



LOCAL NEWS

To report local news:

Greg Miller
753-1119, ext. 7907,
or dailysun@
thevillagesmedia.com



Find Us Online

Facebook: The Villages Daily Sun
Twitter: @vdailysun

CONSUMER NEWS

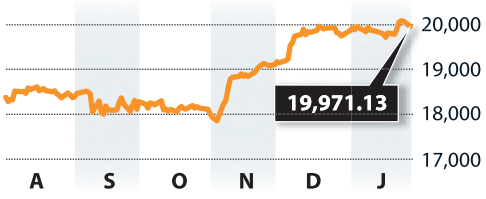
FLORIDA CANCER SPECIALISTS SHOWS OFF RENOVATIONS

Patients, volunteers and clinical staff crowded the lobby of the new Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute on Friday. The unveiling of the new 20,000-square-foot facility revealed numerous treatment rooms and offices that accommodate the growing number of physicians and patients. **Complete story, C6**

MARKET NEWS

U.S. stocks fell Monday as investors grew nervous following President Donald Trump's travel ban on seven Muslim-majority countries. **Full report, C7**

Dow Jones Industrial Average



Dow



- 122.65
Close:
19,971.13

Nasdaq



- 47.07
Close:
5,613.71

S&P 500



- 13.79
Close:
2,280.90

Our Town

WHERE WE LIVE AND WHO WE ARE



Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

Panera Bread employee Adrianna Hernandez places cookies and pastries into a box to be picked up by a local charity.

Restaurants Give Food To Area Soup Kitchens

Local eateries step up to the plate to donate leftover bread, desserts, meat and more to feed the hungry.

By **CIARA VARONE**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

THE VILLAGES

Shortly after Panera Bread locked its doors Wednesday night, Jerry Kinsman arrived at the Spanish Springs location expecting food.

Without protest, employee Adrianna Hernandez handed it over in cardboard boxes and clear plastic bags, some filled near the

brim with untouched pastries, bagels and baguettes.

Then Kinsman loaded it all into his car and drove out into the night — but he didn't head home with the smorgasbord.

Kinsman is a volunteer for Sunset Harbor Baptist Church in Summerfield, which distributes the food to those in need. The church is one of several charities benefiting from the donations of restaurants, such as Panera, in the area.

Serving the Community

Vikki Kaiser, director of marketing and public relations for Panera, said the locations at Spanish Springs and Lake Sumter Landing donated \$150,000 worth of food to nonprofits, such as Open Door Community Church, Grace Tabernacle Food Pantry and the Wildwood Soup Kitchen, in 2016. They were among the 30 locations run by the Covelli Family Limited Partnership franchise that donated a combined \$3.2 million worth of product.

All Paneras bake their breads and pastries fresh each day, which leads to leftovers that are given to hunger organizations nationwide through the company's Day-End

"It's a way that we can continue to feed over 250 people a day, six days a week, giving them high-quality, nutritious food."

DONNA SLIDER

Wildwood Soup
Kitchen manager

Please See **KITCHENS, C16**

SHERIFF'S OFFICE LOOKING FOR 2 SUSPECTS IN HOME INVASION

Marion County detectives are looking for two male suspects in the killings of a man and his stepson Sunday during a home invasion in Weirsdale, the sheriff's office said. **Public Safety, C4**



Talking With...
Bill Keen, Sumter County's new supervisor of elections, about changes.

Interview, C3

TOP OF THE NEWS

CHILI'S HOSTS GAME DAY BLOOD DRIVES

Eligible donors will receive a free appetizer and movie ticket.

Select Chili's restaurants are partnering with OneBlood for "Super Game Weekend" to host blood drives this weekend, including The Villages location near Spanish Springs, 1206 Avenida Central. Eligible donors who donate from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday will receive a coupon for a free appetizer courtesy of Chili's and a voucher for a free movie ticket.

— *Lurvin Fernandez,*
Daily Sun

THIS & THAT

Volunteers Provide Soothing Music At Florida Cancer Specialists Center



Drexler James

753-1119 ext. 9245
drexler.james@thevillagesmedia.com

Silence is a thing of the past at the new Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute lobby at the Sharon L. Morse Medical Building next to The Villages Regional Hospital. Under the leadership of **Rich Tisovec**, a dozen volunteers will play music from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tisovec wanted to form the group because he remembers his anxiety as a cancer patient. "I remember sitting in the lobby and sitting there with nothing except old magazines," the Village of Lynnhaven resident said. "And I thought, 'If only there was music in this lobby to get your mind off of things, wouldn't that be wonderful?'" Tisovec played the first note Thursday during the lobby's ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Nancy Nelson | Village of Calumet Grove

Moment of Zen Bright green lily pads are reflected in the water.

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

RED COLLECTION BOXES FOR ANGEL SNUGS IN REC CENTERS

The Angel Snugs of The Villages group needs Villagers to help share the gift of love this year. Red heart boxes will be set up in the lobby at Big Cypress Recreation Center and La Hacienda Recreation Center during the month of February. The group is asking for donations of soft yarn for their projects. For information, call leader **Jennifer Smith** at 250-3431.

THIS NEW CLUB CAN DO, AND WILL DO, FOR COMMUNITY

A new club is adopting a "can do" attitude to serve others. The Vera Cruz "Can Do" Club, in the Village Santo Domingo, collected 119 food items to donate to the Christian Food Pantry of Lady Lake to help restock shelves. "We came together as a group and had several parking lot parties, so we decided we wanted to do something for charity," President **Toni Gillenwater** said.

local news

KITCHENS

Continued from C1

Dough-Nation program. Each organization has its own day scheduled to pick up product.

Kaiser said Panera customers, especially in The Villages, are instrumental in supporting such promotions, like their upcoming Valentine cookies that will be on sale Feb. 1-14, with 100 percent of proceeds going to St. Joseph's Children's Hospital Heart Institute.

Darden-owned restaurants across the nation also donate surplus food every day. The Olive Garden and LongHorn Steakhouse locations in The Villages participate in this harvest program.

Since opening in 2009, the Olive Garden here has donated more than 40,800 pounds of soups, sauces, lasagna, meat and vegetables, according to spokeswoman Jessica Dinon.

The Lady Lake LongHorn has donated 64,000 pounds of food, including fresh fish, meats, baked potatoes, soup and vegetables since it opened in 2008, which equates to more than 53,000 meals, managing partner Cassandra Garcia said.

In addition to Olive Garden, LongHorn and Panera, the Wildwood Soup Kitchen receives food from Bob Evans, Carrabba's, Red Lobster, Bonefish Grill, Edible Arrangements and Pizza Hut, "every week from every one of them, and sometimes two or three times a week," soup kitchen manager Donna Slider said.

Though not the largest component of the meals they serve, Slider said the restaurants' generosity is key to supplementing the kitchen's daily output.

"It's a way that we can continue to feed over 250 people a day, six days a week, giving them high-quality, nutritious food," Slider said.

Happy to Give Back

Restaurant owners are grateful for the opportunity to put their unused food to good use.

Rachelle Neck and Becky Pilipow, owners of Edible Arrangements at Southern Trace Plaza, said the soup kitchen's volunteers show up four times a week to pick up fresh strawberries, pineapple, honeydew and cantaloupe that the store can't use — not because there's anything wrong with the fruit, but because it doesn't meet the aesthetic standards of their arrangements.

"We appreciate the soup kitchen because it's nice that people who can't afford fruit can go there," Pilipow said.

Neck said they are seeking more charities to come collect their extra fruit, which is cut three times a day, because they're still throwing some away.

Second Harvest Food Bank



Michael Johnson | Daily Sun

Volunteer Jerry Kinsman, of Summerfield, carries a box of donated food from Panera in Spanish Springs for the Sunset Harbor Baptist Church.

receives donations of fresh food from Darden restaurants throughout Central Florida, and its president and CEO, Dave Krepcho, said that at a time when food banks are seeking healthier options to combat illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes, restaurants can help supply unprocessed food that would otherwise go in the trash.

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, signed into law in 1996, encourages businesses to donate food by protecting them from civil or criminal liability, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

So why don't more restaurants donate their leftovers, cutting down on the 133 billion pounds of food the United States Department of Agriculture estimates is wasted each year?

"A lot of them, they're just not familiar with that good Samaritan law," Krepcho said. "If they do, they're concerned about food safety, and they should be."

Garcia said LongHorn is committed to food safety, treating, "all of our donations with the highest food standards, making sure we do the same thing to that food that we do to the food we serve our guests."

Making a Difference

Wendy Gallegos, associate pastor at Open Door Community Church, said she is grateful for organizations that take that initiative. Her church receives products from Publix and Panera to feed the hungry.

"Summerfield, especially the area where we're at, is a poor community, so there's a lot of people that would not necessarily have food otherwise," Gallegos said.

Gallegos witnessed the poverty of developing countries while living in Haiti, seeing children running around with distended stomachs eating mud pies because they didn't have food and they didn't have access to these kinds of programs.

She also recalled an incident in Summerfield when a young man collecting food from her church said he hadn't eaten in two days. Incidents like this make Gallegos especially angry about restaurants throwing usable food away.

"It infuriates me, because it could be making a difference," Gallegos said. "We are blessed to live in America, and there shouldn't be a hunger crisis. There shouldn't be people having to choose between having to put gas in their tank to get to work or food."

After meeting Kaiser, Gallegos said she had a message to send back to the corporate office on behalf of the people Open Door has fed for the past three years with Panera's bread.

"It has made a huge difference in our community," Gallegos said, tears welling in her eyes. "I'm sure that they probably wonder sometimes if it's worth it, and it really is."

Ciara Varone is a staff writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 9036, or ciara.varone@thevillagesmedia.com.

Road Closure Affecting Church Attendance

By RACHEL STUART
Daily Sun Staff Writer

WILDWOOD

A road project at the intersection of County Road 466 and U.S. Highway 301 has been tough on attendance at Oxford United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Michael Beck, senior pastor at the church, said there is only one back road for churchgoers to take, but very few people are familiar with the area.

The project has closed the road right at the church's main entrance at 3906 E. CR 466.

"I think the road being closed is affecting our reach to new people," he said. "It's unfortunate because people looking for Oxford UMC for the first time can't find it."

Beck serves as the senior pastor at both Oxford UMC and Wildwood United Methodist Church. He said more people are attending the Wildwood church because they don't know how to

get to Oxford UMC.

"Ultimately, I think it will be a good thing once the road is back open and we welcome change, but it's definitely having a huge negative impact on our church right now with that being the main entrance to our church," he said.

The road project started in September, said Richard Baier, assistant county administrator and public works director for Sumter County. The county is widening CR 466 to three lanes, with sidewalks on each side.

"They have until the end of September, but it looks like they may finish a little early," he said. "We're trying to make sure the traffic continues to flow to and from the businesses, as well as to and from The Villages."

Church members are improvising to deal with the situation.

Nicole Pennington, the church's associate pastor, said church trustees have made white signs with red lettering that reads, "Oxford UMC," with an arrow directing traffic to the church. If guests are traveling west on CR 466, they can turn right onto U.S. Highway 301, and then take a left onto County Road 201. Following the road to the end will take drivers back to the church.

"We just have to be patient.

We don't have a choice. We just have to advertise, make signs and try to draw maps for people," Pennington said.

Although Pennington has made some maps for parishioners to help them find the church, she said some people are just too nervous about getting lost. The church also is depending on its parishioners to spread the word and help others find the church.

After returning to the church from his home state of Indiana in October, seasonal parishioner Scott MacDonald, of the Village of Bonnybrook, said he found the construction disruptive. But he has attended the church for four years and is familiar with the back way to get there.

"Until they get that road open, it's going to hurt. If the members of the church want to bring new people, they have to pick them up and show them how to get there," he said.

With help from MacDonald and other parishioners, church leaders hope the faithful can find their way.

"Anybody looking for the church would have a hard time. You can't really see it from 301, and the back way isn't a familiar way to people," MacDonald said. "New attendance would be extremely difficult."

NECK PAIN? BACK PAIN?
SURGERY IS NOT YOUR ONLY OPTION

✓ Herniated Discs ✓ Sciatic Pain
✓ Degenerative Discs ✓ Numbness & Tingling
✓ Spine Stenosis ✓ Failed Back Surgery

FREE SEMINAR
TODAY, Jan. 31 at 3pm
Attend a FREE SEMINAR to learn about a breakthrough, non-surgical treatment for back & neck pain

Dr. Jason E. Davis, D.C.
As Seen On: FOX abc, CBS NEWS, NBC NEWS

Call to reserve your seat:
352-775-0906
1585 Santa Barbara Blvd, Suite A, The Villages, FL 32159
www.DavisSpineInstitute.com

DAVIS CLINIC OF CHIROPRACTIC INC.
Injury Care • Nutrition • Rehabilitation

GOLF CARE APPROVED

Chadia's HAIR SALON

JANUARY SPECIAL
COLOR, CUT & STYLE \$75
New Clients Only
with Cha-Cha or Stefany

15 Years Experience!
Lacianna (Cha-Cha) Stefany

352-750-2335
510 E. Hwy. 466 • Lady Lake, FL
1/4 mile East of Rolling Acres on Right, In Sabal Palms Plaza
Tues-Thurs 9am-7pm • Fri 9am-5pm • Sat 9am-4pm • Closed Sun & Mon
WELLA • REDKEN • NIOXIN • PUREOLOGY • NYX MAKE-UP



We Specialize in Utilizing Landscaping to Create Privacy and Unique Outdoor Environments

- Resident of The Villages® Community & Son
- 23 Years in Business
- Licensed & Insured
- Creative Landscape Design
- Professional Installation
- Written Warranty
- NO Deposits Required
- Free Estimates
- Custom Water Features
- Landscaping Lighting
- Stacked Stone Walls
- Paver Patios
- Exquisite Palm Trees

Village Landscaping
Privacy Landscaping Specialists

FREE ESTIMATES
www.village-landscaping.com
352-409-2655 • 352-250-1365

VISA MasterCard

Are Dark Rooms A Problem?

Buy 1 Save \$100
Buy 2 Save \$240
Buy 3 Save \$450
Call for details ENDS 1/31/2017

Professional installation in 2 hours

- Brighten dark rooms with natural light
- No structural modifications needed
- Free in-home consultations
- 30% Federal Tax Credit*

THE SOLARGUYS™
Our Certified Installation Consultants
Larry M., Larry G., Rob B., Tim, Kevin L., Chris, Eric, Joel, Javier

INDUSTRY AFFILIATIONS & LICENSING
Building Contractor License #CBC1260615
Roofing License #CCC1330841

SHOWROOM LOCATION
13624 S. US Hwy. 441
Summerfield, FL 34491
1 Mile South of Market of Marion

CALL FOR FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION
1-866-639-4871
www.TheSolarGuys.com