



BEFORE THEY WERE VILLAGERS | D5
John Manning was one of the EMS personnel who responded to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

5 a.m. 8 a.m. 11 a.m. 2 p.m. 5 p.m. 8 p.m.
64° 63° 77° 83° 83° 75°

OUT & ABOUT IN THE VILLAGES | A4
Staff writer Michael Fortuna shares observations from a day in The Villages.



WORLD NEWS | A2

TRUMP THREATENS TO DESTROY IRAN'S ENERGY SOURCES IF DEAL NOT REACHED

U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday threatened widespread destruction of Iran's energy resources and other vital civilian infrastructure, including desalination plants, if a deal to end the war with Tehran is not reached "shortly."

SPORTS NEWS | B1

TEXAS ROUTS MICHIGAN TO RETURN TO THE WOMEN'S FINAL 4

Texas felled Michigan 77-41 in the Fort Worth Regional 3 championship game in order to make a repeat Final Four appearance.

ONLY IN THE VILLAGES

By Brea Jones

For 20 years, the Sophisticated Gents of Florida have focused on fellowship and service. That and the bond of brotherhood are what "enthralled" and enticed Shawn Wethington to become a Gent in 2019. Wethington became the nonprofit organization's new president in February after its previous president stepped down.

"When I first moved to The Villages, getting to know everyone was great, but it was something about seeing a group of successful Black

Please See **GENTS, A8**

Top of the News

Church Pays Tribute To Vietnam Veterans



Bill Mitchell | Daily Sun

U.S. Army veteran Frank Sebastian, of Daytona Beach Shores, glances at his service dog, Canyon, during the National Vietnam War Veterans Day Celebration on Monday at Fairway Christian Church.

The church marked National Vietnam War Veterans Day with a tribute to veterans and military combat dogs.

By **CHASITY BOATMAN**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

For many Vietnam veterans, yesterday at Fairway Christian Church was more than a ceremony. It was a homecoming of recognition long overdue.

From heartfelt prayers to stories of struggle and resilience, the church's military outreach ministry honored not only the veterans themselves, but also the four-legged companions

who served. The event was in honor of National Vietnam War Veterans Day, established by the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, which commemorates the nearly 9 million Americans who served during the conflict and underscores the nation's commitment to remembering their sacrifices.

"This year's program is about military combat dogs that served during the Vietnam War, and dogs that are now assisting veterans," said Carol Tomsey, a Vietnam-era U.S. Air

Force veteran and Fairway Christian Church Military Outreach Ministry member who organized the event.

"These dogs were companions as well as working animals," said Tomsey, of the Village of Sanibel. "Soldiers owed their lives to them, and vice versa. They saved almost 10,000 lives. It's a story of sacrifice."

During the invocation, Wayne Malmros spoke on the lasting impact of war.

Please See **VIETNAM, A7**

LOCAL NEWS

Community Watch Joins Pool Monitor Compliance

By **KEITH PEARLMAN**
Daily Sun Managing Editor

If you are heading to one of the 72 adult pools throughout the community, don't forget to carry proper identification.

The Villages Recreation and Parks Department and Community Watch are launching a six-month program beginning Wednesday to increase the number of daily ID checks to make sure all users of the facilities belong.

Residents are required to have their resident IDs, while guests must have both their guest pass and a photo ID.

Under the program, Community Watch patrol drivers will conduct a minimum of two random daily ID checks at each pool. That is in addition to the minimum of three random checks already performed by recreation staff each day.

Both departments appreciate the opportunity to work together for increased pool monitoring.

Please See **POOLS, A6**

HEALTH NEWS | C2

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tiffany Clayton is joining The Harrison of Wildwood as the executive director for the assisted living and memory care facility.

LOCAL NEWS | D1

LOCAL EVENT SHARES IMPORTANCE OF WILDLIFE EDUCATION

Around 70 people attended the recent Wildlife and Invasive Species Education Conference in Bushnell.

HEADLINES & DATELINES

LOCAL NEWS

CAUTION URGED AS TUSSOCK MOTH CATERpillARS EMERGE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

If your morning walk or coffee on the front porch has turned into a dance around red-headed, hairy caterpillars lately, you're not alone.

Tussock moth caterpillars are back once again, and they're making themselves at home on porches, patios and live oak trees across Central Florida.

The insects are small, brushy caterpillars with dramatic looks: four toothbrush-like tufts on their backs, black spiky antennae and bright red heads. They feed on over 140 types of trees and shrubs, including live oak, birch, cherry, hackberry and even fir.

Before these caterpillars become moths, they will create small, white cocoons that can be seen dotted almost everywhere around the eastern United States.

The explorers crawl onto walls, porches, car windows and anything else in their path. And because they move in swarms, you'll rarely see just one. — *Tribune News Service*



WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT THE CATERpillARS?

- » Don't touch them. Not even the cocoons.
- » Keep outdoor areas swept or sprayed down. Caterpillars can gather on railings and patio furniture.
- » Use gloves when gardening, especially near trees or shrubs.
- » Educate kids who may enjoy picking up these fuzzy insects.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU COME INTO CONTACT WITH ONE

If you happen to cross paths with the caterpillars, avoid touching them. Their barbed hairs can stick to your skin and trigger an allergic skin reaction that ranges from mild itching to painful welts, especially in children. If you do end up touching a tussock moth caterpillar, remove any of the leftover hairs with tape, wash the area with soap and water and apply ice or baking soda and water paste to soothe the skin. Avoid scratching the area, as it can make the itching worse.

ALSO FEATURED INSIDE TODAY

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Lifestyle	E1
On The Squares	E3
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TODAY'S TOP PICK: CHRISTIAN VOICES UNITED CONCERT

The chorus group's concerts at 3 and 6:30 p.m. today promote the gospel of Jesus Christ through choral music.