

LET'S GO

Looking for something fun to do today? Try water volleyball! D1

THE WEATHER TODAY, C2

8 a.m. 71°
 Noon 85°
 4 p.m. 86°
 8 p.m. 80°

Tierra Del Sol, Belle Glade in Finals

Ladies Village Cup championship matchup is scheduled to start Tuesday. Sports, B1

NATIONAL NEWS

WATCH THE VILLAGES DEVELOPER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

You've read the headlines here, now hear the details yourself from The Villages Developer, Mark Morse, and other members of the development team. Watch the entire VHA's "An Evening with the Developer" on Comcast Channel 2 at 2, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. today or see it on thevillagesdailysun.com in two video parts.



Bill Mitchell | Daily Sun

The Villages Developer Mark Morse speaks about the future with the VHA on Wednesday during "An Evening with the Developer" at The Sharon.

Top of the News

INSIDE THE ISSUES SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

Florida Turns Up the Heat As Summer Nears

Are you running your air conditioner more? Taking your walks later in the evening? Using that umbrella more for shade than rain protection? You're not alone. As we approach the last month of spring, Florida continues to turn up the thermostat. The heat consistently ranks at, or near, the top of the most dangerous weather conditions every year. In 2017, only flooding caused more weather-related deaths nationally, according to the National Weather Service. Here's what area residents need to know to beat the heat as summer draws near.

Is This Weather Usual for the Region?

Temperatures already have reached the low 90s, something that Bob Smerbeck, a senior meteorologist with AccuWeather, says is typical for this time of year. "Hitting 90 degrees is just a few degrees above normal," Smerbeck said.

How Can Villagers Protect Themselves Against the Heat?

To beat the heat, Smerbeck advises people to limit their time outdoors, especially during the early afternoon, when temperatures are most likely to be at their highest. He also cautions people to wear light, loose clothing, stay near air conditioning, wear sunscreen, keep themselves hydrated and

Please See HEAT, A12

89°

The high for today is 89°. This time of year, temperatures are most likely to be at their highest during early afternoon, according to Bob Smerbeck, a senior meteorologist with AccuWeather.



Illustration by Libby Lang, Daily Sun

INSIDE



Add luxury to your outdoor decor. E1

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We support our men and women in uniform.

THAT'S AMAZING

BLACK BEAR EATS 2 DOZEN CUPCAKES LEFT IN BAKER'S CAR

The smell of two dozen cupcakes in a baker's car was too much for a black bear in New Jersey.

The bruin smashed a window and left only smeared icing and a paw print behind.

Christine Allen said the bear ate every chocolate, vanilla and strawberry cupcake she had made for a large order. Awakened by the dog barking and a "crunch sound," her husband spotted the bear early Thursday.

Rockaway Township Police said it looks like the bear has done some other damage in the area.

—The Associated Press



COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS

Only in The Villages

LIFE IN FLORIDA'S FRIENDLIEST HOMETOWN

Villages Orchestra Wraps Up 2017-18 Season Tuesday

The first time Pasquale Valerio played music at Church on the Square in 1997, he said he felt some magic in the atmosphere.

Now, Church on the Square has been transformed into the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center, and Valerio has 15 years of magic to look back on as the founder and conductor of The Villages Philharmonic Orchestra.

Valerio was born in Naples, Italy, and started playing trumpet at age 9.

He has studied under notable conductors such as Antonio Papano, and has played and conducted music all over the world.

Please See ORCHESTRA, A12



Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

Cello player Paul Fleury, right, leads section A during The Villages Philharmonic Orchestra's celebration of the opera in 2017 at The Sharon.

THE DIGIT

23

foreign films

With showings scheduled for the second and fourth Saturdays of each month — and the Sunday that follows — the Foreign Film Club brings a total of 23 international titles per year to a devoted audience of film lovers at Mulberry Grove Recreation Center. (No film is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in December).

— Greg Williams, Daily Sun

TONIGHT'S EVENTS ON THE SQUARES

Entertainment runs from 5 to 9 p.m.

Spanish Springs Town Square
 501 Blues
 Happy hour, 5-7 p.m.

Lake Sumter Landing Market Square
 Sondra Hunt Band
 Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.

Brownwood Paddock Square
 The 45s
 Happy hour, 5-6 p.m.

from the front page



George Horsford | Daily Sun

Bobbi Warnick, of the Village of Silver Lake, applies sunscreen to her granddaughter, Piper Hage at El Santiago Recreation Area's pool.

HEAT

Continued from A1

keep an eye on the humidity levels when they go outside.

"(The) humidity hasn't come into full effect yet," Smerbeck said. "Being out in the full heat with a high humidity and low wind can add 10 or 15 degrees to what the temperature feels like."

Those factors can make it harder for a person's body to cool itself during activity. "You're just getting baked," Smerbeck said.

What conditions can Villagers expect this week?

May generally is considered a dry month for Florida, according to Smerbeck, but over the next few days a storm will roll off the coast of Mexico, bringing moisture from the Caribbean as it moves toward Florida. Smerbeck expects the storm to arrive in The Villages sometime Sunday night, and the storm will linger in the area for the next several days. "It could turn into a pretty wet period," Smerbeck said. "There's still going to be an active pattern going into the middle of next week."

The storms will most likely happen in the afternoon and evening, Smerbeck said, after building up through most of the day.

What effects will the storms have on the temperature?

The rain dumped by the storms will drive the humidity up.

However, the cloud cover also will keep the temperatures slightly lower: AccuWeather currently is predicting temperatures in the low- to mid-80s while the storm system is in town. "It's going to feel pretty muggy," Smerbeck said.

— Amber Hair, Daily Sun

Recreation Department Looking Out for Your Safety in the Heat

With temperatures and humidity climbing, officials with The Villages Recreation and Parks Department always have their eye on the thermometer — or the heat index. Danny Jacobs, sports coordinator for Recreation and Parks, said the department monitors conditions in extreme heat and takes measures to ensure resident safety during recreation activities, ranging from providing extra water and cool towels, to mandating water breaks, to halting play altogether if the heat index reaches 104.

What training does the Recreation and Parks Department staff undergo to prepare for extreme heat situations?

Staff are trained on AED and CPR when they are hired. Risk Management (department) is constantly sending out reminders and helpful tips on how to handle heat. When temperatures are projected high, we make all parties aware and let them know to use caution.

How does The Villages Recreation and Parks Department determine when heat conditions are unsafe for play?

District staff monitors weather conditions through various media sources that include but are not limited to WVLR and wunderground.com (La Zamora station). When the heat index reaches 104 degrees, District staff will notify activity representatives and/or participants that the recreation-sponsored event is recommended to be canceled or postponed. District staff will notify participants when the conditions have been deemed safe.

—Maddie Cutler, Daily Sun

How is the department equipped to deal with these potentially extreme conditions and the dangers they present?

We work with Public Safety to ensure all staff are AED- and CPR-trained. We alert 911 and allow the medical professionals to handle it.

How does the Recreation staff encourage residents to follow these guidelines?

While the Recreation Department can enforce heat safety guidelines, due to individual medical history and other factors, residents must prepare themselves for heat. Hydrating well before, during and after all activities is vital, as well as having a healthy meal prior. Residents know their individual needs better than anybody. They need to understand how they can ensure their safety if they choose to participate in any activity regardless of heat or not.

Who makes the decision to halt activities in the event of a high heat index?

As sports coordinator, it is my job to monitor the weather and educate our department on when we need to take the necessary precautions.

— Keith Pearlman, Daily Sun

Stay Safe in the Sun

The skin is the largest organ of the body, and it needs just as much care as the rest of the body. Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In fact, more people receive a diagnosis of skin cancer than all other cancers combined each year in the United States, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation.

Dr. Sweny Gulati, of The Villages Health, spoke with the Daily Sun about ways to stay healthy while having fun in the sun.

What is the best way people can protect their skin?

People should try and limit the amount of sun exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. This is when the sun's rays are strongest.

How can people stay safe in the sunshine?

Broad spectrum sunscreen labeled as UVA and UVB protective should be applied to the skin 15 to 20 minutes before going outside and should be reapplied every 90 minutes to two hours. SPF 30 is recommended for the best protection. Higher SPFs will still offer protection, but after SPF 50 the effects are nominally different, so SPF 30 is OK as long as it's applied appropriately. And don't forget to put it on your ears or at least wear a hat that offers shade.

When should someone see their doctor about skin cancer worries?

If you ever are nervous about skin cancer, remember your alphabet: A, B, C, D and E. If a mole or lesion is asymmetrical, has border irregularities, is changing or varying color, has a diameter larger than 6 millimeters or is evolving in shape or color, then they need to see their primary care physician for further examination.

How can people keep their insides healthy as well?

The more time you spend sweating, the more hydration you need to put back in. It is recommended that you drink eight 8-ounce glasses of water a day and an extra glass or two for every hour you spend outside in the heat. Signs that you are dehydrated include a dry or sticky mouth, lethargy and a loss of skin elasticity.

ORCHESTRA

Continued from A1

He moved to the United States in 1996 and founded the VPO in 2004.

He has nurtured the orchestra over the years, leading the group to both global and national recognition.

An Opera Gala on Tuesday will close the group's 2017-18 season.

This season, the orchestra performed a variety of concerts, from holiday shows to pops concerts to classical collections.

"This season went very well," Valerio said. "We did beautiful master work, and the most important part is that we are extremely happy."

Eventually, Valerio hopes to bring in more celebrity musicians and do more outreach with students and young musicians.

Looking back on this season,

Valerio said, he did not have a favorite show because they were all equally important.

"Each concert carries emotion, a little tension and beauty," Valerio said.

The orchestra has held its past few seasons at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center, and Valerio said he is proud to call the venue home.

"There's something unique in The Villages," Valerio said. "It feels like Europe, and the audience is very kind."

Elizabeth Constant, booking coordinator at The Sharon, said she sees the VPO as the heartbeat of the community.

"Their concerts are imperative to shaping a well-rounded artistic season at the performing arts center," Constant said. "Pasquale Valerio never ceases to deliver high-quality concerts, musicians and programming each season."

Putting on amazing shows is



Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

Harp player Dolly Roberts performs in 2017 with The Villages Philharmonic Orchestra during its opera celebration.

no simple task, however.

Valerio said music takes him away from his wife and costs him a lot of sleep.

"But as long as you love what you do, you won't mind," Valerio said.

And Valerio loves what he does.

Valerio said the VPO's final show of the season is one not to miss. Each song will tell a story. "In the opera, there is love," Valerio said. "It's an expression of real life on the stage."

Tenors, basses and sopranos will sing overtures from Verdi and Puccini, creating a magical atmosphere and a unique ending to the 2017-18 season.

The show will be performed at 7 p.m. Tuesday at The Sharon. Tickets range in price from \$20 to \$60 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

Having its own orchestra sets The Villages apart from other communities, Constant said.

"I feel the VPO really contributes to the pride residents have for The Villages, and that they get to live in a place that offers the music Pasquale Valerio has to offer this community," she said.

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