



Forecast C2

Clouds, sun, showers

Today's high: 68

Tonight's low: 56

The Villages®

# DAILY SUN

Classifieds .....F1-F12  
Puzzles .....D7  
Lifestyles .....D1-D12  
Local .....C1-C12  
Obituaries .....C4  
Sports .....B1-B10  
Travel & Leisure .....E1-E6  
TV Grid .....D10

\$1.00

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2014

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Only in The Villages



GARY  
CORSAIR  
DAILY SUN

## The power of a smile can't be underestimated

Snickers. Stares. Laughs. And the inevitable "Pardon me, but I have to ask ..."

Happens whenever Dave Bryant wears his pink knickers.

In fact, it's the reason he wears the pink britches – not for guffaws and gawks, but because someone invariably asks why.

"It opens the door for me to talk about breast-cancer awareness," said the trim 63-year-old whose brisk stride conveys "I'm on a mission."

Actually, he is.

"I've been fighting against breast cancer for several years," said Bryant, of the Village of Buttonwood.

His tussle with the disease the National Breast Cancer Foundation says afflicts one in eight women began in 2001 when his sister was diagnosed.

"I decided I would do the

See **CORSAIR**, A10



George Horsford / Daily Sun  
Dave Bryant, of the Village of Buttonwood, wears a fake mustache to help bring a smile to patients at Moffitt Cancer Center at The Villages.

America's Healthiest Hometown

# Providing care with pride



Judy Genshaft, president of the University of South Florida, has some fun Friday with the large scissors used for the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new USF Health Specialty Care Center at The Villages.

Photos by George Horsford / Daily Sun

## USF Health celebrates addition of specialty care center

By LARRY D. CROOM / DAILY SUN OMBUDSMAN

THE VILLAGES  
It was a morning of fanfare and celebration as medical providers, community leaders and an array of dignitaries gathered Friday to celebrate the official ribbon-cutting of the new USF Health Specialty Care Center in The Villages.

The facility, located in the former Wellness Center near the Sharon Morse Building, officially opened its doors in November to provide specialty care as part of the health initiative that's sweeping through Florida's Friendliest Hometown. That successful opening and partnership with The Villages Health and its primary care centers was the topic of conversation Friday morning among the festive crowd that gathered at the medical facility.

"The welcome from the community has been incredible," said Dr. Jeffrey Lowenkron, chairman of the

See **CARE CENTER**, A6



USF Health's Jay Wolfson, left, and Trustee Nancy Watkins learn about the new USF Health Specialty Care Center at The Villages from Dr. Reed Panos, a plastic surgeon at the facility.

## Q&A with USF System President Judy Genshaft

**What do you think about this new, high-tech specialty care center?**

This is one of the most remarkable, unique facilities I have ever seen. It is so tailored to the patient and to the community that's here. I love it.

**What does it mean for your university to be involved with a community like this?**

This is truly a very special

See **Q&A**, A11

International focus



Khalil Hamra / The Associated Press  
Egyptians hold national flags during a rally Saturday in Tahrir Square in Cairo.

## Egypt's third anniversary of uprising marred by violence

The anniversary of Egypt's 2011 uprising brought a violent display of the country's furious divisions Saturday, as giant crowds danced at government-backed rallies and security forces crushed demonstrations by rival Islamists and some secular activists.

Clashes nationwide killed at least 29 protesters, health officials said. The starkly contrasting scenes reflect the three years of turmoil Egypt has faced since the Jan. 25, 2011, revolution began and ultimately toppled autocrat Hosni Mubarak, replacing him with a transitional military council.

—The Associated Press

Florida focus

## Florida teachers face tougher certification standards come March

Those hoping to teach in Florida schools will face a tougher road to the classroom come March. That's when a decision by the State Board of Education this week to significantly increase passing certification scores goes into effect.

Those hoping to work in professional and early childhood education, as well as those teaching math and English as a second language will be affected. Educators raised

the scores for science in 2012.

Florida's deputy education commissioner Juan Copa told the Miami Herald the change comes as part of a promise Florida made in 2010 to toughen its certification standards when it applied for \$700 million in federal funds. He said about a fifth of those who take the \$200 Professional Education exam are expected to fail the first time.

—The Associated Press



### Inside today's Daily Sun

#### 3 dead after Md. mall shooting

A man opened fire at a shopping mall in Baltimore on Saturday, killing two employees of a skate shop and then himself.

Nation A3

#### Another tough loss for basketball team

The Villages High School boys basketball team fell to Potter's House Christian Academy, 83-61, on Saturday.

Sports B1

#### Villager remembers time in Okinawa

Villager was among a group of Americans who taught the children of U.S. servicemen and women in Japan in 1967 and '68.

Local C1



Charity highlight  
Melanoma Awareness



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Vol. 17 Issue 026



# 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](mailto:larry.croom@thevillagesmedia.com).  
Or call him at 753-1119, ext. 9366.

Contact The Villages Health at 352-674-1700 or visit the website at [thevillageshealth.com](http://thevillageshealth.com).

### Did you know?

Dr. Reed Panos, a plastic surgeon at the USF Health Specialty Care Center, is an avid golfer who also loves college basketball.

## Fixing health care: All about Dr. Adrian Finol

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 become a doctor?

I always wanted to be a doctor. I always wanted to work with my hands. There are basically two types of doctors in life – medical doctors and surgical doctors and I knew I was not going to be a medical doctor. I knew that I wanted to take care of the problem, be done, you're ready, and on the surgical side, working with my hands.

### What is your favorite thing about being a doctor?

The challenge. Every day there is something new and different.

### What is your philosophy on health care?

Patients first. I think there has been a disconnection and there are a lot of factors on it. The way that sometimes the paperwork, sometimes the litigations, sometimes all the external factors sort of steer us around it instead of patient first. And then don't worry about other things.

### What does it feel like to be a part of the health care initiative in The Villages?

It is very exciting. I think it is a right fit for this kind of town. This is not a small town anymore. It's getting bigger and bigger and it just needs more support, especially on the medical side.



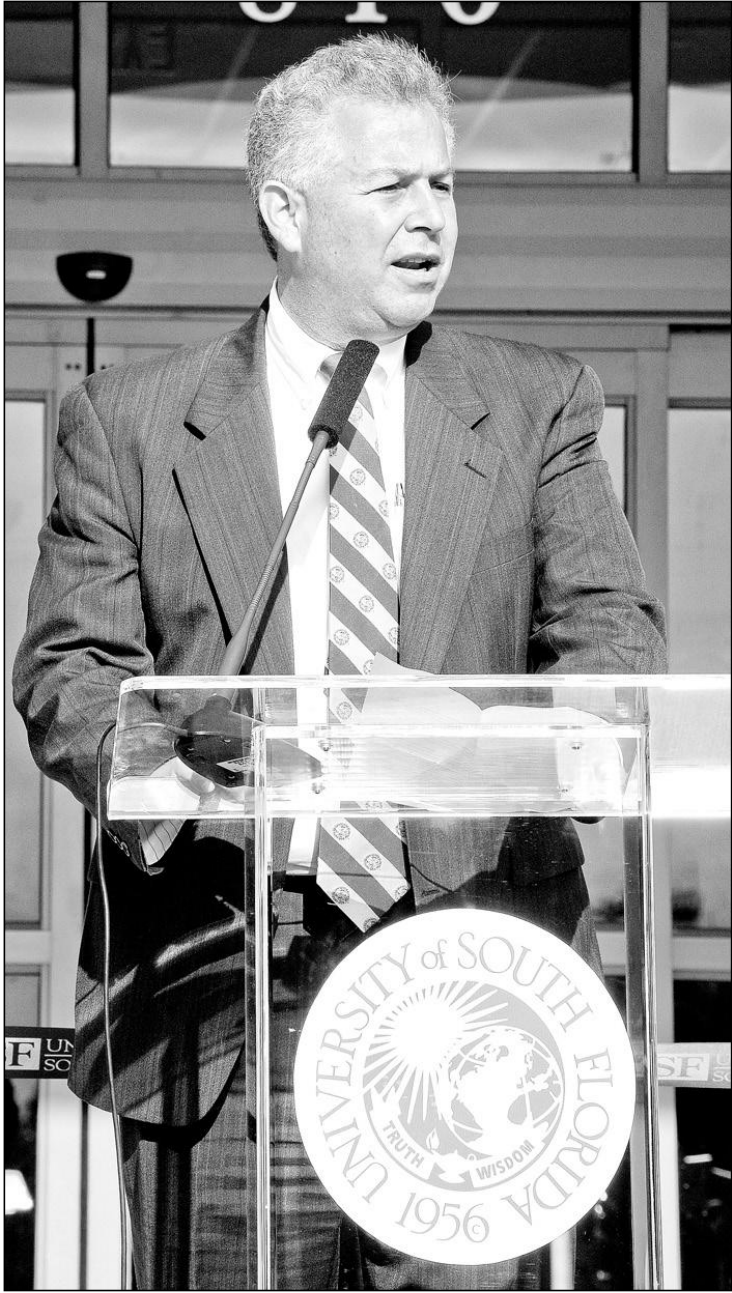
**Care Center:** USF Health Specialty Care Center  
**Specialty:** Cardiothoracic surgery  
**Age:** 38  
**Undergraduate:** Universidad Central De Venezuela  
**Medical school:** Universidad Central De Venezuela  
**Residency in general surgery:** Albert Einstein Medical Center (Philadelphia)  
**Fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery:** Tufts Medical Center (Boston)  
**Board certified:** Thoracic surgery and general surgery

So having a big university to support that, it's perfect.



USF President Judy Genshaft, left, along with state Sen. Alan Hays; Dr. Jeffrey Lowenkron, chairman of the department of comprehensive medicine in The Villages; Dr. Elliot Sussman, chair of The Villages Health; and USF Health's Dr. Charles Paidas, a vice dean and professor at the Morsani College of Medicine, tour the new USF Health Specialty Care Center on Friday.

Photos by George Horsford / Daily Sun



Dr. Jeffrey Lowenkron, chairman of the department of comprehensive medicine in The Villages, speaks to the crowd gathered for Friday's ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new USF Health Specialty Care Center.

### CARE CENTER, from A1

department of comprehensive medicine in The Villages. "I think there's hopes in the community that we'll really do good things, and we want to do what we can to live up to those hopes."

Donna Petersen, interim senior vice president of USF Health, said the specialty care center came about largely because close to 34,000 Villagers made it clear in a spring 2012 survey that they wanted a comprehensive, coordinated, high-quality health care system. She said the specialty care center is a piece of that plan that works alongside The Villages Health's primary-care-driven system.

"The primary-care component is how we keep you healthy, but it's also how we determine what may be causing you difficulties or presenting challenges to you," Petersen said. "So if you then need a specialist to look at your heart or your other organs, or your head or your spine or whatever, then you can come right here. The beauty of it is it's right here in The Villages, so people don't have to travel."

USF President Judy Genshaft said the partnership between USF Health and The Villages Health to provide a seamless and coordinated model of care is remarkable.

"What we want to do is make everyone stay healthy and happy," she said. "Health is not just the absence of disease. It's also your well-being, your happiness and how well you get along with one another. That's why The Villages is America's Healthiest Hometown and we want to be there to help the community achieve that."

Dr. Elliot Sussman, chair of The Villages Health, said having top-notch, cutting-edge specialty care available for patients is crucial.

"With the opening of the specialty care center, we've taken another step forward, and we've accomplished that for the good of the Villagers," he said. "It's fully integrated with those primary-care needs as well, and the outcome

of this is better care for the 100,000 people who call The Villages their home."

One of those Villagers, Don Hahnfeldt, serves as chairman of the Central Florida Health Alliance board of directors and as a Sumter County commissioner. He said health care is either a top priority now or eventually will become one for everyone who lives in Florida's Friendliest Hometown.

"We're here to provide health care and specialty care to keep Villagers doing what they enjoy best," he said. "They're already realizing dreams and enjoying the lifestyle, and this whole effort is to keep them well and healthy to continue what they enjoy doing right here in The Villages for as long as possible."

Randy McDaniel, director of education at The Villages Charter School, said he's excited about the important link his school has formed with USF Health.

"The biggest benefit probably is inspiration, as it allows us to tell our students and show our students in very close proximity to the school that there's a big world out there and there's a lot of opportunity," said McDaniel, whose daughter, Mackenzie, will be pursuing a medical degree at USF after graduating from The Villages High School this spring. "And it certainly helps with connecting our students and our health sciences academy at the high school and other advanced students that may want to have a career in health fields. The opportunities are endless."

The 25,000-square-foot specialty care center offers 32 exam rooms, four procedure rooms and allows medical providers the opportunity to perform a wide variety of procedures and tests onsite. It currently offers specialty care in OB-GYN, plastic surgery, orthopedics, endocrinology and cardiothoracic surgery. Lowenkron said he's also pursuing specialists in other disciplines such as cardiology, pulmonary, neurology and gastroenterology, to name a few.

"There's incredible pride throughout all of USF," he said. "We want to do what we can to build the very best care delivery system for the patients and the people that live here."

**Next week** Find out all about Beverly Dorson, a physician assistant at Colony Care Center.

## Becoming America's Healthiest Hometown What are your beliefs on health care?

*"I believe in practicing comprehensive, evidence-based medicine with careful attention paid to the individual needs of my patients. Together, my patients and I work as a team to ensure that they are receiving the kind of care that will enable them to lead the long and healthy lives which they deserve."*

Dr. Robert Reilly,  
Colony Care Center



## Care Centers in The Villages

### Primary care

#### The Villages Health Colony Care Center

280 Farner Place, 352-674-1710

#### The Villages Health Santa Barbara Care Center

1575 Santa Barbara Blvd., 352-674-1740

#### The Villages Health Pinellas Care Center

2485 Pinellas Place, 352-674-1720

#### The Villages Health Mulberry Grove Care Center

8877 S.E. 165th Mulberry Lane (Opening spring 2014)

#### The Villages Health Lake Sumter Creekside Care Center

1050 Old Camp Road, Building 100 (Opening spring 2014)

### Specialty care

#### USF Health Specialty Care Center

1400 N. U.S. Highway 24/441, Building 810  
352-674-8731

## General surgeon to join specialty care staff

THE VILLAGES – The USF Health Specialty Care Center in The Villages soon will be adding a new physician to its roster of specialists.

Dr. Farhaad Golkar, a general surgeon who trained at the University of South Florida and was working at Citrus Memorial Hospital, will join the staff in February.

Golkar will be joining the other specialists at the facility: Dr. Kathy Steepy (OB/GYN); Dr. Adrian Finol (cardiothoracic surgery); Dr. David Ethier (orthopedics); Dr. Reed Panos



USF Health general surgeon,  
Dr. Farhaad Golkar

(plastic surgery); and Dr. James Mersey (endocrinology).

– Staff report