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It's All About

Steamy Summer

Florida is always a tropical paradise but in July, the word "Tropical" is even more emphasized! Summer heat is a force to endure and the variety of things families choose to do to cool off is always a whole lot of fun. Backyard pools, ice cream, boating, and a day at the beach with a cooler of refreshments are all essentials to keep family time at its most harmonious.

This year's Fourth of July holiday will definitely be more exciting than last, and is a great time to enjoy loved ones and friends as we celebrate our American lifestyle. This July, enjoy every minute you can with the kids, fly your flag proudly, and be very careful supervising everyone with anything that goes "pop" or "boom."

We are blessed beyond measure and owe it all to those who have gone before us with purpose and vision. Have an incredible day on July 4th and the rest of the month. Keep it cool, Florida friends!

To prepare for the coming school year, please cut out our back cover 2024-25 School calendar sponsored by Summit Academy Charter School. Our prayer is for every family touched by the Spectator and every home in between.

Shellie & Scott

This Months Digital Issue

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On the cover: Summit Academy Charter School . Now Registering for 2024-2025 School Year See Pages 6-7.

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Community!

Generations of American Summers

By Ashley Ferraro

The American summer is a season of heat, joy, and cherished traditions that bring families and friends together. While some traditions have remained steadfast over the years, others have evolved based on cultural shifts that come with changing times. However, the essence of the American summer has always been about creating lasting memories with loved ones.

In the 1950s and 1960s, American summers were defined by simplicity and togetherness. Families gathered for backyard barbecues, a tradition that continues to this day. The scent of burgers and hot dogs grilling on a charcoal barbecue became synonymous with summer afternoons. Children rode their bicycles around the neighborhood and caught fireflies as the sun went down. Plus, the ever-so-nostalgic drive-in theaters were a popular date spot.

The 1970s and 1980s saw a shift towards adventure and exploration. The great American road trip became a rite of passage for many families. Piling into station wagons, families set off to explore American national parks, theme parks, and scenic cross-country highways. These trips were about more than just the destination; they were about the journey, filled with roadside picnics, spontaneous detours, and not a single GPS in sight!

With the arrival of the 1990s and 2000s, technology began to play a more significant role in summer activities for the first time. Family movie nights transitioned from drive-ins to DVDs. Remember when Netflix mailed DVDs to your house? Or family trips to Blockbuster? Yet, despite these changes, the core of summer traditions remained the same. Family, celebration, and quality time with friends continued to be central to the American summer experience.

Today, American summer traditions blend the old with the new. Vacations and adventures are now captured on social media instead of in scrapbooks. Outdoor movie nights with projectors provide a nostalgic charm, honoring the drive-in tradition. Road trips are planned and executed with the help of GPS and smartphones rather than paper maps. Not to mention, your dad's station wagon was replaced with a Tesla.

All along the way, the 4th of July and a celebration of freedom have remained a cornerstone of summer celebrations. While the way people celebrate may have evolved, the patriotic spirit has endured for generations. Parades, fireworks displays, barbecues, and celebrating freedom never get old.

Despite technological innovations, the essence of summer remains unchanged. It's still about spending quality time with loved ones and embodying the spirit of the American summer. And for Floridians and the rest of the East Coast, another summer means another hurricane season—one thing we truly cannot escape with the turn of the season.

As we move into the heat of the summer, let's celebrate both the old and the new, not forgetting to take a moment to remember where we started. You might just end up preferring those early traditions! The true spirit of the American summer lies in the simple pleasures and shared moments that bring us all together.



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Summit Academy Charter School - Join the Family!

Summer is in full swing, which means that the new school year is soon to begin. Enroll your child at Summit Academy Charter School - a tuition free K-8 public charter school in Coral Springs! The mission at Summit Academy is to create an inclusive and diverse environment that's reflective of the local population.

The new school year welcomes a new principal, Ms. Mari Canetti, whose teaching career began in, of all places, high school, where they had a work experience program that lit her fire for teaching. From being lead teacher in several different grade levels at schools in Dade County, then Davie, she went on to get her masters degree, became Dean of Students, and then Assistant Principal. She is now excited to transition to Principal at Summit Academy Charter School! She tells us, "Many parents choose Summit Academy because their child is not just a number, but treated in a more private school way; as individuals. We strive to cater to each child's, not only academic, but their social needs as well. We get to know each child and their families, and we pride ourselves on our school being a close, family-like environment."

Summit Academy parent Roxanne Rossi has nothing but great things to say about the school. Her daughter, Rosalia Di Pietro, attended sixth through eighth grade in the advanced group, and is now better prepared for high school. Roxanne says, "First off, I love this school! It was a great fit for my daughter. I researched many schools, but what made Summit Academy stand out to us was the simple fact that they claimed not to put a ton of pressure on the children regarding state testing, which usually results in better results for the children. I felt her education there was very well rounded and the teachers were wonderful."

She agrees with Ms. Canetti when she tells us, "It truly felt like you were part of a family. Everybody was friends with each other, often doing things together outside of school. The parents became our friends and it was such a nice feeling knowing that everyone there had the best interest of the children in mind; not just their child, but the other children as well." Now that Rosalia is moving on, her mother tells us, "We are really going to miss our Summit Academy family."

Ms. Canetti says that her favorite groups to work with have always been elementary through middle school students. "I think it's important to have a good relationship with the kids, and from there you can build on their academics, their self-esteem and, if you don't have a good rapport with the students and their parents, you're not going to get anywhere. It's important that the students feel welcome, that they are comfortable, and that they feel they can do it." She tells me that she is not the typical principal, standing in the corner and observing. She likes to get involved, and meet the students and their parents face-to-face, understanding their variety of needs. She says, "My doors are always open to both the students, their parents, and the staff."

With a population of approximately 475 students, Ms. Canetti shares, "Since we only have the kids until eighth grade, we want to create well rounded individuals to move further into the community, since they will be moving on to four years of high school. It's not just about academics; it's about each individual's needs, and cultivating a more positive person in each of our students."

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Meet The

Cohen Family



Settling in Parkland three years ago, Steve and Sarah Cohen are thrilled to be part of our community, and we are definitely lucky to have them! Their family includes sons Nathan, seven, and Max, five. Their home also includes two cats, a fish, and sea monkeys.

Steve works for Northern Trust and manages a team of Sales Support Professionals up and down the east coast. Sarah is on the PTA, PTO, serves as room mom, and is a travel advisor with a focus on Disney family vacations.

Their adorable and energetic boys are both involved in Parkland Little League. They love fishing in their backyard, have done Learn to Skate at the Panthers Ice Den, and plan to play soccer in the Fall. Max also wants to take a hip hop dance class and will likely do that at the PRec. They also love the beach and will be in surf camp this summer. Sarah tells us with a chuckle, "They love finding lizards and digging in the dirt looking for bugs and wrecking their mom's garden and backyard."

Steve coached in both kids' i9 teams for baseball and tee ball. Steve is an avid fisherman, and Sarah was the president of the PTO at PJGECC at Kol Tikvah and a member of the PTA at Riverglades. Now that Max has graduated from pre-K, Mom will focus more energy on RivergladesPTA.

Definitely not wallflowers, the busy Cohens love going to the beach, watching tv, swimming, rollerblading, road trips, Disney trips, fishing, and dance parties in the living room.

Max will be in Kindergarten at Riverglades this Fall. He loves bugs and science. Nathan will be in second grade at Riverglades and loves math, reading and PE.

"We love the small town feel of Parkland," Steve tells us. "I grew up in a small town in New Jersey, and Sarah grew up in a small beach town in New York."

Sarah adds, "We both feel so at home in Parkland. The town is beautiful, we have made the most wonderful friends who are now like family, and we never want to leave. We are home."

As we conclude our time with this beautiful, close-knit family, Mom and Dad share their personal mottos. Ever positive, Sarah says, "Choose happiness every day." Steve tells us, "Success is my only option, failure's not."

The Cohens attend services at Congregation Kol Tikvah



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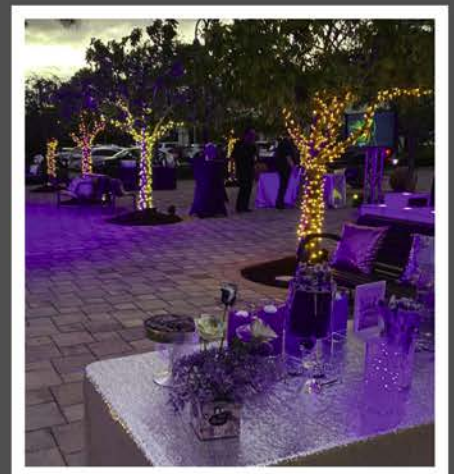
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Coral Springs American Little League: Celebrating Success and Looking Ahead

By Ashley Ferraro

For over five decades, Coral Springs American Little League (CSALL) has been a cornerstone of the Coral Springs community, nurturing young athletes and fostering a deep love for baseball. Founded in 1971, CSALL holds the distinction of being the city's oldest recognized league, boasting a rich history of commitment to youth development, sportsmanship, and community.

The league's mission is to instill values such as leadership, character, courage, loyalty, and teamwork in every player. These principles not only help young athletes excel on the field, but also equip them with important life skills that extend far beyond the diamond.

CSALL President Tony Juliano, who has been involved with the organization for over a decade, emphasizes the sense of community and family that the league fosters. "Seeing the kids return year after year and watching them grow both as players and individuals is incredibly rewarding," he shares.

The regular spring season has wrapped up and moved into the tournament phase. The 50/70 All-Star district tournament took place in mid-June and ran for a week, culminating in a thrilling championship game, where CSALL emerged victorious. In addition, the 8U team has impressively claimed victory in district selects for the second year in a row. All around, these achievements are a testament to the dedication and hard work of the volunteers and players.

The district winners will move on to the sectional level, followed by the state level, and then regionals. Ultimately, those winners will compete in the Little League World Series.

Despite all the imminent excitement, CSALL is already gearing up for the 2024 Fall Ball season, with registration opening this month. For many players and families, baseball is a year-round commitment, providing continuous opportunities for skill development and enjoyment of the game.

The league welcomes children ages 4-16 from the area south of Wiles Road in Coral Springs. For those living outside this area, eligibility can still be met by attending a local public school or obtaining a City of Coral Springs Sports Card.

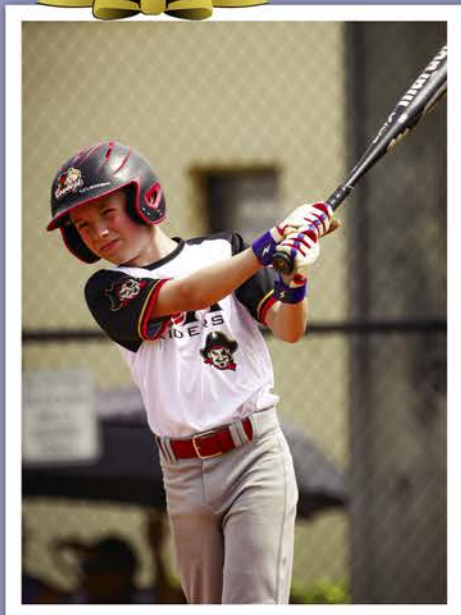
One of the most exciting developments in recent years has been the introduction of the Intermediate League for middle schoolers. This league, which started a few seasons ago, has seen massive success and continues to grow in popularity each season. Tony commented on this new addition, saying, "Our Intermediate League has been a fantastic way to keep older kids engaged and challenged. It's wonderful to see it thriving and becoming a favorite among our middle school players."

As CSALL looks forward to more baseball, the focus remains on providing a positive, enriching experience for all participants. Parents and community members are encouraged to get involved, either by volunteering as coaches or taking on other essential roles within the organization. High school students can also volunteer and gain service hours.

Join the Coral Springs American Little League family and be a part of a longstanding tradition of excellence in youth baseball. For more details on how to get involved, visit www.csall.com.



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CONVIVA

Senior Stress Awareness & the Benefits of Yoga

By Princy Bhat-Bhardwaj, APRN

As much as we may wish otherwise, the “golden years” are never entirely stress-free. It’s true that seniors often have more time to plan trips, socialize with friends, go to the beach, play golf and tennis, dine out, enjoy hobbies and spend time with family.

However, stress can still be a barrier.

Stress is a reaction to challenging circumstances, and coping is difficult for many seniors. Factors such as unstructured time, possible changes in family relationships, the loss of a spouse, and physical problems with vision, hearing, balance, and mobility all can have an impact. In addition, finding affordable housing, or choosing an independent or assisted living facility can be extremely trying, especially for seniors on fixed incomes.

Keeping up with new technology can also be a challenge, as some older adults struggle to use a computer, iPad, iPhone, or other devices. This “technophobia” can lead to isolation, which in turn leads to stress and depression.

Princy Bhat-Bhardwaj is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), at Conviva Pine Island in South Florida. Conviva is a leading provider of primary health care services for seniors, with hundreds of center locations in Florida and Texas. Bhat-Bhardwaj knows stress firsthand. As a teen she became a refugee in her native India following acts of terrorism, and the mental scars remained into adulthood. She now works daily with seniors and says yoga and meditation are tremendous stress relievers for both young and old alike.

“I was always passionate about healthcare, and when I came to America I had the opportunity to go back to school and earn degrees at both Florida Atlantic and Florida International universities,” she said. The nurse practitioner also has certifications in psychology and primary mental health and is

passionate about the mental needs and happiness of senior patients. “I know personally how debilitating stress can be, and even though I was outwardly happy, the mental wounds still needed to heal,” said Bhat-Bhardwaj.

Personal Turning Point

During her most challenging times, Bhat-Bhardwaj discovered an online meditation program that offers resources for people to take charge of their body, mind, emotions, and energy and live a more joyful, fulfilling life.

Unique Care

According to Bhat-Bhardwaj, a senior’s mental health is extremely important, and yoga can create an emotional balance, increase energy levels and provide more bliss. “If you really listen to what seniors have to say, their lives are like a book; all you have to do is allow them to open the pages,” she said. “They have so much wisdom, and so there’s so much to learn.”

She says three factors weigh heavily on the minds of most seniors - mortality, a fear of being isolated from family members and ongoing chronic pain. “Older adults need to reduce stress because it’s a major factor in declining health,” said Bhat-Bhardwaj. “Emotionally, older populations are becoming more depressed, especially those dealing with chronic, daily pain.”

Conviva centers, including Conviva Dania Pointe and Conviva West Pines, offer patients chair yoga classes to manage and reduce stress.

How do seniors combat stress? “I advise them to be themselves and take control of their inner feelings, and be true to who you are,” said Bhat-Bhardwaj. “The tools to make that transformation are out there, you just have to look for them.”

ABOUT PRINCY BHAT-BHARDWAJ, APRN - A native of India, Ms. Bhat-Bhardwaj is a board-certified nurse practitioner at Conviva-Pine Island, where she provides personalized, senior-focused care. As an undergraduate, she obtained her Baccalaureate in Nursing from Punjab University in Chandigarh, India. Ms. Bhat-Bhardwaj earned a post-master’s degree in Family Nursing Practice from Florida Atlantic University and a Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Phoenix in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She earned a medical degree from the University of Science, Arts and Technology in Montserrat, West Indies, and is a Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing inductee. Ms. Bhat-Bhardwaj is also a member of the American Association of Nurses and the Florida Nurses Association.

ABOUT CONVIVA - Conviva is part of CenterWell, a leading health care services business focused on creating integrated and differentiated experiences that put our patients at the center of everything we do. The result is high quality health care that is accessible, comprehensive, and most of all, personalized. As the largest provider of senior-focused primary care, one of the leading providers of home health care, and a leading integrated home delivery, specialty, hospice and retail pharmacy, CenterWell is focused on whole health and addressing the physical, emotional and social wellness of our patients. CenterWell and Conviva are part of Humana Inc. Learn more about what we offer at CenterWell.com and ConvivaCareCenters.com. visit ConvivaCareCenters.com, or call (833) CONVIVA.



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Don't Let Water Damage Get the Best of Your Home This Rainy Season

As the hurricane season begins, homeowners face numerous concerns in the months ahead. It's not just about stocking up the pantry or preparing shutters. Leo Gordon, a Parkland resident and the Owner and Founder of MVP Environmental Solutions, a licensed general contractor, roofer and emergency restoration company, reminds us that the best time to have a hurricane remediation and restoration plan in place is before the storm hits or even gets named. Now is the time to prepare, well before the frenzy begins.

Leo and his dedicated team at MVP understand the importance of staying updated on the storm's progress and severity. Hurricane paths can change rapidly, making it crucial to remain informed. Stocking up on enough food and water for your family to last three days is essential, and keeping a first aid kit on hand is always wise. Make it a priority to gather and secure important documents, especially your homeowner's insurance information. Additionally, take note of vital phone numbers such as the county emergency management office, evacuation sites, doctors, and a trusted water damage mitigation company.

South Florida homeowners are fortunate to have the expertise of Leo and his team when it comes to water damage restoration after storms. MVP's staff has been extensively involved in disaster response and restoration projects for hurricanes such as Katrina, Jeanne, Frances, Irma, Michael, and Ian. With decades of experience and cutting-edge technology, MVP has become a leader in the water damage restoration industry.

However, water damage doesn't always stem from natural disasters alone. Burst pipes and home flooding can

occur for various reasons. In any case, it's crucial to call an expert like Leo at the first sign of a leak. Within just 24 hours following water damage, mold can begin to grow, posing unprecedented dangers to your home and health. As a family-owned and operated company, MVP Environmental Solutions always prioritizes the health and safety of its clients. Upon arrival, MVP's experts assess whether the water is safe for building occupants. They take calculated steps to address the damage, utilizing specialized equipment to eliminate the risk of secondary issues such as rot or mold. Following the initial remediation, the team continues to monitor the situation closely, ensuring you can resume your routine as quickly and safely as possible.

MVP Environmental Solutions is deeply rooted in the Parkland and Coral Springs communities. Leo serves as the Vice President of the Parkland Chamber of Commerce and holds a board member position for the City of Parkland Parks and Rec Advisory Board. The company actively participates in local charities, including Parkland Buddy Sports and Make Our Schools Safe. Fundraising events have provided an opportunity for Leo to involve even his youngest children in the family business, fostering a sense of community and compassion.

From the Treasure Coast to Miami Beach, MVP Environmental Solutions is available 24/7 to address your emergency service needs. Contact them today at info@mvp mold.com or (954) 247-9444.

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The Athlete's Elbow Part 2

By Dr. Howard Gelb

Little league elbow is a common problem in the growing athlete and describes medial elbow pain that is attributed to a microscopic injury to the growth plate or apophysis, where the tendon attaches to the inner elbow. Pain and loss of motion are common symptoms of little league elbow. Pitchers sustain the majority of injuries but any player may develop it from overuse. X-rays are very important as part of the work up for little league elbow. Comparison x-rays can be helpful in certain cases to evaluate the extent of the injury. The UCL (ulnar collateral ligament) can be involved in severe cases. If the apophysis or UCL origin is significantly displaced, surgery may be indicated. If the ligament is completely torn, a formal UCL reconstruction (Tommy John procedure) may be needed to return to competitive throwing. Prevention of overuse injury in the throwing athlete is critical to avoid long term injury. Injury to the young athlete's elbow may be prevented by limiting the number of pitches in a game or practice, allowing the athlete adequate rest after throwing, and limiting the number of teams that he or she plays on. Recent studies demonstrate that the fast ball may be worse than breaking pitches for the immature elbow, causing the growth plate to separate or ligament to fail. Fortunately, most athletes can return to their sport after adequate rest and rehabilitation.

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 See ad and article on pages 10-11.

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Strives to reach disabled kids and their families at no cost. For more info, call (954) 345-9329.

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For more info go to www.northspringsll.com

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www.CSBCHOOPS.com or call (954) 360-1200 or Barry Popock (954) 599-6660

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For more info, call 954-406-0660, email info@csffc.org or go to www.CSFFC.ORG

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CORAL SPRINGS TACKLE FOOTBALL & TACKLE FOOTBALL CHEERLEADING

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For more info contact Mike at 954-540-8970 or visit www.buzzardslacrosse.org

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NORTHWEST BROWARD ROAD RUNNERS

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 For more info, go to www.nwbrcc.com or email jaygee725@gmail.com

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CITY OF CORAL SPRINGS SPRING TRAVEL SOCCER CLUB

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CORAL SPRINGS WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

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Private Schools & Camps

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESCHOOL

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9 weeks of summer camp! Launch your kids into healthy habits while having FUN? For more info, info@fitwize4kids.com. www.Fitwize4kids.com. Call 954-363-2349. See ad page 22.

NORTH BROWARD PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Is an accredited, college-preparatory, independent, non-sectarian school serving families of the pre-kindergarten through high school age groups. For more info, call (954) 247-0011 or www.NBPS.org. See ad on pg 13.

PARKRIDGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

An accredited school serving children from preschool & VPK, K to 9th grade. Our mission is to meet students' individual needs through excellent education while also placing an emphasis on teaching students biblical principles. For more info, www.ParkridgeCA.com, call 954-346-0236. See ad on page 23.

SOFLO NINJA ACADEMY CAMP

Discover The Excitement Of American Ninja Training At Our Fitness Center For All Ages and fitness levels! For more info. See SoFloNinja.com or call 954-876-1378. See ad on page 25.

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K through 8th grade. A tuition free public charter school. For more info, call (954) 603-3303, www.summitacademy.org. See ad and article pages 6-7.

Special Needs

PARKLAND BUDDY SPORTS

Find out about league offerings and activities. www.ParklandBuddySports.com

CHALLENGER BASEBALL LEAGUE

Open to all special needs kids and their families at no cost. For more info, call (954) 345-9329 or www.challengerbaseballofbroward.com

THE FRIENDSHIP JOURNEY

Provides programs & facilities for children and young adults with special needs, while creating awareness and sensitivity. For more info, contact hello@thefriendshipjourney.org or www.thefriendshipjourney.org

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Beginner sand volleyball training for kids and adults. Call Mark Lewkowicz for more info. (954)345-0500. www.sandturtlesvolleyball.com

Parkland P-Rec

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is a racquet sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis and table tennis. Players use solid paddles to hit a whiffle ball over a net. Yearly fee: Residents \$45/Non-residents \$54. P-REC – 10559 Trails End (located inside Pine Trails Park)

Scouting

Scouting offers Year Round Activities for Boys and Girls in K to 12th Grade
Find a local unit at www.beascout.org

Important Numbers

Aquatic Complex.....	(954)345-2121
City Hall in the Mall	(954)344-1828
Coral Springs Gymnasium	(954)345-2107
Cypress Park Pool	(954)345-2109
Cypress Park Tennis	(954)345-2100
Mullins Park Pool	(954)345-2170
Sportsplex Tennis Center	(954)344-1840
Parks and Recreation	(954)345-2200
Parks Field Conditions	(954)344-1187

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For more info., call (954) 604-2442 or visit www.parklandll.com. See ad on page 22.

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www.parklandbasketball.com or call the hotline (954) 227-0989.

Tackle Football & Cheerleading

PARKLAND RANGERS TACKLE FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING

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Cheer contact: 786-236-0948 or cheer@parklandrangers.com.
See ad on opposite page.

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PARKLAND FLAG FOOTBALL
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See ad below.

Lacrosse

PARKLAND REDHAWKS
For more info go to www.parklandlacrosse.com
BUZZARDS MEN'S LACROSSE CLUB
For more info contact Mike at 954-540-8970

Soccer

PARKLAND REC SOCCER
For more info, visit www.parklandsoccer.net
See ad below
PARKLAND TRAVEL SOCCER CLUB
For more info, see www.parklandtravelsoccer.com or emailinfo@parklandtravelsoccer.com.
See ad page 31.

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9 weeks of summer camp! Launch your kids into healthy habits while having FUN? For more info, info@fitwize4kids.com. www.Fitwize4kids.com. Call 954-363-2349. See ad page 22.

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Open to all special needs kids and their families at no cost. For more info, call (954) 345-9329.

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Provides programs & facilities for children and young adults with special needs, while creating awareness and sensitivity. For more info, contact hello@thefriendshipjourney.org or www.thefriendshipjourney.org

Adult Softball

For more info. contact Parkland Parks & Rec. Manager Bruno Battel at 954-757-4103

Important Numbers

Leisure Services	(954)757-4105
Field Conditions	(954)757-4110
Park Ranger	(954)575-1007
Youth, Teen, & Senior Programs	(954)757-4129
City Hall	(954)753-5040
Tennis	(954)757-1910
P-REC	(954)757-4105



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please Visit: www.ParklandSoccer.net

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Insurance Evaluation...

By Brett Porter

Considering the volatility of the insurance market, now is a great time to shop auto, home and flood premiums. Many times there are big differences in rates when comparing different companies. Since we are an independent agency, we have the ability to "shop" coverages for our clients depending on their individual situations.

Home policies may need to be adjusted once claims fall off your record or you have improved your home (replaced your roof or added impact windows/shutters.) The insurance market is very confusing right now. For instance, two homes that are exactly the same size and are located on the same street can have markedly different insurance premiums depending on factors outside of your control. Having a professional who can explain and educate you on your options is invaluable!

In the flood insurance market, there are now many private market companies that offer lower rates than National Flood.

Auto policies may need to be adjusted once tickets or accidents fall off your record.

Considering the volatility of the insurance market, now is a great time to shop the premiums. You will often find huge differences in rates. The question to ask yourself is, do you have the proper coverage and are you with the right company? To be certain, please call for a no obligation review of your insurance policies.

Porter & Associates Insurance Agency 561-771-8025

See ad below



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954-363-2349  www.fitwize4kids.org



Fall 2024 Season

Evaluations will be in August for all divisions except T-Ball
Practices & Games begin in September
Season will run through Late November
Playoffs will begin in December



Registration
\$220
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Divisions (based on 2025 age chart)

Rookie (TBall) : 4-6 Years Old
Farm (Coach Pitch) : 7-8 Years Old
Minors (Player Pitch) : 9-10 Years Old
Majors (50/70) : 11-12 Years Old
Juniors (60/90) : 13-14 Years Old

PARKLAND LITTLE LEAGUE FALL 2024 SEASON

Register NOW through July 31, 2024

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More Information
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School Custodian by Day, Artist by Night

On a Mission to Raise \$1 Million for Worthwhile Causes

Lindsey Steinberg

Most people dream about what they would do if they were given \$1 million. Some might buy a house, pay down debt, or even travel the world.

For local artist Joseph Gormley, his mission is simple: Earn \$1 million -- but make sure it ends up in the hands of others, especially those who need it most.

Gormley is a Tamarac resident, originally from Scotland, who works as a school custodian by day and an acclaimed artist on nights and weekends. Gormley doesn't typically sell his paintings for profit. Instead, he donates them to local nonprofits and foundations who auction them to raise funds for worthy causes like children's medical expenses, youth sports initiatives, and more.

Gormley's paintings often earn anywhere from \$9,000 to \$15,000 per bid. So far, his work has garnered nearly \$300,000 in donations total, but Gormley is determined to keep painting and giving until his works of art, primarily celebrity portraits, have raised at least \$1 million.

"My paycheck is for my family, but my artwork is for the community," Gormley said.

It might surprise some that Gormley's art is worth so much. He has no formal training, and his wife bought him his first paint set just over a decade ago as a Christmas gift, and the school children he interacts with during his day job aren't exactly the target audience for fine art.

Still, somehow, by making all the right connections, harnessing a lot of natural talent, and conjuring a "wee" bit of luck (as they say in Scotland) Gormley's work has earned him a reputation among the upper echelon, made his art sought after at local charity events, and, ultimately, propelled his success.

Perhaps his most jaw-dropping interaction to date is with

none other than Lionel Messi. A mutual connection alerted Messi's family to Gormley's Messi portraits and they fell in love with his work. Messi signed and returned three portraits and decided to keep a fourth in his new Fort Lauderdale home.

The interaction with Messi inspired Gormley to aim for another big dream: earning a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records. This year, Gormley has been circulating one of his many Messi portraits throughout South Florida communities recruiting everyday people to paint a few swipes on the canvas. Gormley hopes to achieve the record for "Most People Painting on One Community Canvas" by the end of the year.

"We've had about 200 people paint on the canvas so far, and we are trying for more," Gormley said. "Thousands of people paint Messi every day, but not everybody has a community-based canvas."

Gormley is not stopping there. He recently partnered with The 72 Chocolate Collection to have his art included on their chocolate bar packaging. Those who purchase a bar from the Swirl line will have a portion of proceeds donated to help provide children access to healthy meals.

Even though Gormley is a community man at heart -- his family has lived in Coral Springs and Tamarac, and he has worked in Coral Springs and Parkland schools -- Gormley hopes to someday gain national recognition for his efforts if it will help to achieve his many goals. Although, for Gormley, the goal is to never paint himself in a self-centered light, but rather to always help others.

"I don't want fame; fame comes with a price," Gormley said. "I want to help as many people as possible."

More information about Joseph Gormley's art can be found on Instagram @josephgormleyart.





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For more Information please call (954) 876-1378 or visit www.sofloninja.com

Cirque du Soleil is coming back to South Florida
with one of its best-loved productions

CORTEO

In Sunrise from July 11th to 21st, 2024 at the Amerant Bank Arena



Corteo, the most enchanting arena production from Cirque du Soleil is heading to Sunrise, set to charm audiences. This unique production, directed by Daniele Finzi Pasca, first premiered in Montreal in April 2005. Since its creation, the show has amazed over 10 million spectators, in 20 countries, on 4 continents. Corteo will be presented at the Amerant Bank Arena for 12 shows only from July 11th to 21st, 2024.

Corteo, which means cortege in Italian, is a joyous procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown. The show brings together the passion of the actor with the grace and power of the acrobat to plunge the audience into a theatrical world of fun, comedy and spontaneity situated in a mysterious space between heaven and earth.

The clown pictures his own funeral taking place in a carnival atmosphere, watched over by quietly caring angels. Juxtaposing the large with the small, the ridiculous with the tragic and the magic of perfection with the charm of imperfection, the show highlights the strength and fragility of the clown, as well as his wisdom and kindness, to illustrate the portion of humanity that is within each of us. The music turns lyrical and playful carrying Corteo through a timeless celebration in which illusion teases reality.

In a Cirque du Soleil first, the stage is central in the arena and divides the venue, with each half of the audience facing the other half, giving a unique perspective not only of the show, but also a performer's eye view of the audience. An atmosphere like never seen before in Cirque du Soleil arena shows. The set curtains, inspired by the Eiffel Tower, and the central curtains, which were hand painted, give a grandiose feel to the stage. This sets the tone for the poetry of Corteo.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Corteo in Sunrise, FL are available online at www.cirquedusoleil.com/corteo

Performance Schedule

- Thursday, July 11th, at 7 p.m.
- Friday, July 12th, at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 13th, at 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
- Sunday, July 14th, at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
- Thursday, July 18th, at 7 p.m.
- Friday, July 19th, at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 20th, at 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
- Sunday, July 21st, at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Follow #CORTEO and #cirquedusoleil on social media: TikTok | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube



A vibrant, surreal scene set against a sky with soft, golden clouds. In the upper portion, four circus performers are suspended in the air. From left to right: a man in a purple outfit hangs upside down from a ladder; a woman in a blue and white outfit hangs upside down from a vertical pole; a man in a dark shirt and pants is suspended horizontally within a large hoop; and a woman in a gold and red outfit hangs from a decorative, beaded structure. In the lower portion, the back of a man with curly hair, wearing a white shirt and dark suspenders, is visible. He has his arms outstretched horizontally, as if presenting the scene above. The ground below him is a grid of stone tiles that recedes into the distance.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL®

Corteo™

JULY 11 - 21
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 **AIR CANADA**



Meet the Fire Chief of the Coral Springs-Parkland Fire Department Chief Whalen Shares Important Safety Messages for Children

During a formal Transfer of Command Ceremony held on Friday, June 28, Deputy Chief John Whalen was sworn-in as the new Fire Chief for the Coral Springs-Parkland Fire Department (CSPFD). Whalen replaces current Fire Chief Michael McNally, who announced his plans for retirement.

In his new position, Whalen will be responsible for overseeing the life and safety of Coral Springs and Parkland residents and visitors, plus the more than 200 sworn personnel and administrative staff within the department.

"I am very humbled and honored to lead this incredible organization and I look forward to continuing to work with the dedicated men and women who proudly serve the community," Whalen said. "I am excited to be a part of the future of this department and to continue to provide exemplary service to the residents and visitors of Coral Springs and Parkland."

Whalen is no stranger to the industry. With a career spanning more than 30 years, he has worked in fire service since 1993, joining the Coral Springs Fire Department in 1996. Since then, he has held nearly every position in fire service including Deputy Fire Chief, Deputy Chief of Operations, Assistant Chief, Lead Fire Academy Instructor, Health and Safety Officer, and more.

As he embarks upon his new position, one of Whalen's main priorities is to ensuring young residents stay informed and safe through all seasons.

Below are some important tips from Chief Whalen for our community's youth as we dive into summer.

Water Safety:

Summer is a great time for kids to enjoy swimming and splashing at the pool; however, safety should always come first. A drowning incident can occur in seconds. Adults are reminder to never leave children unsupervised near a body

of water and to always assign a water 'watcher.' Pool safety barriers and water alarms are also helpful tools to keep little ones safe. Finally, it's imperative for someone in the household to know CPR so that they someone can respond immediately in an emergency.

Heat Safety:

During scorching summer days, hydration is key. Drink plenty of water throughout the day, especially if spending time outdoors. Be mindful of children consuming energy and caffeinated beverages as they are not a replacement for water. Remember to seek shade or air-conditioned spaces during peak heat hours, typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Fireworks Safety:

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, fireworks become a popular way to celebrate. However, they can also be dangerous if not handled properly. Attending the City of Coral Springs Fourth of July event on Thursday, July 4 is the safest way to view fireworks handled by professionals. If choosing to use fireworks at home, please follow all safety instructions carefully. Never allow children to handle fireworks, and always keep a bucket of water or a hose nearby in case of emergencies.

Hurricane Season Preparedness:

Living in a region prone to hurricanes means it's always necessary to be prepared. Residents are reminded to review and update their family's emergency plan, ensure that disaster supply kits are stocked with essential items like water, non-perishable food, medications, and important documents. Stay informed by texting AlertCS to 888-777 to receive updates.

Stay connected to Chief Whalen and the Coral Springs-Parkland Fire Department on social media @CoralSpringsFD.



Photo Left: Chief Whalen and Chief McNally salute at a recent unveiling for the city's new Public Safety Memorial.

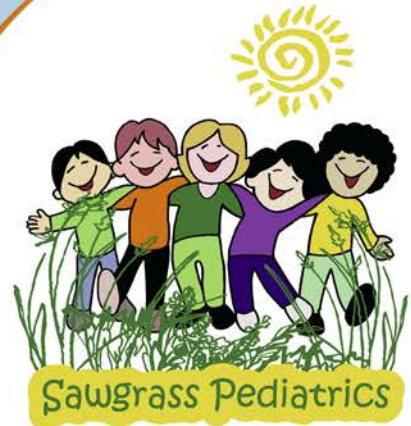
Photo Right: Chief Whalen poses with his award for 2022 Chief Officer of the Year.

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Parkland, FL 33067
(954) 752-9220

CORAL SPRINGS

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(954) 752-9220

BOCA RATON

9801 Glades Road
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2024 - 2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR - BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUGUST				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

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JANUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

APRIL				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

MAY				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

JUNE				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

- Employee Planning (no school for students)
- Schools and Administrative Offices Closed
- Schools Closed
- Report Cards Issued
- Interim Reports Issued
- Early Release Day
- First and Last Day of School

Severe Weather Make-Up Days: TBD. Please see www.browardschools.com/calendar for more information.