local news



Max Gersh | Dailv Sun

Terry Fritz, left, talks with JoAnn Riskie on Tuesday during the weekly gathering of The Band of Brothers at City Fire.

VETERANS

The group's first meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. April 20 at Laurel Manor Recreation Center. It will serve as an information session for prospective members. Refreshments will be served. Email Fitzpatrick at frankftz@gmail.com to RSVP.

Another organization dedicated to a specific service branch is the Col. Phillip C. Delong Marine Corps League Detachment 1267.

The detachment has a wide array of events for members to stay connected, including holiday dinners, a summer picnic and participating in a chili cook-off.

"When folks participate in those kind of things, it really does give us a chance to socialize and further the bond," said commandant Reggie Nealy.

Nealy said the bond between members is also strengthened during frequent volunteer events.

"That gives us a chance to be together, and although we're working, we have a lot of fun together," the Village of Piedmont resident said.

However, Nealy said it is also good to have members-only

"As much as we love giving back to the community, it's also nice to be around folks who understand who you are and what your experiences are," he said. "We relate to each other. When times are hard, it's a source of comfort

for each other.' Nealy said that is particularly true when several members visit Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell once a

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month while on their way to a separate event in Tampa.

While at the cemetery, members visit graves of former

members and toast to them. "When our members do that, they know when they're gone they will not be forgotten," Nealy said.

Nealy would not speak for other detachment members, but he said getting together with other veterans is impor-

tant to him for two reasons. "For me, it's about the camaraderie and the fellowship," he said. "Knowing that you've got members who are going to have your back, and you've got the opportunity to have their back as well."

The Band of Brothers is an organization for Vietnam veterans that meets weekly for camaraderie-filled fun at City Fire in Lake Sumter Landing.

"It's a nice get together of guys and girls who are vets,' member Larry Fusco said. "We

just want to enjoy ourselves." Fusco said the meetups help the veterans because of their shared experiences.

"We went over there as young men and came back different," the Village of Sabal Chase resident said. "Some of us have PTSD. Some of us have a disease. We try to help one another."

The group meets from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. every Tuesday at the restaurant. In addition to the meetings, the group raises money for veteran

causes and other charities. Fusco said it is important o give veterans an outlet that connects them with other former service members.

'Some guys need somebody to talk to or somebody to hang out with, other than sitting around the house," he said.

April 14, 2018

7:00 PM

April 15, 2018

2:00 PM

E WIZARD

An Original Musical Comedy By Charlotte Newman

TEMPLE SHALOM SISTERHOOD & THE NOT-SO-FAMOUS PLAYERS PRESENT

Tickets Still Available To See The **Commodores At The Sharon**

Audience members also will be treated to stories and background anecdotes about how the songs were written.

By KRISTEN FIORE Daily Sun Staff Writer

On April 21, the funky, smooth hits of The Commodores will circulate through The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center when the band plays there.

Known for putting out songs such as "Sail On," "Nightshift," "Easy" and "Brick House" in the '70s and '80s, The Commodores are still actively performing.

Although Lionel Richie left the group in the '80s, the other lead singer, Walter "Clyde" Orange, is still active in the band, along with longtime band members William King and J.D. Nicholas.

'The camaraderie, the laughter and the love for what we're doing is what keeps us together," Orange said.

Orange said that sometimes, all they have to do is look at each other and they'll start laughing.

"I wouldn't have it any other way," he said.

Orange joked that his claim to fame was writing two of the band's biggest hits, "Brick House" and "Nightshift." But for the most part,

Orange said, the band worked together and helped each other when writing music. "To be successful, you have to write your own songs,"

Orange said. "You have to have

a nice title and think as you

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write. Think about your life. We got the hang of it eventually, and now look at the success of The Commodores today."

As far as their upcoming concert at The Sharon, Orange wanted to assure potential audience members that "it will be a high-energy performance with all the hits that the Lord blessed them to have.'

'They'll hear every last one of them, and maybe even then some," Orange said.

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Audience members also will

Known for putting out songs such as "Sail On," "Nightshift," "Easy" and "Brick House" in the '70s and '80s, The Commodores are still actively performing.

SEE THE SHOW

When: 7 p.m. April 21 Where: The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center

Cost: Tickets range from \$50 to \$150 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment. com or at any Villages box office location.

be treated to stories and background anecdotes about how the songs were written. Tickets are still available for

the show, which is at 7 p.m. on April 21.

They range in price from \$50 to \$150 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages box office location.

'We enjoy the people, we enjoy the business, and this is our business," Orange said. 'We go to work to entertain the people and do what we









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