# arts & entertainment news

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LOS ANGELES

## **Bette Midler, Brooke Shields Among** 'Murphy Brown' Guests

Bette Midler and Brooke Shields are among the guest stars dropping in on CBS' "Murphy Brown" revival. Midler was on the original sitcom as Caprice, one of many difficult, short-tenured secretaries to Candice Bergen's Murphy. CBS said Thursday the singer-actress is back as Caprice on the Nov. 8 episode, this time with a connection to Murphy that makes her even more unbearable.

— The Associated Press

# **Backstage Pass**

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

# Charley Pride Brings a Taste Of Mississippi To The Villages

By KRISTEN FIORE

Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

Country music sensation Charley Pride gave the audience "A Whole Lotta Things to Sing About"Friday night at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

His vocals were backed by a six piece band, which included a

And although Pride is 84 years old, his voice is still as

rich and smooth as hot cocoa. "It's good to be back in Tampa today," Pride joked at the begin-

ning of the show. "The Villages," one of his band members corrected.

"I'm just kidding," Pride said.
"Just seeing if y'all are paying Brownwood Blvd. **Savannah Center:** attention." 1545 N. Buena Vista

And they definitely were. The crowd clapped and sang along, and several people shouted out their love for the singer.

"I want to reach out and hug everyone," Pride said.

Pride grew up on a cotton farm in Sledge, Mississippi, as the son of a sharecropper. He later went on to play baseball and serve in the U.S. army.

After baseball didn't work

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out as a career, Pride decided to get into music, and quickly became country music's first African-American superstar.

Pride brought many elements of his home state into his music and show.

His concert was warm and friendly, and his music like golden summer evenings.

"When you write songs, you have to say what you want to say with the least amount of words, and I'm long winded," Pride joked.

But his songs are actually mostly short and sweet, and this allowed the audience to hear a range of music, from "The Happiness of Having You," and "Just Between You and Me" to "Does My Ring Hurt Your Finger" and "Me and Bobby



Erin Williams | Daily Sun

At age 84, country singer Charley Pride proved he still has a rich, smooth voice during Friday's performance at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

He also gave insight on why Charley Pride fan Billy and how some of his songs were written.

"Wonder Could I Live There Anymore" was originally titled "Wouldn't Want to Live There Anymore."

"Someone Loves You Honey"

is his wife's ringtone.

Brown, of the Village of Woodbury, has seen Pride live before, and didn't want to miss the opportunity to hear him perform again.

"I love country music, and his country music is genuine," said

Brown. "I've listened to him for a long time."

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



**DOIBUY** TICKETS? The Villages

Entertainment

sells tickets in person at their four box office locations or online

at thevillages

All box office locations are open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

entertainment.com

**Spanish Springs:** 

970 Del Mar Drive

Brownwood: 2726

**Lake Sumter** 

Canal Street

Landing: 1070

"I love country music, and his country music is genuine. I've listened to him for a long time."

> **BILLY BROWN** Village of Woodbury

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