

The Villages



THEVILLAGES DAILY SUN. COM

MONDAY

DECEMBER 22, 2025



HINTS FROM HELOISE | E8 There are plenty of ways to reuse plastic bags, such as storing baked goods to freeze.

52°

VERONICA WERNICKE ON AREA NEWS | D1 The City of Wildwood's Parks and Recreation Department recently released its annual guide.



IN SPORTS | B1

Jacksonville's Jaguars won their sixth straight game in a resounding 34-20 win that snapped the Denver Broncos' 11game winning streak Sunday.



IN LIFESTYLE | E1

Head out to Lake Sumter **Landing Market** Square from 5-9 p.m. tonight to enjoy live entertainment from Billy **Buchanan &** His Rock N' Soul Revue.

Buchanan, who plays acoustic guitar, and his Rock N' Soul Revue, a six-piece band featuring keyboards, sax, guitar, bass and drums, performs soulful music from the 1950s through the 1980s.

IN NATIONAL NEWS | A2

TOP WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL DEFENDS PARTIAL RELEASE OF EPSTEIN FILES

Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche on Sunday defended the Justice Department's decision to release just a fraction of the Jeffrey Epstein files as necessary to protect survivors of sexual abuse by the disgraced financier.

IN STATE NEWS

MARIJUANA BALLOT INITIATIVE REACHES FLORIDA'S TOP COURT

Justices will hear oral arguments on the proposed recreational marijuana amendment initiative Feb. 5. **A9**

IN WORLD NEWS

ROME ADDS NEW FEE TO VISITING FAMOUS TREVI FOUNTAIN

The \$2.35 fee is meant to manage tourists in a congested part of the city and offset maintenance costs. A13

ONLY IN THE VILLAGES

By Michael Fortuna

For one of the conductors and musicians in The Villages Brass, a bit of Christmas magic may have intervened for the group's inaugural concert. Luther Appel's family isn't normally in the area whenever he performs in a concert, but this holiday season, they will be able to attend The Villages Brass' Christmas Eve concert.

Please See CONCERT, A8

Local Business, Groups Spread Christmas Cheer



Bill Mitchell | Daily Sun

Steve Munz, owner of Galaxy Home Solutions, helps Bettie Pinder, of Wildwood, during the Community Christmas Celebration on Saturday. Munz has organized the event for the last 20 years.

By SUMMER JARRO | Daily Sun Senior Writer

Smiles, gratitude and overall happiness radiated throughout Galaxy Homes Solutions on Saturday.

Hundreds of people from the local community gathered at the Wildwood business for its annual Community Christmas Celebration, during which volunteers passed out 175 Christmas meals, and hundreds of bikes, wrapped and unwrapped toys, pajamas, books and more.

Children also got the chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, and get a picture and receive a gift from them.

Steve Munz, owner of Galaxy Home Solutions, has organized the event for the last 20 years.

"I've been blessed tremendously growing up here poor in the

Please See HOLIDAYS, A7



Rachel Govola | Daily Sun

Lynn and Ray Kubacki, of the Village of Hemingway, participate in the singing of "God Bless America" during The Friendly Cafe ministry on Oct. 27 at Oxford Global Methodist Church. The ministry is for caregivers and their loved ones with Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

Added Stress Makes Holidays Difficult For Caregivers

By MADDIE CUTLER | Daily Sun Senior Writer

As daylight slips past the horizon and the winter calendar fills with events, people turn to each other for socializing and connecting.

For caregivers helping loved ones with Alzheimer's, having a strong network of people to talk to is more important than ever during the holidays and during

winter in general.

Winter is definitely hard, because there are issues you have to face, including explaining things to family as well as your loved one,' said Matt Eaton, communications director of Alzheimer's Association. "You have to talk

Please See CAREGIVERS, A6

INSIDE TODAY'S DAILY SUN

TEST YOUR NEWS IQ

CONGRESS BREAKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS, NEW TRAINING METHODS AND A BATTERY CRAZE



III Senate lawmakers on Thursday followed the House in leaving for Christmas break. Prior to leaving, Senators voted to confirm a batch of nearly 100 nominations by President Donald Trump. According to Senate Majority Leader John Thune's office, Congress in 2025. **Page A5**

b) 373 nominees

c) 417 nominees

d) 500 nominees



3. Amid India's shift to clean power, the country's demand for batteries is by 2050. Which product is expected to account for

d) Boats

expected to grow 40 times most of this rise? Page A14

a) Cell phones

b) Electric vehicles

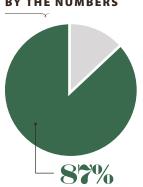
c) Flashlights



Advice

E8

BY THE NUMBERS



Nearly all U.S. adults say it is acceptable to give gift cards as a Christmas **present**, according to an AP-NORC poll. Eighty-eight percent of adults surveyed also said that cash was acceptable as a gift. Fewer, though still a majority, consider it acceptable to gift secondhand items (64%) or regift presents (61%).

