



**Livestream News
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localnews

**Have a News Tip?
Contact the Newsroom
352-753-1119, Ext. 5397**

CONSUMER NEWS

WORK FINISHED ON ENTRANCES TO CARE CENTERS' MEDICARE OFFICES

All construction has been completed on the exterior entrances to the Medicare insurance offices at the Colony, Creekside, Pinellas and Santa Barbara care centers. **C6**

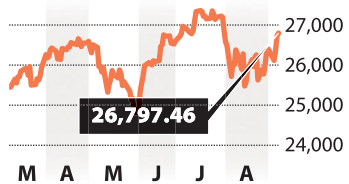
AT LEAST ONE DEAD IN PLANE CRASH

At least one person died Friday when a small aircraft crashed into a field near Singletary Road in Lady Lake. **Public Safety, C4**

THE DAY ON WALL STREET

Daily Stocks, **C7**

Dow Jones Industrial Avg.



Dow
+69.31
Close: 26,797.46

Nasdaq
-13.75
Close: 8,103.07

S&P 500
+2.71
Close: 2,978.71

INSIDE

- Weather **C2**
- Public Safety **C4**
- Obituaries **C4**
- Club Notes **C5**

Club Notes ... Group Happenings In The Villages

Learn more about what's going on with clubs' events and meetings throughout The Villages.

Briefs, C5

Our Town

WHERE WE LIVE AND WHO WE ARE

Katie Belle's Honors Vintage Entertainers

THE VENUE IS WHERE PERFORMERS COME — AND STAY



Max Gersh | Daily Sun

Suzie Casta has performed at Katie Belle's for eight years. She says Villagers are supportive and friendly.

INT

By **KRISTEN FIORE** | Daily Sun Senior Writer

Norman Lee remembers performing in a sequined gown. Joe Beddia was doing his impression of "The Godfather" for a group of friends when a Katie Belle's employee spotted his talent. Gerry "Rocky" Seader remembers performances that lasted until 1 a.m. on New Year's Eve. After being paired up, Donna Moore and Shawn Dunning created a show that's lasted at Katie Belle's for 14 years. The month of October at Katie Belle's is dedicated to honoring the venue's longtime entertainers. During entertainer month, guests who purchase a dinner on the nights that the honorees perform will get a free slice of anniversary cake. Honorees include longtime performers like Bobby Tate, **Please See ENTERTAINERS, C9**

LOCAL

DONATIONS ACCEPTED FOR DORIAN VICTIMS

YOUR Humane Society SPCA is asking for donations to aid animals.

Donations can be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday at 944 County Road 529A, Lake Panasoffkee. The humane society is teaming with Boondocks K-9 Search & Rescue who will be heading to the emergency zone to deliver supplies. For more information, call 352-793-9117.

— Kristi Schweitzer, Daily Sun

\$5

Admission Fee

Step-On-a-Stage Productions will present Orson Welles' "The War of the Worlds" at 2 p.m. Sept. 20 at Savannah Center. Tickets are at regional recreation centers.

— Michael Fortuna Daily Sun

CHARITY

SHINE HOLDING MEDICARE SESSION

The organization is holding last Medicare presentation of the year.

"Understanding Medicare" will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Manatee Recreation Center. No reservations are needed. SHINE volunteers offer counseling and answer questions about Medicare and prescription drug coverage, Medicare Advantage, Medigap plans and Medicaid. For more information, call 800-963-5337.

— Laura Sikes, Daily Sun

THIS & THAT

Introduction to Pickleball Classroom Lessons Being Held at Burnsed Rec Center

People new to the sport, or who haven't played in The Villages, may register for Pickleball 100, which will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Burnsed Recreation Center. The introduction to pickleball classroom lessons are required before new players take Pickleball 101 on a court. "The pickleball community has worked with us to come up with a modified plan," Burnsed Recreation Supervisor Madison Taylor said. The new schedule will have separate classes for people who have played, but not in The Villages, to get them playing sooner and for those who are entirely new to the sport. For information, visit the recreation center, 4019 Deskin Lane, or call 352-674-8430.



Dayna Strahley

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REC CENTER FACILITIES TO CLOSE FOR CLEANING

Rohan Recreation Center and sports pool is closed today for its quarterly cleaning. The fitness center and other outside facilities will remain open. Burnsed Recreation Center will close for quarterly maintenance Sunday. All outside facilities will remain open. Atlas Canine Recreation Park, which is off Moyer Loop, will close for quarterly maintenance Monday through Friday.



Mary Eklund | Village of St. James

Moment of Zen

Email your photo to photos@thevillagesmedia.com with "Moment of Zen" as the subject. Include your name and village/city. Photos should be from our community.

REGISTER NOW FOR FREE LINE DANCE LESSONS SEPT. 17

The Villages Recreation and Parks Department will offer basic line dance lessons, teaching the fundamentals in a social atmosphere. Registration is under way for the free lessons, which will be from 2 to 3:20 p.m. Sept. 17 at Eisenhower Recreation Center. Residents and their guests with qualifying guest IDs can sign up at districtgov.org or a regional recreation center.

from the front page



Max Gersh | Daily Sun

Donna Moore dresses as Patsy Cline during a performance at Katie Belle's on Spanish Spring Town Square.

ENTERTAINERS

Continued from C1

Suzie Casta, Clark Barrios, Gerry "Rocky" Seader, Norman Lee, Joe Beddia, Donna Moore, Shawn Dunning, Sal Fazio and Joe Hand.

"We want these nights to be special and we hope that the entertainers' fans and friends come out to celebrate with them," said Katie Belle's manager David Rees. "It's not often that an entertainer performs at a venue for over five years, let alone 10, 15, 20 or more years."

To check the entertainment schedule at Katie Belle's, call 352-750-9411, visit katiebell-esthivillages.com or check out the venue at 996 Del Mar Drive in Spanish Springs.

Norman Lee, 22 Years

When Katie Belle's first opened, Norman Lee found himself dressed from head to toe in a pink sequined gown, a blond wig and gloves.

The costume was for a performance based off the Supremes for a Motown medley set.

Another fond Katie Belle's memory for Lee is the time he got to sing "Hoochie Coochie Man" on stage with Lou Rawls, who was in The Villages for a charity event.

Lee has performed all over the country and around the world, but he said the best, most appreciative crowds are in The Villages.

"I've been working here so long that they're like family to me," Lee said. "It's always fun to perform where you know people. It literally is the friendliest hometown."

Lee's next performance at Katie Belle's is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Sept. 16.

Donna Moore, 21 Years

Though Katie Belle's has changed over the years, there's one thing that hasn't for Donna Moore: the friendliness and support of the Villagers and staff.

"They're really incredible," she said. "I love our managers who believe in entertainment and love live music."

After being paired up with Shawn Dunning, the two came up with the Donna & Dunning Show, which has lasted 14 years.

"We started performing together, and the more we added comedy bits and wigs and costumes, the more popular the show got," Moore said.

Moore said that she and Dunning have been through a lot together and are good friends. "We've both been raising our families," she said. "We brought babies into the world during the show."

Last year, Moore had to take a hiatus from the show as she recovered from breast cancer. But there's nothing she'd rather do than see the audience smile and laugh.

"This is my dream come true to do this show and do what I think is the best music in the world, Barbra Streisand, Patsy Cline, Lady Gaga," Moore said. "You get the applause and get people to relive the music. It's an incredible feeling."

The next Donna & Dunning Show will be performed at 6 p.m. Monday at Katie Belle's.

Gerry "Rocky" Seader, 20 Years

Two decades of performing in The Villages are starting to make Gerry "Rocky" Seader, founder of Rocky & The Rollers, more sentimental than anything.

develop over the years."

Tate's next performance at Katie Belle's is from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday.

Shawn Dunning, 14 Years

Shawn Dunning, known as Katie Belle's as Dunning Shaw, was randomly paired with Donna Moore 14 years ago, and the two turned their act into a comedic show with celebrity impressions and high-quality music.

"People always ask us where we get our energy," Dunning said. "It's the response. You look around the room and everyone's so happy to be there. It's always a good reaction."

Dunning said that each performance of the Donna & Dunning Show brings in a crowd mixed with longtime audience members and people seeing the show for the first time.

"We truly appreciate doing the show and the crowds that keep showing up," Dunning said. "We want to continue doing the show for as long as possible."

Joe Beddia, 13 Years

Joe Beddia, known for his "Godfather Comedy Club" show, was discovered by a Katie Belle's employee when he was doing his impression of "The Godfather" for a group of friends standing around him on the sidewalk in Spanish Springs.

It was lucky timing. "When we first came here, my wife was looking around at the sights, the streets, the flowers, the buildings," Beddia said. "But I noticed the people, all of the folks on the squares. Most of them were my people, baby boomers. I knew that I could relate to these people from the stage."

Breaking into the entertainment industry in The Villages was difficult for Beddia at first, but now he feels like he's been successful.

He has fulfilled his goal of performing at Savannah Center and has his own comedy show at Katie Belle's, where he loves both the staff and the audience.

"Now I just take the bat and go up to the plate as much as I can," Beddia said. "It's a great place to do my thing."

Beddia's next Katie Belle's performance is from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sept. 24.

Suzie Casta, 8 Years

Rees discovered Suzie Casta performing in a small restaurant.

"He said he wanted me to perform at Katie Belle's," Casta said. "I was in the right place at the right time. He's really taken me under his wing and I'm grateful to him personally."

Casta, a high-energy solo artist, said she never thought she'd be able to be a singer full time.

"I always did it as a side job back in New York," Casta said. "Coming to The Villages gave me an opportunity to do this full time."

Casta said that, hands down, her favorite thing about performing at Katie Belle's is the people.

"The Villagers are supportive, loving, warm and friendly," she said. "They're the best people."

Casta's next performance at Katie Belle's is from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Sept. 18.

Senior writer Kristen Fiore can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5270, or kristen.fiore@thevillagesmedia.com.

*Bedroom Set consists of Dresser/Mirror/Bed/Chest(2) Night Stands. No interest for 60 months with Equal Payments. Minimum Sale is \$2000. Deposit of 25% is due at point of sale. Minimum amount financed to qualify for this offer is \$1500. The monthly payment is determined by dividing the amount financed by the number of months in the offer. Will pay off the balance if all payments are made on time. Other transactions, including fees and other current charges may affect your overall monthly payment amount. This is a limited time offer. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases. New accounts: Standard Purchase APR 29.99%. Minimum interest charge \$1. Existing account holders, see your credit agreement for applicable terms. This offer may not be combined with any other special financing offers. Prior purchases excluded, and account must be in good standing. Offer subject to credit approval on a Renovate credit card account. See store associate for more information.