



Forecast C2

Partly sunny

Today's high: 85

Tonight's low: 66

The Villages®

DAILY SUN

\$1.00

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014

Classifieds F1-F14
 Puzzles D7
 Lifestyles D1-D12
 Local C1-C10
 Obituaries C4
 Sports B1-B10
 Travel & Leisure E1-E6
 TV Grid D10

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China ship hears possible jet 'signal'

A Chinese ship searching for the missing Malaysian jetliner reported hearing a "pulse signal" in Indian Ocean waters with the same frequency emitted by the plane's data recorders.

World A3

Poll: Election indicators suggest GOP edge

The latest Associated Press-GfK poll finds registered voters who are strongly interested in politics favored the Republicans 51 percent to 37 percent.

Nation A11

Florida focus

Gators ousted by Huskies in Final Four

Southeastern Conference player of the year Scottie Wilbekin and fellow guards Michael Frazier II and Kasey Hill struggled in a 63-53 loss to Connecticut in an NCAA semifinal Saturday night.

The Huskies will face Kentucky, who defeated Wisconsin 74-73 in the other semifinal game, on Monday for the national championship.

Fast start, wasted: Florida led 16-4 over the game's first 10 minutes, but UConn got hot from 3-point range and started chipping into the lead. By the time the first half ended, Florida was down three and out of sync.

Cold shooting: The Gators were 1-for-10 from 3-point range, the team's fewest treys made this season. Wilbekin missed all three of his shots from 3-point range and was 2-for-9 from the field. **Page B1**



Afghans turn out in droves to vote

Afghan voters lined up at polling stations on Saturday, defying a threat by the Taliban to cast ballots in what promises to be the nation's first democratic transfer of power.

World A22



Charity highlight

Spina Bifida Awareness



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Vol. 17 Issue 096

Volunteers in The Villages

A week for giving back



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun

Pat Screamton, of the Village Santiago, helps paint a mural Wednesday at Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School in Weirsdale. Members of the Santiago Women's Club volunteered to paint the mural in the kindergarten playground area of the school.

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week is today through Saturday. It's a time to exhibit humanitarianism. Here are a couple of volunteer ideas:

Fabric Fun Arts and Crafts club

Make fidget quilts for Alzheimer's patients through The Villages Fabric Fun Arts and Crafts club. To volunteer or request a quilt for a loved one, call Micki MacCumber at 350-6853.

Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School

Help children at Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School. To request a volunteer form, call the school at school at 821-2742.

Villagers hold volunteering close to their hearts

By KATIE LEWIS / DAILY SUN STAFF WRITER

THE VILLAGES

Pat Screamton painted her heart out Wednesday while volunteering on an artistic project at Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School.

The Village Santiago resident is one of the many Villagers who exemplify the importance of observing National Volunteer Week today through Saturday in The Villages and elsewhere.

In the eyes of volunteers like Screamton, the school project is an opportunity to celebrate a sense of compassion.

"It's such an uplifting project," Screamton said about her volunteer work at the elementary school. "Now, when the kids look out their classroom windows, they'll see a big explosion of color." **See Volunteers, A9**

America's Healthiest Hometown

Villages Health doctors excited to team up with audiologists

By LARRY D. CROOM
DAILY SUN OMBUDSMAN

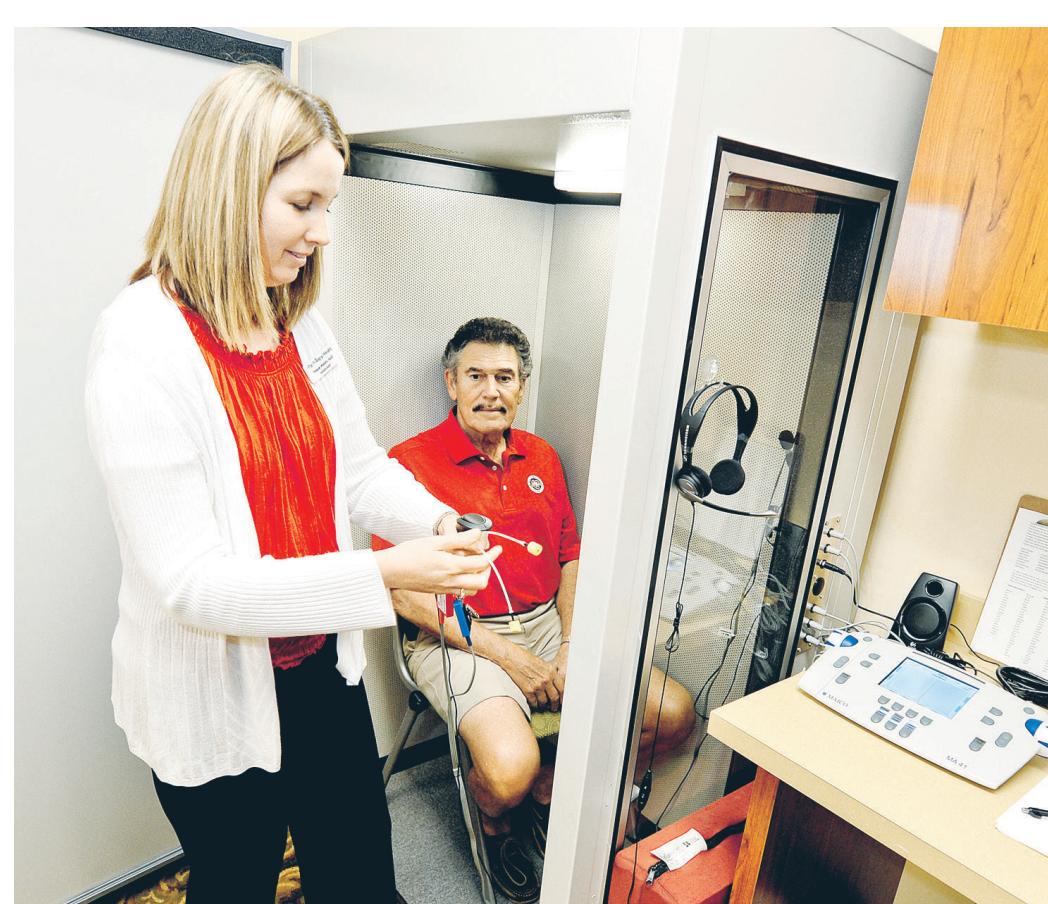
Dr. Stephen Fischer clearly knows the benefits of having audiologists as medical colleagues.

In fact, the longtime primary care physician at the Belleview Care Center cracked a smile recently as he recalled sending a patient to Dr. Al Turri, director of audiology for The Villages Health.

"He had poor hearing for years and years and it really affected his life," Fischer said. "He missed out on a lot of conversations and a lot of family things and would not go places because he either couldn't hear or when he went to a place, like a ballgame or something, it was just noise."

Turri fitted the patient with effective and affordable hearing aids and a short time later, he was back in Fischer's office with a renewed outlook on life.

See AUDILOGY, A7



Bill Mitchell / Daily Sun
Dr. Tressie Waldo, an audiologist with The Villages Health, works with patient Rick McKelvy, of the Village of Virginia Trace, recently at the Pinellas Care Center.

17%

or 36 million American adults report some degree of hearing loss.

18%

of adults 45-64 years old reported hearing loss.

30%

of adults 65-74 years old reported hearing loss.

Warning signs

People with hearing loss may find it hard to have a conversation with friends and family. They may also have trouble understanding a doctor's advice, responding to warnings, and hearing doorbells and alarms.

— National Institutes of Health

AUDIOLOGY, from A1

"He says, 'for the first time when I take a walk, I can hear birds. I didn't know there were birds singing,'" Fischer said. "And he says, 'I don't have to turn my TV up as loud.'"

That patient, by the way, is Fischer's 92-year-old father, Gene.

"He's reaping the benefit of it," the University of Louisville School of Medicine graduate said of his father's decision to seek help. "Every time I see him, he comments on something new that he didn't realize he was missing."

Fischer is one of many Villages Health primary care physicians who share an appreciation of the audiology services Turri and Dr. Tressie Waldo provide in their facilities.

"The best part is the collaboration that we're able to have on patients," said Dr. J.D. Steed, medical director of the Bellevue Care Center. "They are right down the hallway and if a patient's got a hearing concern, we can come right down and



Dr. Al Turri, director of audiology for The Villages Health, speaks with Jim Scarlett, a resident of the Village of Chatham, before giving him a hearing test at the Colony Care Center recently.

talk to them. And we share the same medical record, so we can freely see what's going on there."

Dr. Joe Hildner, chief medical officer of The Villages Health, said he truly appreciates the passion both Turri and Waldo bring to the table on a

daily basis.

"Dr. Turri is a man on a mission and he's devoted his career to conveying the message that hearing well matters, Hildner said. "And Dr. Waldo is like a prophet or an apostle. She's out there communicating

the same sort of message.

"They have seen the change in the quality of patients' lives through what they're able to do for them. And when you are routinely improving patients' lives, you can see how they can become very excited and

very passionate."

Dr. Robert Reilly, medical director of the Mulberry Grove Care Center, said he appreciates having audiology services available when acute care needs arise.

"If patients have sudden onset of hearing loss that came out of nowhere, or vertigo, balance or dizziness issues, there are certain maneuvers and techniques that the audiologists can do, right then, that can impact the patient's well-being and help them feel better immediately," Reilly said. "So that's an invaluable resource."

Dr. Saul Rosenblum said he appreciates having the ability to refer patients who fail an initial hearing screen for further evaluation without forcing them to visit another facility.

"Patients don't like to travel from place to place to get piecemeal medicine," said the medical director of the Santa Barbara Care Center. "Let the patient be the center of this sphere of medicine, and we'll bring things to them that we think makes sense. And audiology is one of the ones that makes the most sense."

Dr. Elliot Sussman, chair of The Villages Health, said he believes audiology is an extremely important complement to primary care, especially since about 30 percent of those 65 and older suffer from some type of hearing issue.

"In the majority of cases, it's treatable," he said. "So a good audiologist, working with a good primary care doc, can really make a difference in that person's life."

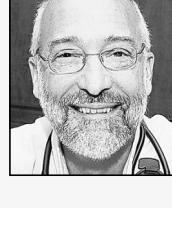
Dr. Aya Olejeme, of the Bellevue Care Center, said she considers helping those with hearing issues a key part of her job.

"It's a privilege to be able to do that for our patients and for them to trust us with something so important as their hearing," she said. "And it's incredibly rewarding to see those patients who come back with a noticeable difference."

Dr. Dave Jordahl agreed.

"The patients that live here in The Villages have a lot of things available to them," said the medical director of the Colony Care Center. "And it would be certainly sad to have a significant amount of hearing loss not addressed."

The benefits of audiology



"If your doctor needs help figuring out a problem with dizziness, it's often a doctor of audiology that can do the most good. So they really take care of a broad spectrum of issues and problems. It can really improve one's wellness and one's ability to enjoy their life."

Dr. Joe Hildner, chief medical officer, The Villages Health



"The important thing about hearing loss is that some patients don't appreciate that they're actually having a problem with their hearing. So we'll screen patients for hearing loss, and it's nice to have audiology right on-site where we can do the formal, in-the-booth hearing evaluation."

Dr. Dave Jordahl, medical director, Colony Care Center



"A symptom that we see in a lot of our patients is vertigo. So many times we have the audiologist come into our visit and do some studies on the spot, which has been absolutely incredible to have."

Dr. Aya Olejeme, Bellevue Care Center



"Getting (patients) the tools they need to be able to have a better quality of life is what really we're all about. It's about taking care of people and not just extending life, but getting them quality. Hearing is a big part of that, so it's a great feeling to be able to help somebody in that way."

Dr. Robert Reilly, medical director, Mulberry Grove Care Center



"Dr. Turrie and Dr. Waldo have taught us that the sooner you can identify the problem, the more preventable it is later on. So that's why we're trying to identify patients before they truly have a hearing loss problem that is irreparable."

Dr. J.D. Steed, Bellevue Care Center



"If you don't hear, you're going to lack stimulation, and I think it's going to make you want to go back more into yourself. You're not going to seek out other people or want to communicate with other people. Brain activity, I think, is less if you don't have some social interactions."

Dr. Helene Aisenstat, Pinellas Care Center



"There's a communication between the audiologist and the primary care doctor, in terms of how do you maximize the benefits. Who really needs this? Who doesn't need this? That's part of the fun of being a primary care doc with these things available to us."

Dr. Saul Rosenblum, medical director, Santa Barbara Care Center

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USF Health in The Villages Offering Free Blood Pressure Screenings

The key to preventing cardiovascular disease is managing your risk factors, such as high blood pressure.

USF Health is dedicated to raising awareness about heart disease and increasing knowledge about prevention. Educate yourself on the dangers of heart disease and ways to keep your heart healthy.

A healthy blood pressure is vital for keeping all parts of our bodies supplied with the energy and oxygen we need. A blood pressure test measures the pressure in your arteries as your heart pumps. You might have a blood pressure test as part of a routine doctor's appointment or as a screening for high blood pressure (hypertension). Many people, such as those with high blood pressure, do their own blood pressure tests at home so that they can

better track their health. You may have frequent blood pressure tests if you've been diagnosed with prehypertension, high blood pressure (hypertension) or low blood pressure (hypotension).

Problems can occur if your blood pressure is too high or too low. High blood pressure is a serious condition that can lead to coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke, kidney failure and other health problems. Approximately 1 in 3 adults in the United States has high blood pressure. The condition itself usually has no signs or symptoms so you can have it for years without realizing it. During this time high blood pressure can damage your

heart, blood vessels, kidneys, and other parts of your body. If your blood pressure is too high, treatment may help prevent damage to your body's organs. If you have a low blood pressure you may have symptoms of dizziness or feel faint. Knowing your blood pressure numbers is important, even when you're feeling fine. If your blood pressure is normal, you can work with your health care team to keep it that way.

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