

LET'S GO

Looking for something fun to do today? Try women's softball! D1

THE WEATHER TODAY, C2

8 a.m. 67° Noon 82° 4 p.m. 83° 8 p.m. 75°

## Golf Festival Features Strong Lineup

Two-time major champion Retief Goosen one of players expected at event. Sports, B1

NATIONAL NEWS

### TRUMP, LEGISLATORS GATHER TO HONOR REV. BILLY GRAHAM

Congress reserved one of the nation's greatest distinctions for the Rev. Billy Graham, selecting him to lie in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday. America's most famous evangelist died last week at his home in North Carolina at age 99. **National News, A14**



The Associated Press

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump present a wreath at the Rev. Billy Graham's casket as he lies in honor in the Capitol Rotunda.

### ASTRONOMERS GLIMPSE COSMIC DAWN AFTER BIG BANG

For the first time, astronomers have glimpsed the dawn of the universe 13.6 billion years ago when the earliest stars were just beginning to glow. **Science News, A18**

THAT'S AMAZING

### UNIDENTIFIED BEAR ATTACKS MISSISSIPPI WOMAN'S CAR

Stealing a picnic basket is one thing. Mauling a car is quite another.

A Mississippi wildlife department biologist says a bear attacked a woman's car Friday in the Sontag community about 60 miles south of Jackson.

Jamie Holt tells the Jackson Clarion-Ledger there were tooth and claw marks consistent with a bear on the front wheel wells and hood. There was headlight damage, and the front license tag holder was ripped off. There also was a muddy bear track nearby. —The Associated Press

Lottery	A4
Obituaries	C4
Club Notes	C5
Comics	D8
Puzzles	D9
Television	D12
Advice	D14
Classifieds	E1

We support our men and women in uniform.



## Top of the News

INSIDE THE ISSUES SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

# Buffalo PRIDE Plays Key Role in School's Success



BBQ BASH

George Horsford | Daily Sun

The Charter School's innovative parent-teacher group partners with local businesses and residents on crucial fundraisers.

By ETHAN PALMER  
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Parents and teachers are not the only players in the success of The Villages Charter School and Early Learning Company.

It takes a team. "We aren't just parents responsible for our children's education — we are, in fact, partnering with our businesses, our residents and our school to educate these students," said Diane DeNicola, president of Buffalo PRIDE — the charter school's equivalent to a parent-teacher association with the addition of local business partners and residents in the community.

Don't believe her? Take, for instance, February's inaugural Running with the Herd 5K, which welcomed dozens of Villages resident participants and raised thousands of dollars to fund a scholarship award at the end of the school year.

Or next, the annual BBQ Bash competition, which typically draws thousands of local residents, with all proceeds benefiting PRIDE before finding their way back to the local charter school.

Randy McDaniel, director of education for

Please See PRIDE, A21

### SUPPORT STUDENTS AT THE ANNUAL BBQ BASH SATURDAY

Villagers can catch Buffalo PRIDE in action from noon to 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the annual BBQ Bash at Spanish Springs Town Square. Entertainment provided by the John Dixon Band begins at 11:30 a.m. Tasting wristbands run \$5 apiece and can be purchased at The Villages Commercial Property Management, 3231 Wedgewood Lane, or on-site the day of the event. Awards for best barbecue meats and most money raised by a single booth will be announced at 3:30 p.m. **For more information, call 352-750-9445.**



FOUNDER'S DAY

Pre-kindergarten student, Zada Wood, 4, uses a water gun to move a cup along a string Feb. 17, during the annual Founder's Day Festival at the H.G. Morse Range at The Villages High School.



RUNNING WITH THE HERD 5K

The Running with the Herd 5K on Feb. 3 welcomed dozens of Villages resident participants and raised thousands of dollars to fund a scholarship award at the end of the school year.



CLOSET CLUTTER SALE

Golden Girl mom Kim Maddox volunteers her time Oct. 14, as she sets out clothing for the Buffalo PRIDE Closet Clutter sale at The Villages High School.

Photos by Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

## COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS

### Only in The Villages

LIFE IN FLORIDA'S FRIENDLIEST HOMETOWN

### Olate Dogs Wow Crowd At Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center

People of all ages flocked into the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center on Wednesday evening to see Olate Dogs, the season 7 winners of "America's Got Talent."

The red curtains opened to reveal a pink-lit stage and 10 wagging pup-stars, who eagerly jumped from their stools to hop across the stage, balance on rolling wheels, ride scooters and jump rope.

"I was amazed by how they get around on two legs and jump like that," said Dan Latello, of the Village of Gilchrist.

Latello brought along his 2-year-old grandson, Henry, who was visiting

Please See OLATE DOGS, A24



George Horsford | Daily Sun

Nicholas Olate and the Olate Dogs perform Wednesday at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. The show was led by Richard Olate and his son, Nicholas.

THE DIGIT

## 4

last year's finish

The Villages High School softball team will host the 2018 Buffalo Stampede Softball Tournament today through Saturday at VHS, hoping to improve upon its fourth-place finish at last year's event. VHS (5-0) will begin play in the eight-team tournament at 3 p.m. Friday versus Interlachen. The championship game is set for 7 p.m. Saturday. — Tyler Breaman, Daily Sun

### TONIGHT'S EVENTS ON THE SQUARES

Entertainment runs from 5 to 9 p.m.

**Spanish Springs Town Square**  
Treasure  
Happy hour, 5-7 p.m.

**Lake Sumter Landing Market Square**  
Tonya Staples Trio  
Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.

**Brownwood Paddock Square**  
Musikology Trio  
Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.



from the front page

**OLATE DOGS**

Continued from A1

from Buffalo. Although Henry's favorite word currently is "No," Latello said his grandson was enjoying the show.

The show was led by Richard Olate, and his son, Nicholas.

Richard grew up in poverty and started his dog shows on the streets of Chile.

At the age of 33, he made it to the United States, and by 2012, he and Nicholas won "America's Got Talent."

The Olates' dogs are all rescued, and several of them are from Chile, which Nicholas said has an abundance of stray dogs.

Nicholas introduced all of the dogs and told the audience their backstories.

When they rescued Willy, he was so dirty they were surprised to find out he was white after giving him a bath.

Loca, the smallest of the dogs, was former America's Got Talent judge Sharon Osbourne's favorite, and Nicholas joked that she tried to steal her.

The Olates performed a number of tricks and numbers, including juggling, singing, a scene where Loca stole food from a confused picnicker and another scene where Maggie acted unimpressed and refused to do any tricks or follow any commands.

The best-received portion of the show, however, was the fashion show.

The dogs strutted across the stage on two legs wearing sparkly dresses, hats, Mariachi costumes and tuxedos.

Elvis Presley made an appearance, and so did Batman, who was driving his own Batmobile.

Susan Marchini, of the Village of Bridgeport at



Photos by George Horsford | Daily Sun

The Olates performed a number of tricks and numbers, including juggling and singing.

Creekside Landing, said the Batman costume was her favorite part of the fashion show. "It was enjoyable," she said. "The little fashion show was really cute and I liked hearing the backstories of the dogs."

As the dogs danced to "Gangnam Style," climbed a ladder, slid down a slide, did backflips and gave their trainers attitude, the audience howled with laughter. It was a pretty doggone

good night.

Kristen Fiore is a staff writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5270, or kristen.fiore@thevillagesmedia.com.



The show included a fashion show, when the dogs strutted across the stage on two legs wearing sparkly dresses, hats, Mariachi costumes and tuxedos.

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 March 26th | 7pm  
 Savannah Center

**Don't Stop Believin'** \$25  
 March 28th | 7pm  
 Savannah Center

**Lovin' The Lifestyle! The Musical** \$20-22  
 Presented by The Off Broadway Players  
**Lovin' The Lifestyle!**  
 March 30th & 31st | 7pm  
 Savannah Center

**Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness** \$15  
**Life, Liberty, & The Pursuit of Happiness**  
 April 3rd | 7pm  
 Savannah Center

**The Lovin' Spoonful** \$35  
 April 6th | 5 & 8pm  
 Savannah Center

**The Villages POPS Chorus** \$15  
 A Choral Concert of Popular Music  
**You Can't Stop The Beat !!**  
**You Can't Stop the Beat**  
 April 9th | 3 & 6pm  
 North Lake Presbyterian Church

**Greatest American Broadway Review** \$25  
 April 10th | 2 & 7pm  
 Savannah Center

**The Villages POPS ORCHESTRA** \$17  
 Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed...  
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 Presented by Smash Productions  
**When you Wish Upon a Mouse**  
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These shows and more on sale now at The Villages Box Office and online at [www.TheVillagesEntertainment.com](http://www.TheVillagesEntertainment.com)  
 Patrons of all ages are required to buy a ticket | No Ticket Limit | Performers, dates & times subject to change for unforeseen circumstances  
 Ticket prices listed are for The Villages Residents with valid ID. For the general public, tickets are an additional \$5 each, when applicable.

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