



Forecast C2

Heavy t-storms

Today's high: 92

Tonight's low: 74

The Villages®

DAILY SUN

ClassifiedsF1-F12
LifestylesD1-D12
LocalC1-C10
Movie ListingsD3
ObituariesC6
PuzzlesD7
Travel & Leisure.... E1-E8
TV GridD10

\$1.00

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2014

www.thevillagesdailysun.com

North reigns supreme at North/South Classic

After playing to a deadlock on the opening day, Team North won the foursome play Saturday to prevail with the North/South Classic trophy.

Sports B1

Florida ranks high in road, bridge quality

According to TRIP, a national transportation research group, only 4 percent of Florida's major roads are in poor condition.

Local C1

The Villages

AAMC chief touts Villages Health primary care initiative

By LARRY D. CROOM
DAILY SUN OMBUDSMAN

WHEN Dr. Darrell Kirch visited The Villages more than two years ago, the health care initiative in Florida's Friendliest Hometown was just starting to gain steam.

The Villages Health-USF Health partnership was in its infancy, with the first primary care center still months away from opening its doors.

The USF Health survey – one that was completed by more than 33,000 residents and used to shape the future of health care here – was a few months away from being conducted.

And the idea of revamping the way health care is delivered was still a dream – albeit a dream with a driving force and a clear vision behind it.

Fast-forward more than two years, and the longtime president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges is quick to point out that he is thrilled to see the health care initiative here succeeding and gaining steam as it continues to grow.

See KIRCH, A6

US doctor with Ebola brought to Atlanta

An American physician who fell ill with the virus while treating others afflicted in West Africa was transferred Saturday to Emory University Hospital.

World A3



Charity highlight
Prostate Cancer Awareness



Vol. 17 Issue 215



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun

Janet Comesky, known as Hop Scotch, of Clown Alley No. 179, smiles alongside Aubrey Moore, left, 8, of Buena Vista, Va., Madison Weiner, 8, of Tampa, and Angelina Moore, 10, of Buena Vista, Va., during the Camp Villages Clowning Around Carnival at Savannah Center.

SUMMER OF SMILES



Amy J. Correnti / Daily Sun

Benton Stuart, 4, grandson of Villager Judy Stuart.



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun

Ming Qiao, 8, visiting from Maryland.



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun

Cecelia Ford, 6, visiting from St. Petersburg.



Cal Gaines / Daily Sun

Ashley Bobo, 6, at a Camp Villages Buckaroos event.

Camp Villages closes out another successful season

By MADISON MCDANIEL
DAILY SUN STAFF WRITER

MARKING the end of Camp Villages, magician Tony Brent performed his final trick on Friday – making the crowd at Colony Cottage Recreation Center disappear.

“What a wonderful Camp Villages we have had this summer,” said Lisa Parkyn, lifestyles events manager for The Villages Recreation Department. “All of the camps were amazing, and we had a great turnout.”

For the 14th year, Camp Villages provided intergenerational camps in which Villagers and their campers participated together for eight weeks, from June 9 through Aug. 1. The camp included sports, games, arts and crafts, cooking, dancing, magic shows and animal events.

See SMILES, A5



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun

Matthew Haak, 9, visiting from Winter Springs.



Cal Gaines / Daily Sun

Ryder Burns, 3, at a Camp Villages Buckaroos event at Savannah Center.

AMERICA’S HEALTHIEST HOMETOWN

A weekly report on The Villages’ efforts to become “America’s Healthiest Hometown” compiled by Daily Sun Ombudsman **Larry D. Croom**. Email larry.croom@thevillagesmedia.com. Or call him at 753-1119, ext. 9366.

Contact The Villages Health at 674-1700 or visit the website at thevillageshealth.com.

Did you know?

Jamie Kinsey, a physician assistant at the Belleview Care Center, is a big fan of the 1939 classic film “Gone with the Wind,” starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh.

All about care center manager Deneal Sullivan

Primary care doctors, specialists and other medical providers have been recruited as part of an initiative to revamp health care right here in Florida’s Friendliest Hometown. The Villages Health is partnering with USF Health to bring in family doctors, care providers and specialists who will work as a team, all in the best interests of serving patients. This weekly feature will introduce these innovative medical providers who have joined this effort.

Why did you decide to become a care center manager?

I certainly was impressed by what The Villages Health is trying to accomplish. It truly is revolutionary. I’ve been a student of health care administration for many years and there’s nothing else like this. So the opportunity to be part of something this exciting – on the ground level – it was like bees to honey.

What is your favorite part of being a care center manager?

The patients. Sometimes I get patients who are unhappy about one thing or another and I have the opportunity to talk to them and explain why things were done the way that they were. Or maybe it is that we just didn’t do things 100 percent correctly. So there’s the opportunity to really turn that around and make them a loyal patient of ours. I take that really seriously.

Do you find that you have a lot of satisfied patients?

We have almost a nearly perfect satisfaction rate, which is almost unheard of in health care. It’s something that we’re really proud of. But until it’s 100 percent, we’re really not going to be completely satisfied. So when people check out at the front desk or have any interaction, I’ve asked my



Care Center: Pinellas
Age: 50
Undergraduate: University of Missouri
Master’s degree: University of Missouri
Years of health care experience: About 30

staff, if anybody leaves here and they are less than 100 percent satisfied, I want to know about it and I want to talk to them. That’s the fun part of the job is talking to the patients.

What is your personal philosophy on health care?

In my role as a manager, I am the coach. So to make sure that my staff has the resources and the knowledge and everything that they need to take the best care of the patients and allow them to really live out their dreams.

Creating America’s Healthiest Hometown

What is your personal philosophy on health care?

“We have to reduce costs. America cannot continue to spend what it’s spending now on health care and remain competitive. We’ll be spending \$4 trillion a year in health care. The problem is that 60 percent of health care costs are borne by our companies. No other industrial nation requires its companies to pay for health care. We’re bankrupting our economy by doing this. At the same time, our outcomes aren’t all that good. So we have to improve outcomes and lower costs. That’s got to be the mantra of every doctor and every dean of every medical school, and the more effective we are at doing that, the healthier the workforce and the economy. Plus, it’s the right thing to do.”

Dr. Charles Lockwood,
USF Health senior vice president and dean of Morsani College of Medicine



Care Centers in The Villages

Primary care

The Villages Health Colony Care Center
280 Farner Place, 674-1710

The Villages Health Santa Barbara Care Center
1575 Santa Barbara Blvd., 674-1740

The Villages Health Pinellas Care Center
2485 Pinellas Place, 674-1720

The Villages Health Mulberry Grove Care Center
8877 S.E. 165th Mulberry Lane, 674-1750

The Villages Health Lake Sumter Creekside Care Center
1050 Old Camp Road, Building 100, 674-1760



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun file photo

Dr. Darrell Kirch, president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges, makes a point while speaking about The Villages Health initiative during a visit to Florida’s Friendliest Hometown more than two years ago. Kirch, who is also an educator and medical scientist, says it is vitally important for patients to become partners with their primary care physicians.

KIRCH, from A1

Coming Aug. 10
Meet the nurse practitioners and physician assistants who care for patients at The Villages Health.

“It has progressed in a way that actually is even beyond my wildest dreams,” Kirch said. “It’s not where I hope it gets, but the foundations that have been laid are incredible.”

Kirch said the biggest piece of the equation already is in place.

“The most important thing that’s been done is the very solid concept of primary care wrapping around the patients in the community,” he said. “That foundation seems to be firmly established and well accepted and appreciated by the residents of The Villages.”

In fact, Kirch added, the idea of having primary care centers that carry the prestigious designation of patient-centered medical homes is critical to the success of the initiative.

“There are many things that have been flaws in the American health care system,

but one of the biggest flaws has been that the system has been wrapped around the experts and not the patients,” he said. “When you’re a patient, you want your care to be focused on you, not the convenience of various doctors.”

Kirch, who also is a well-known physician, educator and medical scientist, said the patient-centered medical home concept – a way of organizing primary care that emphasizes access, care coordination and communication, among other things – really is common sense in many ways.

“It’s what you’d want for yourself and for somebody you love when they’re sick,” he said. “We’re rediscovering

what the concept of a good doctor really is. And I think the physicians I’ve met and worked with at The Villages really exemplify, in my mind, good doctors.”

Kirch said one of the many positives about The Villages is that residents oftentimes put an emphasis on living a healthy lifestyle. He said that includes a huge social connectedness factor, which is literally off the charts, according to the USF Health survey.

“The Villages struck me as a learning community,” he said. “It is a place of great values and great human connectedness. People there are eager to know more about how to stay healthy and how they can manage whatever illnesses come their way, in the most effective way. They become great partners with their physicians.”

Kirch said he is not surprised that other communities are taking a look at what is happening in The Villages.

“Everybody knows that

we need a better model of health care delivery,” he said. “We have great medicine, great doctors, great medical schools, the best tests – the best of all those things. But we don’t have the best system. So if people see someone who’s built a great system like The Villages Health is doing, they will flock to it.”

Dr. Elliot Sussman, chair of The Villages Health, said he appreciates receiving encouragement and insights from Kirch.

“Very early on, Darrell said, ‘What you’re doing here is pioneering, innovative, very different, pretty unusual for a community to undertake and potentially important, both for this community and to other communities throughout the country.’ It was confirming and very reassuring,” Sussman said. “Darrell had always been direct and he called it just like he saw it. So it meant a lot that he said what’s happening at The Villages is really important for this community.”

The Dr. Darrell Kirch File

Age: 65

Education:
Undergraduate
University of Colorado (1973)
Doctor of Medicine
University of Colorado School of Medicine (1977)

Residency training:
Chief Resident, Psychiatry Service, Veterans Administration Medical Center, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver (1981-82)

Staff Physician, Career Residency Program, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, and Colorado State Hospital, Pueblo, Colorado (1980-81)

Other professional positions:
Senior Vice President for Health Affairs, Dean of the College of Medicine and Chief Executive Officer

of the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, Pennsylvania (2000-06)

Senior Vice President for Clinical Activities and Dean, School of Medicine, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia (1998-2000)

Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia (1995-99)

Dean, School of Medicine, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia (1994-98)

Acting Scientific Director, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Maryland (1993)

Deputy Scientific Director, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Maryland (1992-93)

Deputy Director, Division of Clinical Research, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, Maryland (1991-92)

Associate Director for Clinical Neuroscience, Division of Clinical Research, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, Maryland (1991-92)

Chief, Unit on Neurobehavioral Studies, Neuroscience Center at Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1989-92)

Acting Deputy Director, Division of Clinical Research, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, Maryland (1990-91)

Chief, Schizophrenia Research Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, Maryland (1989-91)

Medical Director, Neuropsychiatric Research Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1987-89)

Deputy Clinical Director, William A. White Division, Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1985-87)

Senior Staff Fellow, Neuropsychiatry Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1984-87)

Medical Staff Fellow, Adult Psychiatry Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1982-84)

Clinical Research Unit Administrator, Adult Psychiatry Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C. (1982-83)