision with Clayton County Police and Code Enforcement officers.

**On Tuesday, March 17th**, the Neighborhood Watch Committee hosted a "meet and greet" breakfast with the Clayton County Police Department, represented by Captain Carr and other officers, and Code Enforcement. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how we will work together to improve our community.

There were 30 people in attendance.

We expressed our appreciation to our county partners for supporting our community, for their hard work in notifying homeowners of code violations, and for their willingness to address our concerns. We received more clarification on what is enforceable by their codes and what falls under the jurisdiction of our HOA.

Over the next several months, you will begin to see improvements focused on enhancing the exterior appearance of our community. This includes painting and pressure washing homes, repairing broken fences, improving yard maintenance such as weed removal, and addressing concerns like abandoned vehicles on our streets.

We look forward to this continued partnership.



**VLR 2026 NEIGHBORHOOD RESTORATION KICK-OFF  
PHOTO GALLERY BELOW:**











# WHAT DOES CLAYTON COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT DO?



The Clayton County Code Enforcement Team addresses county violations within a community.

The Clayton County Code Enforcement function is managed under the Clayton County Corrections Department, with the director being Warden Dennis Nelson.

The Code Enforcement Division is responsible for addressing various issues, including illegal dumping and maintaining public safety.

**Residents can report issues through the "Click Clayton" app or by calling the complaint line at 678-610-4755.**

The division also handles compliance with local ordinances and quality of life codes, ensuring that properties are maintained to prevent nuisances and promote community well-being.

**Quality of Life**  
Notice of Violation

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ 62-202 (a), (b), or (c) Property Maintenance  
\_\_\_ 62-203 Vacant Buildings  
\_\_\_ 62-204 (a), (b), (c), or (d) Commercial or Recreational Vehicles  
\_\_\_ 62-205 (a), (b), or (c) Motor Vehicles (unlicensed or inoperable)  
\_\_\_ 62-206 Property of Dispossessed Tenant  
\_\_\_ 62-207 (a), (b), (c), or (d) Basketball goals  
\_\_\_ 78-9 Trash Containers  
\_\_\_ 94-59 Sale of Vehicles on Right of Way  
\_\_\_ 94-60 Prohibited Yard Parking

All violations must be corrected by: \_\_\_\_\_

Clayton County Code Enforcement Unit  
Office: 678-610-4755  
Fax: 678-479-5030 or 770-603-5253  
Code.Enforcement@claytoncountyga.gov

Attach business card



Click the logo for more details.



# **CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

## **A CONVERSATION WITH STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

### **RHONDA BURNOUGH**



During Women's History Month, The Villages at Lake Ridge (VLR) community had the opportunity to reflect on leadership, service, and the influence of women who have shaped our communities. **We spoke with State Representative Rhonda Burnough about her journey into public service, the women who influenced her path, and her vision for strengthening communities like the VLR.**

#### **What Inspired You to Pursue Public Service?**

Representative Burnough shared that her decision to run for state office was born out of frustration during a critical period in Clayton County's history.

While serving at the county level, she noticed that the state representative responsible for the district was rarely present at community events—especially during the challenging years when Clayton County Public Schools lost its accreditation. This lack of engagement deeply concerned her.

**At that moment, she felt compelled to step forward.**

Before deciding to run for office, Burnough consulted the people closest to her—her mother, father, and brother—to ask whether they thought she should pursue the position. Each of them encouraged her to move forward.

Their support was not surprising, because public service runs deep in the Burnough family. Representative Burnough's mother ran for office, her father ran for office, and her brother also pursued public office. Leadership and civic responsibility were values that were modeled in the Burnough household.



Pictured above:  
State Representative Rhonda Burnough's parents

With the encouragement of her family and a desire to serve her community, she decided to step forward.

What started as anger and frustration evolved into a strong commitment to serve. She chose to run for office with a clear sense of purpose and a desire to fight for her community.

Representative Burnough's courage to step into the political arena and advocate for the people of Clayton County is something the VLR community applauds and is extremely **PROUD** of.

## Women Who Influenced Her Leadership Journey

Representative Burnough credits several influential women who encouraged and supported her along the way, including:

- Zelda A. Miller
- Althea Cooper
- Pat McCoy
- Yulonda Beauford

Each of these women believed in her vision and supported her leadership journey. Their encouragement helped strengthen her confidence as she stepped into public service.



VLR President Pat McCoy (centered), members of her family, and State Representative Rhonda Burnough are pictured at the 2025 VLR 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

## The Legacy of Women Who Paved the Way



Pictured above:  
Harriet Tubman - African American Abolitionist



Pictured Above:  
Former Vice President, Kamala Harris and  
State Representative Rhonda Burnough

Women like **Harriet Tubman** endured tremendous trials and tribulations in pursuit of freedom and justice. Even modern leaders like **Kamala Harris** have faced unique struggles on the path to leadership.

According to Representative Burnough, every woman's journey includes challenges.

Leadership requires:

- Hard work
- Confidence
- Patience
- Persistence

**“YOU CAN'T BACK DOWN WHEN THE WORK GETS HARD. LEADERSHIP REQUIRES CONFIDENCE, PATIENCE, AND THE WILLINGNESS TO KEEP GOING.”**

When she first entered the race, the role of state representative did not seem as prominent to many people. But by the time the COVID-19 pandemic struck, residents quickly realized how critical state-level leadership truly is.

Despite the struggles she encountered, Representative Burnough learned an important lesson:

**You cannot back down.**

### **What Gives You Strength When You Have to Stand Alone?**



**Leadership sometimes requires standing alone.**

Representative Burnough shared that at times in her career, she had to take positions that were not supported by others—even those within her own county.

One example was her advocacy surrounding the airport issue and related legislation affecting Clayton County.

Representative Burnough also led a seven-year effort on HB 492, tackling the long-standing issue of the City of Atlanta failing to pay taxes to Clayton County for decades.

During that fight, she discovered that some of the people she trusted to support her were not actually on her side.

Yet she stood firm.

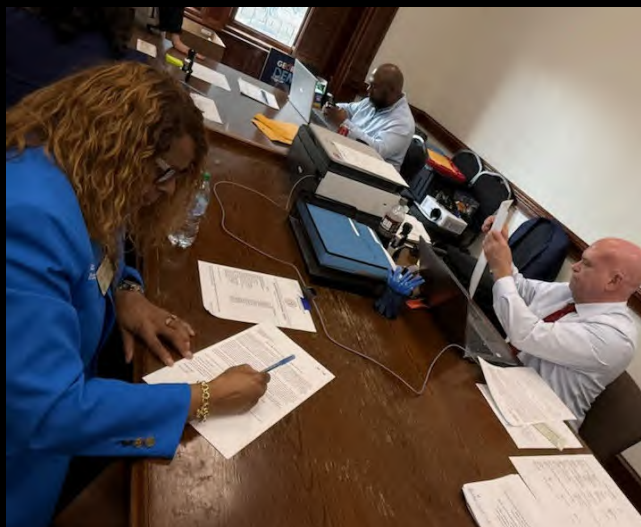
What gave her the strength to do so?

Her answer was simple:

**“The Lord.”**

Her faith carried her through the times when she had to stand alone.

**Amen.**



***“SOMETIMES LEADERSHIP MEANS STANDING ALONE — BUT IF YOU STAND WITH CONVICTION AND FAITH, YOU CAN STILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”***

## The Role of Women in Strengthening Communities

Representative Burnough believes women play a unique role in building and strengthening communities.

Women often understand how to reach people in ways that inspire action. Whether encouraging family members or mobilizing neighbors, women often know exactly what to say and do to bring people together.

From voting to community engagement, women can be powerful catalysts for change.



Pictured:  
State Representative Rhonda Burnough, Pat McCoy, and  
Former District 74 State Representative Valencia Stovall at  
the VLR 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration 2024.



Pictured:  
State Representative Rhonda Burnough presented  
VLR resident Karen Moody, with the Georgia Women's  
Legislative Caucus Nikki T. Randall Servant Leadership  
Award in recognition of her outstanding community  
service at the VLR 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration 2024.



Pictured:  
Clayton County Board of Elections employees  
encouraged VLR residents to vote at the 2024 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
Celebration.

**“WOMEN KNOW HOW TO REACH PEOPLE. THEY KNOW WHAT TO SAY AND HOW TO BRING A COMMUNITY TOGETHER.”**

## Challenges Facing Our Community

When asked about the challenges facing communities like the VLR, without hesitation, Representative Burnough emphasized the importance of community pride and participation.

Our neighborhood has incredible amenities, including:

- A lake
- A clubhouse
- Tennis courts
- Beautiful residential areas

Many people travel to visit Lake Spivey, yet our own community has remarkable features that deserve the same pride and care.

She encourages residents to value where they live by:

- Maintaining their property
- Cutting their grass
- Avoid littering
- Taking pride in the neighborhood

Trash piling up and neglected properties can create embarrassment when, in reality, our community has so much to offer.

Another key challenge is civic awareness. Residents should know who represents them and understand who they are voting for.



***“WHEN PEOPLE VALUE WHERE THEY LIVE, THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY BECOMES STRONGER.”***

## How Residents Can Partner with Local/Civic Leaders

Improving safety and quality of life requires a partnership between residents and leaders.

**Representative Burnough offered practical advice:**

If you see suspicious activity, call the police first. **Do not hesitate out of fear.**

While community leaders and HOA boards play an important role, **law enforcement should be contacted immediately when safety concerns arise.**

The VLR has taken positive steps to strengthen relationships with law enforcement, including hosting an annual police and law enforcement appreciation dinner (see pictures below). Events like these show officers that our community cares and is serious about working together to protect our neighborhood.

Another important step is simply getting to know your neighbors. Even renters are part of the community and may eventually become homeowners.

Building relationships creates stronger – and safer – neighborhoods.



Pictured Above:  
Images are from the Annual Law Enforcement Luncheon (2025, Clayton County Police Department Headquarters, Jonesboro, Georgia).

**“WHEN PEOPLE VALUE WHERE THEY LIVE, THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY BECOMES STRONGER.”**

## Legacy and Long-Term Impact

When asked what legacy she hopes to leave, Representative Burnough said she hopes to bring resources and sustainability to Clayton County.

She has worked toward securing funding and legislative initiatives that support:

- Local services
- Technology infrastructure
- Economic sustainability

She currently represents District 77, which includes:

- Riverdale
- Forest Park
- Unincorporated Clayton County
- The Clayton side of College Park

One unique aspect of her role is that the state representative position does not have term limits, allowing her to continue serving as long as voters choose her leadership.

## Her Greatest Achievement in Office

As a retired educator, Representative Burnough says her greatest achievement is representing Clayton County while advocating for children and education.

She believes one of the most important lessons people can learn is to appreciate the value of where they live.

She also expressed concern about the negative nickname sometimes used for Clayton County.

Her message is clear:

**Clayton County deserves respect.**

**It is a community with tremendous opportunity and potential.**



## A Message to Women and Girls

During Women's History Month, Representative Burnough shared a powerful message.

### **Clayton County has an extraordinary distinction:**

It has 42 elected African-American women, making it one of the most significant concentrations of Black female leadership in the country.

Although Clayton County is the fifth-largest county in Georgia, its leadership reflects remarkable representation.

Currently:

- Five of the seven mayors are African-American women
- The judiciary and probate offices also include African-American women leaders.

Her message to women and girls in the community is one of encouragement:

**When women lead, communities can thrive.**



(Photo courtesy of State Representative Rhonda Burnough)  
For more details, visit: [WABE News](#)

In addition, in 2021, these remarkable women collaborated to publish **Legacy Letters: A Gift for Tomorrow's Leaders**, a collection of letters to young women written by Black elected officials in Clayton County. The book shares career journeys, personal advice, and insights into public service, offering valuable lessons for readers of all ages.

***“WHEN WOMEN RULE OUR COUNTY, THE COUNTY IS IN GOOD HANDS.”***

## Preserving Local History

Representative Burnough is also working to preserve the legacy of African-American history in Clayton County through the R&M African-American History Museum.

The museum will highlight African-American history in Clayton County beginning in 1995 and will also feature educational history connected to the school system.

One special feature will be her personal African-American doll collection, which celebrates cultural heritage and representation.

**THE R&M AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM**  
PRESENTS OUR AFRICAN AMERICAN DOLL COLLECTION

The Dolls in this collection were selected for their uniqueness. We want you to reminisce about your dolls. Look at their eyes, hair, clothing, what do you like about them or how would you change them?

The First African American Barbie  
Holiday Barbies  
Signature & Inspiring Women Barbie Collection  
Olympic Barbies  
Birthday Barbies  
Raggedy Ann Collection  
Avon Dolls  
American Girl Dolls  
African American Chatty Cathy Doll  
Princess Tiana & Prince Naveen from the Princess and the Frog  
The Nutcracker Dancers  
Dolls dressed in African Attire  
Baby Dolls  
McDonald Happy Meal Barbie  
Adorable Souls Dolls

These are just a few of the collections you will have to come and see the entire collection. The dolls bodies and clothing are constructed from different materials: cloth, porcelain, plastic, moveable body parts different shades of color, and some in their original packaging.

**WE LOVE ALL OUR DOLLS AND CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO SEE THEM.**

She is also the curator of the historic Rosenwald Schools legacy connected to education for African-American children. These schools were inspired by Booker T. Washington, who partnered with philanthropist Julius Rosenwald to establish schools for Black students across the United States.

Clayton County is fortunate to have one of these historical connections right here in our community.

**Residents interested in learning more or scheduling a visit to the museum can contact Clayton County Public Schools by calling 770-473-2700.**

### Honoring Women Who Lead

As we celebrate Women's History Month, Representative Burnough's story reminds us that leadership often begins with a willingness to step forward when others will not.

**Her journey—from frustration to advocacy—demonstrates the power of conviction, faith, and perseverance.**

The VLR is proud to recognize the contributions of women who lead, serve, and inspire future generations, like State Representative Rhonda Burnough,

### Connect with District 77 State Representative Rhonda Burnough

Your voice matters. Reach out with questions, concerns, or ideas:

[Website: staterreprhondaburnough.com](http://www.staterreprhondaburnough.com)

[Instagram: @staterreprhondaburnough](https://www.instagram.com/staterreprhondaburnough)

[Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/StateRepresentativeRhondaBurnough/](https://www.facebook.com/StateRepresentativeRhondaBurnough/)

Email: [rhonda.burnough@house.ga.gov](mailto:rhonda.burnough@house.ga.gov)

Phone: 404-656-0116

# VLR COMMUNITY RECOGNITION



## **Pat McCoy** VLR Board President

On behalf of the VLR residents, I am proud to recognize State Representative Rhonda Burnough. Our communities are strengthened by leaders like Rhonda Burnough—individuals who lead with care, commitment, and purpose.

"We need more leaders like State Representative Rhonda Burnough—leaders who truly care about the people they serve."

**Building a Stronger, Safer, and More United Community**

As part of the VLR Newsletter Segment, "VLR's Focus on Health Span and Life Span - Healthy Habit Series" and our efforts to become a community in the South that intentionally focuses on health and longevity

**VLR Social Committee Presents**

# THE VLR WALKING CLUB



**CALLING ALL  
VLR  
RESIDENTS  
JOIN THE VLR  
WALKING  
CLUB TODAY!**



Meet us at the VLR Clubhouse at 7:00 a.m.  
1200 Lake Ridge Parkway, Riverdale, GA 30296!

Weekly walking schedule below:  
Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Together, let's walk, talk, laugh, and make daily health deposits for 1 hour  
(no holidays, inclement weather, and temperatures 40 degrees or below).

The Villages at Lake Ridge - Where We Call Home and Where Memories Are Made...



# VLR 2026 Community Event Dates to Remember

**Board Meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.  
Contact Kevin Federico at [kfederico@cmacommunities.com](mailto:kfederico@cmacommunities.com) to RSVP**

**Social Committee and Neighborhood Watch Committee Meetings  
are every 1st Thursday at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the VLR Clubhouse**

## 2026 Save the Date(s)

**April 11<sup>th</sup> - Community Spring Clean-Up**

**April 18<sup>th</sup> - Game Night and Fish Fry**

**May - Congratulations posters for 2025 graduates will be displayed  
around the clubhouse and neighborhood**

**May 23<sup>rd</sup> - POOL OPENS**

**June 20<sup>th</sup> - Adult Swim - Juneteenth Themed**

**July 4<sup>th</sup> - 250-Year-Old Celebration**

**July 18<sup>th</sup> - Adult Swim Night**

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> - Adult Swim Night**

**September 6<sup>th</sup> - POOL SEASON ENDS**

**September 9<sup>th</sup> - Jazz On the Lake 6 pm-9 pm**

**October 31<sup>st</sup> - Candy Distribution**

# WANT TO RESERVE THE VLR CLUBHOUSE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

## Here's How...

Step 1 [Log into your CMA Account](#)

Step 2 Go to the amenities calendar

Step 3 Schedule your event

Step 4 Expect to receive an email for follow-up



## Here's Why...

The VLR Clubhouse is close to home and offers a premium view of the lake. It is a transformative event space that is ideal for any occasion. The VLR Clubhouse is equipped with a full-service kitchen, tables, and chairs to accommodate at least 75 guests, adequate restrooms, and parking. There are also wheelchair-accessible entrances and exits.



The VLR Clubhouse is an excellent event space where memories can be made. Make reservations for a family affair, meeting, graduation party, birthday party, brunch, dinner, baby shower, bridal shower, wedding, reunion, repass, or any other special gathering. **Simply follow the steps to schedule your event.**

If you need assistance, email  
Kevin Federico at:

[kfederico@cmacommunities.com](mailto:kfederico@cmacommunities.com)

The VVR-  
Working Together We Make a Difference...



## Contact CMA

The Villages at Lake Ridge HOA

Association ID: 565

Manager: Kevin Federico

Manager Email:

[kfederico@cmacommunities.com](mailto:kfederico@cmacommunities.com)

Manager Phone: (404) 835-9154

