arts & entertainment news

TONIGHT AT **SPANISH SPRINGS TOWN SQUARE**

American Martian

An interactive, family-friendly, rock 'n' roll show from the Beatles to Walk the Moon.

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Band 4 Play

Premier cover band brings a dynamic performance with a passion for music.



TONIGHT AT **BROWNWOOD PADDOCK SQUARE**

He Said She Said

This fun, highly skilled, energetic duo with a diverse song list will keep you guessing.

NEW YORK

Netflix to Give 3 Films an Exclusive **Run in Theaters**

Netflix will give three films an exclusive run in theaters before making them available on its streaming service. Up until now, Netflix has steadfastly insisted on releasing films in theaters only simultaneously with their streaming premiere. Netflix's major pivot will give a handful of its most anticipated movies a stand-alone run in a relatively small number of theaters.

- The Associated Press

Backstage Pass

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

VPO Soloists Discuss Upcoming 'Messiah' Show

on Nov. 13 during the Villages Philharmonic Orchestra's 'Messiah" concert at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

"Messiah" is a musical holiday piece that was composed by George Frideric Handel in the 18th century.

"It was well-received then, and it hasn't lost its popularity in all that time," Jones said. "It's really found a place in the hearts and minds of concertgoers. It's sure to be a really meaningful and energetic performance.

Batman said she is from the Midwest and used to see "Messiah" every year.

"I think it's one of the prettiest pieces," she said. "It's special to me to actually be a soloist in it." For Lugo, it is a way to cele-

brate scripture. "I live my life by the word, so it's beautiful any time I get to

sing scripture," Lugo said. "And it's not an interpretation of the word, it is the word."

Lugo met the VPO's founder and conductor, Pasquale Valerio, about 10 years ago but has a history of performing in The Villages dating back to the mid '90s.

She has performed in "Messiah" before, and said performing with an orchestra is an amazing and adrenalinefilled experience.

"You are on stage with 50 or more musicians, and you're all together creating music," she said. "It's not like anything else. It's different than performing with a band. It's just such a raw and special experience."

Please See NEXT PAGE

HOW **DOIBUY** TICKETS?

The Villages Entertainment sells tickets in person at their four box office locations or online at thevillages entertainment.com

locations are open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Spanish Springs:**

All box office

970 Del Mar Drive **Lake Sumter** Landing: 1070

Canal St. **Brownwood: 2726** Brownwood Blvd.

Savannah Center: 1545 N. Buena Vista



Llike connecting with the audiences and trying to give them something. When I'm performing, I'm hoping that my love of music shows and that it's infectious to them."

JULIE BATMAN featured soloist When Cheryl Lugo was a child, all she wanted to do was sing. So she would stand in the auditorium of her elementary school and pretend to be Maria from "The Sound of Music." Julie Batman had the same desire as Lugo, but she had a

By KRISTEN FIORE

Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

to work hard to move past her shyness in order to become who she is today. Kyle Jones has a multifaceted musical career, but there's nothing like singing with an

orchestra playing behind him. And Lugo, Batman and Jones will be three of the featured soloists to do just that at 7 p.m.



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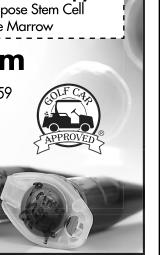
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arts & entertainment news



CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



NEIL YOUNG

> Neil Young is calling Daryl Hannah his wife. The 72-year-old Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and the 57-year-old "Splash" actress had been mum on the subject of their marriage since reports that they wed in August.



JOHNNY DEPP

Johnny Depp has relisted his Kentucky horse farm, named "Betty Sue's Family Farm," with a lower asking price after his portfolio managers rejected an offer for the 42-acre property.



TUPAC SHAKUR

Items owned by
Tupac Shakur have
been donated to Temple
University, including
a bullet-dented golden
medallion the rapper
was wearing in
1994 when he was
shot five times.

TORONTO

Julia Roberts, Sissy Spacek on Co-Starring In 'Homecoming'

Julia Roberts and Sissy Spacek, two bigsmiling big-screen legends, were remembering the first time they met. It was when Roberts, then 13, took a trip to New York to visit her older brother, the actor Eric Roberts, who was making 1981's "Raggedy Man" with Spacek and her husband. "I always claimed her," Spacek said in her bright Texas accent in an interview in September alongside Roberts.

— The Associated Press



The Villages
Philharmonic
Orchestra will
start off the
holiday season
with "Messiah,"
an elegant
Christmas
concert
composed by
George Frideric
Handel in the
18th century

Submitted photo

18th century.

Continued from Previous Page of a high level of

Lugo also enjoys performing for Villagers, who she said are lovely and interesting.

"They come from all over and they have an expectation of a high level of skill and art," Lugo said. "They have their own orchestra in town at their finger tips, and that's truly an opportunity."

Batman's parents live in The Villages, which is how she heard about the orchestra.

"I like connecting with the audiences and trying to give them something," she said. 'When I'm performing, I'm hoping that my love of music shows and that it's infectious to them."

While Batman and Lugo both live in the Orlando area, Jones lived in Florida for many years but now lives in California.

He met Valerio there during a music festival.

"This is a little bit of a home-coming," Jones said. "I'm looking forward to reconnecting with colleagues and continuing to develop my friendship and professional relationship with Pasquale,

who is just a wonderful guy."

The interesting thing about music, Jones said, is that it's really the only art form that is left undone by the creator.

"It's like if Michelangelo gave a paintbrush to you and said, 'Here, finish the Sistine Chapel.' It's not done until you perform it," Jones said.

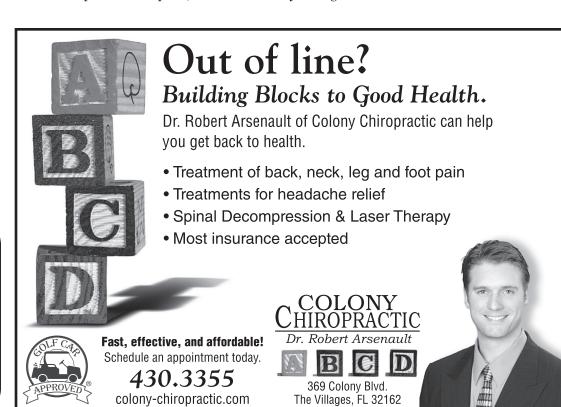
Tickets for "Messiah" range in price from \$25 to \$65 and are available online at the villages entertainment. com or at any Villages Box

Office location.

"The human condition really hasn't changed, whether it's 2018 or 1742," Jones said. "We all have the same hopes, desires and wishes, and art and music is a great vehicle for stirring that up."

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.







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