

BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re Ellen Cora

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2023 CE Form 1

ORDER DECLARING FINANCIAL
DISCLOSURE FINE UNCOLLECTIBLE

This matter came before the Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on Friday, October 23, 2026, in the matter of Ellen Cora. Section 112.3145(8)(f), Florida Statutes, assesses an automatic fine of \$25 per day on each person who is required to file an annual Statement of Financial Interests (CE Form 1), but whose form is not timely filed, up to a maximum of \$1,500.

1. Ellen Cora served as a member of the Village Community Development District No. 1, and, as such, was required to file a 2023 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, no later than September 1, 2024.

2. Ellen Cora's CE Form 1 was not received, resulting in an automatic fine of \$1,500.00.

3. Under Section 112.3145(8)(i), Florida Statutes, any fine that is not waived by a Final Order of the Commission, and remains unpaid more than 60 days after the Notice of Payment Due is transmitted, must be submitted to the Department of Financial Services as a claim, debt or other obligation owed to the state.

4. Under Section 17.20(3)(b), Florida Statutes, an agency may request an exemption when assignment to a collection agency would be inappropriate. The agency must provide a written request, explaining the reasons the agency believes the account should be precluded from collections.

5. In September of 2026, Ellen Cora's husband notified us of her passing on September 21, 2026.

6. On its own motion, the Commission determines that the \$1,500.00 fine assessed against Ellen Cora is uncollectible and requests that the Department of Financial Services consider it to be exempt from collection.

DONE and ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on Friday, October 23, 2026.

Date Rendered

Jeremy M. Rodgers
Chair

JMR/dw

cc: Claims for Collection, Department of Financial Services

Villages-News.com

Longtime official in The Villages dies after lengthy battle with cancer

by Staff Report

September 21, 2026

A longtime official in The Villages has died after a lengthy battle with cancer.

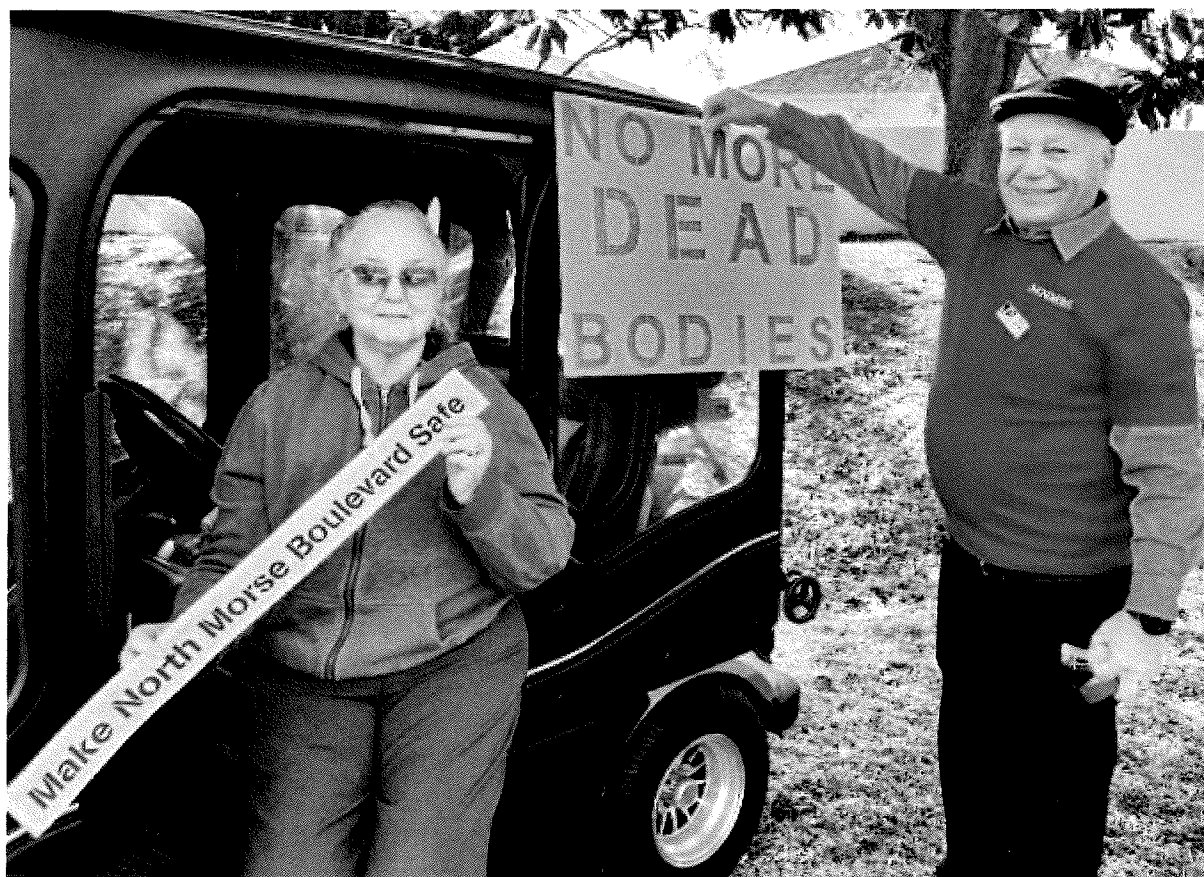
Ellen Cora, 83, of the Village of De La Vista North, died at about 6:30 a.m. Monday at Cornerstone Hospice at Sumterville. Her passing marked the end of her long battle with cancer, which had recently spread to her liver, according to her husband, Artie.



Ellen Cora

The Coras moved to The Villages in 2001, and in 2010, Cora was sworn in as a supervisor in Community Development District 1. Cora, who served as the board's chairwoman for a number of years, remained on the board of supervisors up until her death.

Although she was part of government, Cora could be critical of other elected officials when she believed they were not living up to their obligation to serve their constituents. The Sumter County Commission was a frequent target of her ire. She was particularly outspoken on safety concerns on Morse Boulevard north of County Road 466 and took part in a demonstration on Morse Boulevard in 2025.



Ellen Cora, left, and Jim Vaccaro demonstrated in January 2025, calling attention to safety concerns on Morse Boulevard.

Cora spent nearly 30 years as a corporate healthcare marketing executive, 10 years as president of her marketing consulting business, and stints after retirement as a local magazine editor-in-chief and news reporter.

Ever the journalist, she was an occasional contributor to Villages-News.com and once penned a story about her voyage as a cruise ship passenger when she undertook a perilous journey around Cape Horn.



Villager Ellen Cora, right, With Alexandra and Capt. van der Hoeven on Holland America's Volendam in Singapore 2017.

She volunteered locally to tutor at-risk children in Fruitland Park and served on Rotary and Hospital Alliance Foundation boards. She held degrees in economics and international politics, MBAs in finance and marketing, a master's in organizational psychology, and completed medical school rotations.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.