



HINTS FROM HELOISE | E8
A reader writes in with a story about how she has preserved her mother's rose bushes.

5 a.m. 8 a.m. 11 a.m. 2 p.m. 5 p.m. 8 p.m.
66° 66° 76° 82° 75° 70°

BREA JONES ON NEARBY NEWS | D1
Celebrate the Wildwood Splash Pad's opening for the summer season April 10.



WORLD NEWS | A2

TRUMP ISSUES EXPLETIVE-FILLED, FIERY THREAT AGAINST IRAN

President Donald Trump on Sunday made expletive-filled threats against Iran and its infrastructure if it doesn't open the Strait of Hormuz by his Tuesday deadline, after American forces rescued a wounded aviator whose Iran-downed plane fell behind enemy lines.

SPORTS NEWS | B1

UCLA CLAIMS ITS FIRST NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TITLE

Jaquez and Betts lead the Bruins past the Gamecocks 79-51, capturing the first NCAA women's title in program history.

ONLY IN THE VILLAGES

By J.T. Wilcox

Hitting a hole-in-one is in the pantheon of rare sports feats. Alongside throwing a perfect game in baseball, rolling a 300 in bowling, and scoring 100 points in a basketball game, hitting an ace on the golf course defies reasonable odds.

Because The Villages is a golf mecca with hundreds of people teeing off every day, it's not unusual to hear of someone besting the 12,500-to-1 odds of making a hole-in-one.

But what Patti Cataldi and Denise Balsama did this past month defies

Please See **ACES, A7**

Top of the News

Groups in Villages Take Lead on AEDs



Rachel Govola | Daily Sun

Village of Briar Meadow resident H. Kevin Knussman, president of Advocates for Early Defibrillation, puts an AED into its case during a dedication ceremony March 27 at Bob Johnson Legacy Driving Range.

Clubs and local organizations are pushing to make early medical aid for cardiac arrest widely accessible.

By **FRANK DIFIORE**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Local volunteer groups are staking out public places to keep life-saving medical equipment in and around The Villages.

H. Kevin Knussman, president of Advocates for Early Defibrillation, said one of the best factors for surviving a cardiac arrest is if someone is there to help you before

first responders arrive.

"When you have a cardiac arrest, you got 5 to 7 minutes to get that shock to the heart or else it's too late," said Knussman, a Village of Briar Meadow resident.

The Advocates speak regularly with local businesses and clubs about installing publicly automated external defibrillators (AED) to deliver those shocks and support CPR efforts. They recently worked with the Orange Blossoms Gardens/Lady Lake Lions Club and American

Legion Post 347 to install their own AED at their jointly-run Bob Johnson Legacy Driving Range on Rolling Acres Road.

Knussman joined members of both the Lions and Legion members for a short ceremony March 27 to dedicate the new AED installed at the driving range, along with staff from The Villages Public Safety Department and Lake County Fire Rescue.

The Bob Johnson Legacy range is

Please See **AEDS, A6**

LOCAL NEWS

Sumter Schools Win Big At State Science Fair

By **GARRETT SHIFLET**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Sumter County students represented the county with pride at the 71st State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida last week at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland.

Twenty-four students from The Villages Charter School, South Sumter Middle School, South Sumter High School and Wildwood Middle High School attended. These students competed against over 900 students from all over Florida who qualified from the 37 different regional science fairs. Sumter County students ultimately won 16 place awards and eight special awards.

The state team was supervised by Monica Vinas, a science teacher from The Villages High School, and Emily Keeler, a science teacher from Wildwood Middle High School.

Students had to present their science fair projects

Please See **SCIENCE FAIR, A7**

BUSINESS NEWS | C5

THE SPICE & TEA EXCHANGE MARKS 10-YEAR MILESTONE

The business, which sells spices, teas, herbs and more, reached its tenth anniversary in the community in March.

LOCAL NEWS | D1

LADY LAKE FARMERS AND CRAFTS MARKET NEARS END OF ITS SEASON

The seasonal market that offers fresh produce, baked goods and a variety of treats and treasures has been extended to April 28.

HEADLINES & DATELINES

STATE NEWS

FLORIDA NET REVENUE THROUGH FEBRUARY BEATS ESTIMATES BY \$154.5M

State general revenue collections for February exceeded expectations by \$154.5 million, according to the Legislature's Office of Economic & Demographic Research.

A monthly revenue report released Wednesday shows the state collected \$4.01 billion in net general revenue in February, 4% above the anticipated amount from a revised forecast in January.

The state forecast is intended to help lawmakers make budget decisions. General revenue is closely watched because it plays a major role in funding education, health care and prison programs.

When revising the numbers in January, state economists increased the revenue projection for fiscal year 2025-2026, which ends June 30, by \$502.5 million and the 2026-2027 projection by \$70 million. At the time, the economists noted the "forecasting environment is generally stable."

— News Service of Florida



SALES TAX BRINGS IN \$3B, VIRTUALLY ON ESTIMATE

Sales tax collections, which make up the largest part of state revenue, totaled \$3.05 billion for February. The total was \$200,000 less than forecast or "virtually on estimate," according to the office release. Meanwhile, the \$242.7 million in corporate income taxes exceeded the forecast by \$108.2 million.

\$9.61M

Documentary stamp taxes on real estate transactions totaled \$96.1 million for the month, \$14 million over the forecast.

\$120.3M

Earnings on state investments totaled \$120.3 million for the month, \$500,000 above the forecast.

ALSO FEATURED INSIDE TODAY

World News	A2
Lottery	A3
Government	A5
Sports	B1
Business Extra	C1
Local News	D1
Weather	D2-3
Recreation	D10-12
Lifestyle	E1
On The Squares	E3
Comics & Puzzles	E4-6



TODAY'S TOP PICK: INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

Learn how to properly use outdoor equipment and enjoy the fresh air while exercising at Eisenhower Recreation.