

THE CAPE CORAL SUN

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



Celebrating Our Second Anniversary



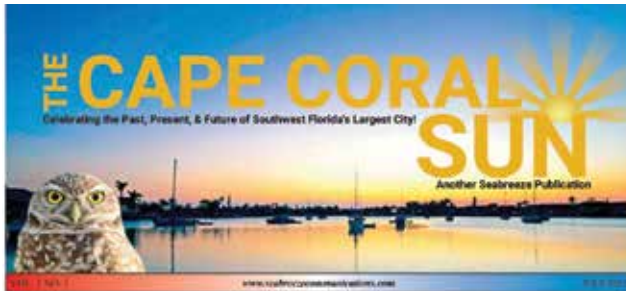
The Cape Coral Sun Celebrates Its Second Anniversary

With the printing of this July issue, *The Cape Coral Sun* is excited to announce our continued growth and expansion as we celebrate our second anniversary.

Dedicated to bringing the community together with interesting stories about the people, places, and things to do in the Cape, the *Sun* is committed to informing our readers about our city's interesting past, our current explosive growth, and lastly showcasing the projects of the future that are transforming Southwest Florida's largest city.

The *Sun* would like to thank all those businesses who have supported the paper these past two years, as well as the Cape Coral Chamber of Commerce, The Cape Coral Museum of History, the City of Cape Coral, and the Cape Coral Office of Economic & Business Development for providing interesting content, historical photos, and renderings for future development projects.

We would also like to recognize the Friends of the Cape Coral Library, Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno, the Cape Coral Art League, the Cape Coral Cruise Club, Tax Accountant Bud Krater, LCEC Karen Ryan, *Catch the Action* Captain Bill Russell, the Cape Coral Animal Shelter, Active Health Brain & Body - Dr. Rob Davis, DC, and Cape Coral



Red, White & Boom!

We are back! Here comes the BOOM! The City of Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department is proud to present "Red, White & Boom!" on Thursday, July 4th from 10:00am to 10:00pm at the Boat of the Cape Coral Bridge on Cape Coral Parkway.

For over 20 years, the best of Cape Coral's business community have come together to celebrate the Fourth of July with a day full of patriotic fun.

2022 Entertainment Schedule

Freedom 5K
Registration: 4:00am
Race Starts: 7:00am
The start line is at the Boat of the Cape Coral Bridge. Sign up on www.capecoralsun.com or www.gopark.com

Red, White & Boom!
Bouncing balls, a climbing wall, obstacle courses, and live painting. Our 4th graders will be painting, making, and displaying their own patriotic artwork.

BOOM Zone - Limited Tickets Available

The BOOM Zone includes the best seats in the house for the City of Cape Coral Fireworks Spectacular! The location is on the left side of the stage in a special seating area. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Limited number of tickets available on highly sought-after. Adult tickets - \$10 includes 1 beverage (soft drink, bottled beverage or water bottle, game area, trivia section, and more! BOOM on page 7

The Cape Coral Sun first issue, July 2022

Author/Artist Ryn Gargulinski for their monthly contributions.

We would also like to thank two individuals that have made an early impact on the paper – Sherry Whalon and Mandy Carter. Sherry has recently been named editor of

the *Sun* and has been dedicated to researching and working with local organizations and writers, as well as all aspects concerning the *Sun's* monthly production. Mandy Carter is our webmaster, content provider in print and online, and creator of our logo and masthead. Both Sherry and Mandy have been instrumental in our early success and without their professionalism and dedication the *Sun* would not exist.

We are Bonnie and Joe Yapello, publishers/owners of the *Sun*. We have lived and raised our family here in the Cape for the past 35 years. We both have a lifetime of experience in newspaper and magazine publishing, content writing, and cable television and radio sales. Dedicated to helping local businesses with their marketing needs, we look forward to many more years of promoting the city and community that has made a lasting impact on our lives.

Cape Coral Museum Of History

Remember When... Fourth Of July In Cape Coral

Cape Coral's inaugural Independence Day fireworks display took place in 1968 at Lake Kennedy when it was still a township. The fireworks show has moved through various venues, including the Yacht Club pier, Horton Park, Lake Kennedy, and Tarpon Point, before settling on Cape Coral Parkway.



Initially organized by the Jaycees, the event included a parade, a police vs. fire department tug-of-war, and was notable for its community-driven, family-oriented atmosphere. Former mayor Joe Mazurkiewicz recalls driving to Sebring to bring back fireworks and becoming a licensed pyrotechnician. Cape Coral pioneer Elmer Tabor remembers receiving a "burnt shirt award" for his efforts.

Due to financial burdens and the event's growth, the Jaycees passed it to the Chamber of Commerce in the late '80s and early '90s. Major sponsors like LCEC, Storm Smart, and Lee Health played crucial roles in its success. Despite challenges like location issues and weather, the community's spirit remained undeterred.

In the late '90s, the event found a permanent home on Cape Coral Parkway, expanding significantly. "Patriot Park" offers numerous activities for children, and live music draws large crowds. The Freedom 5K, established in 2011, precludes the evening's celebrations. In 2014, the Chamber handed the event to the city, allowing it to grow even more under the Parks and Recreation Department's management.

Today, Red, White, and BOOM! is a large, efficient, and professional event, reflecting Cape Coral's growth and community spirit.

For more historical information about Cape Coral, visit the Cape Coral Museum of History at 544 Cultural Park Blvd. The

Gala Cape Coral Fourth Spread Over Four Days



Even in Cape Coral, where fishing waters abound, one can goof. But luckily, it was only the camera that caught "culprits" Carole Hale (right), 1964 Miss Florida World, and her chum, Bonnie Harrington, in forbidden waters. 29 Jun 1965

museum is open Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults; free for members, students with ID, and children 17 and under.

Cape Coral Museum Of History, 544 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33990, (239)772-7037, capecoralmuseum.org.

Fun-Mobile And Free Meals

The City of Cape Coral's Parks & Recreation Department is teaming up with the School District of Lee County and the USDA to host Summer BreakSpot multiple locations throughout Cape Coral.

Children and youth aged 18 and under can enjoy free lunches provided by the Lee County School District every weekday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Paul Sanborn Park, located at 2310 SE 3rd Street. The program will run through July 31, excluding June 19 and July 4.

In addition to free lunches, the Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Fun-Mobile will be on-site with free games and activities for kids. The Fun-Mobile has recently been upgraded to include even more games, toys, and crafts, ensuring a fun time for all.

To learn more about Cape Coral Parks and Recreation and the Fun-Mobile, visit CapeParks.com.

Summer BreakSpot provides nutritious meals at no cost to children 18 and under while school is out for the summer. Operating at schools, nonprofit organizations and government entities, such as parks and libraries, Summer BreakSpot reimburses participating organizations for meals through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Option.

What Kind Of Food Is Served In The Summer Breakspot?

Summer BreakSpot sites serve nutritionally balanced meals that meet USDA guidelines.

Breakfasts include:

- 1 serving of milk, 1 serving of fruits or vegetables,
- 1 serving of grains

Lunches/Suppers include:

- 1 serving of milk, 2 servings of fruits and/or vegetables,
- 1 serving of grains, 1 serving of protein

Snacks include two of the following:

- 1 serving of milk, 1 serving of fruits or vegetables,
- 1 serving of grains, 1 serving of protein

Fun-Mobile And Free Meals on page 6

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Coming Up In The Cape

The Del Prados At Lake Kennedy Center Friday, July 19 – 6 To 9 p.m.

Enjoy '50s and '60s music plus Rock & Roll with local favorites, the Del Prados, at Lake Kennedy Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., on Friday, July 19, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The cost is just \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. BYO food and drinks.

For more information, call (239) 574-0575.

Summer Native Plant Sale At Rotary Park Saturday, July 27 – 9 a.m. To 1 p.m.

Catch the Cape Coral Parks & Recreation Summer Native Plant Sale on Saturday, July 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 pm at Rotary Park, 5505 Rose Garden Road.

Shop from various native trees, shrubs, flowers, grasses, butterfly plants, and tropical edibles.

Plant experts will be on hand to answer questions and help you choose the right plant for the right place. Come early for the best selection.

For more information, call Rotary Park at (239) 549-4606.

Rain Barrel Workshop At Rotary Park Saturday, July 27 – 9 a.m. To 1 p.m.

Join this class led by the Lee County Master Gardeners to learn about rainwater collection and reuse. Not only will you gain important knowledge, but the class fee of \$50 includes a 55-gallon barrel for you to take home and put into practice. Advance registration and payment of \$50 per barrel is required as a limited number of barrels are available.

For more information or to R.S.V.P., call Rotary Park at (239) 549-4606.

“End of Summer Bash” Bingo At Lake Kennedy Center Sunday, Aug. 4 – 2 To 4 p.m.

Adults ages 18-plus are invited to join us for afternoon bingo at Lake Kennedy Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., on Sunday, Aug. 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. The theme is “End of Summer Bash!” The doors will open at 1:30 p.m., and bingo

will begin at 2 p.m. The cost is just \$10 per person to play 10 games and includes a snack. Feel free to BYOB.

Free Exhibit Reception At Cape Coral Art Center Friday, Aug. 9 – 5 to 7 p.m.

Join us on Friday, Aug. 9 from 5 to 7 p.m., for a free reception for the “Copper and Steel” exhibit at the Cape Coral Art Center, 4533 Coronado Parkway. Enjoy an evening of art and meet the artists! Receptions also include light refreshments.

The “Copper and Steel” exhibit will be on display in the Side Gallery from Aug. 2 to Sept. 26.

For more information, call (239) 574-0802.

Vino’s Picasso Paint & Sip At Rotary Park Saturday, Aug. 17 – 2 to 4 p.m.

Experience a fun and relaxing time as you create your masterpiece with talented instructors during this Paint & Sip event at Rotary Park on Saturday, Aug. 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. No prior art experience is necessary, and all supplies are provided. All you need to do is bring your creativity and a positive attitude!

The event is open to all ages (note that a parent must accompany individuals under 21). Please note that we do not sell alcohol at these events; feel free to bring your own.

For more information and to register, call (239) 549-4606.

Sunshine Karaoke At Lake Kennedy Center Tuesday, Aug. 20 – 5 to 9 p.m.

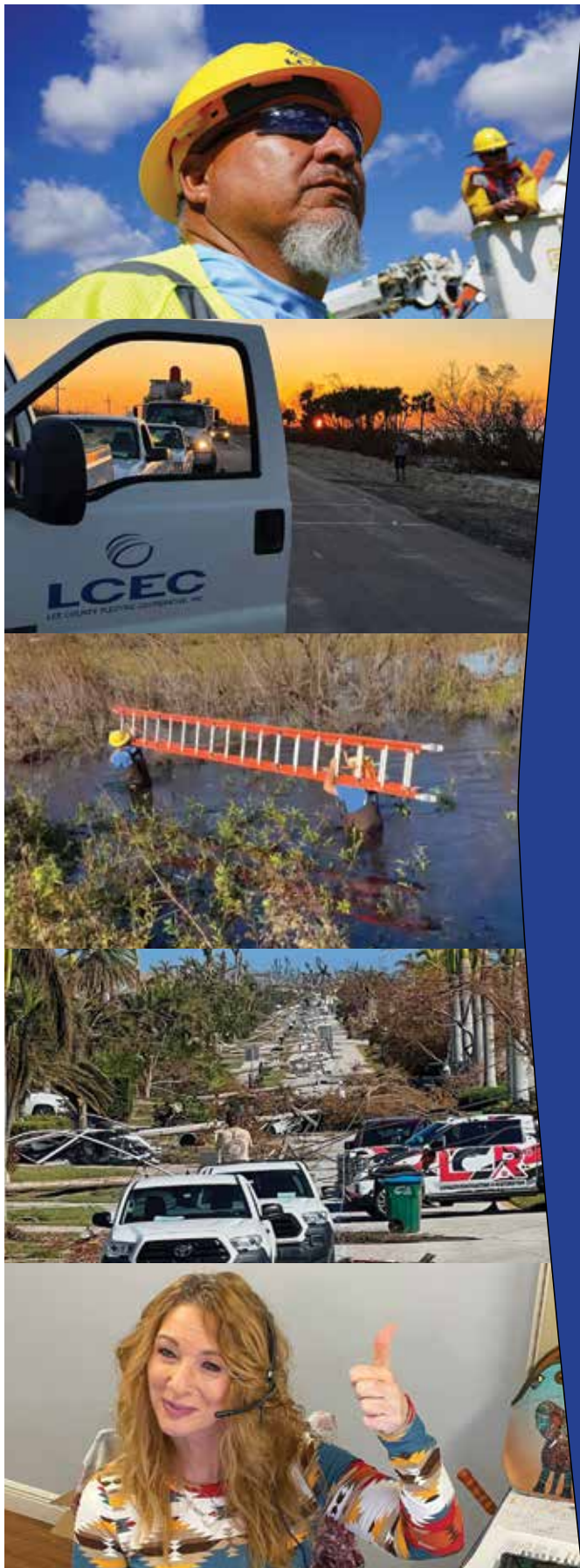
Get your singing voices ready for a fun night at Lake Kennedy Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., on Tuesday, Aug. 20 from 5 to 9 p.m. Sing to the music you love and/or come out to cheer on your friends! The cost is just \$5 per person. BYOB and snacks.

For more details, call (239) 574-0575.

Designer Bag Bingo At Lake Kennedy Center Friday, Aug. 23 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Adults ages 18-plus are invited to join us for Designer Bag Bingo at Lake Kennedy Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., on Friday, Aug. 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and bingo will begin at 7 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person to play 10 games for the chance to win a designer handbag. Participants are welcome to BYOB and food.

Please R.S.V.P. to (239) 574-0575.



PLAN. PREPARE. PATIENCE.

LCEC works year-round to harden the system and prepare for storm season. Utility customers are encouraged to prepare with a plan that includes special needs, evacuation, and a storm kit.

The plan

LCEC has a tried and true plan that is updated and practiced annually. The electric grid is built to be resilient. Resources and relationships are cultivated in case they are needed.

Preparation is key

LCEC has comprehensive vegetation management, inspection, and maintenance plans to mitigate the potential for outages. When power is interrupted, the LCEC team is prepared to respond as quickly and safely as possible.

When the lights are out, we are on!

Since 1940, LCEC employees, contractors, and vendors have been there to respond to every major event with a sense of urgency. We know our members depend on electricity to power their lives and we are committed to meeting the needs of our community 24/7/365.

Visit the lcec.net Storm Center for more information about Storm Preparedness.

HOW LCEC RESTORES POWER

Safety is the priority

During disaster response, and every day, safety is everyone’s responsibility. While LCEC and all of our responding partners are laser-focused on restoring power as quickly as possible, safety is always the priority.

- Stay clear of downed power lines, as they may be energized.
- Puddles of water contacting downed lines are dangerous.
- Keep LCEC phone lines clear for emergency calls by only calling to report safety threats.



AFTER A MAJOR EVENT... HERE’S HOW THE RESTORATION PROCESS WORKS



STEP 1. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Includes physical inspection of our facilities. Once damage assessments have been made, LCEC begins repairs.



STEP 2. CRITICAL REPAIRS

We repair main circuits and restore critical facilities such as hospitals, police, and fire stations.



STEP 3. QUICKLY & SAFELY

Repair lines that get the greatest number of customers on as soon as possible.



STEP 4. REMAINING OUTAGES

Restoring power to those small pockets or individuals still without power.

www.lcec.net

THE CAPE CORAL SUN

www.mycapacoralsun.com

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For advertisement inquiries, please contact Joe Yapello at (239) 770-8284

Beat The Heat And Prevent A Shocking Energy Bill

By Karen Ryan, APR,
CPRC – LCEC Public
Relations Director



When the heat of summer causes Southwest Florida residents to turn their air conditioners to cooler settings, electric bills begin to rise. In warmer temperatures, home cooling systems must work that much harder (using more energy) to maintain temperatures. Home cooling costs can account for around 50 percent of the residential electric bill. In fact, air conditioning is often the average household's largest annual power cost. LCEC



suggests the following tips to help reduce summer bills.

- Keep your air conditioner set at 78 degrees Fahrenheit. Every degree below adds eight percent more to cooling costs.
- Replace A/C filters once a month, and have the unit cleaned every year.
- Use ceiling fans to assist in the cooling process. Use wisely ... don't leave ceiling fans running in rooms where people are not present.
- The water heater is the second largest expense on your electric bill. Set between 120 and 140 degrees. Always unplug the water heater before adjusting the temperature.
- Turn the lights off when leaving a room and turn the TV off when not watching.
- Properly weather-strip your home to keep the heat out and the cool air in.
- Consider window tinting. Windows account for half of air conditioning bills. Keep window coverings closed during hot, sunny days, and open at night. Consider planting trees

in the yard to shade the windows that receive the most heat.

- Install a timer on the air conditioner so that it will control humidity when your home is vacant for long periods of time.

Visit www.lcec.net for more energy tips and enroll in LCEC SmartHub to manage your energy usage year-round!

Karen Ryan, APR, CPRC is the Public Relations Director for LCEC. She has been on the LCEC team since 1997 and has been writing about energy safety, savings and utility cooperatives for decades. LCEC served nearly 250,000 members in a six-county service territory and has been delivering electricity in Cape Coral since 1958. Karen serves on the Board of Directors for United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades and the Edison & Ford Winter Estates and is a past member of the Cape Coral Chamber of Commerce. She is also a past-president of the Florida Public Relations Association and the Edison Festival of Light and past chair of the American Heart Association Heartwalk and United Way campaign.

Cape Coral Art League

Note: The Cape Coral Art League will be closed during the month of August.

Open Painting – Last Month Until Fall!

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).

Every Wednesday (September through July) from 1 to 4 p.m. Open to the public. \$2 for members, \$6 for nonmembers (Pay at the door).

Student Sundays – Will Resume In October

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!

Upcoming Exhibits

Gallery shows, classes, and workshops begin again in October. This year our silent auction will be during the month of December. For artists planning projects for upcoming exhibits, the schedule for the 2024/25 season:

First Show Of 2024: October 2024 – Garden Variety

Theme: What's in your favorite garden? Is it the source of sustenance, meditation, a riot of color, a special habitat for your favorite wild friends, or some other special place? Share your artwork of that special garden place with us in this first show of the season. This theme is meant to be inclusive and open to artist interpretation.

Receiving: Monday, Oct. 7, 2024, from 12 to 3 p.m.

Reception: Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Removal: Monday, Nov. 4, 2024, from 12 to 3 p.m.

Eligibility: This is a Cape Coral Art League (CCAL) member show. This show is open to CCAL members only. The Show Chair will determine if artwork meets fine art criteria and is accepted. Exhibiting artists must show their current membership card at receiving.

2024/25 Upcoming Exhibits

November: Express Yourself	March: Simply Red
January: Water Wonderland	April: Celebrating Color
February: Wild About Wildlife	May: Florida Life

Please consult capecoralartleague.org for more information.

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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Dr. Davis is amazing. Just after a couple visits, I was able to walk again without any knee pain. The program has helped me so much. I am out of pain and able to walk normally and have been so for over three years without surgery, injections, or drugs. Thank you, Dr. Davis. —Nancy-jo, Patient



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The Rynski Report: A Regular Dose Of Ryn-Spiration

The Choice Is Ours: Sunflower Patch Or Perpetual Mess

By Ryn Gargulinski [Rynski]

When it comes to experiencing all that is Cape Coral, we have a choice. We can choose to delight in the burrowing owls, the cool neighbors, and the sunflowers that automatically grow where the grackles gleefully hurl bird seed around the yard.

Or we can moan, groan and work ourselves into a tizzy about the colossal bird seed mess, the endless construction, and the dunderhead that blew the stop sign just to pull out in front of us on Del Prado – only to putter along at the merry speed of 22 mph.

If you ask me, I'd choose the first one. But that's not always the easy one.

It actually takes effort to put the brakes on the negative mindset that seems to be consistently lurking, ready to pounce. Yet if we don't at least attempt to make an effort, that negative way of being can actually kill us.

Believe me, I know. I came quite close to that death back in 1999.

Although I grew up in a perfectly fine suburb of Michigan, somewhere along the line I decided it was anything but perfectly fine. In my bid to escape, I started drinking like a sailor in my early teens. Then hopped on a Greyhound bus right after high school to go live on the streets of New York City.

Anything would be better than suburban Michigan, right? Um, not really. But what did I know? I was so corroded with negativity and so stuck in a pit of despair



that I honestly didn't care if I lived or died.

I nearly got that wish by the time I hit 29. By then I had been drinking daily for more than a decade. Stopped eating. Couldn't go 30 minutes without a drink or my body would start heaving.

My mind had already turned to mush. My spirit had long been drowned in a sea of Budweiser. Never mind being captured by negativity. I was a gurgling cesspool of it.

Until the moment came where death was honestly staring me in the face – and a tiny little spark inside me screamed out it wanted to live. That spark wanted to grow, to thrive. That spark wanted to kick some ass, take some names, and tell the whole negativity posse to go back to hell where it belongs.

That's what started my 24-year journey into recovery, where I've been using my writing, art and healing talents to




help others bring more love, light and laughter into their lives.

You can get a solid foundation for it all in my life-lessons book: *How to Get Through Hell on Earth without Drinking a Keg or Kicking a Garden Gnome*.


You can go even higher by joining my online Wild Souls community and weaving new habits into your daily life. Life is going to roller-coaster us through all kinds of hells no matter what. It's up to us if we get sucked into the perpetual mess or learn how to rise above the madness and actually enjoy the ride.

Ryn Gargulinski [Rynski] is a Cape Coral freelance writer, artist, speaker and healer who loves to entertain and inspire. In addition to more than 10 published books and multiple awards, she holds a BFA in Creative Writing, an MA in English literature, minister ordination, and Reiki and coaching certifications. Founder of the Sanctuary of the Wild Souls community, Rynski lives with her two happy hounds, one happy hubby and way too many crystals. Learn more at RynskiLife.com. Contact: Rynski@RynskiLife.com.



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Fun-Mobile And Free Meals from page 1

Is There A Cost For Meals?

There is no cost for meals. USDA requires that meals be served at no charge to the children.

What Are The Requirements For My Child To Receive A Meal?

At almost all sites, there is no application necessary and any child 18 or younger can simply come during mealtimes to receive a meal.

Cape Coral Locations

- Cape Coral High School**, 2300 Santa Barbara Blvd.
Breakfast: 6:45 to 7:05 a.m. Lunch: 10:30 to 11 a.m.
 - Challenger Middle School**, 624 SW Trafalgar Pkwy.
Lunch: 12 to 1 p.m. Snack: 3:30 to 4 p.m.
 - Diplomat Elementary School**, 1115 NE 16th Ter.
Breakfast: 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. Snack: 3:30 to 4 p.m.
 - Gulf Elementary School**, 3400 SW 17th Place
Breakfast: 8:30 to 9 a.m. Lunch: 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.
 - Ida Baker High School**, 3500 Agualinda Blvd.
Breakfast: 6:45 to 7:15 a.m. Lunch: 10 to 10:30 a.m.
 - Island Coast High School**, 2125 De Navarra Pkwy.
Breakfast: 7 to 7:25 a.m. Lunch: 10:35 to 11 a.m.
 - Mid Cape Global Academy**, 76 Mid Cape Ter.
Breakfast: 8 to 8:20 a.m. Lunch: 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - Mariner High School**, 701 Chiquita Blvd. N.
Breakfast: 6:30 to 7 a.m. Lunch: 9 to 9:30 a.m.
 - Oasis North Parks and Recreation**, 2817 SW 3rd Lane
Breakfast: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 to 2 p.m.
 - Oasis South Park and Recreation**, 3415 Oasis Blvd.
Breakfast: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 to 2 p.m.
 - Patriot Elementary School**, 711 SW 18th St.
Breakfast: 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. Lunch: 12 to 12:30 p.m.
 - Paul Sanborn Park**, 2310 South East 3rd St.
Lunch Only: 11 to 1 p.m.
 - Pelican Elementary School**, 3525 SW 3rd Ave.
Breakfast: 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Lunch: 11:45 to 12:45 p.m.
 - Skyline Elementary School**, 620 SW 19th St.
Breakfast: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Lunch: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Trafalgar Elementary School**, 1850 SW 20th Ave.
Breakfast: 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. Lunch: 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Snack: 3 to 3:30 p.m.
 - William "Bill" Austen YC and Skate Park**, 315 SW 2nd Ave.
Breakfast: 8 to 8:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 to 1 p.m.
- For more information or to find other locations offering free meals, visit SummerBreakSpot.org.



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LDB Foundation, Inc., Dance Instruction, (239) 209-1605.



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Nevermind Awesome Bar and Eatery, Restaurant, 927 Cape Coral Pkwy. E., Cape Coral, FL 33904, (239) 822-3796.



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AFLAC, Business Services, 5644 Tavilla Circle, Suite 203, Naples, FL 34110, www.aflac.com, (618) 830-8700.



Tommy's Express, Car Wash, 42 Del Prado Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33909, www.tommys-express.com, (616) 369-8917.



HOTWORX Studio - Cape Coral, Fitness Centers, 1539 Del Prado Blvd. S., Cape Coral, FL 33990, http://hotworx.net/studio/northcapecoral, (239) 790-2838.

The Original 1962 Cape Coral Yacht Club - gone but not easily forgotten



By Joe Yapello – Sun Publisher

When we conceived the idea for *The Cape Coral Sun* two years ago, we envisioned a publication that would celebrate the past, present, and future of Southwest Florida's largest city. And even though our history is very short, we nevertheless have a few landmark buildings and areas that are unique to our city.

Without question one of those locations has always been the Cape Coral Yacht Club and the surrounding community park, beach, pool, tennis courts, harbormaster, and pier.

Built in the early days by developers Leonard and Jack Rosen, the yacht club was designed as a major focal point for locals to enjoy fishing, boating, parties, anniversaries, weddings, and business meetings. Visitors would get caught up in its old Florida charm, make future plans to dock their boat there, and then eventually build their dream home somewhere in the Cape.

This scenario went on seemingly unchanged for almost 60 years, with the only significant additions being the Tony Rotino Senior Center in 1977 and the Boat House Restaurant in 2014.

Then on September 28th 2022, Hurricane Ian, one of Florida's most powerful hurricanes and the costliest to ever impact our state- changed its future for good.

Hurricane Ian's destructive force was felt far beyond just the Cape Coral Yacht Club. In order to put its fate into the proper perspective we have to keep in mind that Southwest Florida was hit extremely hard. In fact, just in Lee County alone over 50,000 buildings were damaged with over 5,000 destroyed. The barrier Islands were decimated with the financial and emotional losses still felt to this day. And even more profoundly, the loss of life was second only to the 1935 Labor Day Hurricane.

But through all of that pain and destruction, the calls to preserve the yacht club to its original state began almost immediately. Back in 2018, a 60-million-dollar expansion of the city's parks and recreations was approved by voters, with a portion of those funds earmarked for the update and remodeling of the yacht club. Then after Ian, that project was delayed and city officials moved strongly in the direction of replacement, even though it did appear that the buildings had survived the storm and could still be saved.

But it was not meant to be.

Despite the passionate opposition voices from longtime residents and past city officials, they were unable to change the city's direction. And in May of this year, Cape Coral's original waterfront landmark that opened to the public in 1962 was demolished.

All that remains today is the empty field where the new Key West style two-story building and resort size swimming pool will be built, and the closed off entry to the pier where you can look out and view what's left of it thanks to the power of the storm.



Photos: Showing past, the recent present and the future renderings of Cape Coral Yacht Club

The remainder of this article is written in recognition of so many others – two of which are our parents, Mary Ann & Rocco Yapello. It is also dedicated to all of the local residents and community leaders who fought so passionately to preserve the yacht club, and finally for all of the residents and visitors who have passed through the original buildings and have enjoyed all of its amenities and community gatherings over the past 60 years.

Our parents were married on February 23rd of 1963 in their hometowns of Erie, Pa. They planned their honeymoon in Fort Myers, Cape Coral, and Miami. They stayed at the old Nautilus inn. At the time, the population of Cape Coral was about 2,800 and the city had yet to be incorporated. The Cape Coral Bridge was being constructed and would not open until the following year.

The Gulf American Land Corporation flew them over the Cape, and they ended up purchasing two lots. It had been reported that over 40,000 others did the very same thing in 1963 alone.

Dad took several photos of mom at the yacht club – in front of the entrance to the pier, in front of the fountain, and on a huge rock near the entrance. They were both photographed sitting on the stonework fireplace inside the ballroom by another visitor eager to take the newlyweds photo of them together.

It would be nearly 25 years later that they would finally make the permanent move to Cape Coral.

They made their home in the Cape for the next 27 years – frequently visiting and enjoying those special places at the yacht club. They loved their time together in Cape Coral spent with family, and the fond memories of the yacht club where it all began. They both were amazed of how Cape Coral had grown and transformed. After mom passed away in 2015, dad made the hard decision to move back to Erie, Pa. All that's left now from their yacht club memories of the past are the preserved photos that they shared together in that special place so many years ago.

That's all we have left of the original yacht club to remember it by as well. Since the demolition, in some ways it has become more historic than before.

Several months after Hurricane Ian devastated our area, dad came down for a visit and we spent some time at the yacht club. It was a bitter-sweet time for him to see it in that condition, made even harder without his cherished wife Mary Ann by his side. But he made the most of it, remaining positive and looking forward to the next chapter for the area. I took a few photos of him sitting on one of the rocks he remembered that my mom sat on. He sat in the huge wooden chair blocking the entrance to the destroyed pier where he photographed mom standing. We both peered into the ballroom and could see the stonework from the huge fireplace in the entrance where they had once both sat.

In May of this year I went down and watched as they razed the Tony Rotino center and main ballroom. Others were looking on as well. And even though the buildings themselves did have historical significance for the city, it felt as though the demolition was akin to taking a wrecking ball to your memory bank. That seemed to hurt even more. Our children learned to swim there, we attended weddings and parties over the years in those spaces, we fished off the pier and even launched our boat into the river. We spent more time with more people at the yacht club than we ever realized. I just kept reminding myself that it's not gone forever, and that something new and something more spectacular is just replacing it.

After watching for a while, I had enough. I went back to the car and reflected on what was yet to come. I thought about what it would feel like to walk around the newly constructed yacht club, more interested in seeing how the developers plan on incorporating some of the features of the old ballroom into the new construction. How they will manage to take those famous wooden beams that resembled the inside of a yacht, and some of the old stone work, and make it fit. How they will honor its past is yet to be seen, but for so many of us, it has become the most important aspect of the new construction.

Surely it will be spectacular, and we will all marvel at its beauty and architecture. Some of us will like it, some may not. For those of us with a strong connection to the past, our thoughts and emotions will automatically be transported back in time to the people and events that made those memories special. For others, they will just go forward as though nothing had happened at all. That's ok too, as we're all depending on them to create new memories and keep the history of Cape Coral alive.

I am already thinking about what I will do when it opens, and what the new yacht club will mean to me.

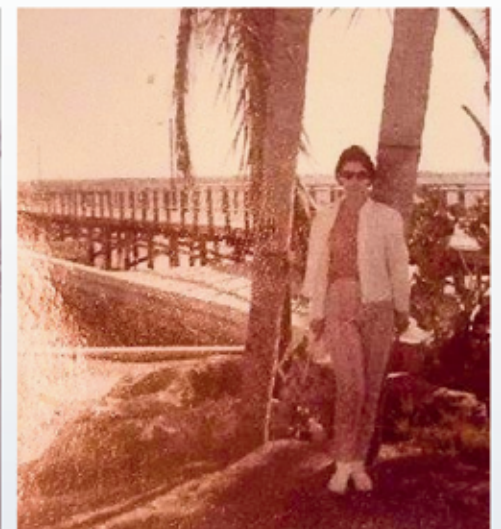
When that day comes, I'm going to walk out onto the farthest end of the new & improved pier on a clear beautiful day. Raise my head up toward the bright shining sun, close my eyes– and think about my parents who were here as a newly married young couple some 64 years ago – thanking God for the fact that I wouldn't be standing in this place without them. Wouldn't have the family I have today, wouldn't have the memories made over all of these years.

It will also be satisfying to know that the new yacht club will once again be a positive force for those choosing the Cape to buy or build their new home, to start a new business, or start a family.

And with it a new generation of Cape Coral residents and visitors that will hopefully feel the same pride in our city –with the same hopes and dreams for the future – as my parents did back in 1963, and as countless others have done ever since.



There's going to be a new day. The sun's going to shine again down at the Cape Coral Yacht Club. It's going to be different. In a different way, and in a different time, it will once again be that special gem situated on the Southernmost tip of what used to be called Red Fish Point.



Mary Ann & Rocco Yapello at the Yacht Club in 1963.

I can envision it now. A newly married couple who just celebrated their wedding reception there in the new ballroom, will have photos taken of their special day outside on the second-story balcony with family and close friends gathered together. Their view overlooking the massive resort style pool, stretching out past the newly constructed pier, out into the Caloosahatchee and beyond.

Just like all of those who came before them that shared those same spaces, their plans for the future will be even bigger and more spectacular than the view in front of them.

And that's how we'll ultimately preserve the memory and history of the Cape Coral Yacht Club.

Friends Of The Cape Coral Library

Seven Artists' Work On Display At Cape Coral Library July 3 Through Aug. 24

The walls of the expansive art gallery in the Cape Coral Library, located at 921 SW 39th



Terrace, will be adorned with artwork by seven artists who are all members of the Pine Island Art Association (PIAA) and have taken classes at PIAA over the years. They also happen to be friends and have decided to team up for this exhibit that will run from July 3 through Aug. 24. The result is an exciting mix of painting media, subjects and different styles.

Kay Atwood works in watercolor. Her favorite subjects are Italian villas and Florida scenes, especially sunsets on the beach. She enjoys employing vivid colors and doing abstract artwork.

Lisa Burke came to Cape Coral almost 15 years ago and soon discovered "the wonderful world of watercolors." Moving forward in time, Lisa is now teaching classes in her favorite medium.



Lisa Burke, painting

Laura Kelly-Bestor loves the spontaneity of watercolor paint that allows her to work loosely and often finds the results surprising. Laura and her husband have owned a house barge in France for two decades, and the scenery along the water has inspired much of her artwork.



Laura Kelly-Bestor, painting

Karen Mesch works in watercolor and acrylic and says, "My pictures are all about Florida and the beautiful colors all around me."

Connie Saddler paints in watercolor and acrylics. Birds are her favorite artistic theme, but she is also captivated by old houses and buildings and employs those images for her paintings.



Connie Saddler, painting

Norma Jean Sass has explored different mediums but is especially fond of working in watercolor and acrylic. While people are a favorite subject, she especially loves painting animals and has won awards for her watercolors of animals.



Karen Mesch, painting



Virginia Simms, painting



Kay Atwood, painting



Norma Jean Sass, painting

Virginia "Ginny" Simms enjoys painting many subjects, but especially loves capturing images of flowers. She works in watercolor as well as acrylic.

The lighted display cases of the Cape Coral Library will hold carvings and pottery by two award-winning artists from July 3 through Aug. 24. As with most of the artwork that is exhibited in the library, these creations will be available for purchase by contacting each artist directly.

Ken Yacavone's carvings of birds will be on display in one of the lighted cases. He draws his own patterns and carves most of his creations by hand with little use of power tools. He generally works in white pine and paints in artist oils. After years of cleaning up beaches, Ken saw an opportunity to combine his artistic abilities with his concerns about the environment and began incorporating plastic pollution recovered from the ocean in his carvings. One of his duck beach pollution statement pieces is housed at Ding Darling National Refuge for use in educational programs about



Ken Yacavone, carving

plastics in the environment. He's also donated beach pollution carvings to refuges in Hawaii and Ohio.

Suzanne Sherwin's pottery will be on display in another case. After trying different media in the past, her love of clay began a decade ago. She slab builds and also throws on a potter's wheel. She's experimented with sculpting, raku, carving techniques such as sgraffito and Mishima, silkscreen, making tools, making underglaze transfers, making texture and many more techniques. "It gives me such joy to see a piece through from a lump of clay to bisque to finished, through a minimum of three kiln firings," says Suzanne. "It is almost like Christmas morning to open that kiln after the final firing and see the result of all my creativity and effort." She often incorporates nature and sea life into her art and enjoys making distinctive and unique mugs.



Suzanne Sherwin, pottery

Changing exhibits in the library's gallery are sponsored by the Friends of the Cape Coral Library and are designed to afford local artists and artisans the opportunity to share their work in this public forum. For information contact Monica Rahman, Art Gallery Chairperson at gallery@capefriends.org or visit www.capefriends.org. Follow "Friends of the Cape Coral Library" on Facebook.

Friends Of Cape Coral Library General Meeting

All Are Welcome! Saturday Morning July 27

Everyone is invited to the Friends of the Cape Coral Library (FOCCL) general meeting on Saturday, July 27. The morning will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee, tea, light snacks, and social time. The business portion will start at 10 a.m. and the program described below will follow. FOCCL general meetings, which take place in the large meeting room of the Cape Coral Library at 921 SW 39th Terrace, are free and open to the public. You are welcome to bring a guest or two.

Program for July Meeting: "Books We've Read"

Our traditional July meeting program has been one of our most popular. Attendees sit in a big round table set-up and take turns talking about books they've recently read and would recommend. Each person may describe a couple of books, or more if there's time. (Are you shy about speaking in public? Don't worry; everyone's friendly and you can also choose to just sit back and enjoy listening.)

For more information visit Friends of the Cape Coral Library at www.capefriends.org and follow us on Facebook.

Save The Date

Join us for our third annual national online auction. We're auctioning off a variety of exciting items, unique experiences, and travel adventures! Every dollar you contribute helps shelter animals in need get adopted. We appreciate your support!

The auction will go live Sunday, Aug. 18 at 9 a.m. and will run through Friday, Aug. 23 at 4 p.m.

Visit www.capecoralanimalshelter.com for updates!

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From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Avoiding Immigration Assistance Scams

Many of those immigrating to the United States are unfamiliar with official titles, government websites and procedures as well as immigration law.



As a result, criminals prey upon these individuals in an effort to steal and defraud.

These practices are disheartening and disgraceful and they make an already difficult procedure even more tedious.

Often referring to themselves as “Notarios” or “Notarios Públicos,” among other official-sounding titles, immigrants are charged fees for legal assistance that these scammers are not authorized to give, for forms that can be obtained for free and for promises that they are unable to keep.

In fact, there have been many occasions where the “assistance” that these scammers have offered has actually hampered their victims’ ability to immigrate legally.

The United States government designates specific individuals as “Accredited Representatives.” Some of these individuals are attorneys; some are not. All of these “Accredited Representatives” are authorized to provide immigration advice.

Those seeking immigration information should only interact with U.S. Government entities and websites.

Individuals seeking immigration assistance must never pay for immigration forms. All required forms are provided for free from the United States Government.

Seek advice from community members and neighbors who have completed the process.

As mentioned, never pay “Notarios” for legal assistance ... never!

If you have paid for immigration assistance and did not receive it, please call the Federal Trade Commission (the FTC) at (877) 382-4357 or file a complaint online at ftc.gov/complaint.

Three Inexpensive Ways To Have Summer Fun With Kids

By Mandy Carter

School is out, so summer break is here, and with it comes the promise of long sunny days. As parents, this is the perfect time to make memories with our little ones that will last a lifetime. But it doesn't require a hefty price tag to have some awesome summer adventures. Here are three activities that will have both you and your kids will be excited about without reaching into your wallet.



1. Backyard Water Days: Beat the heat with some refreshing water fun! Set up some sprinklers and water toys in your backyard, organize a

water balloon fight, meet up with friends at the community pool or visit a nearby beach!

2. Bike Rides And Nature Trails: Explore the beauty of your surroundings. Take family bike rides or hikes along scenic trails.



3. Go Geocaching: This is a fun family-friendly way to explore the outdoors. While exploring for these hidden places, you'll likely find toys and trinkets for your little geocachers to enjoy.

About Mandy Michelle Carter

Just a Southwest Florida mom living the dream; she loves to inspire parents to spend authentic time with your kids and to chase your own dreams unapologetically! Found on Instagram @mandymcarter and her family blog at Acupful.com.

Holiday Craft Fair

Vendors Wanted

Join us for an indoor Holiday Craft Fair hosted by the Lake Kennedy Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd. Cape Coral, FL 33991 on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendors are \$25- \$300 per spot and shopping is free.

For more information and to reserve your spot, call (239) 574-0575.



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Cape Coral Celebrates “Where You Belong” During July Park And Recreation Month

Join the City of Cape Coral for National Park and Recreation Month as we celebrate how our City is stronger, more vibrant, and more resilient because of parks and recreation.

Various activities are planned for residents of all ages and abilities – including a free Florida-friendly landscaping class, an ice cream social, and free boat trailer parking.

Park and Recreation Month is an initiative of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Celebrate with us by attending a local Parks & Rec event or simply visiting parks here in Cape Coral.

NRPA and Cape Coral encourage everyone who supports Parks and Recreation to share how it has fostered belonging and why their local park and recreation professionals are essential to them on social media with the hashtag #WhereYouBelong.

To learn more about National Park and Recreation Month, visit capeparks.com and nrpa.org/July.

Find A Park Near You!

Looking for the closest park or curious about all the amazing parks in Cape Coral? Explore our city’s incredible green spaces with our interactive park map! Visit <https://bit.ly/3VIUJ2V> to find your next adventure! #CapeCoralParks #Explore #OutdoorFun



www.nrpa.org/july

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 RED, WHITE & BOOM 5-10 P.M. ON CAPE CORAL PARKWAY	5	6
7 TAKE YOUR KIDS TO THEIR FAVORITE CAPE CORAL PLAYGROUND	8 FREE TOUR OF THE BUTTERFLY HOUSE AT ROTARY PARK M.F.& SAT AT 10:30 A.M.	9	10 VISIT A PARK YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO	11	12 FREE GALLERY RECEPTION 5-7 P.M. CAPE CORAL ART CENTER	13 FREE BLOCK PARTY 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. AT WILLIAM AUSTEN YOUTH CENTER
14	15 FREE ICE CREAM SOCIAL 1-2 P.M. AT LAKE KENNEDY CENTER	16	17	18 HAVE LUNCH AT POPS CAFE INSIDE CITY HALL	19 PARKS AND RECREATION PROFESSIONALS DAY	20
21 CHECK IN AT PARKS AND COMPLETE THE CAPE CORAL QUEST SIGN UP AT CAPECORAL.GOV	22	23	24 TAKE A BICYCLE RIDE ON CAPE CORAL'S 90+ MILES OF TRAILS	25	26 FREE FL FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING 10 A.M. - 12 P.M. AT ROTARY PARK	27 NATIVE PLANT SALE 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. AT ROTARY PARK FREE BOAT TRAILER PARKING AT CITY BOAT RAMPS
28 FREE BOAT TRAILER PARKING AT CITY BOAT RAMPS	29	30 EXPLORE THE VETERANS MEMORIAL AREA AT FOUR MILE ECO PRESERVE	31			

Free Kids Summer Movies

A specially selected series of family films at Coralwood Cinema, 2301 Del Prado Blvd S., Cape Coral. Movies will air at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, with two films to choose from each day, and the best part, admission is free!

July 16 and 17 – *Migration* or *Paws of Fury: The Legend of Hank*
 July 23 and 24 – *Spiderman: Across The Spideverse* or *The Bad Guys*
 July 30 and 31 – *Ruby Gilman: Teenage Kraken* or *Sing 2*

Seating is not reserved and is on a first-come, first served basis and movies are subject to change.

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Catch The Action

August On The Water

By Capt. Bill Russell

Fishing or boating in Southwest Florida in August means dealing with hot days and thunderstorms. Fishing can be good, and often without much competition, if you plan your day to take advantage of conditions.

If you just want to have fun and a little fishing while relaxing, then the beaches are a good choice, especially if you are fishing with the family. Good numbers of snook are roaming the surf throughout the summer and are a sight fishermen's dream. Most snook are running 22- to 26-six inches, but there are much bigger ones. Free lined pilchards, small pinfish, shrimp, white bucktail jigs, and a variety of small white flies or lures are top baits. Look for the fish right off the edge of the beach in the surf or near any submerged structure. Remember snook are catch and release only. Trout, mangrove snapper, whiting, founder, pompano, mackerel, and tarpon are a few of the other



species you may hook into along the beach. Fish a little; swim a little, not a bad way to spend the day.

Summer gives us days with flat calm seas from early morning to midafternoon, perfect for offshore fishing. Our

coastline is dotted with artificial reefs, many well within sight of land and GPS coordinates available to the public. If you are an inshore angler, it's a nice change of pace to make a short run offshore, especially during the heat of summer when the inshore water temperatures are so high.

A cool aspect when fishing around the reefs is you never know what you might hook into. Everything from a small snapper to 500-pound goliath grouper calls them home. To get the most out of the day you want an assortment of tackle that can manage the fish you target. Obviously with snapper you do not need super heavy tackle, the lighter the better for the best action. But, if you want to attempt to pull a big goliath grouper from his home you will need a rig extra heavy, were talking 200- to 500-pound line. And many times, that's not heavy enough.

In between snapper and goliaths there's the possibility to hook Spanish and king mackerel, cobia, permit, barracuda, snook, sharks of all sizes, plus other species. Many anglers fish several different line class rods at a time targeting more than one species.

Armed with a variety of baits is the best way to catch multiple species. Small baits like shrimp, pilchards, and little pinfish are great for snapper and other bottom fish, larger live bait is often the ticket for a big barracuda, snook, or cobia. Big bait, dead or alive is the choice for goliaths. If you want to hook a permit you need small live crabs, this is often the best bait for cobia as well. Anchoring up current of the structure with a quality block of chum is the best way to bring the action behind the boat.

Inshore, sea trout fishing is steady through the summer. Look for larger trout over areas of open water where shallow sand bars transition to deeper grass flats from three to six feet deep with good water movement. Schools of small baitfish concentrate in these areas. Trout, plus Spanish mackerel, bluefish, ladyfish, and sharks are located around the bait. Diving pelicans, terns and gulls often give up the location of schooling bait.

Speaking of sharks, they are abundant throughout the inshore waters. Size can range from a couple of feet to well over 10 feet. Fresh chunks of mullet or ladyfish and large live pinfish are top bait choices. Some days we do better fishing baits on bottom and other days suspending baits under a float does the trick. It's just fishing, don't be afraid to experiment to see what works for you.

Over higher tides target redfish and mangrove snapper under mangrove overhangs and other structure. You can catch a big redfish on a small bait but seldom hook a snapper on a large bait. Mangrove snapper are one of are tastier fish, if you want to catch some, small baits and hooks with a light leader are key.

It's a good idea to use the weather and tides to your advantage, especially over the hot days of August. Water temperature can change quickly, give us three or four days with bright sunny skies and the inshore waters quickly gets hot, often slowing the bite. A couple rainy days with limited sunshine and water temperature will drop several degrees; this can trigger good fishing. If conditions allow, get an early start to the day for plenty of time on the water and back to a safe place ahead of afternoon storms.

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 28 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."



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When It Needs To Be Perfect



Groundbreaking For Festival Park

Friday, July 26 – 9 a.m.

A groundbreaking ceremony for Festival Park is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 26 at 9 a.m. It is open to the public and does not require an RSVP.

This park's development intends to provide festival grounds for large events and an outdoor concert venue. Proposed park improvements include four multi-use sports fields with lighting and an amphitheater with a grass berm.

Unlocking Business Opportunities In Cape Coral

Today, the United States census estimates that Cape Coral has approximately 234,132 residents. With only about half of the city built out, brings an enormous opportunity for investors and businesses alike. In 2023, the City of Cape Coral saw a 58 percent increase in commercial permits pulled throughout the year which showcases some of the city's growth and increasing investment.

Florida's reputation as a haven for business thrives on its advantageous economic climate.

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Don't Miss The \$29 Kid Tickets To LEGOLAND Florida!

By Mandy Carter

LEGOLAND Florida, located a couple of hours away in Winter Haven, offers a fun nearby escape for families.



With its interactive attractions and a sprawling water park, LEGOLAND Florida ensures that visitors of all ages, even teenagers, enjoy their visit.

While LEGOLAND is often perceived as a destination for younger children, the park does have plenty to offer teenagers in the family allowing everyone to enjoy the vacation. There are some thrilling rides mixed in with the easy-to-handle rides for the younger, interactive attractions, and the adrenaline-pumping water slides at the water park to ensure that teens stay engaged and entertained.



I recently took advantage of the summer promotion of \$29 kid's tickets. This fabulous ticket price includes two-day admission to the new Peppa Pig Theme Park, LEGOLAND Theme Park and the water park! Make sure to purchase your ticket online and in advance in order to receive this deal. www.legoland.com/florida/tickets-passes/tickets/#offer.

About Mandy Michelle Carter

Just a Southwest Florida mom living the dream; she loves to inspire parents to spend authentic time with your kids and to chase your own dreams unapologetically! Found on Instagram @mandymcarter and her family blog at Acupful.com.



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Despite these robust state-led incentives, the City of Cape Coral has taken proactive steps to not only attract businesses but also ensure their sustained growth and success with a comprehensive suite of economic incentives in the Cape Competes Incentive Program (www.capecoral.gov/edo/



East of Chicago Pizza proudly accepts their Breaking Barriers to Business grant check

business/incentives.php). Recently ranked No. 4 on Forbes' 2024 List of Best Places to Live in Florida, (www.forbes.com/advisor/mortgages/real-estate/best-places-to-live-in-florida), Cape Coral continues to draw both residents and businesses, solidifying its reputation as a prime location for investment and expansion.

The Business Infrastructure Grant Program is one of seven initiatives currently open for applications from developers. It aims to promote new nonresidential construction, building expansions, and renovations by offering financial assistance to cover site development costs.

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Unlocking Business Opportunities from page 14

Small businesses can take advantage of the **Cape Collaborates Program** which aims to provide financial support for eligible expenditures through a zero-interest, five-year forgivable loan.

Cape Coral offers several targeted programs to support development within its Community Redevelopment Area (CRA). **The CreativeCape Arts Incentive Program** seeks to foster cultural development in the city, while the **Breaking Barriers to Business (B2B)** Program aims to streamline business development and foster growth in the CRA.

Businesses and developers seeking permits for construction, expansion, or renovation within the CRA can apply for grants to offset expenses related to complying with the City's Land Development Code.

Furthermore, the **Demolition Assistance Grant Program** supports the removal of aging structures, clearing the path for new developments that enhance the attractiveness of Cape Coral. This initiative not only improves the city's visual appeal within the CRA but also boosts property values and attracts greater investment.

These programs represent just a glimpse of the incentives available for businesses in Cape Coral.

Read more at www.capecoral.gov/edo/business/incentives.php to see if your business qualifies for one of the available incentives.

Looking ahead, startups and existing businesses considering relocation or expansion in Cape Coral can access these incentives to lower their costs, fuel economic growth, and flourish in Florida's dynamic market environment. Beyond boosting job opportunities for residents, supporting businesses through these programs also allows for the enhancement of community amenities, underscoring Cape Coral's commitment to both economic prosperity and vibrant community life.

Tip Of The Iceberg

By Dr. Rob Davis

Have you ever studied a diagram of an iceberg? From above the surface of the water, your eye can only see about 10% of the iceberg's total mass while the remaining 90% remains out of sight, lurking below the surface. An iceberg is a good metaphor for the way we should understand the total picture of our health. The symptoms we experience represent only 10-15% of the issue that is causing those obvious symptoms to appear. To understand the whole picture, uncover the web of dysfunction, and discover the path to true healing, we have to delve below the surface.

Symptoms can also be compared to the check engine light on your car. If you're on a road trip and the check engine light comes on, you're alerted to a problem with your vehicle. Would taking a piece of duct tape and covering up that check engine light solve the problem? Absolutely not, it would only prevent you from seeing the blinking light that's alerting you to a bigger issue. In fact, covering up the check engine light puts you in greater danger in the long run because what started out as a small problem will get worse and worse if you continue on your road trip and don't address the problem. Pretty soon, you're sitting on the side of the road with smoke and steam rolling off your engine. This is what it's like when we take medication to mask our symptoms. Covering them up doesn't change the fact that there's a problem. To really figure out the issue with our car, we must go to a mechanic and have them look under the hood. To figure out the issue with our body, we need to untangle the web of dysfunction that's causing the symptom to surface.



In a car, there are a multitude of reasons why the check engine light appears. It could be a fuel issue, a spark plug issue, a battery issue, or something else entirely. Think of your health symptoms as your body's check engine light. In the same way that a check engine light comes on for a variety of reasons, our symptoms can result from a variety of health issues. This is one of the most important concepts that I teach my patients - the root cause of symptoms is different for every single person because their web of dysfunction is completely unique.

There are three main reasons why a "one size fits all" strategy does not work for solving chronic health problems. The first reason is that two people could be experiencing the same exact symptoms for completely different reasons. The second reason is because a doctor with preconceived notions tends to miss important clues that reveal what's really going on beneath the surface. The third reason is because it tends to produce doctors that are symptom-reduction oriented rather than results oriented.

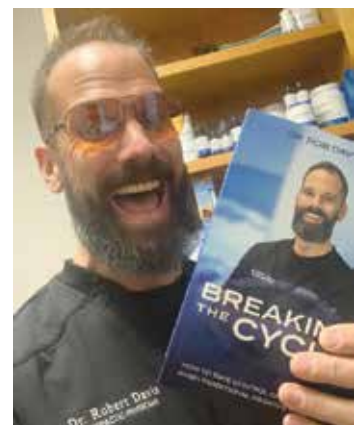
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—D. M., Patient

Every time I walk into a room with a patient, I check my ego at the door because I want to solve their problems, not mask them. I am result oriented, and I am solution oriented. I'm committed to getting results for my patients, and I will exhaust all of my resources to do it.

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Dr. Rob Davis, DC is the Best Selling Author of **Breaking the Cycle**. How to take control of your health when traditional medicine has failed. Call **239-482-8686** to schedule your **7 Point Brain, Body and Gut Exam™ Today!**



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