arts & entertainment news



CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



ROY **CLARK**

A public memorial service is planned in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for singer-quitarist Roy Clark, who headlined the TV show "Hee Haw" for nearly a quarter century. A "celebration of life" service will be held Wednesday at Rhema Bible Church.



JEFF TWEEDY

In his memoir, "Let's Go (So We Can Get Back)," Jeff Tweedy, frontman of the American rock band Wilco, displays a sense of humor that his audiences will know well from his onstage banter.



FRANK GRILLO

Fightworld," a new Netflix docu-series, follows Grillo, an actor and self-described "fight enthusiast," as he aoes alobe-trotting to explore fighting styles and the cultures behind them.

NEW YORK

The Rolling Stones Plans 13 U.S. Live **Dates Next Year**

The Rolling Stones will be rolling through the United States next year. The band says it's adding a 13-show leg to its No Filter tour in spring 2019 that will hit Florida, Texas, Arizona, California, Washington, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois and Washington, D.C. The tour kicks off in Miami on April 20. For the past few years the legendary band has mostly played in Europe. - The Associated Press

Backstage Pass

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

Chinese Warriors Of Peking an Exhilarating Performance

By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

Acrobats flew gracefully across the stage, warriors fought, performers juggled and a contortionist twisted her body in remarkable ways Monday night during the "Chinese Warriors of Peking" show at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. The show was not only jam-packed with breathtaking tricks, but full of beautiful costumes, traditional music and a theatrical storyline.

The show was presented by Columbia Artists Management LLC and featured the Tai An Acrobatic Troupe.

A team of women balanced, threw and flipped diabolos, never dropping them even as

they did backflips or climbed into a pyramid after throwing

A group of men juggled and threw hats like frisbees.

Performers balanced and twirled tall red silk flags and



Submitted photo

"Chinese Warriors of Peking" performed Monday evening at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. The show featured the Tai An Acrobatic Troupe.

teams of warriors ran, flipped and fought across the stage while intense traditional music played.

Å masked creature wearing a beautiful sky blue cape walked among the audience, switching masks with the tap of a hand. A contortionist popped

seemingly out of nowhere, and after wowing the audience with her flexibility, she wowed them again with her balance.

She balanced chandelier-like

objects on both feet, both hands and her face while continuing to twist around in ways that most people can only dream of.

There were drums, silk acrobatics and jugglers.

Every performer had

incredible balance, flexibility and coordination.

Applause was plentiful throughout the show.

"It's very entertaining," said Mary Hoffman, of Ocala, during the show's intermission. "The costumes are beautiful and the acrobats are incredible."

Hoffman came to the show with her friend, Nancy Waters, of the Village of St. James.

The two plan on traveling to China together some day.

"It's genuine and original," Hoffman said. "It's Chinese

Joe and Marilyn Ging, of the Village of Hillsborough, agreed that the contortionist was the most impressive part of the show.

"There are no bones in that body," Joe joked.

The couple said they were enjoying the opportunity to see a multicultural show in The Villages.

"I think it's been a good variation, what The Sharon's been doing," Joe said. "They've been expanding their horizons with what they're bringing in."

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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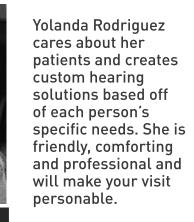


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