

local news

Public Safety

LAW ENFORCEMENT NEWS

Villager Arrested for Stealing Items from Belk

A 52-year-old Villages resident was arrested Saturday after stealing a fedora and a clock from Belk in the La Plaza Grande shopping center in The Villages.

After the man was arrested, a Lady Lake Police officer found a glass pipe, a report said. Residue on the pipe field-tested positive

for methamphetamine.

The man was arrested for petit theft and possession of drug paraphernalia and was taken to the Lake County Jail, a report said. There, officers found that he was on supervised release for a previous theft in Sumter County.

— Katie Sartoris, Daily Sun

Woman Arrested After Evading Sheriff's Deputy

A 23-year-old woman was arrested Saturday after attempting to flee from a sheriff's deputy the night before.

On Friday evening, a Sumter County Sheriff's deputy saw a vehicle fail to stop at a stop sign at U.S. Highway 301 and County Road 468 in Wildwood, according to a sheriff's office report. The deputy turned on his emergency lights and attempted to stop the vehicle. The driver, who the deputy recognized from previous encounters, instead made a U-turn and nearly caused an accident, the report said.

The deputy eventually ended his chase and arrested the woman in Wildwood Saturday morning.

She was arrested on \$10,000 bond and faces pending charges of eluding law enforcement with disregard of safety to person or property, a report said. She was transported to the Sumter County Detention Center.

— Katie Sartoris, Daily Sun

Man Arrested For Stealing from Gambling House

A 39-year-old Oxford man was arrested Sunday for stealing \$1,225 in cash from the Tiki Hut Gambling House.

After playing at the gambling tables for a few hours, the suspect stole a manila envelope full of cash, according to a Wildwood Police report.

An employee called the suspect to ask him to return to the gambling house, and the suspect showed up in different clothing than what he was wearing before.

The man was seen on surveillance video taking the envelope, the report said.

He was arrested on pending charges of grand theft and booked into Sumter County Detention Center on \$2,000 bond.

— Katie Sartoris, Daily Sun

RV Transport Driver Arrested On Two Charges

A 22-year-old Davenport man transporting an RV was arrested after damaging the RV and stealing a key ring.

After arguing with a customer Sunday, the 22-year-old man unhooked the customer's RV from his truck, backed up into it and sped off, causing about \$35,000 in damage, the report said. He still had the customer's key ring.

The man was arrested Monday around 12:30 a.m. on one count of property damage costing more than \$1,000, and petit theft.

He was transported to the Sumter County Detention Center and booked on \$2,500 bond.

— Katie Sartoris, Daily Sun

PERFORMING

Continued from C1

The two weeks mostly were spent working on marching basics, concert music and ensembles, said Deborah Fraser, music teacher at The Villages Charter Elementary School Primary Center and assistant director of the Marching Buffalo.

The band portion of the performing arts academy was required for all VHS 2018-19 band and guard members so they could cover things they can't always get to during the school year. It also helps acclimate incoming freshman who are joining the band, director Linda Quinn said.

But not all of the students who attended the camp were high school students. A few sixth-graders and one ambitious fifth-grader also participated.

At Friday's showcase, the jazz band, percussion ensemble, wind ensemble and color guard will perform songs such as "Hollywood Milestones," "Firebird Suite," "Rock Around the Clock" and Bach's "Air on G String," Quinn said.

Determined to Dance

At The Villages Charter Middle School, girls dressed in black leotards, tan jazz shoes and pink ballet slippers leaped across the floor of the gym and dance studio in the performing arts building.

The dance portion of the Performing Arts Academy is set up to provide as much variety in dance education as can be offered in a two-week period, said Sheri Hancock, a dance teacher at the middle school.

The students took two classes before lunch and two after.

"There will be pieces from each class that we will share in the showcase, maybe a small movement or exercise," Hancock said. "It's not performance-oriented, but education-oriented."

The students who attended the dance workshop were mostly in fourth grade through eighth grade, and not all of them were charter school students.

Take sixth-grade home-school student Valynn Flaherty, for example.

"I wanted to come to experience all of the dancing," Flaherty said. "I wanted to learn and become better at dancing, and I feel like this was a great opportunity."

For the workshop, professional choreographers were brought in to teach as many styles of dance as possible, from ballet, lyrical and contemporary to improv and hip-hop.

And many of the students felt they had learned a lot — not just about dance but about confidence, etiquette and self presentation.

Hancock said she hoped the workshop would allow students to grow as overall dancers.

"When I came to The Villages, I had already been teaching at a studio," Hancock said. "Here I'm blessed to see the seeds planted and watch the flowers grow. It's just an amazing feeling because even though I only get them in sixth grade, I still get to see them in my spring dance concert, growing all the way up."

Thriving in Theater

A few rooms down the hall from the dance workshop, young singers and actors with an appetite for performing practiced a song with choreography.

They worked on different elements of theater each day, said Shannan Carlson, the chorus and theater director at The Villages Charter Middle School.

The drama portion of the academy gave students a solid introduction to theater as well as experience in improvisation, pantomiming, script writing, acting, dancing and singing.

At The Sharon, the students will showcase different musical theater numbers and scenes they worked on during the academy.

"I like to sing and I like to act, so this is really fun for me," TVCS fifth-grader Maggie Byrne said.

The group was mostly made up of incoming fifth-graders through ninth-graders, Carlson said.

"It's a very good mix," she said. "I have some in here who are veterans, and they've taken the really young ones under their wing and helped them master some of the more difficult techniques."

One of the "veterans," TVCS ninth-grader Janik Buranosky, said being able to put dancing, singing and acting together has been fun.

"This is mostly stuff that I already know, but today I kind of learned to dance and sing at the same time, and I've never done that before," he said.

Carlson said the best part of the academy for her was having more time with her students.

Running the Show

For the first time in TVCS Performing Arts Academy history, a sound and light class was offered at The Sharon for students who would rather work behind the scenes.

The five students, who ranged from fifth grade to seventh grade, had free range of the backstage area of The Sharon as they learned lighting cues and programmed lights with songs.

For the sound portion, they created Foley sound, or sound effects, to go along with a clip of a Charlie Chaplin silent film to be played at the show.

They also learned what everyday life might be like as a technical employee at a theater. They took apart and labeled props, unloaded and set up a drum set and got a look at all of the power tools involved, said Kenneth Constant, technical director at The Sharon.

"Having five students is great, and I hope we have more next year," Constant said. "I'm excited to see what the other departments are putting together."

Taking part in the sound and light academy allowed the students to get an inside look at The Sharon.

Lighting director Weston Corey said what the students were able to do was impressive.

"Everyone's been super attentive and absorbent," Corey said. "I didn't think that I was going to be able to get them programming a song. That's a project I did in college. So the fact that they were able to do it and do a good job was pretty cool."

Joseph Hancharick



HANCHARICK - Joseph Jr., The Villages, FL, formerly of Windber, passed away on May 28, 2018, surrounded by family. He was born on March 28, 1943 in Windber. Son of Joseph "Cal" and Bertha (Nyeste) Hancharick. Preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife, Pamela (McGrath) Hancharick; sons Joseph, Johnstown, PA; Robert (Jessica), Atlanta, GA; and daughter, Kelly (Demetrios) Velesaris, Palmyra, PA; five grandchildren, Gabriella, Demi, and Nikko Velesaris; Lyla and Aida Hancharick. Also survived by brother Stephen (Janice); and sister Barbara (Kevin) Moody; former wife Barbara (Kurcis); and special cousin Ron Roberson, and his late wife Judy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Joe was a 1961 graduate of Windber High School and 1965 graduate of Clarion State College. Captain, USMC from September 1965 to June 1970 where he served at Quantico OCS/TBS, Guantanamo Bay Cuba, 29 Palms Cal, Vietnam, and HDQTRS USMC Arlington, VA. While in Vietnam he served in northern I Corps along the DMZ with the Third Marine Division from May 1967 to June 1968. Joe was a lifetime member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and staunchly defended the sacrifice these veterans made.

Following his Marine Corps service, he returned to Windber and began a successful teaching and coaching career. He taught General Science and coached varsity football at Cambria Heights in 1971-72. He then

Larry Darnell

Larry Norman Darnell, age 77, of The Villages, FL passed away on Friday, June 8, 2018. He was born in Aurora, IL on December 27, 1940.

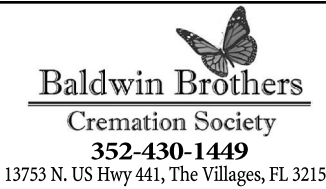
He is survived by his wife Bernice Friedlander Darnell of The Villages, FL; daughter Dawn Brooks (Tracy) of Peru, IN; 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

His remains will be laid to rest in Peru, IN.



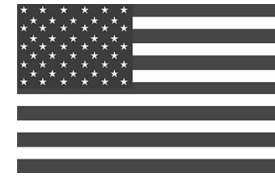
Albert Harper

Albert J. Harper, age 95, of Lady Lake, FL passed away on Saturday, June 9, 2018.



taught Earth and Space Sciences at Windber from 1972 until his retirement in 1998, along with coaching varsity football and tennis. During these years Joe enjoyed hunting, fishing and competitive pistol shooting. Upon retirement from Windber, he relocated to the Fairview Beach community in King George, VA where he taught Life Science for 3 years at the King George Middle School. He spent his latter years in The Villages, FL in the joyous company of close family, friends from his Windber years, and precious neighbors from Blythewood Loop.

Joe enjoyed tennis, golf, jet skiing on the Potomac River, relaxing on the beach, and Steeler football. He spent time traveling to Europe, most specially cherishing the visit to his mother's birthplace in Mezokovesd, Hungary. He was always the gracious host to many holiday gatherings through the years. Joe valued education, family, true friendship, and compassion. His life was greatly enhanced by the closeness of his children, grandchildren, siblings and their families. He loved the communities where he lived throughout his life, and he contributed to the betterment of these places through his work ethic, concern, and genuine friendliness. Joe enjoyed his frequent trips back to Windber and reuniting with old friends and classmates, especially his lifelong friends from their younger days on the Windber gridiron. He will be dearly missed but never forgotten as he made his part of the world a better place, particularly for those who knew him well. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made online to the Wounded Warrior Project. www.woundedwarriorproject.org.



Civil Rights Pioneer Dorothy Cotton Dies at Age 88

The Associated Press

Dorothy Cotton, who worked closely with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., taught nonviolence to demonstrators before marches and sometimes calmed tensions by singing church hymns, has died. She was 88.

Cotton died Sunday afternoon at the Kendal at Ithaca retirement community in New York, said Jared Harrison, a close friend who was at her bedside. Harrison said she had battled illnesses recently but didn't specify a cause of death.

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