

THE CAPE CORAL SUN

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

Another Seabreeze Publication



Cape Coral Holiday Festival Of Lights

**Dec. 3 – Cape Coral Parkway
– 4 To 10 p.m.**

For over 30 years the Southwest Florida holiday season officially begins on the first Saturday of December when over 20,000 people gather for the largest celebration. This holiday celebration has been a shining example of community support, holiday spirit and fun for the whole family!



One of the best parts of attending the Cape Coral Festival of Lights is that you can enjoy a wide array of events, shows, entertainment, and displays without spending a penny! That's true! All visitors can walk along the pathways or watch from a viewing platform as lasers make a canopy of light, painting the biomes with festival colors, set to a soundscape of stories and music, and so much more! All attractions are **free** to the public, including pictures with Santa, Snow Drift Slide, Tiny Tots Train around Snowcap Square and more!

The Holiday Festival of Lights is the feel good event of the year held on Cape Coral Parkway in Downtown Cape Coral. It's over three-quarters of a mile of holiday attractions, performances, vendors, food, and refreshments to ring in the season.



Tree Lighting

The stars of the event are the official lighting of the city Christmas tree and the arrival of Santa Claus. Dignitaries and major sponsors are included in the tree lighting ceremony, Santa then arrives to light the tree and meet the children that includes **free** pictures with Santa.

Throughout the event will be three holiday performance stages with local dance troupes, schools, choirs and others performing their holiday programs:

- Candy Cane Park Community stage located in front of Razzle Dazzle.
- Tree Lighting and Santa at Christmas Town Center located near South Cape Diner along with the Christmas Town Center Community Stage.
- Snowcap Square located near Winn Dixie for snow drifts, Tiny Tot Train, food vendors and the Snowcap Square Community Stage.



Snow Drift Slide



Tiny Tot Train



Photo with Santa

Holiday Festival Of Lights on page 3

Reindeer Run

Saturday, Dec. 10

The Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department is proud to host Reindeer Run 2022! Join us for a 5K run and family fun run/walk at Coral Oaks Golf Course, 1800 N.W. 28th Ave., Cape Coral. The event is a family-friendly fun run so come dressed in your holiday spirit! The run will be on the cart path through the golf course, so it is a stroller/family-friendly course. Walking entrants are welcome.

Pricing:

Nov. 10 To Dec. 9

\$20 Family Fun Run/Walk – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, and video finish.

\$25 5K Run – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, chip time, and video finish.

\$30 Combo (5K Run & Family Fun Run/Walk) – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, chip time, and video finish.

Day Of Event – Dec. 10

(Only available to purchase starting at 4 p.m. at Coral Oaks golf course)

\$25 Family Fun Run/Walk – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, and video finish.

\$30 5K Run – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, 5K chip time, and video finish.



\$35 Combo (5K Run & Family Fun Run/Walk) – Includes a performance shirt (while supply lasts), light refreshments, 5K chip time, and video finish.

To register please visit www.capereindeerrun.com.

Refund policy: This is a rain or shine event. No refunds will be issued. In the case of an event cancellation, credit will be offered for a future event year.

If participant is under 18, registration must be completed by a parent or legal guardian. Participants under 13 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

- Check-in – packet pickup: 4 p.m.
- 5K race start time: 5 p.m.
- Fun run/walk start time: 6 p.m.

Remember When...



Big John during the early 1970s and Big John today after Hurricane Ian. Amazingly it looks like he only has minimal damage as he broke off at the waist and slid down on to his lower half.

Christmas Tree Lighting And The Grinch

Join us as we kick off the holiday season at the City of Cape Coral's second annual tree lighting celebration on Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. The mayor and city council will help light the beautiful 26-foot tree, and the Grinch will make a special visit.

Enjoy holiday music and live performances by students from the City of Cape Coral's Oasis Charter Schools. This free, family-friendly event will also feature local food trucks, vendors, a visit from Santa, and the movie on the lawn!

Location: Cape Coral City Hall, 1015 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral

Date: Thursday, Dec. 8

Time: 6 p.m.

The Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department will be showing *The Grinch* on our giant inflatable movie screen. The movie will start at approximately 7 p.m. but get there early to enjoy dinner from our onsite food trucks and grab a good spot to watch the tree lighting! Blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged!



Tax Talk

Hurricane Ian And Your Taxes? Do You Qualify For Disaster Relief On Your Tax Return?

Bud Krater has been doing taxes in Lee County for over 30 years. He has his EA, Enrolled Agent 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!



The disaster loss, which I will show you how to compute, can be used if you itemize your deductions on your tax return. That means, for a single individual, if you can add up your real estate taxes, interest paid on your home and/or second home, charitable contributions, and medical expenses 7½ percent over your income, and your casualty loss from the hurricane, and get over the standard deduction

amount. (2022 is \$12,950 for a single and \$25,900 for a married filing joint filer) Then it is to your benefit to fill out form 4684 and compute your disaster loss.

Basically, this is how you can compute your loss:

1. Take fair market value of your property before the hurricane. Include structure and personal property.
2. Subtract the fair market value of your property after the hurricane. This is the amount of loss.
3. If this is more than your basis (amount you paid for your home) then...
4. Subtract all insurance proceeds from the loss calculated on number. (Do not include your deductible in the amount the insurance company awarded you.)
5. Now subtract 10 percent of your adjusted gross income from the total amount after the insurance proceeds are taken out of your loss and this is the amount of casualty loss that you can add to your itemized deduction.

Important item: The IRS allows you to take the loss that you incurred from the storm in 2022 against your 2021 taxes or against your 2022 taxes. You can file an amended return for 2021 if so desired. We can do this **now!** If you qualify, we can get you a refund much sooner based on your loss!

Give us a call – talk to Bud, Jill or Nancy and they can help you proceed with your loss recovery!

Cape Coral Art League

December 2022 And January 2023 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!



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

Water Wonderland

Dec. 5 through Dec. 29, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Wine and cheese reception, Thursday, Dec. 8, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Free parking and entry.

Got The Blues

Jan. 2, 2023 through Feb. 2, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Wine and cheese reception, Thursday, Jan. 5, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Free parking and entry.

Specialty Class

Portraits In Watercolor – Pat Huffman

Wednesday in January and February, 1 to 4 p.m. Call to register: (239) 772-5657.

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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It's A Holiday Family Tradition

'Tis The Season To Get Your Annual Photo With Santa Claus

By Mandy Carter

The first department store Santa is generally believed to have been introduced in Brockton, Mass., in 1890. Then, in the early 20th century, Santa Claus became a fixture in all kinds of stores during the holiday season around the country. By the late 1930s, an annual visit to a department store Santa was not an uncommon holiday season activity.

However, it wasn't until the early 1940s that parents took home keepsake photos of the visit. Santa pictures have been said to have begun in Seattle in 1944 at Frederick & Nelson department store (now the Nordstrom building). Arthur French figured that families should be able to take these memories home with a photo. He charged a buck per snapshot and earned \$10,000 in one month. Thus, the beginning of a holiday tradition that would take off in malls everywhere.



David Harris was Santa Claus from 1942 to 1968 at Frederick & Nelson, where Santa photos were invented in 1944. (Courtesy Museum of History & Industry)

I have taken my kids to their share of shopping mall Santa photo setups. But one that has become a yearly tradition is Santa's Wonderland at Bass Pro Shops.

Santa always arrives at the Bass Pro Shop in Fort Myers early November. So, I always plan a day to visit Santa and



take a family photo – it's a tradition that even my kids ask about as soon as Halloween ends! During this annual tradition, we get to write and mail our letters to Santa, play with some unique toys, and make a holiday craft. The great thing about visiting Santa at Bass Pro Shops is that the backdrop is consistently the same year after year, so you really get to see how the kids have changed over the years! And they give you a **free** printed copy of your photo.

Advanced reservations to secure a time to see Santa are recommended, which will save you time in line too! Bass Pro Shops is located at 10040 Gulf Center Drive in Fort Myers. For more information about Santa's wonderland at Bass Pro visit www.basspro.com/shop/en/santas-wonderland.

About Mandy Michelle Carter

I am just a Southwest Florida middle-aged woman who "finally" decided to go after it all: a career on my terms, motherhood, fitness, eco-living and adventure. I want to inspire people to take care of your health and our planet, to spend authentic time with your family and to chase your dreams unapologetically! We only get one life, don't waste it waiting. From playtime to home building to travel – enjoy every moment, big and small! In addition to my favorite job of being the mother to two crazy little kids, I am the marketing director for WooBamboo, a freelance writer, and I run my own small business as a virtual marketing assistant.

Holiday Festival Of Lights from page 1

The Holiday Festival of Lights will have a variety of sponsors and vendors that will line the Parkway, many offering **free** gifts and registration for prizes, along with food courts providing a multitude of festival food to everyone in attendance.

The Holiday Festival of Lights is the "biggest small town holiday celebration" in the country and should not be missed.

This 2022 Christmas light show showcases the best light festival you can imagine. Did you know that the light exhibition itself delivers you to various Christmas lights? This includes a wide array of rope lights, net lights, meteor shower lights, icicle lights, LED curtain lights, and many more! This holiday festival is the official beginning of Florida's Christmas season. You do not want to miss this yearly event, right?

But wait, there's more! The Cape Coral Festival of Lights will allow you to see different twinkle light trees, fairy lights, and blinking Christmas lights. Once you are at the event, you will feel as if you are transported to another world with its bright and charming lights.

For the 2022 year, the dates of Cape Coral Festival of Lights will happen on Saturday, Dec.3. The stars of the festival of lights are the official lighting of the city's Christmas tree and, of course, the arrival of Santa Clause.

The Cape Coral Festival of Lights is certainly a chance for you to enjoy a holiday outing, not to mention it is an excellent chance for you to celebrate Christmas hope with your loved ones and family and to support local vendors and shops.

The event will start at 4 p.m. and will end at 10 p.m. From dancing lasers to magical lights, you can expect much imaginative light shows being switched on throughout the event!

For more information visit www.holidayfestivalcc.com.



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Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild On Exhibit At Cape Coral Library Through Dec. 30

A juried show titled "Creative Possibilities" featuring exceptional work by members of the Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild (SWFFCG) will grace the walls and display cases of the Cape Coral Library art gallery through Dec. 30. Each piece in this exhibit is a handmade, original and unique product of the individual artist's imagination. The library is located at 921 S.W. 39th Terrace, off Mohawk Parkway, and the exhibit will be open during regular business hours.



Art by Nancy Gray Giffin. Pineapple Cathead Basket



Art by Lynn Ondercin. Ebb Embodied, green alabaster



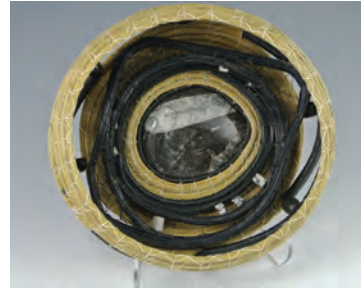
Art by Lynn Ondercin. Flow, soap stone



Art by Pamela Richardson. If the Garden of Eden Was a Maze

The Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild is a highly respected nonprofit artist collective for creative minds. The guild's mission is to come together as 2-D and 3-D artists with innovative approaches to their media. The mission states: "Whether you're a professional looking for new inspiration, a brand-new student hoping to learn a thing or two about fine crafts, or if you're simply interested in picking up a new hobby, the Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild is here to welcome you into the fold." For more information about the guild, visit their website: www.SWFFCG.org.

Changing art exhibitions in the library's gallery are sponsored by the Friends of the Cape Coral Library and are designed to afford local artists the opportunity to share their work in this public forum. The variety of visual experience benefits



Art by Kathryn Erickson. Midnight Mystery, dyed pine needles, muhly grass, black stone, Howlite beads

library visitors of all ages. For information contact Monica Rahman, Art Gallery chairperson at galleries@capefriends.org or visit www.capefriends.org. Follow "Friends of the Cape Coral Library" on Facebook.



Art by Nancy Gray Giffin. Pineapple Cathead Basket

Tiny Bubbles ... Makes Me Feel Fine!

By Bonnie Yapello

With all that we have been through these past few months, surely, we can find something to celebrate! Every day is a gift as we move forward on rebuilding our paradise.

Champagne or anything bubbly is the way to go. There is a style for everyone, whether you like sweet or dry, pink or white, value or indulgent, you can find the bubbly that will fit your occasion.

Let's start with how the bubbles get there. All champagnes are sparkling wines, but not all sparkling wines are champagne!

The real deal is called champagne, and to be called that, the grapes must be from the Champagne region 1½ hours northeast of Paris, France. There are commonly three grapes used to produce it, Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay, but it is the winemaker's choice on which to

blend. Using the process called Methode Champenoise, there are two fermentations. The first is when the grape juice is converted to wine, then bottled, and a second fermentation where carbon dioxide stays in the bottle, producing bubbles. Dosage is when cane sugar is added to the bottle and determines whether it will be dry or sweet.

Here are different styles from driest to sweetest: Extra Brut, Brut, Extra Dry, Sec, and Demisec.

Sparkling wine is produced in many areas of the world and can be made with different grapes with varying grades of quality. For instance, Cava is from Spain and can be made with Spanish white grapes such as Macabeo, Parellada, and Xarel-lo. Some modern styles also include Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Cavas are secondary fermented using the same method as champagne, in the bottle. This is called method traditional.

Prosecco is a sparkling wine from Veneto, northern Italy. Made with the Glera grape, this popular sparkling wine is usually slightly sweet unless it is a dry brut. Prosecco is perfect for making cocktails adding peach nectar (Bellinis) or orange juice (Mimosas). The highest quality Prosecco (DOCG) is from the northern region in Veneto, Conegliano-Valdobbiadene. You'll want to drink this without any added mixers to appreciate the quality. Prosecco is produced in the Charmat, or bulk method, where the second fermentation is produced in a large sealed vat, then bottled. Asti and Moscato d' Asti are also from northern Piedmont Italy and is sweet, made with the Moscato Bianco grape. Asti can be in two forms – Spumante which means sparkling or frizzante which is gently fizzy. Spumante has a caged cork, frizzante will have a simple cork.

Champagne is my go-to as it pairs with anything! Whether it be appetizers, charcuterie, seafood, steak and even dessert, find your favorite style and keep enough on hand for that special, or not so special occasion.

Have a wonderful holiday and be thankful to share a glass or two with your favorite person.

Cheers!

About Bonnie Yapello

I spent seven years as a wine consultant for ABC Fine Wine & Spirits in Cape Coral. I was fortunate enough to travel to Italy and Napa Valley to explore many vineyards and wineries during my time there, learning more about the winemaking process from people whose passion it is in making some of the world's most famous wines. My life's journey has found me to be a business partner to my best friend/husband for 31 years, mother of two, a lover of wine and good food and living in Cape Coral! Every day is a gift, and a chance to find good in what we are given.



Be sure to stop by Sip and Send, who is the monthly sponsor that brings you "The Grapevine." Located at 2135 Santa Barbara Blvd., where you can find your new favorite wine, a special gift basket, or unique wine gift, and mail it too! A true find in Cape Coral.

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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 **January 31st, 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.

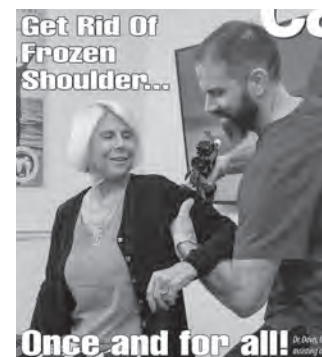
God bless.

-Dr. Robert Davis, DC, CSCS

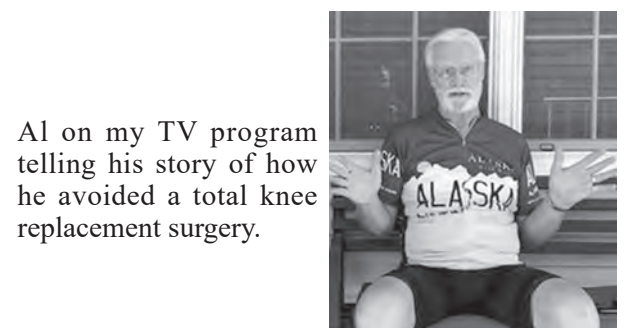
239-482-8686

P.S. When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only **\$45.**

P.P.S. Your time is as valuable to you as mine is to me. That’s why I have a “no wait” policy. It is highly unusual to wait more than a few minutes in my office.



My mother and I featured in a local publication for non-surgical shoulder solutions.



Al on my TV program telling his story of how he avoided a total knee replacement surgery.



Joyce is all smiles at her one year checkup. No more neuropathy!

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Across The Bridge...

Holiday Nights At Edison And Ford Winter Estates

On Friday, Nov. 25 at 6 p.m., Edison and Ford Winter Estates kicked off the 47th annual Holiday Nights celebration with a tree lighting ceremony. Guests had an opportunity to participate in the countdown with Dave Elias from NBC-2 when the Christmas tree on the Ford property was lit with thousands of animated lights choreographed to holiday music. Female vocalists, the American Sirens, performed shortly after the tree lighting. The event was sponsored by Florida Power & Light, Bob Dean Supply, Sunbelt Rentals, and TriCircle Pavers.

This year's theme is "Holidays on the Riverfront" and will incorporate water and nautical elements. Holiday Nights will run nightly through Jan. 1, except Christmas Eve and Christmas night. Guided holiday tradition tours will be offered at 6 and 7 p.m. every night except opening night or visitors can choose to meander at their own pace on a self-guided tour. Inside-the-Homes tours will be offered on Dec. 7, 14, and 21 at 6:30 p.m. for a special up-close look at the homes' decorated interiors.

Several new light displays are being installed this year. When visitors enter the riverside of the property, they will walk through a new lighted tunnel. This will set the stage and lead guests to the new fountain tree with animated lights. The tree that was used for the tree lighting ceremony is also new and incorporates animated lights choreographed with music.

The family-oriented event includes the Children's Tree Trail, which features dozens of trees decorated with handmade ornaments from Lee County school children. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting on Sunday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. through Dec. 18. The "Wild Wizard" (Edison's nickname) will conduct science experiments on Tuesday night at 6 p.m. through Dec. 20.

There will also be music on several nights. Strolling carolers will sing on Dec. 7 and 16, the Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers will perform on Dec. 14, and a tenor saxophone player will perform Dec. 16 to 23. An antique circus car (a calliope) with a built-in pipe organ will be played from 6 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 5. Curators will

be on hand to answer questions about the car, which is a modified 1914 Model T Ford.

Guests can shop multiple vendor booths during the new Holiday Market on Dec. 11 from 4 to 9 p.m. The Museum Store and Garden Shoppe will be open until 9 p.m. every night of Holiday Nights and will be stocked with unique gift items for that hard-to-buy-for loved one. Refreshments will be available for purchase on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening and Dec. 19 to 23 and Dec. 26 to 27.

Holiday Nights tickets for adults are \$20; teens (ages 13 to 19) \$10; children (ages 6 to 12) are \$2; and Edison Ford members get in free. Guided Holiday Tradition Tours are \$30 for adults; teens are \$25; children \$18; and \$10 for Edison Ford members. Inside-the-Homes Holiday Tours are \$50. Lee County residents with identification will receive \$5 off Holiday Nights admission on Sunday night. To purchase tickets or view the nightly schedule, visit the website at www.edisonford.org.

About Edison And Ford Winter Estates

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is the internationally known winter homesite of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. More than 220,000 visitors walk through the location each year from all around the globe. The organization has received many awards, including the National Stewardship Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Garden Clubs' Historic Preservation Award. The property is an official project of "Save America's Treasures," a Florida Historic Landmark and a National Register Historic Site. The Edison Botanic Laboratory is a National Historic Chemical Landmark. The site is open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and until 9 p.m. during the month of December for Holiday Nights.

2022 Festival Of Trees

Thursday, Dec. 1 Through Sunday, Dec. 4

The 16th Annual Festival of Trees returns to the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC)! Experience the beautiful trees decorated by local business to raise money for Goodwill of Southwest Florida and SBDAC. See these gorgeous creations



beginning on Dec. 1. Admission: \$2 (under 12 enter free).

View trees, vote, and buy raffle tickets to win a tree! Raffle tickets: \$10 or 3 for \$25

Festival Of Trees Viewing Times

Thursday, Dec. 1 – 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 2 – 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3 – 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 4 – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

2022 Festival Of Trees Event Information

Wine And Paint: Thursday, Dec. 1, 6 To 9 p.m.

'Tis the season to get creative with one of our favorite local artists, Dharma Lefevre! This talented and quirky elf is going to show you how to create a gorgeous wintery landscape in acrylic. This is not like other paint parties, Dharma will be teaching color theory, how to translate landscapes and simplify what you see to produce scenery with depth and soul!

Dharma is a self-taught local artist. She has had various solo and group shows and has worked on both charity and live painting for local events ... and did we mention she's a ton of fun? She can't wait to create alongside of you!

Each artist will be supplied with canvas, paint, paintbrushes, and of course ... wine.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Wine and Paint starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$45.

Wreath Lighting, The Nowhere Band: Friday, Dec. 2, 7 To 11 p.m.

Another beautiful holiday tradition bringing Christmas to the River District.

At 7 p.m. join the mayor and Santa as they lead the stroll down First Street to the Art Center to light the giant wreath and pick the winner of the Mayor's Choice tree at the festival.

The Nowhere Band will be playing from 7:30 to 10 p.m. and is a free concert.

Santa's Block Party: Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. To 2 p.m.

Join Santa for fun, food, and holiday festivities! Santa's Block Party offers workshops where kids can make arts, crafts, holiday cards and decorate their own cookie. Ticket prices coming soon.

Memphis Motown Soul Experience: Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 To 9:30 p.m.

Come enjoy the Memphis Motown Soul Experience concert on the front steps! Free to attend.

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The homes and gardens at Edison and Ford Winter Estates are decorated with thousands of lights.

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From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Blind Spots Created By Debris Piles

Along with the many other difficulties that we are experiencing post-Hurricane Ian, large debris piles are creating blind spots for drivers.



Collections of uprooted landscape materials, furniture, appliances and other materials have been placed adjacent to roadways, driveways and intersections. The volume,

broadness and height of some of these debris piles have made it difficult and/or impossible for drivers to see oncoming vehicles, driveways and, most importantly, pedestrians.

Drivers have reported experiences involving bicyclists, children, pets, etc., entering the roadway from behind debris piles, leaving little time to react to this unexpected road condition. Some smaller intersections have reduced visibility making it more difficult to see oncoming traffic.

Please exercise extreme caution when approaching accumulations of trash and landscaping debris. Anticipate unexpected road conditions, reduce vehicle speed and ensure that you have a clear and unobstructed view of the roadway before proceeding.

An extra moment of caution may make a significant difference.

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Tree Raffle Drawing: Sunday, Dec. 4, 4 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the Southwest Florida Goodwill Foundation, 5100 Tice St., Fort Myers, FL 33905 and the Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center.

Winner selection to be held via random drawing on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4 p.m. Each Festival of Trees raffle winner will receive one of the fully decorated raffle trees, each valued at a minimum of \$500.

Prize selection is determined by ticket holder at time of raffle entry. Each prize tree will have a separate raffle entry box which corresponds to that prize tree only. Prize selection is determined by ticket holder by depositing entry ticket in the selected tree's entry box. Prize selection cannot be changed once raffle entry ticket has been deposited. Prizes are provided by the Southwest Florida Goodwill Foundation and in-kind tree sponsors.

Toy Drive

In partnership with Festival of Trees (FOT), an event Janet and Ann Wilson supported annually, Friends of

Janet (FOJ) and FOT have joined together to launch the first annual FOJ Toy Drive for children in need in our community.

Toys will be collected at Festival of Trees and various partner businesses. The toys will then be distributed to local children's charities. Janet and Ann were two sisters devoted to community and charity. Just before their tragic car accident in 2019, they were gathering toys to be given away during the holiday season. Janet, a longtime resident of Southwest Florida, had many friends that she often pulled together to help her support various charities. These friends jokingly called themselves the Friends of Janet. Friends of Janet Foundation is a 501(c)(3) foundation formed in loving memory of Janet and Ann to honor their service to others and to build a legacy of giving in their names.



Catch The Action

December On The Water

By Capt. Bill Russell

As Southwest Florida attempts to recover from Hurricane Ian, fishing and boating in general has taken a back seat. Everyone in this area was affected one way or another from the catastrophic storm. Coastal areas where the fishing happens took a severe hit. Matlacha, the little community where I live and grew up will never look the same.

Enough with the bad, fishing will resume, in fact the few anglers I've spoken with report good to great fishing. And it will get better as the water continues to filter and clean up over the coming months. It often takes several months after a storm of this magnitude for the waters to get to a new normal. Of course, areas will look different, old fishing spots lost and new ones found. Fish are still here, it's just a manner of finding them.

December brings a variety of fishing opportunities including sea trout, redfish, snook, mackerel, snapper, grouper, sheepsheads, and others. Like many we have spent the time since Ian repairing our house, cleaning debris, dealing with insurance, and helping others. Our house was damaged, but we are fortunate that we are still living in it. And best of all, our boat suffered very minimal damage and is ready to fish.



Laurie and I would like to thank all our current and past clients who reached out to check on us or offer help. It means more than you know. We are doing well and ready to get back on the water.

For charter information, please contact us at Gulf Coast Guide Service and "Catch the Action" with Capt. Bill Russell, call or text (239) 410-8576, website: www.fishpineisland.com, email: gcl2fish@live.com.

Capt. Bill Russell is a native and lifelong resident of Pine Island who has spent his entire life fishing the waters surrounding Pine Island and Southwest Florida. For the past 26 years Bill has been a professional fishing guide who takes pride in customizing each trip to ensure everyone on board has a great time and will return again. Come join us and "Catch the Action."



Can't Feel The Sand Under Your Feet?

Are you one of the millions of Americans that suffer from peripheral neuropathy? Have you been told you have to deal with it, live with it, and rely on Gabapentin, Lyrica, Cymbalta, injections or other dangerous off label drugs with serious side effects?

You see, it's not your medical doctor's fault, it's the completely irrational medical system that continues to treat only the symptom and not the cause.

Are you suffering from numbness, tingling, burning pain, deep stabbing pain, often diagnosed as peripheral neuropathy? Are you having balance problems or have the fear of becoming disabled, needing someone to take care of you and losing your independence?

As you can see in Figure 2, as the blood vessels that surround the nerves start to die off, the nerves begin to shrink from the lack of all its oxygen, nutrients, and blood supply. When these nerves begin to die, symptoms such as numbness, tingling, burning pain, sharp deep stabbing pain, balance problems, and lastly fatal falls and injuries begin to appear.

The main problem is that your doctor has relied on the "drug cocktail" and exploratory surgery approach which miserably fails.

You actually think like a neuropathy expert more than you think. Let me give you an analogy. What do you think of when you see a wilting plant? What does it need?

Exactly! Water, sunlight, nutrients, take any toxins away from its environment for healing!

A nerve is an organism just like a plant, so our goal in our clinic is simple. We must increase blood supply to the nerve so it can heal. But first, ask yourself this question. How many medications will it take to increase blood flow to the dying nerve? You are correct! Medications cannot increase blood flow. With our 3-step process, we have a 90 to 95% success rate with neuropathy.

- 1) Increase blood flow
- 2) Educate small fiber nerves
- 3) Decrease pain signals

One way we increase blood flow is by using cutting-edge technology such as Lower Level Light Therapy, also known as LLLT. The technology was discovered by NASA by treating wounds in space. LLLT was approved by the FDA in 2001 and is at the forefront of neuropathy treatments. The low level light therapy creates a process called angiogenesis. Angiogenesis means "new blood vessels." It's like watering a plant. The more LLLT a nerve gets, the more it repairs itself, just like a plant would by getting more water, sunlight, and nutrients.

In addition to LLLT, we use a cutting-edge technology around a Nobel Prize-winning concept allowing increased circulation to the extremities.

It's crucial that once we get new blood to the nerves and create new blood vessels, to re-educate the nerve back to normal function. By using a device that's used in large hospital chains across the country for neuropathy, we are able to repair the damaged nerves, and start to make them durable once again.

The most common mistakes neuropathy sufferers make are to take the "it will go away on its own" or "the medications will get me better" mentality. Doing this for long periods can cause you to reach a point of no return.

Dr. Robert Davis is a Chiropractic Physician trained in Functional Neurology. He has been in practice for 24 years and can be reached at (239) 482-8686, www.ActiveHealthComplete.com.

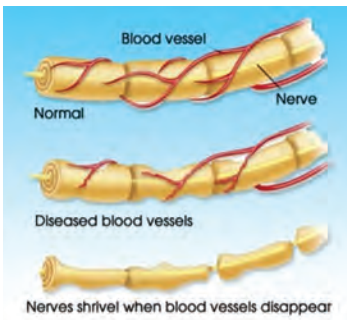


Figure 2

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This heart-warming Irving Berlin classic takes you back to 1954 where two ex-GI's turned showbiz partners follow a couple of singing sisters to a Vermont inn. When they discover their former commanding officer, who owns the inn, is in jeopardy of losing the property, the foursome decides to put on a show! You'll hear some of the greatest songs ever written such as *Happy Holidays*, *Sisters*, *Blue Skies* and the Academy Award-winning *White Christmas*.

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One of the most spectacular and entertaining musicals tells age-old Biblical story of Joseph and his coat of many colors through a kaleidoscope of song and dance! When Jacob gives Joseph a magnificent coat of many colors, his eleven brothers become jealous and sell him into slavery. Because of Joseph's gift for interpreting dreams, he rises to become the Pharaoh's advisor. Songs include *Any Dream Will Do*, *Close Every Door* and *Go, Go, Go Joseph*.

Dates may be subject to change.

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