

LET'S GO

Looking for something fun to do today? Try practicing your putt! **D1**

THE WEATHER TODAY, C2

8 a.m. 64° Noon 76° 4 p.m. 69° 8 p.m. 62°

VHS Girls Win Regional Quarterfinals

Having won their first district title, Buffalo topple Santa Fe Raiders. Sports, B1

NATIONAL NEWS

SPACEX'S FALCON HEAVY BLASTS OFF, PUTS CAR IN SPACE

SpaceX's big new rocket blasted off Tuesday on its first test flight, carrying a red sports car aiming for an endless road trip past Mars. The Falcon Heavy rose from the same launch pad used by NASA nearly 50 years ago to send men to the moon.

National News, A6



The Associated Press

A Falcon 9 SpaceX Heavy rocket lifts off Tuesday from pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral.

Top of the News

INSIDE THE ISSUES SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

Villagers Sew Up Comfort For Kids in Time of Need



Submitted photos

SPREADING JOY AROUND THE WORLD: THE MOTHER BEAR PROJECT

Since 2010, Mary Alice Schueler has made more than 500 bears for the Mother Bear Project. The bears are sent to children affected by HIV/AIDS in emerging nations. With the help of about 25 other Villagers, Schueler sends a box of about 30 bears monthly. For information on the Mother Bear Project, call Schueler at 920-251-4686.

DOW TURNS 567-POINT LOSS INTO 567-POINT GAIN TUESDAY

U.S. stocks rallied Tuesday as a late surge helped them regain almost half their losses from the day before, when they had their biggest plunge in 6 1/2 years. National News, A7

THAT'S AMAZING

RADIOLOGISTS RECREATE SCULPTOR'S MOLDS

A team of hospital radiologists has used a CT scanner and 3-D printer to view and re-create what's inside of sealed molds of 19th century sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

Saint-Gaudens preserved his molds by sealing them between two plaster halves. The Valley News reports that over a year ago, the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish, New Hampshire, contacted Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center to see if a CT scanner could show what's inside them. — The Associated Press

Hundreds of members from local organizations gather to craft toys and clothes to comfort children.

By FRANK ROSS Daily Sun Staff Writer

The sight, or even the thought, of a child suffering from illness or emotional crisis can tug at the heartstrings.

This feeling causes many to take action. In The Villages, several groups have opened their hearts to lift up children suffering from serious diseases, the loss of parents and other kinds of devastation by donating handmade objects that provide comfort.

Mary Alice Schueler started The Villages chapter of the Mother Bear Project with this idea in mind.

"In this day and age, simple acts of kindness are what it's all about," Schueler said. "You never know when something you've done is going to leave a lasting impression on a child."

Registered nurse and licensed clinical social worker Helen Zimmewicz said a comfort item is more than just a toy to a child in need.

"The soft cuddly bear



Cindy Skop | Daily Sun

Mary Alice Schueler, of the Village Santiago, sits and works on another bear Tuesday for the Mother Bear Project.

Please See COMFORT, A24

COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS

Only in The Villages

LIFE IN FLORIDA'S FRIENDLIEST HOMETOWN

Legendary Tony Bennett To Waltz His Way Into The Villages Tonight

By KRISTEN FIORE Daily Sun Staff Writer

He may have just turned 90 in August, but that does not stop Tony Bennett from doing what he loves.

"I love making people feel good, and I love performing for them," Bennett said in an email to the Daily Sun. "Everyone has problems and worries, so I try to make sure that during the time they are in the theater, they put all of that aside and just have a good time."

Fans can forget their worries with Bennett at 7 p.m. today at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Tickets prices range from \$100 to \$250 apiece and they can be purchased at

Please See TONY BENNETT, A23



Submitted photo

Legendary pop and jazz artist Tony Bennett will perform this evening with a jazz quartet at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

THE DIGIT

\$2,050

Money awarded

Prizes were handed out to the best chili makers during the Rotary Club of The Villages' Chili Cook-Off held Saturday at Lake Sumter Landing. First place went to Cypress Care Center, second place to The Villages Golf Carts III and third place to Properties of The Villages Team A. — Michael Fortuna, Daily Sun

TONIGHT'S EVENTS ON THE SQUARES

Entertainment runs from 5 to 9 p.m.

Spanish Springs Town Square
Blue Stone Circle
Happy hour, 5-7 p.m.

Lake Sumter Landing Market Square
Larry Dee
Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.

Brownwood Paddock Square
David Vece
Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.

from the front page

Buffalo Strings Take The Big Stage With Orchestra

Young violinists joined The Village Philharmonic Orchestra for a special, one-of-a-kind performance.

By **ETHAN PALMER**
Daily Sun Staff Writer



Ethan Palmer | Daily Sun

Four-year-olds with the Buffalo Strings program perform with Maestro Pasquale Valerio, center, and Janis Pascarella.

Sounds from the most treasured American productions permeated the air Tuesday evening at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center, when The Villages Philharmonic Orchestra treated its audience to a lineup including Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera," John Williams' original theme song to the hit film series "Jurassic Park" and much more.

Only this time the professional orchestra which includes string, brass, percussion and woodwind instrumentalists welcomed about three dozen young up-and-coming musicians who took the big stage before a sold-out crowd.

Tuesday's show featured members of The Villages Charter School and Early Learning Company's violin ensemble called Buffalo Strings.

"It starts as early as prekindergarten with 3-year-olds and goes all the way up through high school," said Janis Pascarella, who leads the voluntary after-school program. "The method we use to teach the children is the Suzuki method of playing. And with that method, these kids can put on a performance at almost any time they want."

"We can't wait to see them," said Tressa Anderson, of the Village of Pinellas. Anderson joined other Villagers, charter school parents and orchestra

enthusiasts who took their seats in the auditorium just minutes ahead of show time.

Meanwhile backstage, a case of the butterflies was just beginning to set in for 5-year-old Brock Newell.

"He's very nervous," said his mother, Bridget Newell, of Lady Lake. "We've been practicing at least two nights every week."

Fortunately, those nerves were short-lived when Brock took front and center stage joined by about 15 other classmates for a show-stopping rendition of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star."

Lyric baritone Chris Stork, who has performed with the philharmonic since 2013, noted it wasn't just Buffalo students being represented but also those from both Leesburg High School and Wildwood Elementary in attendance.

Stork and other vocalists elicited a roaring applause from about 1,000 guests seated before them as they brought the house down Tuesday.

"There's almost nothing better than to have our students experience a real live orchestra," said Stork, microphone in hand while addressing his audience. "We have a fantastic concert for you tonight and I think they're all excited to be playing with us. We are definitely thrilled to have them join."

Ethan Palmer is a staff writer with *The Villages Daily Sun*. He can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5342, or ethan.palmer@thevillagesmedia.com.

TONY BENNETT

Continued from A1

thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location. Availability is limited.

Bennett said he is looking forward to performing tonight.

"I was a foot soldier in World War II, and after the war, under the GI Bill of Rights, I was fortunate enough to study at the American Theatre Wing," Bennett said. "One lesson I learned that had the greatest impact on me was to 'respect your audience,' and always give your best and prepare the best material possible to perform."

Bennett is touring with a jazz quartet, who he said are masters at what they do.

While he has been performing for a long time, Bennett knows how to keep his performances fresh.

"It's about creating the bridge between jazz and pop music," Bennett said. "I

love to work with jazz musicians because they live in a spontaneous attitude for performances."

Even on stage, Bennett said, he can change the set list or play around with tempo and the jazz musicians follow along.

"That is how you can keep your performance in the moment," he said. "Even if we play the same songs from one night to the other, they are always presented differently — it's not programmed."

Bennett has collaborated with talented artists from all generations, such as Aretha Franklin, Willie Nelson, Paul McCartney, Amy Winehouse and Lady Gaga.

He and Ray Charles once recorded "One Evening" by Jimmy Rushing together.

"Ray was so great on the track, and when it was all over he took a beat and said, 'Is that OK, Uncle Tony?'" Bennett said. "It was so perfect that we kept it in the track. He was one

of a kind."

Martha Nuckols, of the Village of Calumet Grove, was in a Tony Bennett fan club when she was in high school in the mid 1950s.

She still has the original membership card and a button with a picture of Bennett on it from the time.

"It's just something I have, a keepsake," Nuckols said. "I said to my husband, 'Wow, he's coming here!'"

Nuckols said Bennett's music was very popular at their school dances.

"He's so fantastic. He sings in a smooth style, which is what I enjoyed back then," Nuckols said. "We all loved rock 'n' roll, but he had a unique style, and nothing's changed. He's still got the same personality and abilities."

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.



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