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NASHVILLE, TENN.

Tauren Wells Wins 4, Including New Artist, At Dove Awards

Christian artist Tauren Wells won four awards including new artist and contemporary Christian artist of the year at the 49th annual Gospel Music Association's Dove Awards. Wells, who was the former lead singer for Christian rock group Royal Tailor, performed "Known" from his solo debut album, "Hills and Valleys," during Tuesday's award show from Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. — *The Associated Press*

Backstage Pass

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

Thorogood, Destroyers Shake Up The Sharon

By KRISTEN FIORE | *Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer*

Beams of light blazed into the audience and then burst into a surge of white flames, or so it seemed.

In the midst of it all, George Thorogood and the Destroyers swaggered out onto the stage and received a standing ovation right off the bat.

The rock 'n' roller, who became popular in the '70s and '80s for hits like "Bad to the Bone" and "Get a Haircut and Get a Real Job," brought his Rock Party Tour to the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center on Wednesday night.

"I found out some good news," Thorogood said after playing "Rock Party" and "Who Do You Love" at the beginning of the show. "We found out today

that the Destroyers' probation officers have let them out for 24 hours, just for this occasion. However, I promised them that I'd get arrested tonight. If someone's gonna go to jail for rock 'n' roll, it ought to be me."

From start to finish, it was an electrifying and exhilarating show.

Audience members had music pumping through their ears and veins, light in their



Michael Johnson | *Daily Sun*

Rock legend George Thorogood and the Destroyers play "Rock Party" during their performance at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center on Wednesday.

HOW DO I BUY TICKETS?

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

All box office locations are open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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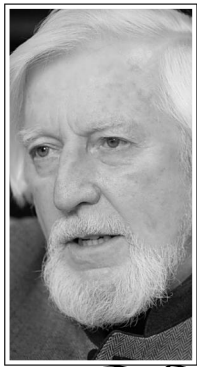
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CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



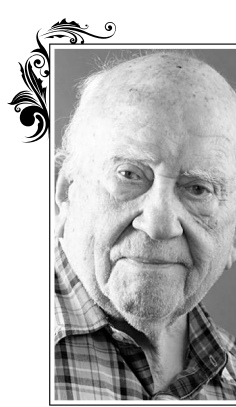
CHAKA KHAN

Chaka Khan has been named grand marshal of the 2019 Rose Parade, which will feature the theme "The Melody of Life." Tournament of Roses President Gerald Freeny announced the selection Wednesday.



CAROLL SPINNEY

The puppeteer who has played Big Bird on "Sesame Street" is retiring after nearly 50 years on the show. Spinney said he's handing over Big Bird and his other character, Oscar the Grouch, to younger performers.



ED ASNER

Even at age 88, actor Ed Asner still hangs out at the comic-book store with his kid. They raise money for families with special needs by promoting an internet comic-art auction to raise funds for the Ed Asner Family Center.

NEW YORK

Nielsen: 10.5 Million People Watch Premiere Of 'The Conners'

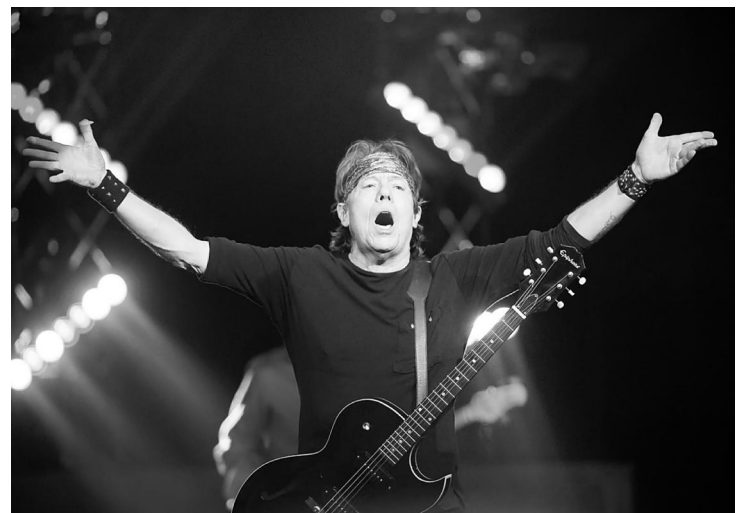
The 10.5 million people who tuned in to ABC to watch the premiere of ABC's sitcom "The Conners" is a classic half-full, half-empty story. It was the first time the old "Roseanne" cast had appeared without Roseanne Barr, and viewers were curious how the sitcom would deal with her absence after being fired by ABC. (Spoiler alert: she died because of an opioid addiction).

— The Associated Press



Photos by Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

Rock legend George Thorogood, right, and The Destroyers saxophonist Buddy Leach, left, play the song "Rock Party" during their Rock Party tour at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center on Wednesday.



Rock legend George Thorogood finishes the song "Who Do You Love" to the applause of the audience during their Rock Party tour at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center on Wednesday.

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Ed Williams, of the Village of Buttonwood, brought along his friend, Ron Vuozzo, visiting from California.

"I'm not too familiar with the band," Vuozzo admitted before the show.

"You will be by the time it's over," Williams said.

His statement couldn't have been more true.

With songs like "I Drink Alone," "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer," "Ride On Josephine" and "Cocaine Blues," the band delivered an intimate, raw and thrilling performance.

You have to hand it to them—they know how to pump up a

crowd.

Many members of the sold-out audience stood up and let loose during the show, dancing with everything they had.

The band got a standing ovation after each song, and Thorogood absolutely soaked in the attention, arms raised and head back as he accepted the applause.

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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