



# On the RIVER

*Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS*

TO SUBSCRIBE or offer articles (maximum 300-500 words) or to send jpeg photos of Alva area happenings, or to contact the publisher/editor with any questions, email Ken DeWalt [kendewalt@ontheriver.org](mailto:kendewalt@ontheriver.org) . The deadline for receipt of any materials is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month previous to the month you wish the articles to run. Issues go out before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, and are subject to editing if necessary.

Now accepting advertisements. See our terms on the last page of this newsletter. We encourage all subscribers to consider patronizing the paid advertisers you find at the conclusion of this newsletter. Their support of our mission helps us provide you with this local Alva area newsletter.

[www.ONTHERIVER.ORG](http://www.ONTHERIVER.ORG) Archive of all OTR newsletters and lots more, all FREE including a link to [www.ALVAFL.org/newsletter](http://www.ALVAFL.org/newsletter) to see previous the publisher's Alva newsletters archived since 2010

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PLEASE CONTACT any event sponsor promoted in the ON THE RIVER newsletter before deciding to attend to check the latest scheduling plan for dealing with the COVID-19 VIRUS PANDEMIC

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## FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL area news
- Community services
- SWFL recipes and health tips
- Local club and organization news
- Local school news



Not so funny

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## Keep up with your zip code infection rate

(TY Carol Johnson)

Go to: [Florida's Covid 19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard](#). At the bottom press the tab that says by [Cases by zip code](#). On the right a list of counties will appear. Scroll down to [Lee County](#) and look for 33920. A [pop-up window](#) will show all 33920 data so far. 33920 includes: Alva, Buckingham, Charleston Park, Fort Denaud, Fort Myers Shores, Lehigh Acres, North Fort Myers, Olga

# The ALVA SCHOOL COMMUNITY chooses a theme for the 2020-2021 year

( TY News-Press )

Beth Browning Barfield Principle of the Alva School in the village of Alva, in a statement shared via social media in early July, announced the winner of the contest via social media to discover a new theme for her school and this school year.

*Building Bridges Today, for the Journey of Tomorrow*



## #BeTheBridge

Choosing from over 1,000 emails, social media comments, phone calls and conversations centered on a theme of looking positively into the future together; a community of students and staff growing beyond fear with a commitment, "to whatever challenges and/or obstacles that the 2020-2021 school year will bring.



**When you drink a fifth of moonshine and you start swimming with dolphins**





Lee County School Board

## Lee County Open Schools Plan remains AGILE

(TY News Press)

After an early July announcement by Governor DeSantis declaring the absolute re-opening of all Florida public schools in fall 2020 the NEWS-PRESS shared that the Lee County School Board will be opening for students in-house as well as for virtual education, on August 10<sup>th</sup>. On July 23 that date was moved back to August 31.

The plan for re-opening will be available on the Lee County Schools website, "however, it must be agile", according Superintendent Greg Adkins. No one knows what the Covid-19 infection rate in our county will be in August and planning a hybrid, live and virtual combination, should allow teachers and students to respond to the needs of the moment in a healthier manner.



In surveys taken across all ethnic and socio-economic communities of Lee County over the past months our school district learned that about 50% of all parents desire live education for their children, *if safely provided*. Preparing to teach in multiple ways safely will be the greatest challenge for our educators. Safe for themselves and their students.

Making sure the reopening plan is safe is the main priority for Kevin Daly, the president of the local teacher's union, the Teachers Association of Lee County.

"We have got to make it safe for the kids. We have got to make it safe for the staff. We have got to make it safe for anybody who comes in the building," Daly said.

His biggest question is whether it is "really safe" to put over 95,000 students and 13,000 employees around each other — sometimes in overcrowded schools — when "the facts on the ground" show rising positive cases.

During the July 23 meeting of the school board Superintendent Adkins informed the board that he plans to require face masks, coverings or shields for all students and employees on school grounds, unless they have a medical reason and opt out of this requirement. The start date decision means faculty will go back to work on Aug. 18, extending the typical pre-school week to a nine-day period.

As for why the calendar committee saw Aug. 31 as a better start date, Angela J. Pruitt Chief Human Resources Officer of Lee County Schools, said it all came down to the hope that the number of positive COVID-19 cases would start to lower by that point in the month and help teachers feel more ready for the challenges they face in the world of pandemic teaching and learning.

# Controversial toll road project funding is still intact amid \$1 billion in state budget cuts

(TY Florida Phoenix, as of July 5, 2020)



While shaving \$1 billion worth of projects from the Florida Legislature's 2020-21 state budget, Gov. Ron DeSantis could not touch funding for future construction of three controversial toll roads through rural Florida. That's because the money for the toll roads is embedded in state law.

A coalition of 80 organizations and businesses in June wanted DeSantis to redirect \$90 million earmarked this year for massive toll road projects called Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance, or M-CORES. They wanted that money put into the state's general budget for other needs. But that wasn't an option.

It looks like the toll road funds are veto-proof — hardwired into the Florida Department of Transportation's long-term work plan, said David Cullen, lobbyist and budget analyst with the Sierra Club of Florida.

"For fiscal year '20-21, \$90 million is retained in the state transportation trust fund for M-CORES," Cullen said. "The governor can't re-appropriate it for a different purpose."

The three M-CORES are a pet project of Senate President Bill Galvano, who secured legislation and initial funding for the toll roads in 2019, despite the Department of Transportation independently citing no need for them.

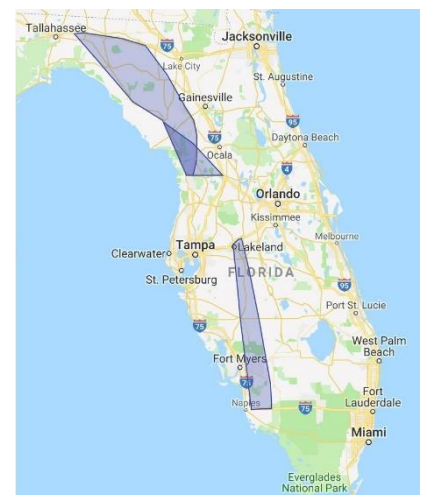
Lindsay Cross, government relations director for Florida Conservation Voters, said it is a shame to leave \$90 million for unpopular, down-the-road projects intact while environmental projects that impact water quality suffered \$83 million in budget vetoes. "There's a time and a place for long-range planning, but with M-CORES, it's not based on documented need and it won't have utility for years," Cross said.

Florida Conservation Voters Executive Director Alik Moncrief added the governor's veto of \$83 million in environmental funding includes funds intended to upgrade failing wastewater systems that have caused sewage spills and contaminated Florida waterways.

The M-CORES projects are the Suncoast Connector (between Citrus and Jefferson counties), the Northern Turnpike Connection (from the northern terminus of Florida's Turnpike northwest to the Suncoast Parkway), and the **Southwest-Central Florida Connector, from Collier to Polk, and just miles from Alva, possibly around LaBelle.**

In a July 24 NEWS-PRESS article several members of the public said there has been no economic feasibility study to justify spending hundreds of millions of dollars on a road "no one seems to want".

"There has been no needs analysis for this project and that's the nail in the coffin," said Matthew Schwartz, with the South Florida Wildlands Association. "And (remember), this is not the first boondoggle that Florida has faced."





## ALVA INC



Join us to learn what's happening, and how you may be a part of what's happening as Lee County Grows eastward toward our country haven.  
[www.ALVAFL.org](http://www.ALVAFL.org)

Contact Emily Smith, treasurer, at [emilysmith@msn.com](mailto:emilysmith@msn.com) to join.

NEXT MEETING: TBA Second Tuesdays, 7pm, Alva Community Center  
Dues are only \$25.00 a year



HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL  
of Southwest Florida, Inc.  
CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY WITH HEALTH RESOURCES



For information on COVID-19, also known as the Coronavirus, please visit one of these trustworthy agencies for continuous updates.

Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

World Health Organization (WHO) Florida Department of Health



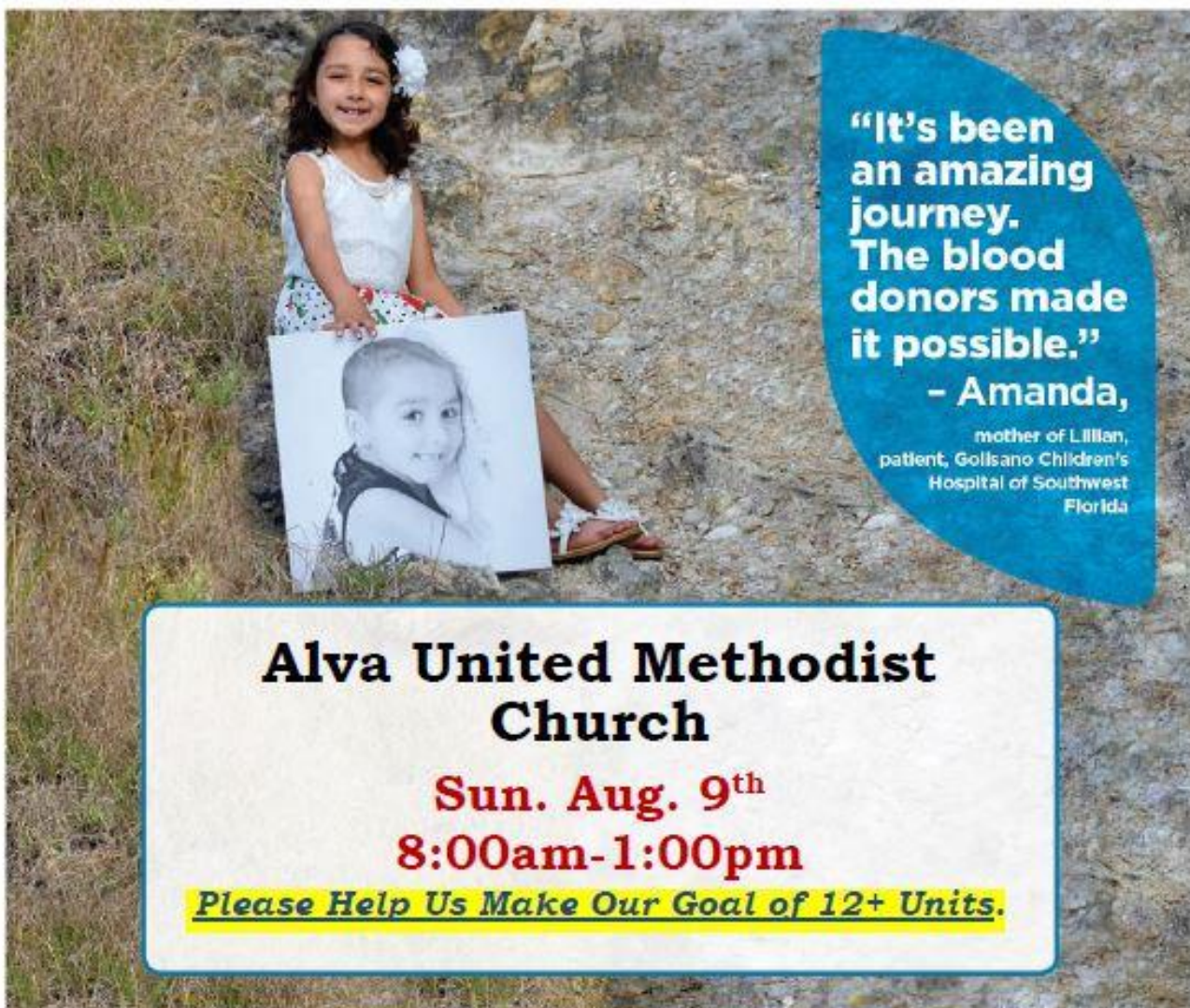
**BABCOCK RANCH ECO TOURS, Museum and Gator Shack Restaurant**

**NOW OPEN**

Go to website to see safety restrictions and to reserve tours



<https://babcockranchecotours.com/>



**“It’s been an amazing journey. The blood donors made it possible.”**

**- Amanda,**

mother of Lillian,  
patient, Gollisano Children's  
Hospital of Southwest  
Florida

## **Alva United Methodist Church**

**Sun. Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am-1:00pm**

***Please Help Us Make Our Goal of 12+ Units.***

Change a life.  
**Donate blood.**

Spend a few minutes of your time and save the life of another person. Your donation through the Lee Health Blood Center will stay in Lee County and benefit local residents and visitors in need.

All donors will receive a **thank you gift and wellness checkup** including blood pressure, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening. **For more information or schedule a bloodmobile visit, call 239-343-2333.**



DONATE · HOST A FOOD DRIVE · VOLUNTEER

Fight summer hunger in our community.



WWW.COMMUNITYCOOPERATIVE.COM/GIVE-HELP/DONATE-FOOD

Every summer, **Community Cooperative** puts a special emphasis on food donations to support the thousands of families who find themselves struggling to make ends meet when their kids are home and unable to receive free meals from their schools. For many families, this summertime reality came months earlier than anticipated with the impact that

COVID-19 has had on countless job losses and school closings. Now more than ever, we need your support to continue providing necessary food for these families in need.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

**DONATE** so that we can continue purchasing food to distribute at our Mobile Pantries.

**HOST A FOOD DRIVE** and collect non-perishable food items to stock our shelves.

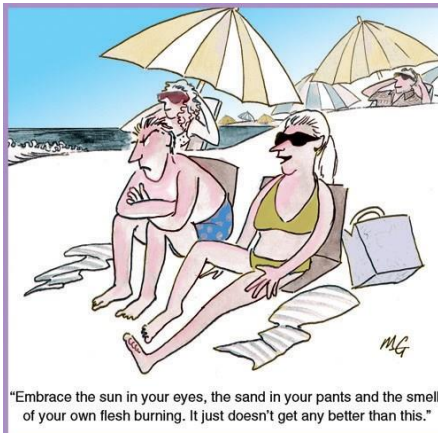
**VOLUNTEER** in the Community Cafe, at a Mobile Pantry, or as a Meals on Wheels Driver. Call (239) 332-7687

If you'd like to host a food drive or have any questions about Summer Drive for Hunger, email Development and Events Coordinator, Jazy Proctor at [Jazy@CommunityCooperative.com](mailto:Jazy@CommunityCooperative.com)



241 North Bridge Street, Labelle, Florida  
[www.firehousecommunitytheater.com](http://www.firehousecommunitytheater.com)  
863-675-3066

**FALL  
2020/Winter-  
Spring 2021 shows  
will appear here  
when announced**



Give TIME. Give MONEY. Give FOOD.

To make a donation, call (239) 334-7007 or visit



**Harry Chapin Food Bank**  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

*Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope*

[www.harrychapinfoodbank.org](http://www.harrychapinfoodbank.org).

Your food bank is painfully aware that “summer hunger” is in full swing. The summer months are usually difficult for many who work in the tourism, retail and hospitality industries which our local economy is dependent upon. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of those facing “summer hunger” is more dramatic and the situation is more dire and will not be relieved by the start of next season. Even with a phased reopening of our state, the demand will not diminish the nasty bite of summer hunger. We have our work cut out for us.



The Southwest Florida Heroes Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to supporting 1st Responders including, Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters/EMS, Military (Active Duty & Veterans), Coast Guard, ATF, FBI, DHS and their immediate families and widows and orphans, that are located in Lee, Collier & Hendry counties Florida.

Along with our passion and drive, it is with the help and support from the local communities here in SW Florida that inspires us and allows us to provide support to our local Heroes. We thank you in advance for Joining us along our journey and for your financial support by Donating. We also encourage you to consider Volunteering to become a Committee Member or just help us by Spreading the Word. <https://www.swflheroes.org/>

**It's never too early to donate to our CHRISTMAS BIKE PROGRAM**



<https://www.swflheroes.org/bicycles>





Are any ALVA folk interested in sponsoring bus stop tables for their children? CONTACT: James Branham, Director, at [swfloridashield@yahoo.com](mailto:swfloridashield@yahoo.com)

For information on how to can help, head to [www.swfloridashield.com](http://www.swfloridashield.com)



### Charleston Park Neighborhood Association

2541 Charleston Park Drive, Alva, FL 33920. 239-728-8895  
[Charlestonpark1926@gmail.com](mailto:Charlestonpark1926@gmail.com)

Community Center Activities & Training, Lee County Children's and youth sport park, Events throughout the year, Meetings for all every second Monday of the month at 6pm at the Community Center:.

**Florida Heath Dept pandemic guidelines apply**

### Charleston Park Community Center

### Children and Youth LIBRARY

**OPEN to EVERYONE!**

*Books may be borrowed and returned OR kept by the reader thanks to the generous continuous donation of more books from the Lee County Library System*



2541 Charleston Park Drive, Alva, FL 33920. 239-728-8895

Contact the Center Director, Lashay Russ for information:  
[Charlestonpark1926@gmail.com](mailto:Charlestonpark1926@gmail.com)

LaBelle plans forward into fall and winter, 2020-2021 hoping the pandemic will not require cancellation of these events



## FDA NOW INCLUDES 75 TOXIC HAND SANITIZERS ON IT'S LIST OF PRODUCTS TO AVOID

(TY Riverdale Dental Associates, Buckingham-Alva)

The Food and Drug Administration has expanded the list of hand sanitizers — some sold at Walmart, Costco and other national chains — being recalled to at least 75, saying toxic levels of wood alcohol in them can cause injury or death.

The FDA said that there has been an increase in hand sanitizers that are labeled to contain ethyl alcohol, or ethanol, but have tested positive for methanol, or wood alcohol. If methanol is absorbed through the skin, it can cause blindness and hospitalizations, or death if ingested.

“Methanol is not an acceptable active ingredient for hand sanitizers and must not be used due to its toxic effects,” the FDA warns. “Consumers who have been exposed to hand sanitizer containing methanol and are experiencing symptoms should seek immediate treatment for potential reversal of toxic effects of methanol poisoning.”

Signs of methanol poisoning include nausea, vomiting, headache, blurred vision, and can result in permanent blindness, seizures, coma, permanent damage to the nervous system or death.

“Although all persons using these products on their hands are at risk, young children who accidentally ingest these products and adolescents and adults who drink these products as an alcohol (ethanol) substitute, are most at risk for methanol poisoning,” the FDA said.

Sadly there are now 6 deaths and 2 persons with permanent damage that are linked to using toxic hand sanitizers.

Experts advise consumers to check the FDA's regularly updated list for dangerous hand sanitizers before buying an unknown brand.

# A bit of ALVA History



Copied from the 25-year CALOOSA WATERKEEPER'S STORY available for download at:

<https://calusawaterkeeper.org/reports/2020/>

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED  
Consider adding \$25 to your donation  
to help celebrate this milestone!

## ORIGIN STORY

### The founding of CRCA & Calusa Waterkeeper

K.C. Schulberg

The early 1990s proved a seminal moment in Southwest Florida history when folks became surprisingly sensitized to environmental issues. Hurricane Andrew had slammed Florida on August 16, 1992 causing \$23b in economic and environmental damage.

In May of 1994, the Everglades Forever Act (EFA), a precursor to CERP, was enacted by Florida's legislature, focusing national attention on South Florida. Later that year, on July 4, Tropical Storm Alberto caused devastating flooding throughout Florida. In fact, 1994 was one of the wettest years on record in Florida with rainfall from January to April 140% above average and November & December a staggering 316% above normal, leaving Lake Okeechobee, our canals and rivers engorged with surplus water and bringing much needed attention to water flow issues on the Caloosahatchee, its tributaries and estuaries.

In 1994, the News-Press had published a series of articles on the Caloosahatchee, entitled "River at Risk." And on August 7, 1994, published a major article called "Caloosahatchee: An Orphan River." That article amounted to a double-truck appeal to protect and defend our River – a plea for adoption of the mighty Caloosahatchee, saying "unlike the Hudson, the River has no keeper" and calling for "the formation of a citizen's group to watch over the river." Furthermore, there was an announcement of a News-Press sponsored Caloosahatchee Community Forum to take place later that year.

This did not fall on deaf ears. When the summit took place on November 19, 1994, the Barbara B. Mann auditorium was filled with 400 attentive agency & elected officials, environmental groups and scores of ordinary concerned citizens – among them, many who would be instrumental in forming our organization, like Rae Ann Wessel, John Capece, John Cassani, Jim Haggart, Charles Edgar Foster, Laura Church, Linda Mattos, Amy Bennett Williams, Connie Hoffsinger, Rob Andrys, Keith Kibbey... and many others. These were sunnier times (so to speak), at least, less polarized, when Bill Hammond sat on the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Ray Judah was a County Commissioner.

*(continued on opposite page)*



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## ORIGIN STORY [CONTD.]

In January of 1995, a core group of 90, who had attended the Forum, gathered at the Calusa Nature Center's Iona House to discuss next steps. And thus, a "citizen's group to watch over the river" was born. The first job was to come up with a name. According to Rae Ann Wessel, "this was like getting 90 people to name a baby." Hence the CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, which does not exactly roll off the tongue. It was quickly abbreviated to CRCA. The News-Press article and Forum had laid down markers, which were now taken up by this intrepid group of nascent water warriors. They adopted the concept, watch-words, like "Riverwatch" (which became the unofficial title of the organization), and even co-opted a News-Press image to become the new logo!



CRCA was incorporated on March 9, 1995, with retired attorney Jim Haggart as its first President, Laura Church as VP, Laura Wewerka as Secretary and Bill McGrath as Treasurer. It received its official 501(c)(3) designation the following year.

The history of the organization deserves more space than can be afforded here. There have been moments when it flourished; there have been notable victories, like the hugely successful Storm Drain Stencil Project, River Ride which endured 18 years, a \$500k grant from South Florida Water Management District for Oxbow Restoration and getting the River listed as one of the top ten most endangered rivers by the notable American Rivers organization in 2006, bringing much needed national attention to our increasingly impaired waterway. But, through it all, CRCA or Riverwatch and now Calusa Waterkeeper has persevered. At its founding twenty-five years ago – and this is just as true today - it was fueled by the energy and passion of ordinary citizens and volunteers fighting to defend the integrity of the River.

The global farm is not only a hands on training ground for those searching for help in tropical agriculture, but also an educational tool to make the public aware of hunger related issues and the answers there are to alleviate malnutrition and starvation.



17391 Durrance Road, North Fort Myers, FL 33917 | 239.543.3246 |

[info@echonet.org](mailto:info@echonet.org)  
<https://www.echonet.org/>

**Global Farm Tour Schedule: ON HOLD until it is safe to start them again**

Tuesday thru Saturday (Dec. thru April): 9:30 and 1:30    Tuesday, Friday & Saturday (May thru Nov.): 9:30    Closed Sundays and Holidays



There are six fenced-in "Dog Parks" which allow for off-leash play. On-leash dog walking is allowed at many locations (listed below).

Dogs must be accompanied by an adult and must remain on-leash at all times while walking in the park.

Find out more at: <https://www.leegov.com/parks/dog-parks>



### Six Mile Cypress Slough, Lee County Park

7751 Penzance Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL. 33966

A mile of wonder 30 minutes away from Alva.

Walks are open ONE WAY direction, Visitors Center is closed



### Manatee Park

10901 Palm Beach Blvd,  
Fort Myers, FL 33905

239 690 5030



### Olga Community Park

2325 S Olga Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33905

(239) 533-7275

Home of Alva area AFTER SCHOOL program



## Hickey's Creek Mitigation Park

17980 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

-Great for quiet creek kayaking. -Fun for walks and picnics.



## ALVA BOAT RAMP PARK

21580 Pearl St, Alva, FL 33920

**CLOSED UNTIL FALL 2020 FOR RECONSTRUCTION**



## W.P. Franklin Lock & Dam South Recreation Area

Franklin Lock Rd. , Alva , FL 33920. Contact: (239) 694-2582

WP Franklin South Recreation Area is a day use area located on the Caloosahatchee River adjacent to the WP Franklin Lock and Dam. Visitors can watch boats traversing the 152 mile Okeechobee Waterway

**DAY USE PICNIC AREA NOW OPEN. BEACH AND PLAYGROUND REMAIN CLOSED**



## W.P Franklin Lock & Dam CAMPGROUND

Camp by reservation only

17850 NORTH FRANKLIN LOCK ROAD, ALVA, FL 33920, 239-694-8770

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233661>



## Alva Community Center PARK

21471 North River Road, Alva, FL 33920 , (239) 728-2882

Three of the many activities here:

The Alva Community Center is part of the Alva Community Park, behind the Alva Middle & Elementary Schools.



## Caloosahatchee Regional Park

19130 North River Road, Alva, FL 33920 (239) 694-0398

EMAIL: [leeparks@leegov.com](mailto:leeparks@leegov.com)

Shelter rentals, primitive tent camping, Horse and bike trails.

We have resumed accepting reservations for our pavilions, campsites, lodges, etc., we are reopening our facilities with a measured approach and under the guidance of the Lee County Board of County Commissioners. For the protection of all of our patrons, COVID guidelines under effect during the scheduled time of your reservation will be enforced. Campsites, pavilions and the lodge are restricted to 10 patrons or less at this time.



## NORTH FORT MYERS Recreation Park

2000 North Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers, FL 33903,

This park features an 18 hole Disc Golf course , call (239) 297-8916

## Veterans Park Recreation Center

55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

Contact Information (239) 369-1521

[DFlora@leegov.com](mailto:DFlora@leegov.com)



## ALVA FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE SERVICE

2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920

(239) 728-2223

**SERVING FULL TIME, safely, through our pandemic**



Lee County Conservation 20/20 manages 48 preserves spread throughout Lee County, including within the boundaries of most cities. These preserves combined total nearly 30,000 acres.

All preserves are open to the public for hiking, wildlife observation, and nature study. Several preserves offer additional recreation opportunities, including fishing, kayaking and canoeing, and horseback riding. Search recreation activities online or download recreation and amenities chart online.

Preserves are open daily during daylight hours. Access may be limited at certain locations due to temporary flooding, special restoration projects, or isolated location.

Information about each Conservation 20/20 preserve can be accessed from the website:

<http://www.leegov.com/conservation2020/preserves>



*Alva Scrub Preserve*



*Bob Janes Preserve*



*Daniel's Preserve at Spanish Creek*



*Buckingham Trails Preserve*



*Olga Shores Preserve*



*Telegraph Creek Preserve*

**Goodwill**   
 Southwest Florida

**10th Annual Golf Classic**

Presenting Sponsor  
**SULLIVAN**  
 Your Benefits Consulting Company

*Verandah*<sup>®</sup>

**Thursday, October 8, 2020**  
 The Verandah Club  
 Whispering Oaks Course  
 12201 River Village Way  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33905

**\$125 per player / \$500 per foursome**  
 Includes 18 holes, cart and lunch  
 shotgun start four person scramble: 8:30 a.m.

Register online: [www.goodwillswfl.org/golfclassic2020](http://www.goodwillswfl.org/golfclassic2020)



**WE DELIVER!**  **MEALS on WHEELS SOUTH FLORIDA**

**Fort Myers MEALS ON WHEELS now serves homebonds of any age and for any short or long term need in the ALVA area!**

Our caring Meals on Wheels volunteers provide daily, nutritious home-delivered meals and a friendly, safety and security check to eligible homebound neighbors who cannot shop or cook for themselves. These neighbors include seniors, the disabled, or chronically ill adults under the age of 60.

**VOLUNTEER FOR MEALS ON WHEELS**

WWW.COMMUNITYCOOPERATIVE.COM

To become a volunteer driver/deliverer to clients, or to become a client receiver of meals and other services, please contact:

**239) 332-7687**

**NOTE: Meals on Wheels is SHORT of drivers! The pandemic has created record numbers of folk who need meal deliveries in their homes.**

**PLEASE consider volunteering.**



**TEEN DRIVER CHALLENGE**



Lee County Sheriff's Office Sheriff Carmine Marceno, in partnership with the Sheriff's Youth Activities League (SYAL), the Florida Sheriffs Association and title sponsor Allstate present the Teen Driver Challenge!

This course teaches techniques and life saving skills used by professional drivers in a "hands-on" driving environment. Students learn vehicle dynamics, safe driving practices and responsible decision making through the classroom and driving exercises.

**2020 SCHEDULE**

January 3 & 4	April 10 & 11	July 17 & 18	October 9 & 10
January 24 & 25	April 24 & 25	July 31 & August 1	October 23 & 24
February 14 & 15	May 8 & 9	August 14 & 15	November 6 & 7
February 28 & 29	May 15 & 16	August 28 & 29	
March 13 & 14	June 5 & 6	September 11 & 12	
March 27 & 28	June 19 & 20	September 25 & 26	

Class on Fridays (5pm—8pm) and closed course driving on Saturdays (7:30am—Noon) held at:

Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Center Miramar Outlets

10801 Corkscrew Road Suite 190, Estero, FL 33928

Please call to register (239) 561-TEEN (8336)



**BETTER DRIVERS, SAFER ROADS**



TOMMY DOYLE, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS  
**LEE COUNTY ELECTIONS**

**NOW IS THE TIME TO VOTE-BY-MAIL**

Our mission to deliver superior election services to the voters of Lee County continues to be a priority. In response to these unprecedented times, and with the safety and security of voters and elections staff in mind, the Lee County Supervisor of Elections urges voters to Vote-by-Mail.

Voting by mail is the most convenient option when voting. Save time and take your time. Vote at home and the return postage is paid!

To request your Vote-by-Mail ballot or to renew your request for the 2020 federal, state, and local elections, visit [www.Lee.Vote](http://www.Lee.Vote)



Lee County Elections



Lee\_Elections



@LeeSCEPIO

[www.LEE.VOTE](http://www.LEE.VOTE)

(239) 533-8683



## USS Hannah Chapter, Alva Daughters of the American Revolution



A few years ago the USS Hannah Chapter, Daughters of the America Revolution Chapter (DAR) took to doing cleaning and refurbishing of veterans graves at The Alva Cemetery. Some grave stones needed cleaning just to be able to read the names and others were so overgrown with weeds and ant hills they were difficult to find. In 2018, our chapter began working with Wreaths Across America to get donations for wreaths to be placed on each veteran's grave to honor them for their service and

sacrifice to our country. We would like your help to be sure we honor all veterans buried at Alva Cemetery. In fact, at the 2019 Wreaths Across America Nation Day, we received 5 more names to get to the number of 130 now. You can contact me and let me know a name and I will check my list and make sure the person is listed. If you know the location of the grave, section and row, that is also helpful. Some gravestones don't have an indication of military service. Thank you for helping us honor all of Alva's veterans. Georgette Lundquist, [jglundy7@gmail.com](mailto:jglundy7@gmail.com)

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*Southwest Florida Cooking by*

*MAGGIE McMann*

*of Oak Park, Alva*

Contact Maggie to find out more at: [Maggi1rn@att.net](mailto:Maggi1rn@att.net)

## *Grilled Scallops A la Ft Myers*

Grilled Wild Caught Sea Scallops with  
Lemon Salsa Verde

8 giant scallops thawed and dry

1/2 tsp Everglades seasoning

1/4 tsp salt

1/4 tsp pepper

Pinch of paprika Pinch of cayenne

Oil a grill mat and place on grill.

Combine seasonings and sprinkle on both  
sides of scallops as you grill them.

Grill first side for four minutes, turn and  
Grill scallops at least 2 minutes Linger,  
check for doneness and grill additional,  
checking every minute.

Lemon Salsa Verde

1/2 lemon (with peel), seeded

1/4 C (scant) Vidalia or sweet onion

2 garlic cloves

Pinch of Salt and pepper

1 tsp fresh or dried fresh cilantro

2 Tbsp chives

Place all in a food processor and chop until small pieces.

Remove to a small bowl and add 1/3 c virgin olive oil to the chopped and mix.





**Calusa Waterkeeper is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the Caloosahatchee River & Estuary in Southwest Florida.**

**Join  
Our  
Team!**



**Become a Certified Ranger**

Participants should have access to area waters by boat or paddle craft. No prior experience needed. Classes held at the Calusa Nature Center, Iona House. [info@calusawaterkeeper.org](mailto:info@calusawaterkeeper.org) 239) 784-0880



## **JUST BE KIND**

Polly Kiely of Alva was inspired to begin an Alva sign movement when she learned of a Central Indiana youth project started in 2015.

To find out more about Polly's local efforts and how you may become a part of them contact Polly at: [pbkiely@embarqmail.com](mailto:pbkiely@embarqmail.com)



### **Your RIVERDALE LIBRARY**

**Location: 2421 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL**



Hours: Tuesday (Noon-8), Wednesday and Thursday (10-6), Friday and Saturday (9-5), Closed Sundays and Mondays Contact: 239-533-4370, Branch Manager: Alyssa Diekman. For more information, please visit us at [www.leelibrary.net](http://www.leelibrary.net) or call 239-479-INFO.

#### **COVID-19 Update**

**"For the most up-to-date information regarding the Lee County Library System's current hours and operations, please visit [leegov.com/library](http://leegov.com/library) or call us at 239-479-4636."**



**Alva Angel's** Giving back to the families of our community

Please like us on Facebook Alva Angels, LLC for more information.

# ALVA Garden Club NEWS

*'Written by Mary Bond, friend and member of the Alva Garden Club'.*



This month the Alva Garden Club features Lynda Boyd Bush and her gardens. Lynda's family is fifth generation Lee County. Lynda's mother, Grace Dyess Boyd, and grandmother, Beulah Handley Dyess, were members of the Alva Library Association, the group that owns the museum; and of the Alva Garden Club which cares for the museum. Lynda has now taken her mother's place with the Alva Library Association and is also an active member of the Alva Garden Club.

Lynda says the following about her garden: "My garden has been 16 years in the making. Wild Orchids grow in my oak trees along with the ferns and mosses. They bloom in June. The one pictured has been in my tree for several years. If you find one, you should tie it to the tree with fishing line and wait for the show. I love the flowers on the orchids but not the care. Since my mother passed away, I have cared for the orchids not much. One day I told the orchids 'you have a choice to live or die'. Guess they showed me a thing or two! This past winter and spring, some bloomed twice. Some others live on the fence under the cedar trees. I give them some food from time to time and thank them for the beautiful show!"



*Wild Orchids*

The plant of choice to cover the fencing in the yard is Copperleaf. They make beautiful covering. The leaves are many colors, shapes, sizes and grow 5 to 8 feet in height. They have survived freezes to the ground, hurricanes that ripped the leaves off and are still going strong. Some of my neighbors added these to their landscape.

The Desert Rose is a succulent. They are easy to care for and bloom twice a year. The blooms can be white to shades of pink to red. There are lots of hybrids that produce various colors. The plants need to be replanted every few years, both for growth and to give the root ball space to grow. The Desert Rose puts out seed pods that look like green bean horns (see picture). They pop open and the seeds are covered with a spider like web. When they are ready, they will fly away like milkweed. They can be rooted with cuttings and planted in the ground."



*Desert Rose*

The Alva Garden Club will have its first regular meeting of the 2020-21 year in October, provided the Alva Library and Museum is open and we are past the Covid-19 pandemic. The new board of officers is planning exciting programs and speakers.

Club meetings will be posted on the club's new website:  
[www.AlvaGardenClub.org](http://www.AlvaGardenClub.org). New members are always welcome!

## The ALVA MUSEUM

A visit worth your time!

in the historic Alva Library Building,  
one of the oldest library buildings in  
existence anywhere in Florida

the Alva Garden Club, invites you to  
contact them (see website above) for  
a private tour of the museum or to  
visit during open hours, October  
through May any Saturday afternoon,  
2 to 4 pm.



[www.alvaflmuseum.com](http://www.alvaflmuseum.com)

**The Museum will be closed until October 2020 due to COVID 19**



**All planned activities will only happen under safe  
government guidelines**





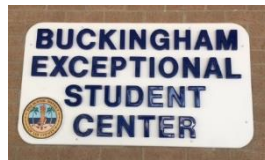
Lee County's newest professional theatre is located at The Shell Factory & Nature Park, North Fort Myers. Directions can be obtained by Googling Players Circle Theatre. Parking is free. Reservations for all performances may be obtained by calling 239-800-3292 or clicking on

[www.PlayersCircle.org](http://www.PlayersCircle.org)

**FALL 2020/Winter-Spring 2021 shows will appear here when announced**

# Alva Area Lee County Schools

**Alva, Buckingham, River Hall, and Riverdale**



## #RUReady?

### FutureMakers Success Series

# LIVE WEBINARS

**#stayready**

**September 10th**  
Testing: How 2 Prepare 4 ACT, SAT & PERT

**October 15th**  
College Applications: What U Need 2 Know

**November 12th**  
FAFSA: Accessing Free College Money

**December 10th**  
Scholarships: Tips & Tricks on Local, State & National

**January 14th**  
Mental Health: Living Your Best Life

**February 11th**  
Career Pathways: Finding Your Career

**March 10th**  
Academic Planning: Determine Your High School Options

**April 14th**  
Award Letters & Budgeting: How 2 Fund Your College Experience

**EVENT DETAILS:**  
2nd Tuesday of the month,  
7:00-8:00 pm

Join us each month for an informative live video webinar where numerous higher education and community organizations discuss topics that are important to families navigating the high school to college process.

**REGISTRATION DETAILS:**  
Registration is FREE  
Registration provides you access to the live webinars to ask your questions or to access the replay at your convenience.

[www.unmaze.me/webinars](http://www.unmaze.me/webinars)

**SPONSORS:** FutureMakers Coalition

## CLASSES for ADULTS 2020

AFFORDABLE. ENGAGING. FUN.

Arts Series	<b>ACRYLIC PAINTING</b>	<b>DRAWING</b>	<b>FAMILY ART</b> CREATE & THRIVE! CELEBRATE YOUR ART TOGETHER!	<b>HAND BUILDING WITH CLAY</b>	<b>WATERCOLOR PAINTING</b>	<b>WATERCOLOR &amp; THE ART OF JAPANESE BRUSH PAINTING</b>
Health Series	<b>BLS/CPR</b> MAKES LIFE SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS CERTIFICATE INCLUDED	<b>FITNESS EVOLUTION</b> PERSONALIZED EXERCISE & GROUP SETTING	<b>FITNESS EVOLUTION REFRESHER</b> PERSONALIZED EXERCISE & GROUP SETTING	<b>GET FIT GET FIRM</b>	<b>MEDITATION</b> MINDFULNESS	Various Locations in Lee County

## Register TODAY!

# WWW.LEESCHOOLS.NET/LLC

Language Series	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE</b>	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FOR FAMILIES</b>	<b>CONVERSATIONAL CREOLE</b>	<b>CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH</b>	<b>ITALIAN</b> BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED	<b>ITALIAN CONVERSATION</b>
<b>CONVERSATIONAL MANDARIN CHINESE</b>	<b>SPANISH</b> VARIOUS LEVELS	<b>CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH</b>	AVIATION FOR THE BEGINNER & BEYOND	<b>CITIZENSHIP CLASSES</b>	<b>COMMUNITY BAND</b>	<b>INTERCULTURAL PARENTAL CONTROL</b>
<b>History: the 1960's</b>	<b>PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL</b>	Technology Series	<b>AADOBE PHOTOSHOP</b>	<b>AUTOCAD DRAFTING SOFTWARE</b>	<b>COMPUTER BASICS</b>	<b>INTERCULTURAL PARENTAL CONTROL</b>
<b>DIGITAL MARKETING</b>	<b>HOW TO USE MY ANDROID DEVICE</b>	<b>MICROSOFT EXCEL</b>	<b>MICROSOFT OFFICE FOR BEGINNERS</b>	<b>WEB DESIGN</b>	Culinary Series	<b>BBQ SMOKING</b>

Adult Enrichment Classes for Every Interest  
239-939-6321

Grace UMC, Fort Myers  
Shores  
Second Saturday Free Meal  
& Food Pantry, 9-11am  
239-205-3123

## Alva Area FOOD PANTRIES

St. Vincent DePaul RC  
Our Lady's Cupboard Food Pantry  
Breakfast cereal and canned fruit continue to be  
needed in Our Lady's Cupboard Food Pantry. Call  
(239) 694-3985 for hours open.

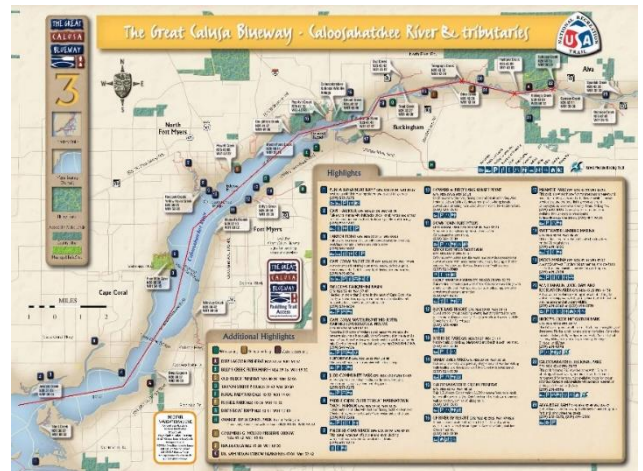
Charleston Park Comm Ctr  
239-728-8895  
FOOD PANTRY  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday at 10am-1pm

ALVA UMC  
Food Pantry @ Bethany House  
Food Pantry: 9am-12pm 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays  
239-728-2277



Trail information is at  
[www.calusablueway.com](http://www.calusablueway.com) or  
[www.leeparks.org/blueway](http://www.leeparks.org/blueway).

The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail is a 190-mile marked canoe and kayak trail that meanders through the coastal waters and inland tributaries of Lee County, Florida. It attracts everyone from first-time kayakers to advanced paddlers and is home to abundant marine life, shore birds and crustaceans.



**SWFL CRIME STOPPERS**  
**SAY IT HERE!**  
**WHY?**  
 We guarantee anonymity!  
 We pay cash rewards.  
**HOTLINE: 1-800-780-TIPS**  
**CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A TIP**  
DOWNLOAD OUR P3 TIPS MOBILE APP FOR FREE

SWFL Crime Stoppers is NOT a substitute for calling 9-1-1. In the event of an emergency, please call 9-1-1. Those who submit a tip are called "tipsters" and will remain 100% anonymous. No caller ID. No recorded lines. No tracking of phone calls. We want your

information, not your name!

Put simply it is a three-part approach to solving the crime problem. SWFL Crime Stoppers relies on cooperation between our community, the media, and law enforcement to provide a flow of information about crime, wanted fugitives and suspicious activities.



## Mission

Volunteer Florida strengthens Florida's communities through national service, fostering volunteerism and leveraging resources.

<https://volunteer.volunteerflorida.org/>

### **General Guidelines for Volunteers during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- DO NOT attempt to volunteer for any activity if in the last 14 days you have:
    - o Traveled to any foreign country or to California, Washington, New York, Washington D.C., or Chicago (this list may change on short notice)
    - o Been on a cruise or been in an airport
    - o Been around anyone who has COVID-19
    - o Been to an event where more than 250 people were in attendance
  - DO NOT show up to volunteer for any activity without confirming that there is a need for the activity, that it will be conducted, and that volunteer support is needed and expected.
  - DO go to Volunteer Connect and register your capabilities and availability or find volunteer opportunities that may be available in your area.
  - BEFORE arriving for a volunteer shift, call ahead to the service agency and ask if any additional safety precautions should be taken before, during and after the shift.
  - ALLOW extra time for additional screening from volunteer organizations or agencies to make sure you are cleared to volunteer for the task.
  - EXPECT that shifts or opportunities may be cancelled; especially volunteer opportunities working with the vulnerable populations. Please be gracious and understanding.
  - DO practice universal infection control precautions. Clean and wash your hands before, during, and after volunteering.
  - DO clean any used spaces thoroughly before and after, including table top surfaces and door knobs/handles.
  - DO use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) if needed for the task.
  - DO maintain 6-10 foot separation from others while conducting the task.
  - ASK about any risk that may be associated with the task and DO NOT take part if you are uncomfortable with the level of risk.
-





Effective immediately, persons who are experiencing homelessness (living outside, in a car, or other place not meant for human habitation) and seeking permanent housing resources in the Lee County CoC should contact 239-533-7900, and select options 1, 5, then 3, to complete a Coordinated Assessment.

**Stay up to date on the CARES Act and Lee County's allocation planning. Click below to full the full powerpoint from the Lee County Board of County Commissioners:**

**<https://www.leehomeless.org/cares-act-coronavirus-relief-fund/>**

Please remember that due to Covid-19 ALL agencies are altering operations to ensure the health of clients and staff. Wait times for referrals, call backs, and access to housing and services will be longer than usual. Please remain patient and in communication as we work through these changes.

When normal operations are resumed persons experiencing homelessness can complete the assessment in the following ways:

By Phone: 239-533-7900 – Options 1, 5, then 3 (Mon-Fri 8am-5pm)

In-Person with Outreach Staff

In-Person at CCI (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday from 8am-12)

Veterans may also access the Coordinated Entry System at:

Jewish Family and Children's Services via phone 941-366-2224 extension 628 (Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:00pm)

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**ALVA PICKUP CAB**



**AIR CONDITIONER**





## Hurricane season is here



Florida has 1,197 miles of coastline, and all of its cities are within 75 miles of the coast. There are no areas in Florida immune to the forces of a hurricane. If a hurricane strike becomes imminent, it will be imperative that you are prepared and informed both before and after the storm.

Have a Plan – Prior to the threat of a disaster, families can create a personalized Family Disaster Plan at [FloridaDisaster.org/GetaPlan](http://FloridaDisaster.org/GetaPlan). This site provides checklists and important steps to take before, during, and after the disaster. The plan should also address the issue of pets. If you anticipate needing transportation or any specialized assistance, register now with your county emergency management agency.

Generator-Powered Gas Stations – Know which gas stations have been identified as having access to generator power during emergencies. The presence of generator power DOES NOT indicate that the station will be open for business or able to dispense fuel.

Price-Gouging – In the wake of a natural disaster, essential commodities may be in short supply. When an executive order is issued by the Governor declaring a state of emergency in Florida, you can call the Florida Attorney General’s Price Gouging Hotline at 866-966-7226 to report possible violations.

Home Repair – A frequent problem after a disaster is “fly-by-night” contractors who take deposits before starting work or final payments before finishing. If your home is in need of repair, check each contractor’s address, license, and complaint history by calling the Department of Business and Professional Regulation at (850) 487-1395 or by visiting their website at [MyFloridaLicense.com](http://MyFloridaLicense.com). Be cautious of repair businesses or individuals who solicit door-to-door, arrive in unmarked vehicles, or claim they are from another area and are here solely to help disaster victims.

Food Safety – Keep in mind that food and water may be contaminated by floodwaters. Get safety tips at [www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Food-Safety](http://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Food-Safety).

Generator Safety – Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning device inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Keep these devices outdoors, away from doors, windows, and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors.

Insurance – Call your insurance agent to verify any messages or robocalls you receive about your insurance or insurance premiums after the storm. Landlord/Tenant – If you live in a rental property that is damaged by a storm, you need to know your rights and responsibilities and those of your landlord. Visit [Landlord/Tenant Law](#) for more information or refer to Florida’s Landlord/Tenant Law, Chapter 83, Part II, Florida Statutes.

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## Some of our local ALVA area churches:

St. Vincent DePaul's RC Church

13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33905

[www.stvincentftmyers.org](http://www.stvincentftmyers.org)

239-693-0818

Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96

Alva, FL 33920

[Alvamc@embargmail.com](mailto:Alvamc@embargmail.com)

[www.ouralvachurch.org](http://www.ouralvachurch.org)

239-728-2277

Alva Church of God

21520 Park St, Alva, Florida 33920

239-728-2644

Liberation International Church

Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL 33920,

239-601-4870

New Hope Faith Temple of Jesus Christ

23210 Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL, 33920

239-770-4974

Buckingham Presbyterian Church

4241 Buckingham Road

Fort Myers, 33905

2219 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL 33920

239-694-2444

First Spanish Assembly of God Church

239-728-5440

Countryside Wesleyan Church

17750 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL 33920

239-368-3270

Calvary Church

19850 Palm Beach Blvd

Alva, FL 33920

[www.calvarychurchswfl.org](http://www.calvarychurchswfl.org)

239-728-5566

First Baptist Church of Alva

2790 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

[www.alvabaptist.com](http://www.alvabaptist.com)

239-728-2034

Grace United Methodist Church, Ft Myers Shores

14036 Matanzas Drive, Ft Myers, Florida 33905

[www.egracechurch.com](http://www.egracechurch.com)

239-694-2797

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14531 Old Olga Road,

Fort Myers, FL 33905

[www.blcefm.org](http://www.blcefm.org)

239-694-3878

# RECOVERY Groups in the Alva Area



**Types of 12 Step Programs in Lee County, FL:** Because Alcoholics Anonymous was exclusive to people who struggled with alcohol addiction, a vast array of other programs were formed to aid and support those in recovery from other addictive disorders. These include the following groups:

Any type of group you do not find listed below may be sought at this website:

<https://www.addicted.org/directory/category/lee-county-3.html>

**Before going to the meeting, confirm time and place by phone**

## ALVA:

**Alva Community Center**, 21471 N River Rd, Alva, FL 33920

-AA Way, 8pm Wednesdays, Big Book, OPEN

**St. Matthews House**, Cypress Creek & North River (rte 78) Roads, Alva

Jill's Place (for women) AND Justin's Place (for men), 239-687-7633 or [intake@stmatthewshouse.org](mailto:intake@stmatthewshouse.org).

<https://stmatthewshouse.org/whatwedo/justinsplace/jills-place-retreat-center>

## FORT MYERS SHORES:

**Grace UMC**, Fort Myers Shores, (239) 694-2797, 4036 Matanzas Dr, Fort Myers:

-AA Open Disc: Mon, Wed, Fri, 12pm, office

-AA men: Mon, 7pm, office

-AA Women: Tues, 7pm, office

-Nar-Anon: Wed, 6:30pm, Family Room

-AA Open Disc: Thu, 8pm, Connections Cafe

-AL Anon: Fri, 12pm, Classroom 2

-AA Open Speaker: Sat, 7pm, Connection Cafe

-NA: Sat, 6:30pm, Classroom 2

-NA Step: Sun, 6pm, Classroom 2

-CHOOSE RECOVERY: 6:00pm, Grace UMC Shores  
Facebook Page LIVE until COVID-19 is under control.

**St. Vincent De Paul RC**, 13031 Palm Beach Blvd, Fort Myers:

-Fort Myers Shores Group OStAH – Tuesday, 8:00 pm

Calvary Assembly of God, 11431 Palm Beach Blvd, Fort Myers:

-Night Owls OD – Saturday, 10:05 pm

## LEHIGH ACRES:

**-AA SUNRISE GROUP - MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS 7AM**

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**LEHIGH ACRES (cont):**

**-AA MONDAY AT A TIME - MONDAY 6:30PM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA CHAIR'S CHOICE - TUESDAY 6:30PM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA SPIRITUAL SEARCH GROUP - TUESDAY 8PM**

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA THIRSTY THURSDAYS - THURSDAY 6:30PM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA HERE AND NOW- SUNDAY 6:30PM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres, 33971,

(239) 275-5111

**-NA HOPE WITHOUT DOPE - THURSDAY & SATURDAY 6:30PM**

705 Leland Heights Blvd. E., Lehigh Acres,

(866) 819-5346

**-AA LEHIGH SUNDAY NIGHT - SUNDAY 8PM**

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE - FRIDAY 6:30PM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AL ANON MOVING FORWARD AFG - MONDAY 10AM**

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(888) 425-2666

**-AA FIRST THINGS FIRST - MON-SUN 7AM**

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**-AA NOONERS - MON-SUN 12PM**

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

**LABELLE:**

**Good Shepherd Church, (239) 275-5111, 1098 Collingswood Pkwy, Labelle**

-AA-PORT LABELLE GROUP – ODH- SUNDAY 7PM

-MAKING THE EFFORT -OLbHD- MONDAY 7:00 PM

-AS BILL SEES IT- OD- SATURDAY 9:00AM

-WED BIG BOOK GROUP- OBBH- WEDNESDAY NOON

-OPEN DISCUSSION -ODH- FRIDAY 7:00PM

**First Christian Church, Rte 29 & Ford Ave, LaBelle**

-LABELLE GROUP-ODAH- THURSDAY 7:00PM

-STEP GROUP-Cst- TUESDAY 7:00PM

**-AI Anon- AFG - THURSDAY 7PM**

138 Ford Ave, Labelle

(888) 425-2666

**-AA-THURSDAY 7PM**

138 Ford Ave, Labelle

(239) 275-5111

**-AA-MEETING AT THE INN - WEDNESDAY 7:15PM**

Port LaBelle Inn, 1568 Oxbow Dr, Labelle

(239) 275-5111

**NOT TODAY - MONDAY 6:00PM**

133 N Bridge St, Labelle

(866) 819-5346

**IF you know of any other 12 step or non-12 step recovery group in the Alva area (From Hendry County Line to Fort Myers Shores, north and south of our river) please let me know its name, location and the phone number for information to list here. Thank you! [kendewalt@ontheriver.org](mailto:kendewalt@ontheriver.org)**

**LEE COUNTY  
EMERGENCY**

**& SERVICE CONTACT INFORMATION**

ACT-Abuse Shelter (Domestic Violence) 939-3112  
 Addiction Services (Salus Care) 332-6989  
 Alcoholics Anonymous 275-5111  
 Ambulance (emergency) **9-1-1**  
 Animal Services 533-3353  
 Citizens Dispute (Mediation) 533-2885  
 Chamber of Commerce SW Fla. 275-2102  
 Child Abuse 800-962-2873  
 Child Support Enforcement 877-769-0251  
 Clerk of Courts 533-5000  
 Code Enforcement 533-8895  
 Clear Point Credit Counseling 278-3121  
 County Commission 533-2259  
 Dead Animal Removal 949-6246  
 Division of Motor Vehicles 533-6000  
 Dept of Transportation-County 533-8580  
 Drug Abuse (Salus Care) 275-3222  
 Economic Crimes Unit 258-3240  
 Elder Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873  
 Elder Helpline United Way 2-1-1  
**Emergencies 9-1-1**  
 Fraud Line (LCSO) 258-3287  
 Health Department 332-9647  
 Humane Society (Gulf Coast) 332-0364  
 Lee County Transit (Lee Tran) 533-8726  
 Mental Health (Salus Care) 275-3222  
 Legal Aid 334-6118  
 Libraries 479-4636  
 Parks & Recreation 533-7275  
 Poison Information Center 800-222-1222  
 Probation Office (County) 533-9199  
 Probation Office (State) 338-2349  
 Public Defender 533-2911  
 Red Cross 278-3401  
 School Board 334-1102  
 School Transportation/Bus Barn 590-4000  
 Social Security Administration 800-772-1213  
 State Attorney 533-1000  
 Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255  
 Supervisor of Elections 533-8683  
 Tax Collector 533-6000  
 Veterans Services Office 800-827-1000

**Lee County Sheriff's Office Headquarters**  
 14750 Six Mile Cypress Pkwy  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33912 477-1000

**North District Substation**  
 121 Pondella Road  
 N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903 477-1810

**East District Substation**  
 1301 Homestead Road North  
 Lehigh Acres, FL 33936 477-1820

**West District Substation**  
 15650 Pine Ridge Road  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33908 477-1830

**South District Substation**  
 8951 Bonita Beach Road #565  
 Bonita Springs, FL 34135 477-1840

**Bonita Springs Substation**  
 10520 Reynolds St  
 Bonita Springs, FL 34135 477-1140

**Central District Substation**  
 14750 Six Mile Cypress Pkwy.  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33912 477-1850

**Gulf Substation 282-5766**

**Lee County Jail (inmate information)**  
 2115 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33901 477-1500

**Civil Process**  
 2072 Victoria Avenue  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33901 477-1353

**Lee County Gun Range**  
 6570 Felix Romano Avenue  
 Fort Myers, FL 33905 690-3999

**Community Relations 258-3280**  
**Fraud Line 258-3292**

**Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)**  
 2115 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33901 344-5100

**FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT**

Fort Myers Police 321-7700  
 Cape Coral Police 574-3223  
 Sanibel Police 472-3111  
 Port Authority Police 590-4810  
 Florida Highway Patrol 278-7100  
 Federal Bureau of Investigations 337-7171  
 Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) 275-3662  
 Fla. Department of Law Enforcement 278-7080  
 Federal Government Info. Center 800/688-9889  
 Fish & Wildlife Commission 863-648-3200



"Fostering a safe community to live, play and work."

## ***Practicing Water Safety Is Important to Everyone***

Summer is here. That means people will be having a good time on the water—whether it's swimming or being on some kind of boat! Lee County has one of the highest numbers of boat-related deaths in the state. The Injury Prevention Coalition of Lee County reminds everyone that water safety should be practiced.

In 2012, 71 percent of all fatal boating accident victims drowned, and of those who drowned, 85 percent were not wearing a life jacket. Drowning is the leading cause of injury-related death among children between one and four years. It's the third leading cause of death among children. Here are a few basic tips from Safe Kids Worldwide to keep you safe:

- Teach children how to swim, tread water, and float.
- Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a pool.
- Teach children how to swim in case they're caught up in a rip tide.
- Always wear a life jacket when on boats, around open bodies of water.
- Make sure the life jacket fits properly.
- Babies should not travel on a boat until they are the appropriate weight to wear an approved life jacket.
- Swimming aids such as water wings or noodles are fun toys but should not be used in place of life jackets.
- Get a vessel safety check each year for free from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron.

A large portion of boating accidents involve alcohol consumption so neither boat operators nor passengers should drink. It would be wise to learn CPR. Teach children not to dive into bodies of water because you never know what might be hidden under the surface.



Every child is different but they should never be left alone in or around water. Babies can drown in as little as one inch of water.

<http://www.leecountyinjuryprevention.org/>

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*Special thanks to all who financially support the mission of*

***ON THE RIVER.***

*We especially encourage our readers to patronize the professional and community supporters who advertise below.*

# WE WRITE ALL HOMES INCLUDING OLDER HOMES!!

## INTEGRITY INSURANCE AGENCY



128 W. Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950



INTEGRITY INSURANCE AGENCY



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