

local news



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TALKING WITH ...

**Bill Engvall**

The Grammy-nominated comedian speaks about his upcoming show in The Villages.



By **KRISTEN FIORE**  
Daily Sun Staff Writer

He's been in movies, on TV and on stages across the country.

Now, Grammy-nominated comedian Bill Engvall is coming to The Villages.

Engvall recently was a contestant on Season 17 of "Dancing with the Stars," and he also produced and starred in his own sitcom, "The Bill Engvall Show."

Additionally, Engvall has released two platinum-selling comedy records.

Engvall will perform shows at 5 and 8 p.m. May 10 at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Tickets, which range from \$25 to \$85, are selling quickly, but there are still some available for both shows. They can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

Engvall recently spoke with the Daily Sun about his show and his experiences as a comedian.

**What can people expect from your upcoming show?**

It's a clean, relatable show. I always tell people that I don't want them to think they're going to see a comedian, because that conjures up images of a smoky club. Think of my show as a 90-minute conversation weaving through different subjects — "Dancing with the Stars," kidney stones, my wife. I try to paint a good picture with my material. It's not a setup punch line, but more of a one-sided conversation.

**What do you hope the audience gets out of your show?**

When people come to see my show, I hope they walk out feeling a little bit better about life than when they got there. In this day and age with all of

Neighbor," and I played the bad guy. Usually, I'd be a goofy sitcom dad, but they wanted the audience to be surprised when I came on screen and it wasn't funny. To do drama, you have to be able to do comedy. Acting has helped my stand-up. I always try to write my shows so that if there's someone who's sight challenged in the audience, they'll be able to visualize what I'm talking about. That's how my show is different than a lot of comedians. I create little scenarios, whether it's my wife and I in our daily lives or something our kids did. I want people to walk out thinking, "He's just like me."

**What has been the most difficult part of your career?**

Just being on the road. I've been doing this for almost 40 years now. It's wonderful because I get to see different parts of the country, and I have friends all over the country. But I'm 60 now and the travel is getting harder. That's the only downside, though.

**What is your favorite part about what you do?**

That's easy. My favorite part of my show is when I just find a person who I have really hit hard, and they're having the time of their life. There's those shows where you feel like you just can't do any wrong. When I see people bent over from laughing, that's how I know that I'm doing my job right.

*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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The Associated Press

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