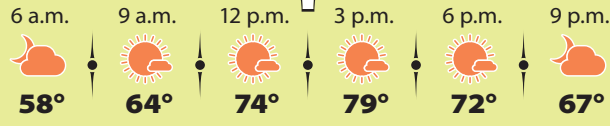




**J.T. WILCOX ON FOOTBALL | B1**  
NFL games are harder than ever to find as they get spread across streaming platforms.



**JAMES DINAN ON FAITH | D1**  
Seeds of Hope-Wildwood will hold a pancake breakfast benefitting Wildwood Soup Kitchen.



TOP WORLD AND NATION NEWS

## WISCONSIN SEES FIRST FEBRUARY TORNADO, A3

**Across the Nation:** Flu is still hanging on in parts of the U.S. **A2**

**Across the Nation:** Tennessee hunts deputy-shooting suspect. **A8**

**In Business:** Indoor EV charger offers glimpse into future. **C8**

SPORTS NEWS

## NAPIER'S GATORS GET A NECESSARY OVERHAUL

With the University of Florida coming off back-to-back losing seasons, Billy Napier has overhauled much of the floundering team. **B1**

LOVE YOUR RIDE

## VILLAGER TREATS RESTORATION LIKE A PUZZLE

Dominick Catinella, of the Village of St. Catherine, loves restoring classic cars, including his biggest project yet, a 1951 Ford F1. **C1**

LOCAL NEWS

## VILLAGE VIEW CHURCH TO PLANT NEW CAMPUS

Village View Community Church is set to open a new campus in Brownwood starting March 24 at Brownwood Hotel and Spa. **D1**

COMING UP

### THE SUPER BOWL IS ALMOST HERE, VILLAGERS WILL BE WATCHING IN STYLE

Football fans across The Villages are preparing to party at their homes and local restaurants during tomorrow's game between the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers. For more, plus a Super Bowl-themed sports section, see Sunday's Daily Sun.

ONLY IN THE VILLAGES

By Garrett Shiftlet

### The Villages Charter School is piloting a new and inventive way to close learning gaps.

The school has partnered with the Help Us Grow Reading Program to help its students from first through third grades make up for learning loss.

The tutoring program offers one-hour weekly tutoring sessions to students at The Villages Charter Elementary School's Intermediate Center at the Buffalo Ridge campus.

"Providing this reading support in Buffalo Adventures gives students that extra boost during after-school time, outside of instructional school-day hours," said Brooke

Please See **TUTORING, A7**



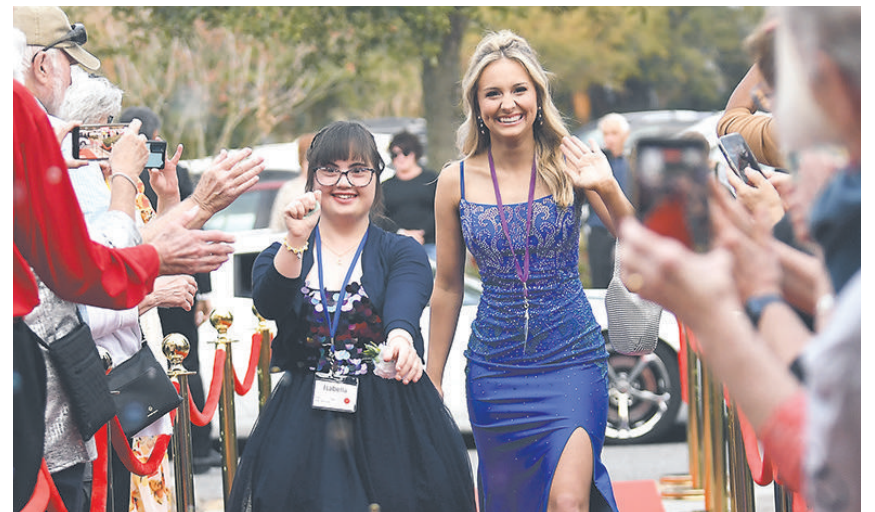
Marilyn Gibbons, of the Village of McClure, walks across the red carpet with Alex Lyons during Friday's Night to Shine event.



Melissa Janicke waves to the crowd as she walks the red carpet Friday at New Covenant United Methodist Church.



Karen McCallister, left, and her buddy Pam Neff, of the Village of Gilchrist, greet the crowd as they walk down the red carpet.



Isabella LaPorta dances down the red carpet alongside her buddy Reese Ponds during Friday's Night to Shine event.

Photos by Amy J. Correnti | Daily Sun

# Night to Shine Brings Smiles On Red Carpet

By CYNTHIA FARRUGIA | Daily Sun Staff Writer

Glamour, glitz and smiles abounded as New Covenant United Methodist Church shared love and light on its first "Night to Shine" event Friday evening.

Corvettes, paparazzi, bright lights and adoring fans — all the makings of a Hollywood awards night. But this time the celebrities were not movie stars, but honored guests with special needs from The Villages and surrounding areas for

whom the event was organized.

The event was sponsored by Parady Financial Group, a financial service firm that helps clients design personalized retirement strategies. The firm regularly hosts or sponsors charitable events or drives through its non-profit organization, The Parady Cares Foundation, Inc.

Please See **SHINE, A5**

EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE

OUT & ABOUT IN THE VILLAGES

### Try This Today: Enjoy Nature's Beauty With the Brownwood Birders

The Brownwood Birders is a club that connects people with birds and wildlife. Membership is not required to join the group for any of its outings. The group goes on bird-watching walks at 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays — usually inside The Villages. Times alternate depending on the season and weather. To attend a monthly club meeting, which take place on the second Tuesday of each month at Lake Okahumpka Recreation, you must have a Villages ID Card or Guest ID Card. For more information visit brownwoodbirders.com.

— Greg Hughes, Daily Sun



George Horsford | Daily Sun

IN ENTERTAINMENT

### Visit the Spanish Springs Arts and Crafts Festival

Find out more, **E1**

**Plus:** Find the lineup of entertainment at the town squares, theaters and beyond, **E3**

AT RECREATION CENTERS

**Happening near you:** From aqua aerobics to Zumba and everything in between, there's fun for everyone, **D10**



Plan your perfect day in The Villages, **E1**

Recipes	E1
Comics	E4
Puzzles	E5-6
Poetry	E7
TV Guide	E8
Horoscope	E9

from the front page

SHINE

Continued from A1

“We’re constantly looking for opportunities to show our support in the community and that’s just the way that Parady Cares is built,” said Kelly Wain, Parady’s director of marketing and events.

It is the first time the company sponsored the Night to Shine event.

Night to Shine, sponsored by the Jacksonville-based Tim Tebow Foundation, is a memorable prom night experience for people who are 14 years of age and older with special needs. Around 700 Night to Shine experiences were scheduled for Friday at churches in more than 50 countries on six continents. Each Night to Shine event is unique, but common elements of the evening include “limousine” rides, a red carpet walk, professional photos, dancing, corsages, boutonnieres and a catered dinner.

The event brought to the church around 100 honored guests, 100 prom buddies and 120 parents and caregivers, who were accompanied by 400 volunteers and the entire staff of New Covenant UMC.

Every guest of honor brings a parent or caregiver and is assigned a “buddy” for the evening. A guest’s buddy is a volunteer who accompanies the guest for the evening, and encourages them to participate while the parents and caregivers are whisked away for their own special time of pampering including a dinner. Prior to the evening’s event, guests had the opportunity to be treated to hair and make-up services provided by Main Street Hair Studio in Wildwood.

Check in for the event was in the front vestibule or lobby of the church.

Happy reunions occurred as guests arrives and parents,



Kayla Fahey of Lady Lake, right, gets a hug from her buddy Meagann Goodridge, Florida Miss Hometown USA 2024, during Friday’s Night to Shine event.



Caroline Hamblin, left, and her buddy Quinn LaCasse walk arm in arm as they begin their evening at New Covenant United Methodist Church’s Night to Shine event.

buddies and guests exchanged hugs between each other.

The Villages Corvette Club provided “limo” rides for the honorees and transported them from the vestibule to the back of the building where they stepped out onto a red carpet and were greeted to cheers and applause of adoring fans.

Quinn LaCasse was a first-time “buddy” volunteer. She was paired with Caroline Hamblin, whom she had met when LaCasse assisted Hamblin’s parents in purchasing their Villages home.

Hamblin said she was “confident” she would have a good time.

As LaCasse waited for Hamblin to step from the car onto the red carpet, she shared that some people just change your life and that Hamblin was one of them.

Terry Walker, another buddy, also expressed tender sentiments with regards to the

honored guests.

“These people are so sweet,” said Walker, of the Village of Sanibel.

When asked why she volunteered, she said it was very rewarding.

“You make forever friends,” she said.

Nancy Janicke, mother to Melissa Janicke, another honored guest, was excited to be there.

Melissa had been to a previous Night to Shine event, but this was Nancy’s first time.

“I have never experienced this before,” said Nancy, of the Village of Poinciana. “I do not know what to expect.”

The popular, globetrotting band known as “Blonde Ambition,” provided energetic music for the enthusiastic guests during the dance portion of the evening.

Honored guest Kara Kiebala arrived with her mother Susan Houston, of the Village of Sunset Pointe, and was excited to take in the

sights and was ready to make her way to the dance floor.

“My favorite part is getting to spend time with people,” Kiebala said.

She looked forward to getting crowned, another Night to Shine tradition

Unlike the traditional prom, each Night to Shine honored guest is crowned “king” or “queen” of the event.

New Covenant UMC was excited to hold the event as it submitted an application more than a year ago.

Donna Hendren, wife of New Covenant UMC Senior Pastor, the Rev. Harold Hendren, said they church began preparations before it heard the official news it had been selected as a location for this year’s event.

She said it took them about a year to prepare for the event. The church, which has a

ministry for the special needs community, is looking to reach more people. It is confident the event helped to spread the word.

“The church’s vision is to be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus to all our honored

guests with His extravagant love,” Donna said.

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