

THE CAPE CORAL SUN

Celebrating the Past, Present, & Future of Southwest Florida's Largest City!

Another Seabreeze Publication



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Groundbreaking For The Cove At 47th

The Cove at 47th development will be on the same site that was long supposed to be Village Square in downtown Cape at the corner of Cape Coral Parkway East and S.E. 8th Court, across from Cork Soakers restaurant.

Flaherty & Collins Properties purchased the 3.9-acre site from Downtown Village Square, LLC, in a deal brokered by Paulette duCharme Hansen with Miloff Aubuchon Realty Group's Commercial Division in Cape Coral.

The developer expects the first units to be ready in 16 months. The hope is for the entire project to be done by end of Summer 2024.

The Cove at 47th has been discussed for almost six years but has had several delays due to construction costs.

The developer for the project, Brian Prince, says he expects this project to bring in more than 170 jobs to the area.

"The number one question that big corporations are asking before they relocate to a new area is 'where are my people going to live?'" said Prince. "If you don't have an attractive housing option in an urban walking environment, it makes it tough for you to compete in Fort Myers, Naples, Tampa, these other places."

This mixed-use project will bring in more than 300 luxury apartments, 19,000 square feet of ground-floor retail and office space. Other amenities include a 585-space parking garage with 125 spaces reserved for the public, rooftop bar and restaurant, and a saltwater swimming pool.

As it relates to the residential portion of this project, Prince says the goal is to allow people to afford to live here but also enjoy the amenities it comes with.

Amenities and features include an oversized, resort-style heated saltwater pool with lap lanes and beach entry, secured private offices and co-working space, fitness center featuring virtual

fitness and Yoga room, a rooftop sky lounge that will provide sunset views, pet spa, poolside grilling decks and firepits, secured garage parking with available private electric vehicle charging spaces and gig speed Wi-Fi in all common areas and offered in units. Apartments will feature modern designs and finishes, luxury wood tile vinyl, quartz countertops, LED lighting, in unit washer and dryer, and private balconies. Three penthouse units include upgraded appliances, finishes, lighting packages and a built-in wine refrigerator.



"Average rent at this development will be just around \$2,000. We'll have a mixture of studios, one- and two-bedroom apartments and a couple of three's will be our penthouse on the top," Prince said. "Our studios will be in at the \$1,300 to \$1,400 range. So, it gives you an opportunity to get into the development and experience all of the great amenities that we have to offer. Heated resort-style, saltwater pools, we've got concierge, we've got fitness centers, a rooftop amenity deck for the residents that's no charge, watch the great sunsets that's to the west. So, we are very excited about offering price points for everybody within the development."

Quarterly Bulk Waste Drop-Off

Saturday, May 6

The city partners with Waste Pro and Lee County's Solid Waste Division to offer quarterly drop-off events to collect bulk items and household chemical waste (HCW). Waste will be collected from 7 to 11 a.m. on the following dates in the City Hall parking lot at 1015 Cultural Park Boulevard: Saturday, May 6 and Saturday, Aug. 5.



These quarterly events give residents another way to dispose of large items and a safe and responsible way to dispose of HCW. Residents should use the main entrance to City Hall on Cultural Park Boulevard to drop off items. Materials for drop-off will be collected from vehicle trunks and truck beds.

Proof of residency may be required to drop off items. Photo identification with a Cape Coral address and Cape Coral utility bills from an active account are acceptable items to prove your residency.

Bulk Waste Drop-Off Site For Residents

1200 Kismet Parkway, open Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The bulk waste drop-off site is located on the west side of the North Cape Government Complex. The address for the complex is 1200 Kismet Parkway; however, the bulk drop-off site entrance is off N.W. 14th Avenue, at the western portion of the complex.

Commercial businesses are not permitted to use the facility because the program is an optional complementary service for residential use only. Proof of residency may be required to dispose of items. Household chemical waste and recycling will not be accepted at the drop-off location.

- Items that will be accepted at the event include:
- Drain cleaners and pool chemicals
 - Liquid paint and thinners
 - Fluorescent tubes
 - Car and boat batteries
 - Gas propane tanks
 - Yard Waste
 - Pesticides/herbicides
 - Polishes and strippers
 - Electronics
 - Automotive oil
 - Mattresses
 - **No white goods will be accepted.**
- For more information visit Waste Pro Service, www.wasteprousa.com/cape-coral/.

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The Clubhouse will offer both casual & formal dining options to delight your tastebuds. The friendly staff will offer a variety of special events and functions where neighbors and friends can mingle, dine and dance. A full-time Activities Director will partner will be on staff to help residents share various hobbies, clubs and games.



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Remember When?...

The History Of Cape Coral Street Names

For newbies the streets can be more than a little confusing. That's why it helps to know the basics of how the city is laid out. After all, Cape Coral is much more than only its hundreds of miles of canals. To start with, the easiest way to look at the city is by understanding that Cape Coral is divided up into four quadrants. These are S.W., S.E., N.W. and N.E.. You'll notice that most street addresses include these prefixes; making it somewhat easier to at least understand which side of town you are on.

Santa Barbara Boulevard runs north and south, dividing the city east and west, while Hancock Bridge Parkway/Embers Parkway runs east and west, dividing the city by north and south. The intersection of the two is the center of the city.

From this point, you'll notice that roads are numbered, increasing as you drive away from the center. In other words, the largest road numbers are at the farthest point from the city's center. When looking for a home or business, the first part of the address signifies the closest intersecting road while the second is the number in that particular block. The exception is the Yacht Club, with named streets from A to Z, a few in the downtown area and some streets within subdivisions.

Generally, though, if you're looking for an Avenue, Place, Court or Boulevard, they all run south and north. Some of the main routes in this respect are Santa Barbara Boulevard, Chiquita Boulevard and Del Prado Boulevard. Many of these roadways are a safe bet for traveling through the region if you're not quite sure where you're going.

On the other hand, each Parkway, Terrace, Street or Lane runs east and west. Some of the main roadways going this direction include Veterans Memorial Parkway, Cape Coral Parkway and Kismet Parkway. Although a bit overwhelming in the beginning, once you do understand the basic layout, you'll find that Cape Coral is a fantastic city to live and explore.

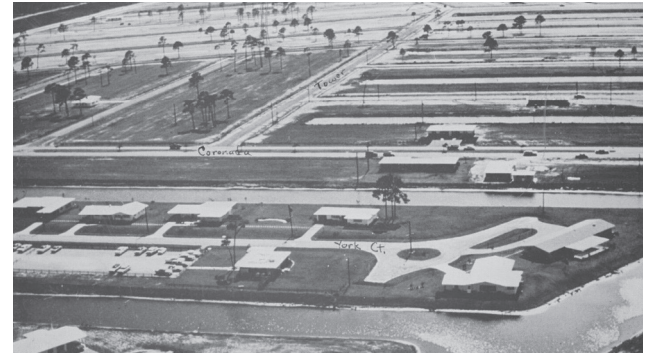


The first eight houses in Cape Coral were built on Riverside and Flamingo Drives, at Redfish Point, near today's Cape Coral Yacht Club in 1958.



Did You Know?

Harney Point Road (Del Prado Boulevard) was the first road constructed in Cape Coral.
Cape Coral Parkway was the second.
Coronado Parkway was the third.



This is a typical block in Cape Coral. Notice the private street in the lower right portion of the picture, with its wide turnaround. The sparkling, shimmering private waterways are part of a huge network of inland waterways, 80 to 200 feet wide and varying from 6 to 20 feet deep. An average of 30 homes a month are being built at this waterfront wonderland. If pine and other trees have to be removed while building, they are replaced as rapidly as possible. In addition to having more canals than Venice, Italy, Cape Coral has a 230-mile shoreline.

Excerpt From Editor, News-Press, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1963

There will be a hearing at the Lee County courthouse to determine if there are any objections to changing the name of Cape Coral streets to numbers.

It is a routine meeting of the county commissioners at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Gulf American Corp. desires to use in so important a matter the procedure of a resolution by the commissioners, without taking a proper vote of the people concerned.

This proposal is obviously promotional in nature, since running to a hundred will create the impression among out-of-state lot buyers that Cape Coral is already a huge city if people actually live, say on 1400 S.E. 62nd Court.

Coral Oaks Golf Course

Season Is Still Going Strong

By Allen Manguson, PGA A-4, Coral Oaks Golf Course

Coral Oaks' season has been as busy as ever, and with a full golf course comes some difficulty with the pace of play. Please remember to be considerate of all players on the course by keeping up with the group ahead of you and playing ready golf. This allows everyone to have an enjoyable day and experience.

Coral Oaks has appointed Joe Hubbard as golf course superintendent. Joe played college golf at Florida State University and his previous positions include 10 years at Broken Sound Club in Boca Raton, Jonathans' Landing Old Trail in Jupiter, and numerous rebuilds and grow-ins. Let's welcome Joe and give him some time to get the proper fertilization and pesticide programs in place to get the conditions back to something we can be proud of.

Registration for this year's Junior Golf Association (JGA) program is close to being filled with 250 children signed up. Once the program is full, players will be placed on an alternate list and called if openings occur.

We look forward to hosting the CCCIA Tournament that is coming up Friday, May 5, the Cape Christian Tournament on Saturday, May 6, and the Gimme Fore event which is scheduled for Friday, May 19. Sign up to play and help support these great charities.

We look forward to seeing you one day soon at Coral Oaks ... where every day is a great day!

Tip From The Pro – Putting Drills

We always ask students what they feel is more important when putting, distance or direction?

Well, the absolute correct answer is both. But the best way to reduce your number of putting strokes is to control your distances when putting. If 1s and 2s are good scores, and 3s and 4s are bad scores when putting, then it is necessary to work on controlling your distances when putting during your round.

One practice drill we use is called a Ladder Drill. Place five tees about 10 feet apart in the shape of a ladder. While you practice, we want you to putt towards each tee with one ball. So you'll have the first ball at the 10-foot tee and the second ball at the 20-foot tee, and so on until you work up and down the ladder, making sure you can leave each ball within 1 to 2 feet of each tee. This drill helps with distance control.

Another drill we like is Around The World; place six golf balls in a circle around the hole at a distance of 4 feet. Hit each putt as its own. What we mean by that is do not just knock one in and move over to the next. Once you make the first putt we want you to walk away and read the second

putt and go through your routine and putt that one and so on around the circle until you have made all six without missing. This will make you better at short putts, and it will build a consistent routine that will make you better on all putts.

Try this, and if you need additional help, Coral Oaks' PGA staff has plenty of drills to help, so come join a golf school or take a lesson in one of our golf schools or clinics.

Coral Oaks Golf Course, 1800 N.W. 28th Ave., Cape Coral, Fla., (239) 573-3100, www.capecoral.gov/coraloak

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Junior Golf Association (JGA) Summer Program

Online Registration Is Now Open

By Allen Manguson, PGA A-4, General Manager/Head Professional, Coral Oaks Golf Course

Calling all parents and grandparents! Online registration for the Cape Coral Junior Golf Association (JGA) summer program is now open at www.CapeCoralJrGolf.org.

The program is open to all children aged 7 to 18, with six skill levels ranging from first swing to championship flight. The entry fee is \$30 per child for the entire summer program, which will run for six weeks on Monday mornings from **Monday, June 12 through Monday, July 17**. Space is limited to the first 250 children to sign up.

This program fills up fast, and registration is available online only this year. Payments must be made using a credit

or debit card. Registration will close when the program is full or May 15 – so don't delay – sign up today!

Please note: Based on the anticipated number of first swing participants, Coral Oaks will host a player level assessment day for first swingers only on Saturday, May 20 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. This is to ensure new participants are placed in the appropriate skill level.

For more information, check out the Junior Golf Association website at www.CapeCoralJrGolf.org, call the Coral Oaks Pro Shop at (239) 573-3100, or contact CCJGA President, Ed Crann, at (239) 248-5258.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the course soon!

P.S. Even if you don't have children who play, we welcome and appreciate adult volunteers who can assist on Monday morning this summer with keeping score, driving golf carts, etc. Let us know if you're able to help!

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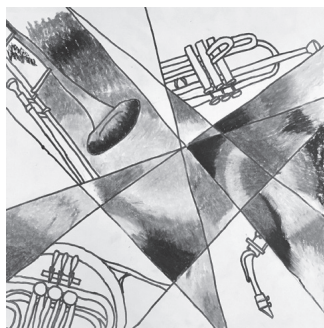
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Cape Coral Library Art Gallery

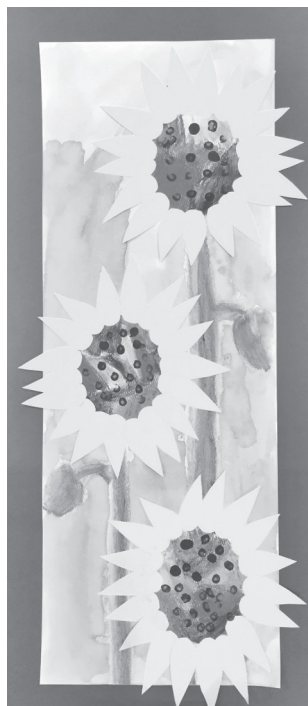
Annual Young Artists Show May And June

Changing exhibitions in the Cape Coral Library's expansive art gallery are sponsored by the Friends of the Cape Coral Library. An "Annual Young Artists Exhibit" has traditionally been held in late spring at the library, which is located at 921 S.W. 39th Terrace (near the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Mohawk Parkway), and this year's exhibition will be open during regular business hours from **May 9 to June 29**. The show will feature the winning artwork from the 2023 "Coloring the Earth" Children's Art Contest in the alcove area of the gallery. Projects by students from St. Andrew Catholic School will be on the hallway walls and in the gallery cases. Be sure to stop by and be amazed by all of the young talent on display!



The winning entries from the 17th Annual "Coloring the Earth" Children's Environmental Art Contest, sponsored by the Friends of the Cape Coral Library and the Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library, will be exhibited on the walls of the alcove area in the library gallery. The theme this time was Let's Save the Florida Scrub Jay! A panel of judges will select 20 winning contest entries (five awards for each of the four age categories: ages 5 to 6, 7 to 8, 9 to 10 and 11 to 12) in early May, and the artwork will be framed for hanging on the walls of the gallery alcove. An awards ceremony is scheduled to be held in the large meeting room of the library on May 10 at 6 p.m., and the public is welcome to enjoy some refreshments, applaud the contest winners and see an interactive presentation about Florida scrub jays.

St. Andrew Catholic School in Cape Coral has been STREAM Certified since 2019 through the Florida Council of Catholic Bishops and the National Council for Private Education. The school holds the distinction of being the first pilot school in the Diocese of Venice for STREAM, which is an acronym for Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Math. The blending and crossover of these subjects supports the mission of "educating the whole child." Middle school science teacher James Less has been with St. Andrew for five years and appreciates the opportunity to show off art, photographs and posters from his students' projects that illustrate environmental issues facing the Everglades. St. Andrew art teacher Diana Villadolid has been teaching there for 19 years, and original artwork created in her K to eight classes will be on display



in the gallery. Thank you to these two dedicated educators for sharing their students' work with library visitors.

For information about the library art exhibits, contact Art Gallery Chairperson, Monica Rahman, by email at gallery@capefriends.org or visit www.capefriends.org. Follow "Friends of the Cape Coral Library" on Facebook.

All Are Welcome To Awards Ceremony For 'Coloring the Earth' Children's Art Contest – May 10 At 6 p.m.

The Awards Ceremony for the 17th annual "Coloring the Earth" Environmental Art Contest for children will be held in the large meeting room of the Cape Coral Library on Wednesday, May 10 at 6 p.m. This year's theme is Let's Save the Florida Scrub Jay! The public is encouraged to join youngsters, parents, teachers and prominent members of the community at this popular yearly event sponsored by the Friends of the Cape Coral Library and the Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library. Learn about this threatened bird species in an interactive presentation by keynote speaker Bren Curtis, president of Peace River Audubon Society, and enjoy some refreshments. The Cape Coral Library is located at 921 S.W. 39th Terrace (near the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Mohawk Parkway). That night you'll be able to view the 20 winning art entries, framed and hanging on the walls of the library gallery. The winners' artwork will also be featured on the Friends of the Cape Coral Library website www.capefriends.org under the "Art Gallery" tab. For more information contact contest organizer, Alessia Leathers, at alessialeathers@yahoo.com.

Cape Coral Art League

May And June Shows And Events

Open Painting

Enjoy the company of fellow artists. Just drop by and bring your own art project and supplies. Enjoy some yummy snacks and enjoyable music too! No registration required! (Adults only, please.)



Wednesday in May and June from 1 to 4 p.m. Open to the public. \$2 for members, \$6 for nonmembers (pay at the door).

Student Sundays – Teaching Young People Art (October Through June)

Exposing young people to the visual arts can help in the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills, teamwork, decision-making, risk-taking, and, of course, inventiveness. At the Cape Coral Art League, we strive to teach the next generation about drawing, color, layout, perspective, and balance – skills that can benefit them in their academic work as well as expand their creativity. And they have fun while learning!

Ages 6 to 14 (no younger, please). 1 to 4 p.m. Fee: \$20. All materials provided. Cash or check at the door only. Please arrive 15 minutes early to register – no

pre-sign-ups. No reservations required. Check our Facebook page or our website for updates.

Looking Up

May 1 through 15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Wine and cheese reception will be on Thursday, May 4, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. where you can mingle with like-minded folks, meet the artists exhibiting and maybe purchase a wonderful work of art. Free parking and entry.

Unique Gifts At Reasonable Prices!

The gift shop is located inside the Cape Coral Art League and showcases talent within the league.

Come browse the creativity of local artists. Thinking of a gift for someone special? You will find it here among the unique and treasured. Artistic expression is found here – come in and experience it. Don't forget to pick up a **mini** – small originals made by our members – they are a perfect gift!

Speaking of gifts

Give a gift that keeps them creating! The Cape Coral Art League gift certificates are available in any amount. They can be redeemed toward a variety of classes and workshops for adults and children.

Office, gallery and gift shop hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cape Coral Art League, 516 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33990, (239) 772-5657, www.capecoralartleague.org.



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“I Just Don’t Believe That...”

Dear friend,

When I meet people in town, they usually say, “Oh, yeah, I know you, you’re that doctor with the beard on TV.” Well, perhaps I should tell you a little more about myself, the picture from television and why I use it in my ads.

Let’s start with me, the guy with the beard. Ten years ago I was living here in Florida. At that time my mother was down visiting from New Jersey for the season when she showed up in my clinic with a **frozen shoulder**. She was desperate and in pain having lost practically all use of her dominant arm. She could hardly fix her hair, reach for a coffee cup or even fasten her brassiere. Basic hygiene had become extremely difficult for her. She was afraid, because the two orthopedic surgeons that she had consulted told her, “Your only option is to have your shoulder replaced.” I remember saying to my mother, “**I just don’t believe that.**”

Now at that time I was a chiropractor who worked primarily on the spine. Frankly... I didn’t know how I was going to help her. I just knew there was a non-surgical solution out there and I was going to find it.

And boy did I find it! I found the answer to my mother’s shoulder problem and much, much more. And where did I find it? Of all places, I found it at the birthplace of Elvis Presley, Tupelo, Mississippi. Immediately I hopped on a plane and flew into Memphis, rented a car and drove out to a chiropractic neurologist who was willing to teach me how to fix my mother’s frozen shoulder. I spent three days in his clinic shadowing him, learning a new technique I had never even heard about before. Eager to help my mother, I developed this new skill set quickly. When I returned to Florida I wanted to be able to immediately fix my mother’s shoulder.

And that’s exactly what happened. After I performed the first Non-Surgical Operation on her shoulder, her pain went away significantly and she recovered to nearly full range of motion. She was so happy that she avoided surgery and got her life back.

It’s strange how life is, because that same doctor who showed me how to fix my mother’s shoulder opened up his treasure chest of knowledge and showed me how to help people with **chronic knee, neck, low back pain and those suffering with neuropathy** in their hands and feet, **all without the use of Drugs, Surgery or Injections.**

I spent the next several months flying back and forth to Mississippi learning all that I could.

Many years later we now have over one thousand successful patient testimonials. Many of them were told by their doctors that their only option was to have their knee or shoulder replaced or to take toxic drugs for the rest of their lives to mask their neuropathy symptoms.

Al was one of those patients who was told he had ‘bone on bone’ degeneration. His knee stopped unlocking properly, similar to what I’m describing in the photo, and he was facing knee replacement surgery. He was suffering from **chronic degenerative knee pain**, couldn’t walk properly and was easily holding onto 60 pounds of excess body weight. His doctors would have eagerly scheduled him for a knee replacement surgery had he decided to go in that direction.

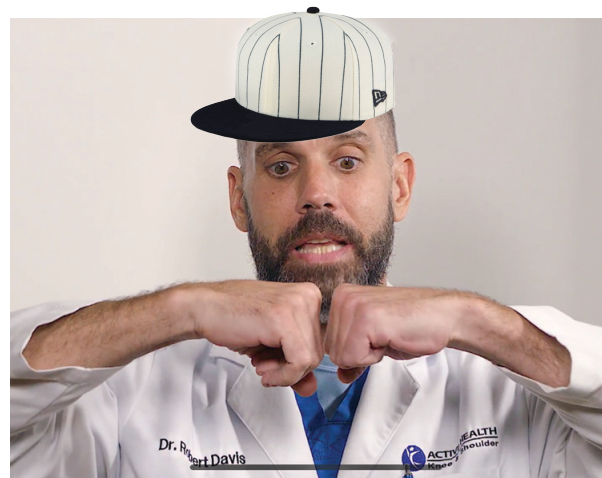
Immediately after the Non-Surgical Operation I performed on Al’s knee, he was squatting and walking up and down the stairs normally without pain.

Al is now in his early 70s touring Alaska in his RV. He has dropped over 60 pounds and is biking 15 - 20 miles per day and loving life. He regularly sends me great pictures from his adventures.

Joyce was told by her oncologist, “There’s nothing that can be done.” She would have to live with the chemo-induced **neuropathy in her hands and feet**. Hot and cold were indistinguishable and the numbness and tingling made it impossible for her to walk any distance.

Joyce was a cancer survivor only to have come out on the other side with another debilitating condition. She and her husband showed up in my clinic and told me what their medical doctor had said. I told her the same thing I told my mother, “**I just don’t believe that.**”

After a thorough neurological examination and report of findings she trusted me enough to follow my protocols. Within two weeks her numbness and tingling in her feet subsided and the feeling was coming back.. After 12 weeks she was feeling the sand between her toes as she walked along the beach again. At her one year checkup Joyce’s sensory loss had improved over 80% overall to within the normal range... She is all smiles these days!



You should know that **I don’t heal anyone of anything.** What I do is perform a specific non-surgical operation that resets the communication between the brain and knee or shoulder, instantly decreasing pain and inflammation, increasing strength and flexibility and **helping with tissue healing**. For our neuropathy patients we have a 4 step, proven approach that heals your nerves and reverses your symptoms. We get tremendous results. It’s as simple as that!

Today in the United States medical doctors are prescribing more drugs than ever before. These drugs are designed to cover up symptoms as your condition gets worse underneath the surface. The toxicity from the daily use of these chemicals ultimately leads to nasty side-effects and more drugs to treat the new symptoms. The current “healthcare” system was built to maintain your condition, not fix it. It’s a brilliant business model for the pharmaceutical industry and the hospitals, but a horrible strategy to follow if one is looking to age gracefully.

That’s where my practice comes in. I have found a way so that more people are able to afford the treatment they need, even those on a fixed income with or without health insurance coverage. One Non-Surgical Operation in my clinic could cost what you’d pay for just the deductible of a joint replacement surgery.

You Benefit from a Unique Offer...When you bring in this article, you will receive a **FREE CONSULTATION with me to determine whether you are a good candidate for our Non-Surgical Knee or Shoulder Operation. If you’re being seen for Neuropathy we will take a thermal image of your feet **at no charge to you.** This will give me enough information to know whether I can help you. Once we determine you’re a good candidate and you feel comfortable in my clinic **the complete examination is only \$90.** That’s it, for the entire neurological examination & report of findings. This examination & report could cost you over \$300 elsewhere. But, please call **right away** because this offer expires on **May 31, 2023**, and I don’t want you to miss out. By**

the way, further care is very affordable and you’ll be happy to know that the non-surgical, drug free therapies and procedures performed in my clinic **can cost as little as \$150 - 300 per month.** You see, I’m not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start up fee, then to only make it up with high fees after that. Further care is very important to consider when making your choice of doctor because **higher costs can add up very quickly.**

“You shouldn’t be forced to choose drugs and surgery just because that’s the only treatment medicare and your insurance company will cover.”

You should know a little about my qualifications. That’s important so that there’s no misunderstanding about the **quality of care.** I’m a graduate of Life University School of Chiropractic who has been in practice for 24 years. 7 of those years were spent practicing in New York City. I am a licensed chiropractic physician certified in functional neurology, strength & conditioning, regenerative detoxification and I have my diplomate in addictionology. I’m published in leading chiropractic journals and my television program can be viewed daily on NBC-2. I’ve been entrusted to take care of regular morning walkers and pickleball players to pro-athletes and business tycoons you may have heard of.

My office is called **Active Health Knee & Shoulder** and it is located at 6710 Winkler Road, Suite #1 It’s the gray key west style building at the corner of cypress lake drive behind the bank of america. The phone number is **239-482-8686.** Please call my wonderful assistants Becky or Silvia today to make an appointment.

God bless.

-Dr. Robert Davis, DC, CSCS

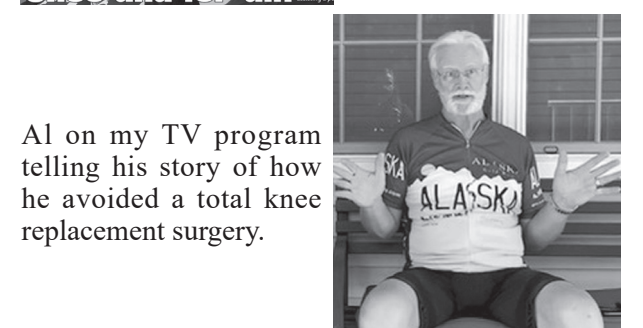
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Across The Bridge...

Araba Shriner Circus

The circus is coming! The Araba Shriner Annual Circus is coming on May 12 to the Lee Civic Center, 11831 Bayshore Road, North Fort Myers. Showtimes are 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. The first show is free to children from the schools and organizations within the surrounding five counties that are served by Araba Shriners. General admission is \$16. Kids under 5 are free. Parking is \$6. The petting zoo is open and available before and after each show. Ringside seats are \$10 (after paid admission). You can purchase them when you enter the Civic Center at ringside.

Make a pledge and help your community. The Shriners need and appreciate your support! Annual events such as the circus or 5K run are our biggest source of funding for the local fraternity. Your participation makes it possible for us to maintain our local lifeline in the community, and your help makes it possible for us to give away many thousands of free tickets to disadvantaged and deserving organizations in the area.

How can I help? Make a sponsorship today to give free event tickets to the deserving organizations in the local area. Get a complimentary coupon or armband for your family based on the amount of your sponsorship, so that you and your family can join the fun! And know that your support of the Shriners will help us keep our philanthropies available for years to come!

For more information please call (855) 675-8602 or visit www.shrineservices.com.

Tiki Boat Fun For The Entire Family!

By Mandy Carter

I absolutely love sunsets in Southwest Florida. I recently took the kids on a sunset cruise on a floating tiki bar ... yes, it was as cool as it sounds! Big Tiki Tours is Southwest Florida's largest floating tiki barge and it's right here in Cape Coral!



When you think of a tiki boat cruise, you probably visualize a party boat full of adults and loud music. Which Big Tiki Tours definitely offers. But what you may not think of is that you can turn the tour into a unique and memorable family experience.

They offer two Cape Coral locations to hop on at; we left from the dock at The Westin because not only do I love this marina, but we wanted to enjoy dinner at Pinchers afterwards. Plus, if

you get there early enough you can soak up the atmosphere and grab a drink at the Westin Bar (Nauti Mermaid).

Parking at this location is simple and free. Once we walked to the back of the Westin, we immediately saw the tiki barge and the kids took off running with excitement. We got on the barge and left immediately on a 90-minute loop as the sun set around us. We brought snacks and juice for the kids while us mommas enjoyed a bottle of wine. Our captain played music, pointed out wildlife and even joked with the kids. It was a great combination of outdoor family fun and relaxing time. To make reservations you can book online at bigtikitours.com or call (239) 339-7973.

About Mandy Michelle Carter

Local mom living the dream; I want to inspire people to spend authentic time with your family and to chase your dreams unapologetically! Find me at www.acupful.com, www.mandydoesmarketing.com.



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Cape Coral Cruise Club

March Cruise Wrap-Up

Submitted by Cruise Leaders, Tad and Jane Vaughn

The March cruise for the Cape Coral Cruise Club was held from March 14 to 17 with a one-night stay at the club's private Hidden Island on the Caloosahatchee River near Alva, Fla., and a two-night stay at Roland Martin Marina in Clewiston, Fla. A total of six boats made the journey, and six club members joined up with the group by driving to Clewiston and staying in the hotel and in the adjacent campground. The club members had a great time, and everyone completed the trip safely.



Cape Coral Cruise Club on page 9

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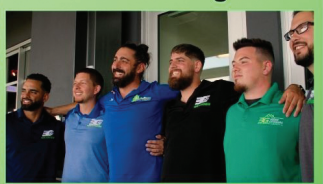
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Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Set For May 13

Harry Chapin Food Bank and the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties will once again partner with the National Association of Letter Carriers as part of the Stamp Out Hunger food drive. The annual food drive will be held on Saturday, May 13.



Now in its 31st year, the Stamp Out Hunger food drive is the largest single-day food drive in the nation and provides residents with a convenient way to donate food to those in need. Customers can leave donations of nonperishable food items next to their mailboxes on May 13. Mail carriers will collect donations along their regular postal delivery routes and distribute the items to food banks and other participating organizations.

Winter residents heading back up north before May 13 can still participate in the food drive by dropping off unopened, nonperishable food items in the lobby of the post office nearest their home. These items will be collected and distributed as part of the Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

Nonperishable food items include unopened, nonbreakable containers, such as peanut butter, pasta, tuna, rice, beans, canned meats, fruits, vegetables and soups.

Harry Chapin Food Bank and the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties partner with the National Association of Letter Carriers to ensure the food drive can be held each year. Hundreds of volunteers assist letter carriers by picking up food, unloading trucks and sorting items at postal drop-off sites.

Food collected in Lee County will be distributed by Harry Chapin Food Bank and other participating agencies, free of charge. The National Association of Letter Carriers food drive is pivotal in helping food banks, such as Harry Chapin Food Bank, and the agencies they serve continue to be supplied with food during the summer months, when school is out and there is a significant increase in food insecurity for children and families.

Volunteer Drivers Needed

We live in a generous community, so much that many of the letter carrier trucks overflow with food. The United Way Volunteer Center will be coordinating volunteers to assist with driving a carrier route and helping pick up food.

Volunteers will have a choice of driving routes primarily in the areas of Cape Coral, North Fort Myers and Fort Myers. As other areas are identified, they will be added to this list. Volunteer driver routes will start later in the morning to coincide with residents placing their food at mailboxes and the peak times when mail carriers are on their routes. This opportunity works best when volunteers team up in pairs, a driver and a navigator. Those under the age of 18 are welcome to help with written parental permission.

If volunteering in teams of two, both the driver and



navigator volunteer must register. If one of the volunteers is under the age of 18, the legal guardian will register and sign a waiver for themselves and the minor. Once registered for the opportunity, you will be contacted for your location preference. You may have to create a user profile first if you are new to volunteering with United Way or have not completed a user profile with us in the past.

To sign up to volunteer please visit https://volunteer.unitedwaylee.org/need/detail/?need_id=795514.

History Of Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day

National Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day is conducted by the National Association of Letter Carriers (N.A.L.C.). The drive was started in October 1991 as a trial program and took place across 10 cities in America. It was highly successful and has continued every year since. The initiative was formed by a union wanting to give back to those in need, whether it be by donating funds to a charity, collaborating during times of disaster, or protecting victims of calamities and crime.

The date for the drive was later moved to the second Saturday of May. The N.A.L.C. decided that the best time of year for the food drive would be in the late spring. This was because food banks and pantries ran out of food by May as donations decreased after Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It was the postmen who mostly saw the obstacles that communities faced. Thus, on this day, the postal carriers both deliver mail and collect food donations. As they deliver orders, bills, and postcards, people get to help out by filling their mailbags with nonperishable food donations.

One billion pounds of food have been dispatched over the last two decades. The mailmen deliverers representing the N.A.L.C. receive support from rural letter carriers, other messenger employees, and volunteers. In 2010, The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive was awarded numerous badges, which include two Presidential Certificates of Achievement.

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day FAQs

What Is Special About Nonperishable Food?

Nonperishable foods, such as canned goods and dried fruit, have a long shelf life and don't require refrigeration to keep them from spoiling.

What Percentage Of Americans Use Food Banks?

One in seven people in our nation utilizes our network of food banks.

Who Refers You To A Food Bank?

Professionals such as social workers, health visitors, and doctors must refer people to a food bank for them to receive a voucher that can then be exchanged for food.

Cape Coral Cruise Club from page 8

The cruise was hosted by Tad and Jane Vaughn aboard *Little Loopy*. Joining them were three member boats and two prospective member boats completing their shakedown cruise required for club membership. The members were Chris and Karla Spoke aboard *Seas the Moment*, Mike Pitkin aboard *Captain's Gig*, and Wayne and Pam Dewitt aboard *Hullablue*. The prospective members were Gordy and Nancy Littler aboard *Seasquatch*, and Dave Rhodes and Linda Haddaway aboard *Blu Jay*. Our new members did a great job boating safely and we had a lot of fun getting to know them better.

Tuesday, day one, was a stop at the club's Hidden Island paradise. Tad and Jane arrived early to open up the island facility and greet members as they arrived. Five boats stayed the night on the island. Dave and Linda joined the group on the second night in Clewiston. As typical on club cruises, the first night's meal was heavy hors d'oeuvres with each boat bringing their favorite item to share. To our surprise, everyone brought meatballs! Well, not everyone, but let's say there were enough meatballs to last the trip. Tad and Jane cooked huevos rancheros for everyone on Wednesday morning before the group departed for Clewiston.

The weather for the journey to Clewiston was a bit chilly with a few sprinkles here and there, but overall it was a nice ride up the river. There were some memorable moments in the Ortona lock when one of our solo members, not to be mentioned, had a little trouble with holding position when the flood gates opened. A graceful recovery was made, and all made it to Clewiston through the Moorehaven Lock without the entertainment. This time of year the lock at Clewiston is kept open during the day so passage was easy.

We were greeted at the Roland Martin Marina by the dockmaster, Sam. Sam is one of the most helpful dockmasters you will ever come across. With everyone

tied up securely along the marina's very long dock, the group enjoyed a fun dinner together at the Tiki Bar right at the dock. Joining the group by land were Jim and Kat Eisele camping in the adjacent campground. Later, Terry and Laurie Carlson and Janet and Tim Coons joined and stayed at the marina hotel.



The highlight for Thursday morning was a guided bass fishing trip for four members out into Lake Okeechobee, known for its world-class bass fishing. Dave, Chris, Jim, and Tad participated in the adventure. It was a very chilly, fast ride before sunrise out to the fishing spot with our guide, Capt. Bo White (capt.bowhite@gmail.com). Bo was a great guide and we all caught fish with his help. Dave was the winner for catching the most fish.

Thursday evening dinner was a dockside burger and brat barbecue hosted by Tad and Jane with everyone bringing a dish to pass. There was plenty of food to go around and a fun time was had. Later that evening, several members participated in the karaoke night at the Tiki Bar.

The group departed Friday morning for home. There was a little excitement for Gordy and Nancy when their steering decided to stop working as they approached the fuel dock, but Gordy recovered and managed to regain steering control to make the trip home. It was a fun trip, and everyone made it home safely. We are looking forward to the club trips to Venice in April, Punta Gorda in May, and Tween Waters in June.

We are very excited to have many new members join us this year! As always, you can follow our fun on Facebook, and if you would like information about joining our club, please contact our Membership Chairman Terry Carlson at (239) 770-6955.



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Follow Deloris, a disco diva, as she witnesses a crime and the cops hide her in the last place anyone would think to look...a convent! Masquerading as a nun, and under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. She makes new friends and breathes new life into the church, but in the process, blows her cover! This high-spirited musical comedy is a shining tribute to the universal power of friendship.

May 26 - July 1

A lively city boy moves from Chicago to a small farming town where rock 'n' roll and dancing have been banned. After the culture shock sets in, he tries to shake things up and overturn the extreme ban. In the process he catches the attention of the lovely preacher's daughter. The Oscar and Tony-nominated Top 40 score includes *Holding Out For A Hero*, *Let's Hear It For The Boy*, *Almost Paradise* and the title song, *Footloose*.

Dates may be subject to change.

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Tax Talk

Options For Taxpayers With A Tax Bill They Can't Pay

Bud Krater has been doing taxes in Lee County for over 30 years. He has his Enrolled Agent (EA) status with the IRS, which means he can represent you in front of the Internal Revenue Service. He is passionate about his job of saving people tax dollars. His company, A Bud Krater Inc., has three guarantees. For more information,



contact him at (239) 772-1040. He will be happy to help! Taxpayers who can't pay their tax bill by the April 18 deadline shouldn't panic. The IRS offers several options to help them meet their obligations.

It's important for taxpayers to file their tax return or request an extension of time to file at [IRS.gov/extension](https://www.irs.gov/extension) by the April 18 deadline – even if they can't pay their full tax bill. Doing so will help them avoid a failure-to-file penalty.

This extension applies only to the filing deadline, not the payment deadline. Except for eligible victims of recent natural disasters who have until Oct. 16 to make various

tax payments, taxpayers who can't pay the full amount of taxes they owe by April 18 should file and pay what they can. Making a payment, even a partial payment, will help limit penalty and interest charges.

For Taxpayers Who Cannot Pay In Full

Taxpayers struggling to meet their tax obligation may consider these payment options.

Online Payment Plans

Taxpayers who owe but cannot pay in full by April 18 don't have to wait for a tax bill to set up a payment plan. They can apply for a payment plan at [IRS.gov/paymentplan](https://www.irs.gov/paymentplan). These plans can be either short- or long-term.

- Short-term payment plan – The payment period is 180 days or less, and the total amount owed is less than \$100,000 in combined tax, penalties and interest.

- Long-term payment plan – The payment period is longer than 180 days, paid in monthly payments, and the amount owed is less than \$50,000 in combined tax, penalties and interest.

Offers In Compromise

An offer in compromise lets taxpayers settle their tax debt for less than the full amount they owe. It may be an option if they can't pay their full tax liability or doing so creates a financial hardship. The IRS considers a taxpayer's unique set of facts and circumstances when deciding whether to accept an offer.

Taxpayers can see if they're eligible and prepare a

preliminary proposal with the Offer in Compromise Pre-Qualifier Tool.

The IRS Offers Penalty Relief To Eligible Taxpayers

Taxpayers may qualify for penalty relief if they tried to comply with tax laws but were unable due to circumstances beyond their control.

Here's What Taxpayers Should Know About Possible Penalties And Interest

Taxpayers who owe tax and don't file on time, may be charged a failure-to-file penalty. This penalty is usually 5 percent of the tax owed for each month or part of a month that the tax return is late, up to 25 percent. The failure-to-pay penalty applies if a taxpayer doesn't pay the taxes they report on their tax return by the due date.

Interest is based on the amount of tax owed and for each day it's not paid in full. The interest is compounded daily, so it is assessed on the previous day's balance plus the interest. Interest rates are determined every three months and can vary based on type of tax; for example, individual or business tax liabilities. More information is available on the interest page of [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

An extension of time to file is not an extension of time to pay. An extension only gives taxpayers until Oct. 16 to file their 2022 tax return, but taxes owed are still due April 18.

If you need help, please call us anytime at (239) 772-1040. [Source: www.irs.gov, *IRS Tax Tip 2023-35*]

QR Code 101 And How Does It Work?

You might be wondering, "How do QR codes work?" To answer you directly, QR codes store digital information accessible through a phone scan. These codes are accessed using a smartphone device. If you are only beginning to understand the basic works of a QR code, here is a guide for beginners to know more about QR codes and how QR codes are made.

Before we jump into the basic works of a QR code, we must first learn the basic concept of what is a QR code.

A "quick response code" also known as QR code is a two-dimensional type of barcode. QR codes are scannable using smartphones devices, which are natively developed to scan/detect QR codes.

These codes are generated using an online QR code generator that displays an online information to the scanner when scanned.

Today, QR codes are generally used in advertising, business, health care, and education.

However, business sectors, especially in the advertising and operations, most widely use QR codes.

Aside from these sectors, the restaurant industry also employs an interactive restaurant menu QR code software and QR code generators to generate a menu QR code for their business.

You can find QR codes in brochures, flyers, posters, billboards, items and products, business cards, and even online websites such as social media and shopping sites.

QR codes have since perpetuated into every industry and are used all over the world by consumers. It has started gaining a lot of popularity with consumers since scanning QR codes does not require an app. The camera app in both Android and iPhones is capable of scanning QR Codes natively.

Brief History Of QR Codes

The use of technology alleviates people's efforts in labor. QR codes had a specific problem to alleviate. In the early 1960s, the economy of Japan entered high economic growth.

During this period, supermarkets and convenience stores thrived and sold a wide range of commodities ranging from food to clothing. To keep up with the demand for checkout counters, the use of cash registers was implemented. Due to manual inputting in checkout and sales, cashiers at the checkout counters experienced numbness in their wrists and developed carpal tunnel syndrome.

As a solution to the problem, the point of sale (POS) system

was developed and incorporated the use of barcodes. In the long run, developers noticed the limitations barcodes had. The limit of 20 alphanumeric characters was not enough to hold a product's information and the position of how a barcode is scanned leads to scan failures.

Denso Wave stepped in and devised a new type of barcode that could hold more information and could be scanned in any scanner orientation.

How To Scan A QR Code – Apple

To scan a QR code on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch using the native camera app, follow these steps.

1. Launch the camera.
2. Point it at a QR code to scan.
3. Click on the notification banner at the top of the screen.
4. If the QR code contains any actionable data (contact number, email address, or an audio clip) tap on the banner to trigger the action or pull down the banner to reveal more information before you tap on it.

How To Scan A QR Code – Android

To scan a QR code on your Android phone using the native camera app, follow these steps.

1. Open the camera app on your Android device.
2. Move the QR code into the frame. If the code is easily scannable, you'll see the code's URL appear at the bottom of the frame. Tap it to open that URL.
3. View its contents displayed on the smartphone or click on the link to view its contents.



Garage Door Security

Drive down any South Florida street and you will likely find a number of open garage doors.

Reports of garage door openers being stolen from unlocked vehicles in the driveway have become more common, as well.

In addition to allowing access to any and all property left inside of the garage, these practices now turn your interior garage door into an exterior door. In most cases, interior garage doors are left unlocked to allow easy entrance into the residence.

That being said, an unlocked vehicle containing a garage door opener equates to leaving your front door open and accessible.

The internal garage door should meet exterior standards in regard to thickness, locking mechanism and framing.

These doors should be of solid-core construction and at least 1 3/4 inches in thickness. Choose a strong and secure deadbolt lock for this entranceway. Consider a "Grade 1" single-cylinder lock, a strong deadbolt strike plate and 2 1/2-inch screws on all hinges.

The best preventative measures begin with a closed garage door and locked vehicles!

The Mother's Day I Will Never Forget

By Mandy Carter

After 12 years of my very own special day, I've realized I like the laid-back ones best.

My favorite Mother's Day was the one that took place right in the middle of my most significant struggle phase in life. I had recently gotten divorced, caring for my kids all on my own, I had no extra money to spend on "special occasions," and I was working around the clock to save money to rebuild a better life for us; so needless to say, I was exhausted and felt alone. But despite all that, I wanted to be present with my kids that day more than anything. So, we packed up the car before sunrise, skipping the fancy brunch for donuts on the go as we took a road trip to a beautiful, secluded beach an hour away. We got there early, snagged a fantastic spot to set up a tent, and spent the day genuinely enjoying each other. Instead of store-bought gifts, they made homemade treasures with their heart in each little piece. They brought them to the beach to watch me open them there. No waiting in line for an overpriced lunch because we had a cooler full of our favorite snacks. We laughed, cried (it was an emotional time for all three



of us), and had so much fun we didn't want to leave – we stayed until sunset.

It was the best way to spend the day reflecting on how grateful I am to be a mother. I am lucky to have learned from the best by having a mom who was my biggest fan and unconditionally loved me for the past 40 years. My mom always put her time with me as a priority, which I realize now was a sacrifice for her at times but such great memories for me, and now that I get to choose my memories with my kids, I follow in her footsteps.

I advise anyone looking for ways to celebrate Mother's Day this year – take the path less traveled, skip the crowds and enjoy time with those you love. Happy Mother's Day to all the women who make a positive difference in anyone's life – you are appreciated!

About Mandy Michelle Carter

Local mom living the dream; I want to inspire people to spend authentic time with your family and to chase your dreams unapologetically! Find me at www.acupful.com, www.mandydoesmarketing.com.



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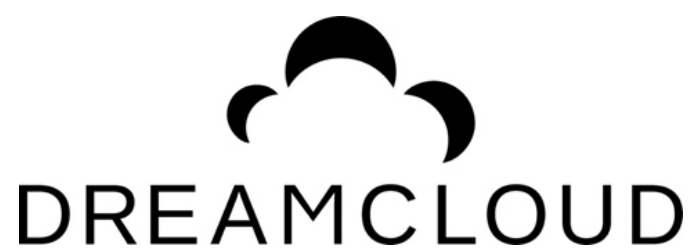
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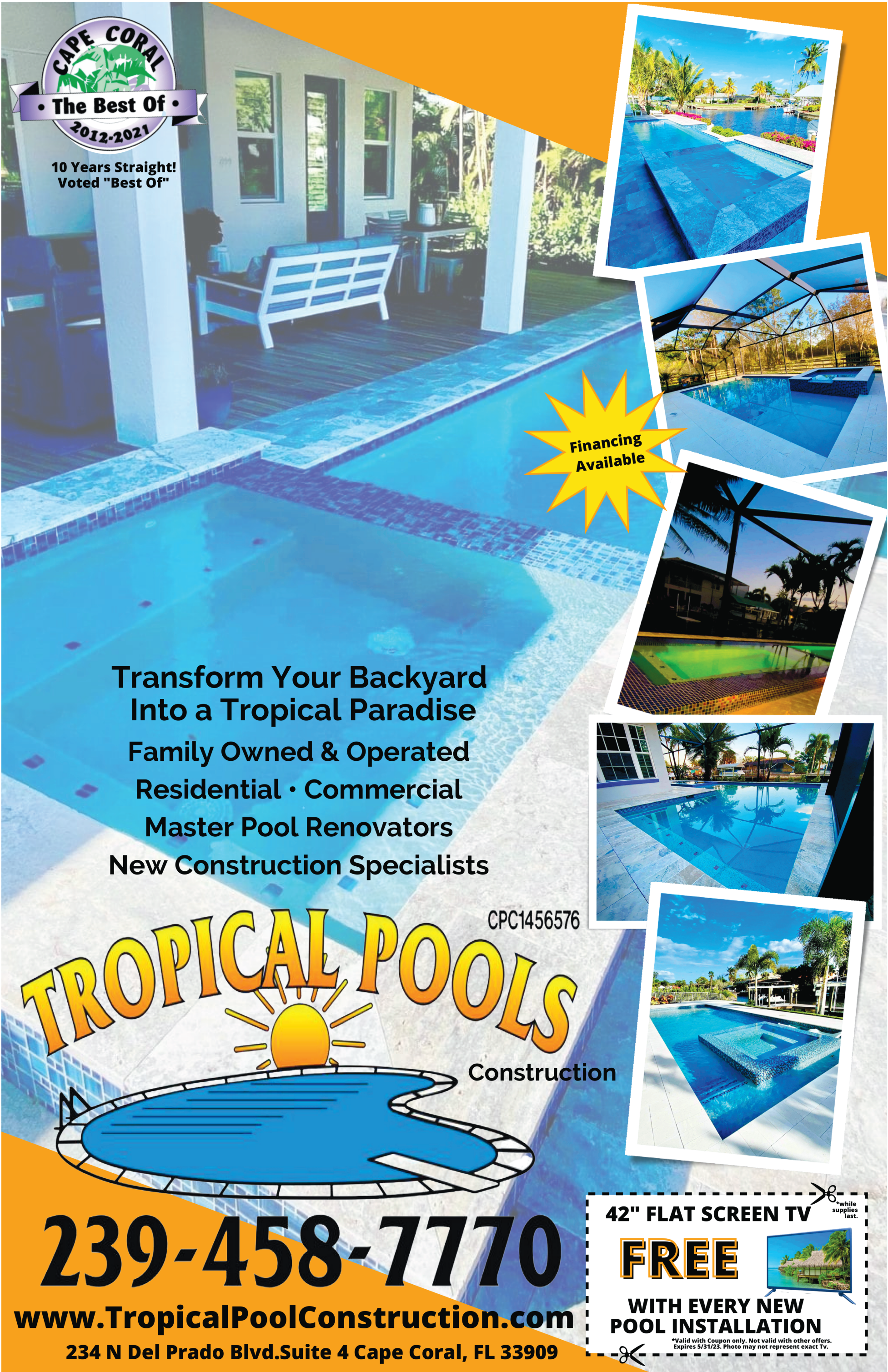
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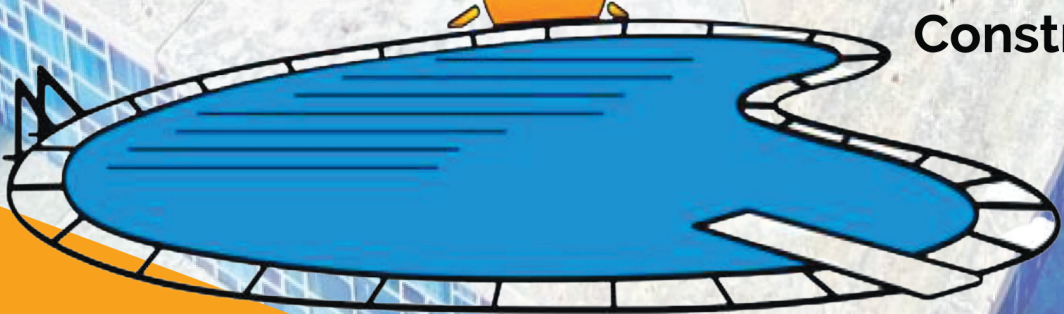
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