

HOME & GARDEN, E1

Gardening is a family celebration for husband, wife and daughter.

SPORTS, B1

Zoeller Visits Golf Fest

LOCAL, C10

Keep your mind active to keep it healthy.

NATIONAL NEWS



The Associated Press

PRESIDENT TRUMP DECLARES BORDER EMERGENCY TO GET WALL FUNDS

President Donald Trump on Friday declared a national emergency at the U.S.-Mexico border, moving to secure more money for a wall. It's expected to lead to challenges in Congress and the courts as opponents criticized the order. **A12**

NATION & WORLD REPORT

National: Authorities warn that mudslides remain possible even after a damaging storm moved through California, trapping people in floodwaters and triggering a debris flow that destroyed homes. **A2**

World: France's ambassador returned to Italy on Friday, with confidence that the two neighbors could deal with disagreements and work through their most serious diplomatic dispute since World War II. **A3**

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INSIDE THE ISSUES SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

Movies Are Just A Part of the Show

VILLAGES THEATERS AMP UP ENTERTAINMENT OFFERINGS



Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

A wrestling event at the Barnstorm Theater in Brownwood helped raise money for the Humane Society and Champions for Champions.



George Horsford | Daily Sun

Linda Richards, a member of Tri-County Guide Dog Puppy Raisers for Southeastern Guide Dogs, arrives at the Rialto to see "Pick of the Litter."



Max Gersh | Daily Sun

Barnstorm employee Matt White, from right, takes a photo of Henry, 9, Sarah, 17, and John Walker, 14, during a fundraiser for Camp Boggy Creek.



Cindy Skop | Daily Sun

Sylvia Murphy and Frank Kovacs, of the Village of Sunset Pointe, sit in a full house Thursday at Rialto Theatre in Spanish Springs.



By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

Movies aren't the only thing going on at The Villages Movie Theaters, which have carved out a reputation among film executives as a place where offbeat productions can thrive and sometimes do better business than anywhere else in the country. Theater managers also work to make sure each of the theaters in Spanish Springs, Lake Sumter Landing and Brownwood offers patrons a unique experience, with different programming, special events and hours to suit a variety of movie fans and their tastes. A trip to the Rialto Theatre, Old Mill Playhouse or Barnstorm Theater might feature a red-carpet fundraiser for Camp Boggy Creek, a wrestling extravaganza with

Please See **MOVIES, A9**

LOCAL NEWS

'LEARN & GROW EXPO' SET FOR FRIDAY

The Enrichment Academy welcomes the public to meet instructors.

The expo will take place from 8 to 11 a.m. Friday at Lake Miona Recreation Center. Online or on-site registration for classes begins at 8:30 a.m. that day for residents. Registration opens to the general public March 4. For information, visit districtgov.org and click "The Enrichment Academy."
— Rachel Stuart, Daily Sun

THAT'S AMAZING!

BEER FROM 1886 SHIPWRECK MAY YIELD NEW BREW

Ahoy, beer lovers. A bottle from a 133-year-old shipwreck may yield yeast for a new brew in upstate New York. Biotechnology students at the State University of New York at Cobleskill uncorked a bottle from the shipwrecked SS Oregon on Thursday. Serious Brewing Company of Howes Cave plans to develop a new brew if the students successfully extract yeast. Bill Felter, of Serious Brewing, acquired the beer from a customer who owns an assortment of artifacts recovered from the Oregon. The ship was en route from Liverpool, England, to New York City on March 14, 1886, when it collided with a schooner, killing all 852 people on board.
— The Associated Press

Faces in The News
Mike Pence

The vice president visited the site of Auschwitz, joining Poland's president. It was Pence's first visit to the site of the concentration camp.

World News, A3

EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE

Learn to Shoot

Residents who are interested in learning about archery can attend instructional clinics hosted by The Villages Archery Club.

By MADDIE CUTLER | Daily Sun Staff Writer

Enjoying yourself in a safe way is the main target in archery. The Villages Archery Club hosts an Archery — Learn to Shoot clinic from 1 to 3 p.m. every Wednesday and Thursday at Paradise Recreation Center. The class is for any resident who is curious about archery but doesn't know where to start. Each class can accommodate 20 people and they fill up quickly. There are no sign-ups, so it's first come, first served. Blair Peterson, president of The Villages Archery Club, said archery is a sport that benefits anyone who practices it. "It's a tremendous mental exercise," the Village of Bridgeport at Lake Sumter resident said. "It also is a good upper body workout, which some

Please See **ARCHERY, A9**

Life In Our Town

What's Happening In The Villages
Horse pull

Competition for national championship is set for Sunday at The Villages Polo Club.

Local News, C9

Plus

Entertainment: Billy Joel's original band performs all of its hits. **A11**

Religion: Rabbi Karen Allen takes questions during a roundtable discussion. **C8**

LOVIN' THE LIFESTYLE

Get going to the Spanish Springs cruise in. **D1**



from the front page

MOVIES

Continued from A1

WWE Hall of Famer Dory Funk Jr. or a presentation by dog trainers and therapy dogs, each paired with a related film presentation.

Combined, the three theaters show more than 500 movies and sell about 875,000 tickets each year. In recent years, those who work behind the scenes have been selecting more independent films, said Deborah Mills, The Villages Movie Theaters operations director and film booking agent.

"A lot of theaters are just looking at the big-box office sellers and big budget films because they're run by corporations," Mills said. "Whereas we've got boots on the ground. We're walking amongst the people in The Villages. Why not take the risks to see what we can do to be better?"

Daniel Lange, president of Distribution at ArtAffects Entertainment, said The Villages is definitely on the radar for many of the studios in Hollywood.

"In my experience as a movie distributor repping specialized art, faith-based films and family fare, The Villages has always been a shining star at the national box office," Lange said.

While the theaters still show all of the blockbusters, Mills said that including independent films has both diversified the theaters and strengthened them financially.

Villagers will pack the theater for the latest "Star Wars" installment, but they also show interest in romantic comedies like "Book Club" or crime dramas like "The Mule." Even the rapper biography "Straight Outta Compton" posted better-than-expected numbers here.

"Our residents love a great story and a good film," Mills said. "They don't necessarily always want a Hollywood blockbuster. A lot of times, it's the independent films that tell a good story."

It's also important to pay attention to the demographics of people who attend each theater, Mills said. Each theater has its own marketing plan to set the right tone for the area.

Being near the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center and Katie Belle's, the Rialto Theatre is treated as part of the theater district.

"They offer a lot of high-end entertainment," Mills said. "It's almost a companion and an honor to offer that kind of content there. When you're in that part of town, you're going to have a great meal, dress up and maybe see something from the Met, whether it's on the screen or live at The Sharon."

At Lake Sumter Landing, Old Mill Playhouse is the hometown theater, a good place for people to take their grandkids.

"You get a mixed bag of independent films there," Mills said.

And Barnstorm Theater cultivates more of a night-life atmosphere.

"It's right off the interstate," Mills said. "Leesburg's right around the corner. It makes sense to offer midnight movies."

Which is why the theater recently came out with Midnight Movie Madness, late night shows that start after 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights. For \$6 per person, the

UPCOMING EVENTS

Plans are in motion for a meet-and-greet with stars Robert Krantz and Peta Murgatroyd on March 6 at Barnstorm Theater. There will be a special screening of and a discussion about their new movie, "Faith, Hope & Love," which officially opens at Rialto Theatre on March 15.

SEE AN OSCAR NOMINEE

These films are showing in The Villages and are vying for Academy Awards on Feb. 24:

- "A Star is Born"
- "The Wife"
- "The Favourite"
- "Bohemian Rhapsody"
- "Vice"

Check thevillages theatres.com for showtimes.

SEE A FILM CLASSIC

"Gone With the Wind" will be shown Feb. 28 and March 3 at the Rialto Theater to celebrate the film's 80th anniversary. Advance tickets are available at the theater box office.

movies are usually action, horror and thriller movies, Mills said.

"You have to think about who's up at that time," Mills said. "We stick those there because they play best, but we do mix it up."

Special events add to the variety at the three theaters.

The wrestling exhibition last Sunday at the Barnstorm allowed sports fans to see several matches and view a new movie, "Fighting With My Family," about WWE Superstar Paige. Proceeds went to two charities. A red-carpet event at the Barnstorm in September raised money for Camp Boggy Creek, the camp for children with medical issues, and featured a special showing of "The Healer."

A group of service dogs came to the Rialto last September to help promote "Pick of the Litter," a documentary about how these animals are chosen, trained and matched with their eventual owners.

In each case, the idea is to help patrons get into a movie by giving them a real-life experience to go with what they see on screen.

The next event, on March 6 at the Barnstorm, will feature the stars of the upcoming romantic comedy "Faith, Hope & Love" for a meet-and-greet and special screening of the movie.

Residents enjoy having three individual theaters to go to.

"I like each one. Each one has a different theme, and they carry the movies I like," said Carol Coderre, of the Village Tierra Del Sol.

Individual movies don't always stay at the same theater, however. A movie that does well at Barnstorm, for example, might be moved to the Rialto Theatre a few weeks later.

"If a show is really good, they keep it, and that gives everyone a chance to go see it," said Ruth Daddona, of the Village Tierra Del Sol.

Concession operations are pretty much the same in all three theaters, but theater managers do get creative and try new things. Different combos work better at different locations.

"The movie theaters are spacious and clean and have nice concessions," Village of Bonnybrook resident Carolyn Forrest said. "The seats are comfortable. At my age, that's what you go for."

To add to concession choices, Lazy Mac's Taco Shack recently opened at Old Mill Playhouse.

It serves tacos, quesadillas, margaritas, sangria and more. To-go options are available for people who want to snack or drink during the movie.

"It's so good," Mills said. "It's the best kept secret so far, and I hope that the secret gets out."

The Villages Movie Theaters are in place to add something wholesome to the community, and to give people a well-rounded experience they can't get anywhere else.

"It is refreshing to know there are communities who value the art of filmmaking and that are committed to see films that have quality messages and share it with their family and friends," said Lange, the movie distributor. "I believe people want to be inspired and encouraged about what matters in life, including love, faith and friendship."

ARCHERY

Continued from A1

people don't get."

Peterson said clearing your mind while you are shooting can be like a form of meditating. And pulling back on the string requires a lot of arm strength, which gives you a workout.

For the clinics, those who sign up get hands-on teaching. "Each person will have someone with them, a coach to help them learn," Peterson said. "We have approximately 325 members in the club."

Anyone interested in joining the club, which formed in 2000, will have access to top-quality equipment as part of their membership.

Membership dues are \$25 for the first year and \$10 each year for renewal.

"I joined the year after it started," Peterson said. "It's a great group of archers and friends."

Peterson has been involved in archery nearly all his life. He got into the sport as a teenager and enjoys competitive shooting.

He said the steps an archer goes through are complex, and



Cindy Skop | Daily Sun

Bill Holl, of the Village of Largo, concentrates and steadies his aim as he draws back his bow and arrow during a class Wednesday at Paradise Recreation Center Archery Range.

they have to think about each move before they shoot.

Once you learn how to do it, though, you'll never want to stop.

"It's a great game you can do all your life," Peterson said.

Norm Sosin, of the Village of Winifred, is the main instructor at the clinics.

Sosin also instructs at the Archery 101 lessons the club

hosts.

"We have the same type of clinic at Fenney Recreation Center that we do at Paradise," he said. "We just host it less often — once a month for now."

There is no set day for the clinic at Fenney Recreation Center, so keep an eye on the monthly social calendar at districtgov.org.

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