


BEFORE THEY WERE VILLAGERS | C5
Dominic D'Amico worked on the Apollo 11 Lunar Module that put a man on the moon.

6 a.m. 9 a.m. 12 p.m. 3 p.m. 6 p.m. 9 p.m.

74° 80° 88° 92° 92° 83°

MADDIE CUTLER ON CHARITY | C1
The Lake Sumter Lions Club collects glasses and hearing aids for people in need.



TOP WORLD AND NATION NEWS

MEXICO TIGHTENS TRAVEL RULES ON PERUVIANS, A5

Across the Nation: Protest camp at university cleared, arrests made. **A3** | **Around the World:** Ship with the Olympic torch arrives in Marseille. **A18** | **In Business:** The hidden costs of owning and maintaining a home. **C10**

SPORTS NEWS

COUCH AT THE TOP AFTER THIRD DAY OF QUALIFYING

Jason Couch's 1,559-pin performance Wednesday at the PBA50 The Villages Classic vaulted him into the lead after the third day of qualifying. **B1**

LOCAL NEWS

GRIEFSHARE HELPS PEOPLE SUFFERING LOSS

The groups, which help people who are mourning a loved one, meet at many houses of worship in and around The Villages. **C1**

LOCAL NEWS

TEAM STARTUP ADDED TO CARING NEIGHBORS

The new group for the network of in-neighborhood volunteers hopes to make getting established easier to get more Villages involved. **C3**



Rachel Govola | Daily Sun

Peter Russell, from left, president of The Villages Homeowners Advocates, talks with John Rohan, director of The Villages Recreation and Parks Department; Drew Craven, executive director of The Villages Grown; Bob Trinh, CEO of The Villages Health; and Heather Long, CEO of UF Health Central Florida, during the VHA's "Our Community, Today and Tomorrow" on Wednesday at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

VHA: Quality of Life Here Is Unmatched

By KEITH PEARLMAN | Daily Sun Managing Editor

Peter Russell believes The Villages provides opportunities for a quality of life that can't be found anywhere else in the world. Russell, the president of The Villages Homeowners Advocates, made his case for that assertion during the organization's signature annual event Wednesday night at The

Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. "Last year, I focused on the concept of a three-legged stool, and how our organization was one leg of that stool along with the Developer and the Community Development District,"

Please See **VHA, A8**

WATCH THE PRESENTATION

"Our Community, Today and Tomorrow" airs on VNN (Comcast Channel 2, Daily Sun Mobile App) at 8 a.m., noon, 4 and 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

USGA Report on Executive Courses Looks at Turf, Trees

While continuing to replace aging turfgrass, remedies may include limited tree removal to let sun find greens.

By JEFF SHAIN | Daily Sun Specialty Editor

As officials took a U.S. Golf Association turf specialist on a grand tour of The Villages' collection of executive golf courses last month, they naturally spent a lot of time looking down.

They also spent a fair amount of time looking up.

Tree cover — specifically, the amount of shade cast onto problematic parts of greens and tee boxes — also received a considerable amount of attention in written observations compiled by USGA consultant Chris Neff.

"The inability to receive sunlight compromises recovery potential," Neff wrote in his report, made

public Wednesday when it was presented to the Amenity Authority Committee.

And to improve what's underneath golfers' feet, it may be necessary to make alterations to what's overhead — which may include some highly selective tree removal.

"Yes, there's going to be some areas that have big oak trees that might have to come down, if that's what we need to do to have a better area on the golf course," Mitch Leininger, director of executive golf maintenance, told the AAC.

Please See **USGA REPORT, A9**

ONLY IN THE VILLAGES

By Jammal Cutler

Four Villagers traveled almost 300 miles south last month to compete in a taekwondo event and came back with black belts.

Thomas Pugliese, of the Village of Fernandina, Jerry Wroblewski, of the Village of Duval, Myra McElheney, of the Village of Bridgeport at Mission Hills, and Bill Betourne, of the Village of Dunedin, were promoted to second dan black belt.

"The extravaganza went great," Villages Taekwondo Club member Bruce Greenberger said. "Our students performed well and were all promoted. The rest of our group also performed well, and our master was extremely pleased."

Please See **TAEKWONDO, A9**

EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE

OUT & ABOUT IN THE VILLAGES

Try This Today: Cycle The Community With The Villages Bicycle Club

Get to pedaling with The Villages Bicycle Club. The group is filled with individuals who enjoy riding in a safe and friendly atmosphere to promote a healthy lifestyle. All Villages residents can join with guests welcome to tag along. The club's main ride days are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays starting from El Santiago Recreation. Newer riders are encouraged to arrive 10 minutes before departure to exchange information and be placed in the right-paced group. For more information head to thevillagebicycleclub.com.

—Greg Hughes, Daily Sun



George Horsford | Daily Sun

IN ENTERTAINMENT

Learn About Camp Villages at An Info Session

Find out more, **D1**

Plus: Find the lineup of entertainment at the town squares, theaters and beyond, **D3**

AT RECREATION CENTERS

Happening near you: From aqua aerobics to Zumba and everything in between, there's fun for everyone, **C8**

LOVIN' THE LIFESTYLE

Plan your perfect day in The Villages, **D1**

Recipes	D1
Comics	D4
Puzzles	D5
Horoscope	D7
Television	D8
Advice	D10

from the front page

VHA

Continued from A1

Russell said. "This year, I can tell you we've created our own three-legged stool, and our three legs are advocacy, philanthropy and wellness. With those three legs we're very stable. So now I want to put a seat on our stool and engrave it "Quality of Life."

Local leaders agreed the community offers all the ingredients needed for an unmatched quality of life, including Mark Morse, president and CEO of The Villages, who spoke with Russell in a pre-taped interview.

"I think that's right on point and it's what the residents of the community crave," Morse said. "We know the importance of activity and social connectivity as a determinant of how healthy you can be and how that can lead to a higher quality of life."

Morse said that factors into every equation about the development of the community.

"When you're looking for new things to do and you communicate with us about how you'd like to do that, we go out and try to deliver that," he said. "Then, when residents go out in the community and animate it, guess what happens? The quality of life continues to increase, and it just keeps going up exponentially. We feel this inertia that is happening around social connectivity and quality of life."

The Villages Community Development District spends every day working to maintain and enhance that quality



Peter Russell, president of The Villages Homeowners Advocates, walks onto the stage at the start of the VHA's "Our Community, Today and Tomorrow" event on Wednesday at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Rachel Govola | Daily Sun

of life, said Kenny Blocker, District manager.

"We're always looking at ways that we can continue to provide the best product and service we can," he said. "As we continue to grow we're always looking for what needs to change or improve to make sure we're maintaining everything we have that you came here for and to do that in perpetuity."

Blocker and deputy District manager Carrie Duckett spoke with Russell about several District departments dedicated to just that mission,

including The Villages Public Safety Department and Community Watch.

"Last year, many of you know we had some adversity regarding our budget for VPSD," Blocker said. "But Sumter County was gracious enough to grant our request to create a dependent district. So we've been trying to educate the residents on how this district will function and allow us to provide an even higher level of service as we move forward."

On Community Watch, Duckett said: "They are what we call the watchful eye

throughout the community. Community Watch is one of the first interactions many residents have, whether it's a patrol driver in their neighborhood or their gate attendant. They really are the security and customer service that reaches every inch of The Villages from County Road 42 all the way south of State Road 44."

Russell was then joined on stage by a group of community leaders — Drew Craven, executive director of The Villages Grown; John Rohan, director of The Villages Recreation and Parks; Bob Trinh, CEO of The

Villages Health; and Heather Long, CEO of UF Health Central Florida — for a discussion about how each of their organizations are interconnected in providing the quality of life residents expect.

Russell theorized that nutrition provided by The Villages Grown, the recreation and social activities offered through Recreation and Parks, the educational seminars and preventative medicine provided by The Villages Health and the care and rehabilitation services provided by UF Health The Villages Hospital create an ideal system for residents to become "super agers."

Trinh agreed with that concept.

"This is what I consider to be a health ecosystem," he said. "The recreation centers provide a place for our residents to get out and socialize and be active. They need to eat well, so The Villages Grown is providing great produce and we have classes that teach the residents how to use that to improve their nutrition. And when we have patients that need hospitalization they go and see Heather's team. Together we've created this ecosystem that is creating America's Healthiest Hometown."

Nutrition is a key element in the equation, Craven said.

"With what we're growing at the farm, and now inviting the community into the farm, we're getting first-hand feedback from the residents as to what are the tastes, the flavors and the crops they enjoy and love," he said. "Then we work with the chefs in the

community to deliver those. But more intimately, we're partnering with organizations like The Show Kitchen to teach them how to use those ingredients and incorporate them into their diet in a meaningful way."

Long shared that mobile stroke unit that is coming to the hospital will be delayed by a few months in order to have the absolute best technology possible.

"We're actually delaying it until next March, that's new hot off the press," she said. "We made that decision as of this morning because we are moving from a 16-slice CT scanner to a 32-slice CT scanner and we'll be the first in the world with that right here in The Villages. We're just waiting for the FDA to approve it, I have to add that caveat."

It's the residents themselves that help create the quality of life available here, Rohan said.

"What makes this place work is that every resident made a conscious decision to make The Villages their home," he said "They knew when they moved here they would be surrounded by believer and achievers. This community is alive and well because we're bringing in new ideas, new technologies, new medicine. That's what the residents expect and want. They want great care, great service and great quality of life. I think this team and thousands of others working here have all committed to bring that to them."

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