



THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018

THE VILLAGES DAILY SUN

# LOCAL NEWS

## To report local news:

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### CONSUMER NEWS

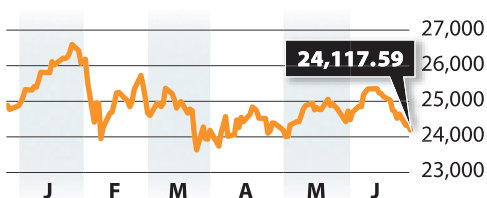
## ALDI IN LADY LAKE REOPENS AFTER RENOVATIONS

The Aldi at 13937 U.S. Highway 27/441 in Lady Lake officially reopened June 21 after being closed for renovations since April. Renovations include a more modern look and environmentally friendly materials. The store also is focusing on fresh items with expanded produce, dairy and bakery sections. **Complete story, C8**

### MARKET NEWS

Global stock markets fell Wednesday, with the S&P 500 dropping to its lowest closing level in nearly a month. Many areas of the market shifted between gains and losses. **C9**

#### Dow Jones Industrial Average



#### Dow



- 165.52  
Close:  
24,117.59

#### Nasdaq



- 116.54  
Close:  
7,445.08

#### S&P 500



- 23.43  
Close:  
2,699.63

## Our Town

WHERE WE LIVE AND WHO WE ARE



Photos by Cindy Skop | Daily Sun

Gravin Ennis, 6, is front and center as a Lost Boy during the Compass Creative Dramatics theater camp rehearsal of Peter Pan at The Sharon on Wednesday. The troupe is working hard the week leading up to two performances Friday and Saturday nights.

# Students Become Stars In Full-Scale Production

## More than 70 children will join Compass Creative Dramatics to present "Peter Pan" at The Sharon.

By KRISTEN FIORE  
Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

It has been a week full of pixie dust and pirate hats at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. And learning — a lot of learning. Compass Creative Dramatics, a Chicago-based theater education company, has taken up a week-long residency at The Sharon to put on a theater camp for more than 70 incoming first- through

eighth-graders.

This week, the students have been learning the lines, choreography and songs in Compass' adaptation of "Peter Pan." The students will perform the show at 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday at The Sharon.

Peyton Lackey, a 9-year-old from Lady Lake, will play the Lost Boy named Nibs. She said she attended the theater camp last year as well and it was a lot of fun.

Please See PRODUCTION, C12



Tinker Belle and Peter Pan, played by Kaycee Weber and Peyton Gardner, share a secret "handshake" during the Compass Creative Dramatics theater camp rehearsal.

## MAN ACCUSED OF GIVING FALSE ID, RESISTING POLICE OFFICER

An Oxford man was jailed Wednesday on charges of fraudulent impersonation and resisting an officer after giving a false identity to a sheriff and fleeing his home. **Public safety, C4**

### TOP OF THE NEWS

## VETERANS' PARK HOSTS CEREMONY ON JULY 4

The free event Wednesday is open for the public to celebrate the USA.

Veterans' Memorial Park of The Villages will host an Independence Day celebration Wednesday. The event starts at 10 a.m. and is free and open to the public. The ceremony, which includes a performance and a speaker, is at the park on Paige Place across from Lake Mira Mar. Those who attend are encouraged to bring their own chairs.

— Amber Hair,  
Daily Sun



Talking With ...  
Shai Efrati, brain science researcher, about his talk on the possibility of reverse aging.

Interview, C3

## THIS & THAT

## There's a Hot New Fundraising Game and Jukebox Bingo Is Its Name

The Audrey Villas Social Club is sponsoring Jukebox Bingo to raise money for the Humane Society/SPCA of Sumter County. Jukebox Bingo is a musical version of the traditional game and promises to be a lot of fun, said Claudia Labbé, of the Humane Society. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the game starts at 6 p.m. July 25 at Laurel Manor Recreation Center. Tickets are \$10 per person and are on sale now. Twelve games are scheduled, and the prize values escalate as the event progresses. For information, call event coordinator Joyce Edmonds at 315-439-6030, Sue Brakeman of the Audrey Villas Social Club at 440-781-3553 or Labbé at 352-817-3995.



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Linda Hunt | Village of Pinellas

### Moment of Zen

Lavender petals of blue-eyed grass sprinkle a field of wildflowers.

Share a photo: Email photos@thevillagesmedia.com with "Moment of Zen" as the subject. Include your name and village/city. Photos should be from our community.

## GROUPS WORK TOGETHER FOR WILDWOOD CHILDREN

The Friends of The Villages Library continued its partnership with Tutors for Kids by donating \$2,500 to help cover freight costs for new books that will be given to Wildwood elementary-school and middle-school students. Last year, a \$2,000 grant to Tutors for Kids resulted in 3,500 new books. Marilyn Ivison, of the Friends, said she looks forward to working with Tutors for Kids.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER

The center's Stirrups 'n' Stripes equine-assisted therapy program for veterans is growing, and the nonprofit needs volunteers. The program helps veterans and active duty military personnel with physical, cognitive and emotional challenges to find strength, independence and joy through horses, said Gail E. McDaniel, program manager. For information, call 352-427-3569.



local news



Left: Educator Audrey Catalano gives onstage direction during the Compass Creative Dramatics theater camp rehearsal of Peter Pan.

Right: Ava Ehinger performs as Wendy telling a bedtime story to the Lost Boys. The troupe will perform at 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday at The Sharon.

Photos by Cindy Skop Daily Sun

PRODUCTION

Continued from C1

"The costumes were really good," Peyton said. "The songs were fun and the dances were silly."

Captain Hook will be played by 10-year-old Nora Grogran, of Clermont.

"It's so enlightening," Nora said of the theater camp. "It's fun to be with other kids just goofing around, sometimes very serious, but mostly goofing around."

Nora's favorite part of the whole experience?

"Being able to scream and no one judges me," she said.

The script includes added characters, dances and songs. Every camper has a part in the show, according to Compass educator Audrey Catalano.

"Our story is really about how the friends of Neverland come together and save their land and fight against the pirates," Catalano said. "They also learn about teamwork and collaboration along the way."

One week is not a lot of time to audition, cast, learn and rehearse a full-scale stage production, but the Compass instructors, who travel to a different theater in the country each week, are pros at what they do.

And children are more absorbent than one may think. By Wednesday morning, the students had learned all of their parts and were in the process of stringing everything together from start to finish, scene by scene.

Children wearing eye patches and mermaid tails pretended to fly across the stage, wood sprites giggled and chanted silly rhymes about Captain Hook and the Lost Boys pretended to be tigers and elephants.

"Most of the students have never done a play before, and giving that experience in a week is kind of like this awesome crash course in theater," Catalano said. "We just want to introduce them to the aspects of theater and show them how fun it can be

from a young age."

It can be scary to be onstage in front of a big crowd, but the Compass educators create a friendly and safe atmosphere during the camp.

Compass provides the lights, costumes, set and props — everything needed to put on the show — and Catalano and another educator will be in the show with the children to help them feel empowered and excited to go on stage and do their best.

"We want to impress upon them that theater is a collaborative art form," Catalano said. "Compass' mission statement is stretching creativity and bravery muscles through theater, and that's really what we're trying to do. We want to give them the tools to succeed in ways they might not have tried before."

The show is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

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