ISSUE 37, Feb 2022. 1300+ subscribers Archives & MORE at www.ontheriver.org Ken DeWalt, publisher

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On the RIVER

Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS

TO SUBSCRIBE, offer articles, or to contact the publisher/editor with any questions, email Ken DeWalt <u>kendewalt@ontheriver.org</u>. The deadline for receipt of any materials is the 15th of the month previous to the month you wish the articles to run. Issues go out before the 1st of each

month, and are subject to possible editing.

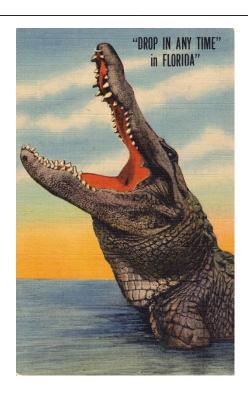
See our commercial advertising terms on the last page of this newsletter. We encourage all subscribers to consider patronizing the paid advertisers. Their support of our mission helps us provide you with this local Alva area newsletter.

<u>www.ONTHERIVER.ORG</u> Archive of all OTR newsletters and lots more, all FREE including a link to <u>www.ALVAFL.org/newsletter</u> to see previous Alva INC newsletters archived since 2010

PLEASE CONTACT any event sponsor promoted in the ON THE RIVER newsletter to check their latest plan for dealing with the ongoing COVID VIRUS PANDEMIC

FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- -LOCAL Alva area news
- -LOCAL land development news
- -LOCAL history
- -LOCAL Community services
- -LOCAL club and organization news
- -LOCAL recipes and health tips
- -LOCAL safety & health information





ALVA INC Moves forward with the BIG shoes of a little woman to fill

On Tuesday January 11 the Alva INC board met with several ALVA INC members and Frank Mann, our Lee County Commissioner. This was the second meeting of ALVA INC since the death of the group's long-time leader, Ruby Daniels.

Ruby was remembered once more as the kind, firm, fair, intelligent and knowledgeable care-taker of Alva's desire to remain rural throughout her many years of leadership.

There was no presentation scheduled by any developers or engineers. The group did have a general conversation about several upcoming presentations expected for the February meeting about the Packinghouse Road event venue, formerly the Woodman's Club house ,and the proposed Take Out only restaurant on Joel next to 23rd St Produce on Joel.

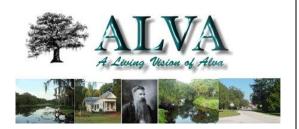
Connie Dennis, the ALVA INC secretary, led the meeting and treasurer Emily Hull-Smith reported the hope that more Alva residents would join ALVA INC with an annual \$25.00 voting membership per household. Alva residents may become members by emailing Emily Hull-Smith at Info@AlvaFL.org.

The board has taken Frank Mann's advice and created a Nominating Committee to identify Alva residents to ask to be nominated to the board of directors. The election is set for the May ALVA INC meeting, by their bylaws.

Frank Mann shared that with the thousands of new residents coming to Lee County every year we can expect developers to plan farther and farther east as western land becomes more expensive and rarer. He sees ALVA INC's role as one of keeping "Constant Vigilance" so that any development we might have to see nearer to Alva Village will be planned as well as possible for our natural resources of plants and animals, and our personal desire to keep as much of Alva rural as we can. As Mr. Mann said, "This battle to retain a rural environment for Alva will only get more difficult as time passes."

ALVA INC, At the Alva Community Center.

ZOOM access will be available for those who are unable to attend, or desire to stay at home during the pandemic.



Info@AlvaFl.org WEBSITE

www.ALVAFL.org

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday February 8, 2022, 7pm, Alva Community Center



River Hall Corporation

Seeking to expand currently accepted amount of highdensity housing on campus

All Alva area residents invited to attend this information gathering meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICE RIVER HALL COMPREHENSIVE MAP AMENDMENT, REZONING, ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT ORDER AMENDMENTS COMMUNITY MEETING PUBLIC MEETING DATE: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. LOCATION: River Hall Town Hall Amenity Center, 3089 River Hall Parkway, Alva, FL 33920 APPLICANT: Barraco & Associates, Inc.

Nine different PROJECT NAMES: 1. River Hall Map Amendment - CPA2021-00016 2. River Hall Rezoning 3. River Hall Administrative Amendment - ADD2021-00197 4. Development Order South Crossing -DOS2019-00071-A01 5. Development Order Parcel L 6. Development Order Parcel H - DOS2005-00182 7. Development Order Parcel C - DOS2020-00036 8. Development Order Parcel Z - DOS2005-00182 9. Hampton Lakes South Phase 2 ACTION REQUESTED: 1. River Hall Map Amendment (CPA2021-00016): Amend Future Land Use Map to increase the Suburban and Outlying Suburban designations and decrease the Sub-Outlying Suburban and Rural designations 2. River Hall Rezoning: Rezone to add 489 dwelling units and 10 acres, concurrent with the River Hall Map Amendment 3. River Hall Administrative Amendment (ADD2021-00197): Revise Master Concept Plan with alternate internal layout for un-platted property and minimum singe family lot width of 40.5 feet 4. Development Order South Crossing (DOS2019-00071-A01): Amendment to allow the southern connection across the LAMSID canal and roadway connection to 75th Street W. 5. Development Order Parcel L: Proposes ± 73 single family detached lots 6. Development Order Parcel H (DOS2005-00182): From 23 to 31 seventy-foot (70') lots 7. Development Order Parcel C (DOS2020-00036): From 19 single family lots to 30 twin villa or single family attached lots 8. Development Order Parcel Z (DOS2005-00182): From 36 condominiums to 28 twin villa or single family attached lots 9. Hampton Lakes South Phase 2: Develop remaining density and associated infrastructure NOTE: A second meeting will be provided at the end of the 6pm meeting if capacity is exceeded. FOR MORE INFO: Contact: Jennifer Sapen at Barraco & Associates, Inc. - JenniferS@Barraco.net AD# 5092937 1/21/22



Rules of the road: Where can and can't a golf cart go?

(TY News Press)

Is it a golf cart or a low-speed vehicle? That's a Good question, and one that could impact how and where you see it on Southwest Florida roads. With the number of golf courses and mobile home parks we

have in Lee County, it's hard to miss them. And while it can be difficult to notice the differences at a glance, it is important to understand how traffic laws and other regulations apply to them.

Fatal Golf Cart crash in North Fort Myers

For example, golf cart drivers need not be licensed while low-speed vehicle operators need licenses as

well as title, registration, and insurance. Golf carts have their own law. Golf carts are defined in section 320.01(22), Florida Statutes, as "a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 miles per hour." According to the law, drivers may operate them on roadways designated for golf carts with a posted speed limit of 30 mph or less. Golf carts may also cross a portion of a county road that intersects a roadway that is approved for golf carts, or that intersects a golf course or mobile home park. In both examples, the roadway should have signs posted that golf carts share the roadway.

Driving a golf cart on any public road is only allowed if that county or city has its own rules allowing them. Residential communities, gated or not, may have additional rules to follow which owners should check before operating these vehicles. For example, there are signs up showing that golf carts are allowed on the streets within the Whiskey Creek neighborhood in south Fort Myers. But once they leave the residential community, which has a golf course, there are also signs stating they are prohibited outside the entrance. Unlike cars and trucks, golf carts are not required to have a title or be registered with the state. They also don't have to be insured. Though insuring a vehicle that can cost anywhere from \$3,000 to in excess of \$15,000 may be a good idea for the owner.

Golf cart operators are also not required to have a driver's license; however, to operate a golf cart on designated public roadways, a person must be 14 or older. In Lee County, state laws are mostly enforced. However, the Lee County Commission did approve rules and restrictions that go beyond state law but allow golf carts on portions of the public roadways of Pine Island and Captiva Island. On Captiva, for example: No one can operate a golf cart on a designated county road without a valid driver's license.

No golf cart can go faster than 20 mph. Golf carts must have efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, a rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear at all times while operating on the designated roads. Golf carts can only be operated on the designated county roads between sunrise and sunset, unless otherwise designated by Lee County Department of Transportation. Golf carts equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and

windshields may operate at night, if nighttime operation is designated on that particular road by the county DOT.

In accordance with state law, a person who holds a driver's license and who is younger than 17, when operating a golf cart after 11 p.m. and before 6 a.m., must be accompanied by a driver who holds a valid license to operate the type of vehicle being operated and is at least 21, unless that person is driving directly to or from work.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office, which upholds state and county traffic laws, said golf carts can't be driven to commercial establishments even from golf cart-legal communities. Golf carts and low-speed vehicle operators are also subject to the state's texting/driving laws. I

If it's not a golf cart, what is it? Low-speed vehicles may look like golf cart, but there are important differences. Section 320.01(41), Florida Statutes, defines a low-speed vehicle as "any four-wheeled vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 mph, but not greater than 25 mph. "They must be registered, titled, and insured with personal injury protection and property damage liability insurance.



Any person operating one must have a valid driver's license in their possession. These vehicles may be operated only on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less and must be equipped with: Headlamps; Front and rear turn signals; Stop lamps; Tail lamps; Reflex reflectors, red — one on each side and one on the rear; Exterior mirror on the driver side and an interior rear-view mirror or exterior mirror on passenger side; Parking brake; Windshield; Seat belt for each designated seat; Vehicle identification number There are also rules for golf carts that are converted to low-speed vehicles. The converted golf cart must be street-legal before applying for title and registration.

Please drive safely, no matter what type of vehicle you steer.

ALVA'S OWN WATERMELON MAN



Ross Chastain

has a new car and company



Ross Chastain is driving the TRACKHOUSE team's new No. 1 Chevrolet coowned by former NASCAR driver Justin Marks and Grammy Award-winning recording artist Pitbull.

Seen recently at Daytona Ross's car has his signature watermelon slice painted just before the rear wheels.

Mr. Chastain's signature win act has been raising a melon above his head to honor his families Alva area watermelon farm. Then he smashes it to atoms in the winner's circle.

We hope you can smash a few more melons in 2022 Ross!

Oak Park Mobile Home Village



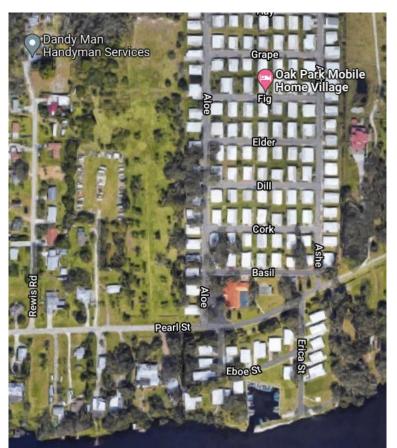
Still seeking final answer from Lee County on rezoning parcel to remain green space

Originally applied for on 05/17/2021 Oak Park Village MHPD, in Alva Village, has yet to make a final decision not on a development plan, but a NON-Development plan. This application

seeks to bring the current Oak Park Village that is zoned Mobile Home Conservation

Residential (MHC-1) into a unified MHPD with the two additional parcels zoned MHPD, which are zoned as undeveloped single-family lots and outdoor storage, all of which are under common ownership of the Oak Park Village Cooperative, Inc. Additionally, this request intends to codify past zoning conditions into the unified MHPD.





According to Oak Park Board President, John Shouwink, the process is moving along and the resident owned community expects a final approval sometime...soon.

The current green space under consideration to be rezoned lies at the east end of Pearl Street in Alva Village, on the north side of the street next to the drive-in entrance to Oak Park. It is currently used by the park as a single hole golf driving range, and dog walking area, and it is kept mowed and landscaped.

The open space to the left of the mobile home park is the area for which approval is sought.



We appreciate your consideration and any gift you give us to help have a successful league is GREATLY APPRECIATED! If you would like to pay by check or cash, please see a board member or fill out the available form from the following link:



http://alvababeruth.website.siplay.com/Site/More/Documents

If you would like to pay by credit card, please click the button below, which will take you to a log-in screen to enter our store and purchase the sponsorship level you so desire. A board member will follow up with you to verify the information to be placed on banner, website, and/or jersey (based upon sponsorship level)



Caloosa Humane Center 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle

SHELTER (863) 675-0997 CLINIC (863) 675-7387 info@caloosahumanesociety.org
https://caloosahumanesociety.org/

OUR MISSION

The Mission of Caloosa Humane Society is to serve, shelter, and protect the homeless pets in our care. We are dedicated to finding permanent and loving adoptive homes for our companion animals in need. Our no-kill facility provides low cost spay/neuter services to the community with the goal of reducing the extreme overpopulation of unwanted pets.



BABCOCK RANCH ECO TOURS, Museum and Gator Shack Restaurant Go to website to reserve tours



https://babcockranchecotours.com/

COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE

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

For more information on future Becoming Cosmopolitan events, contact Tami@communitycooperative.com or call 239-332-7687, ext. 125.



Next several pages

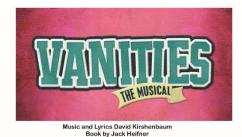
LABELLE AREA EVENTS FOR EVERYONE!

BARRON LIBRARY



at the Caloosahatchee Dock Park





(Musical) Chronicling the comic journey of three bubbly Texas teens from cheerleaders to sorority sisters to housewifes, liberated women and beyond. This tale of coming-of-age in the 60's and 70's is a snapshot of an era that had to be lived in to be believed.

<u>February</u> 11, 12, 13 & 18, 19, 20 2022

<u>Tickets</u> <u>CALL:</u> (863) 675-3066 (leave message)

posters by mike

firehouse community theatre



UNITED WAY OF HENDRY/GLADES PRESENTS

UW Cork Pull

LABELLE CHAMBER NIGHT ON THE TOWN

Feb 22, 6p-9p

from the jar. Each cork is assigned to a mystery bottle of wine. Wine values vary, but all are valued at \$20 or higher. All proceeds benefit United Way of Hendry/Glades.

Buy a cork.

Get a bottle.
Support United Way.

Must be 21 or older.
Wine cannot be opened on premises.





WATER WAYS

Free Exhibition

A Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Exhibition



Grand Opening March 5

Exhibition March 5 - April 30

"Water/Ways" will serve as a community meeting place to convene conversations about water's impact on American culture. It's a part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian and Florida Humanities.

SPEAKERS

Thursday, March 17 - Jack Davis Saturday, April 2 - Amy Bennett Williams Saturday, April 16 - State Rep Lauren Melo Saturday, April 23 - Steve Noll



Learn more at: WWW.DOWNTOWNLABELLE.COM









Funding for this program was provided through a grant from the Florida Humanities with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of Florida Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Exhibit location: Barron Library 461 N Main St, LaBelle, FL 33935 Get social with us!





The Alva Chapter USS Hannah, Daughters of the American Revolution



USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida

We would like your help to be sure we honor all veterans buried at Alva Cemetery. 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

USS Hannah Chapter, NSDAR is not a part of, or endorsed by, the Department of Defense

ROTARY

FORT MYERS EAST ROTARY CLUB

Fort Myers East Rotary Club enjoyed participating with Meals of Hope at Lee Civic Center in December. Along with hundreds of community volunteers, teams of ten worked

assembly lines filling plastic bags with oatmeal and spices, preparing thousands of easy to fix breakfasts for the needy in our community. It's always a fun project for Rotarians and their families and friends, with lots of laughter and camaraderie!



If you'd like more information about the Fort Myers East Rotary Club, call Ellen Erickson at 239-218-4789 or check us out on Facebook at Rotary Club of Fort Myers East. We meet every Wednesday at 7:30 AM for breakfast at Verandah Beef O'Brady's.

Please support those affected by the TORNADOES in SWFL in January. Many are without homes due to the storms. Please donate to the SWFL Relief Fund at collaboratory.org or call 211 for help. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those impacted.

SWFL Tornado Relief Fund

For those impacted by tornado devastation.

In partnership with United Way of Lee, Hendry & Glades Counties.





the Alva Library Museum

NOW OPEN EVERY SATURDAY 2-4 PM!!



Public Library, Alva

Originally a public library built in 1909, it now serves as a museum of artifacts

from the original settlers of Alva and is maintained by the dedicated members of the Alva Garden Club.

The museum is OPEN from 2-4 PM, and will continue to be open every Saturday through the end of May 2022.

Your docents are members of the Alva Garden Club who are anxious to guide you through the history of Alva. While you are there, stroll the lovely gardens maintained by club members which have been enhanced with fall chrysanthemums.

See a virtual video tour of the Museum at: http://alvaflmuseum.com (click on Virtual Tour).

For information about the Alva Garden Club, see: http://alvagardenclub.org.

SCORE Southwest Florida

3650 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966, (239) 931-9807, swflscore@amail.com

If you are dreaming of starting your own business, or needing to grow your current business, the local 30 plus SCORE volunteers and personal certified mentors are waiting for your call or email. And remember, our services are completely FREE. We volunteer to serve so YOU can succeed.

SCORE is a fully independent private 501-3C non-profit with accountability to and some funding from the SBA

SCORE Mentors... with experience in virtually every business category you can imagine help with:

- Business plan development, sales and marketing strategies
- Financing, taxes and E-commerce
- Management, administrative and operational procedures
- Ongoing advice to help your decision making

Life-Long Learning Made Easy

SCORE mentors, sponsors and local business owners with a specific areas of expertise conduct a variety of very popular, regularly scheduled, low-cost and free educational seminars and online workshops for establishing and managing a successful small business.

Free Resources

With access to a wide variety of documents, templates and tools to assist you in starting or growing your business, the information provided here covers a wide range of subjects including initial business planning, capital sources, government agencies, and much more.

14





JOB-LINK

https://expertjobmatch.com/cro/reg/goodwill?origin=bing-ads-search&type=cpc&msclkid=3e1c1e87bb021e31b6f5415c3d06719e&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=

Company%20%7C%20Retail%20-%20Clothing%20%7C%20Goodwill&utm_term=%2Bjobs%20%2Bat%20%2BGoodwill&utm_content=Jobs%20%7C%20BMM

Give TIME. Give MONEY.
Give FOOD.

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



Harry Chapin Food Bank is doing everything in our power to ensure that no one has to go hungry, especially during this unprecedented pandemic.

We will do our best to keep you all informed on where you can get food and how you can help.

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org.

Ft Myers Camera Club

http://www.ftmyercc.com/

Please NOTE: Our 2020-2021 meetings will be held





www.RichAndLaurieInSouthFlorida.com
Listen to the Podcast and
follow on Youtube, and more!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvcRaJr9jghdQOgsnU2B6Pw



Charleston Park Neighborhood Association

2541 Charleston Park Drive, Alva, FL 33920. 239-728-8895 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 are also available virtually via ZOOM.

The Garden Mural is completed!

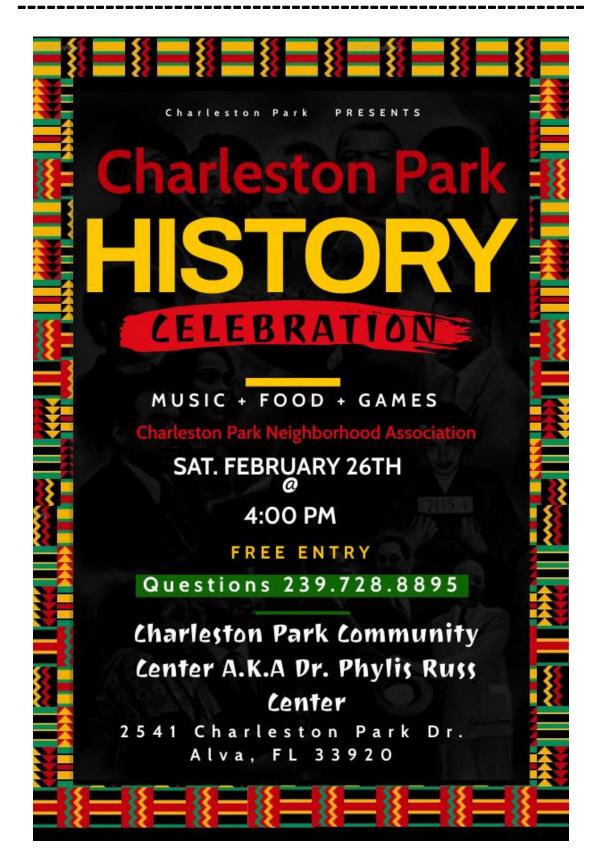


The garden will be planted in season.





MORE from Charleston Park:



Diabetes Self-Management and Support Program

I

Come out and learn more about how to manage your own or a loved-ones diabetes in a safe and supportive environment!



When:

February 2nd, 2022 from 10:00 am-11:00 am February 9th, 2022 from 10:00 am-11:00 am February 16th, 2022 from 10:00 am-11:00 am





Where:

Charleston Park Community Center

Address: 2451 Charleston Park Dr.

Alva, FL 33920

Phone: (239)-728-8895



The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail

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.

https://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/calusablueway

FREE Movie Night is just 2 weeks away! Bring a chair or blanket and join us for Frozen 2 on the field, Friday, February 4 at 7:00PM. Admission is free and concessions are only 50 cents each. We hope to see you there!



A bit of ALVA History

(TY Joanne Iwinsky Miller)

A timeline of ownership Of one of Alva's historic homes



House is on the far left in this old photo-Woody Hanson Photo

Transactions of Ownership of Home at 17340 Broadway St

1914: Peter Nelson sold Lot 8, 9, 10 & 5 in Block 10 of the Alva Subdivision to F M. Cox. It was recorded in Deed Book 41 Page 225.

It appears that R M Cox built the house that exists today at 17340 Broadway Street in 1920 on Lot 5 of Block 10.

1925: R. M. Cox and Alice Cox sold the home to Fort Myers developer S O Godman. (Lot 5 only). It was recorded in Deed Book 90 Page 331.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox, who sold their place in Alva to Mr. S. O. Godman of Fort Myers have moved to South Alva.

Mr. S. O. Godman of Fort Myers was in Alva Sunday looking after his property here.

1925 Fort Myers Newspress Alva News

May 1927: S O Godman and Maude Godman transferred the home back to R M Cox. It was recorded in Deed Book 110 Page 383

June 1927: R M Cox told the home to Orin B Sims and Clara Sims of NY. It was recorded in Deed Book 106 Page 208

Orin B Sims died in 1935 and Clara D Sims Died in 1940.

The property went to Flora Tomm. We assume this was a probate action and cannot be researched as the Clerk's Office does not have old probate records to search.

Orin Sims, Clara Sims and Flora Tomm are all buried in the same cemetery in Niagara County NY. It appears Flora was related to the Sims.

1940: Flora Tomm of Hotel Stadler in Buffalo NY transferred the home to Clarence Sims of Amhurst NY. It was recorded in Deed Book 140 Page 143. 1967: Clarence R Sims, widower sold the home to A Brent Golden for \$5,500. It was recorded in OR Book 393 Page 743.

1969: An Agreement for Deed between A Brent Golden and Vivian Golden to Percy T Collett and Leonie M Collett was issued and recorded in OR Book 519 Page 385.

1980: A Brent Golden transferred the title as a result of the Agreement for Deed to Dr Percy T Collett and Leonie Collett for \$5,500. It was recorded in OR Book 1436 Page 1416.

Once Dr Percy Collett got the deed from A Brent Golden, he flipped the house and made money.

1980: Dr Percy Collett and Leonie Collett sold the home to Nil Sandsmark and Christine Sandsmark of Bonita Springs for \$26,400. It was recorded in OR Book 1462 Page 2322. It appears the Sandsmark's could have rented the home out as they resided in Bonita Springs.

1989: Christine Sandsmark of Bonita Springs died at the age of 42

2000: Foreclosure action took place: Clerk of Court to Bankers Trust Company of California. Nils Sandsmark lost the home. It was recorded in OR Book 3218 Page 2067

2000: Bankers Trust Company of California sold the home to Joyce White for \$84,000. It was recorded in OR Book 3307 Page 1551

2003: Joyce White sold the home to Michael and Jennie Troutner for \$135,000. It was recorded in OR Book 3976 Page 460

2005: Michael and Jennie Troutner sold the home to Michael Samson for \$351,700. The prices of homes were unrealistic at that time during the boom. It was recorded in Instru# 2005000035139

2007: Foreclosure action took place: Clerk of Court to US Bank National Assoc. Michael Samson lost the home. It was recorded in Instru# 2007000189243

2008: US Bank National Assoc sold the home to Tommy and Tina Louise McCusiton of Clewiston for \$65,000. It was recorded in 2008000323523.

Researched by: Joanne Iwinski Miller (2017)

Southwest Florida Historical Society Volunteer

Resources: Clerk of the Circuit Court

Southwest Florida Historical Society

Woody Hanson Photo

Grismer's Story of Fort Myers

Original Plat can be view upon request at the Clerk of Court Office



Block 10, Lot 5



Today- The home with the red roof. The exterior is completely redesigned.



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 | <u>info@echonet.organce</u>



https://www.echonet.org

Dog Parks Near Me

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.



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



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



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

W.P Franklin Lock & Dam CAMPGROUND

Camp by reservation only





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



Alva Community Center PARK

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

Shady lawns & baseball field



Telegraph Creek: Unspoiled kayak trail

Telegraph Creek, a tributary of the Caloosahatchee River located between LaBelle and Fort Myers, is all the things I love about kayaking destinations — out-of-the-way, uncrowded, scenic, quiet and full of wildlife.



Caloosahatchee Regional Park



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

EMAIL: leeparks@leegov.com

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



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





ALVA FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE SERVICE

2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920 (239) 728-2223

Thank a first Responder every time you see them.

Alva Angel's



Giving back to the families of our community

Are you cleaning out your house and planning to donate the items you no longer want? Please consider donating those items to Alva Angel's. We can pick up small and large items and we will gift those items to people in need or sell the items to raise money for the upcoming holiday season to purchase wish list items.

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/AlvaAngelsOrganization



Lee County Conservation 20/20 manages over 50 preserves spread throughout Lee County, including within the boundaries of most cities. These preserves combined total nearly 30,000 acres.

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



Bob Janes Preserve



Daniel's Preserve at Spanish Creek



Carter's Lane



Buckingham Trails Preserve



Olga Shores Preserve



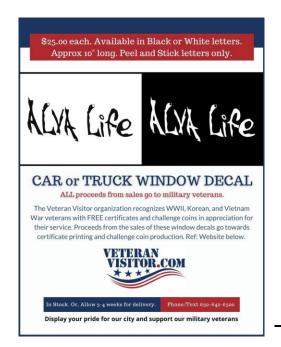
Newest area 20-20 site, Oak hammock



Alva Scrub Preserve



Telegraph Creek Preserve



Tell the world where your life is lived!



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.



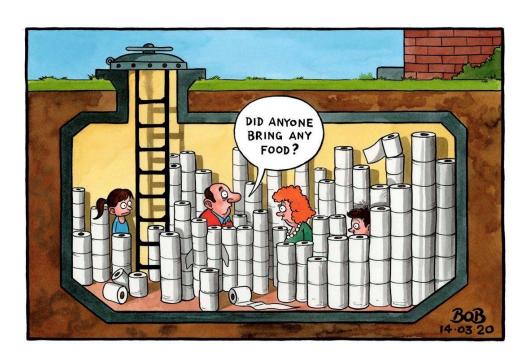
Mission

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

https://volunteer.volunteerflorida.org/



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.





Southwest Florida Cooking by MAGGIE McMann of Oak Park, Alva

Contact Maggie to find out more at: Maggi1rn@att.net

Florida Strawberry Cream Puffs

Cream Puffs are one of those things that look really hard and time consuming.... I'll let you in on a little secret if you've never made them...nothing could be easier or faster if you want to whip up an impressive dessert... or luncheon (chicken salad, ham salad, tuna salad.... divine)! I think it may have taken me 40 minutes, start to finish to do these.

Preheat oven to 400.

1 c water, 1/2 c butter (1 stick), 1/4 tsp salt, 1 c flour, 4 eggs

Bring water and butter to a boil in a saucepan. When boils, add the flour and salt all at once and stir rapidly, reducing heat to low...stir until it becomes a ball...which happens pretty quickly.

Transfer to a large mixing bowl. Beat in the eggs ONE at a time.... mixing each very well before adding the next. It should take about 5 minutes; the dough should be smooth and glossy.

I transfer the dough into a gallon zip lock and use it as a pastry bag.... snipping off a corner about 3/4 inch opening to pipe the dough onto the cookie sheet.



You will need 2 cookie sheets.... I use the mats or parchment paper... if not using, grease them.

Pipe or drop with a spoon 1/4 c dough, leaving 3-inch space around each puff. Once they are dropped, smooth the top by dipping your fingers in water, then smoothing them with fingers. Pop them into the oven and bake about 25 minutes or until browned.

Cool.

While they are baking, I make either a French Custard or a Whipping Cream filling. For these, I made the whipping cream:

Whip Cream Filling with Strawberries

2 c heavy cream, 1/4 c confectioner sugar, 1/2 tsp vanilla, 8 strawberries, hulled and crushed

Beat cream until thick. Add sugar and vanilla and beat to stiff peaks form. Fold gently the strawberries, avoiding the juice in the bowl until combined.

When the puffs are cool, split on one side, fill with the cream.

Dust tops with powdered sugar.

Makes 12.







Calusa Waterkeeper is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the Caloosahatchee and all waterways in Southwest Florida.



https://calusawaterkeeper.org/

Legislative Action Alert:

The Safe Waterways Act (SB 604) has yet to be heard in the Florida State Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Without this committee's support we may lose this legislation on fecal pollution.

Please call or email today to urge Chairman Jason Brodeur and the other committee members to advance this important bill.



Major William M. Footman Sons of Confederate Veterans

Camp 1950, Fort Myers, FL

Consider joining us at our monthly meeting every 4th Saturday at

Smoke'n Pit Bar-B-Q, 1641 N. Tamiami Trail, North Ft. Myers, Fl 33903

Lunch and fellowship - 11:00am, Meeting - 12:00pm

Brigade Commander: Sean McFall, Find out more about us at





We care for local grave sites of Confederate Civil War and United States veterans of all wars

https://www.camp1950.flscv.org/



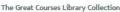
Since 1964



The Libby app provides access to Ctaffsy, The Great Courses Collection, and more - all for free with your Lee County library card! Please visit https://www.leegov.com/library/online to learn more.

Craftsy









Your RIVERDALE LIBRARY

Location: 2421 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL

EVERY SATURDAY, 12 noon till SOLD OUT except

the 4th Saturday of each month



These Fundraiser BBQ meals will be prepared and served at the corner of Eastbound Route 80 and First Street in front of the Charleston Park Community sign.



Your purchase, and all donations made, will help Liberation Church of Charleston Park to raise their goal of \$30,000.00 for building improvements and growth.

Donations beyond payment for your meal may be made at the BBQ , or by mailing checks to Liberation Church, PO Box 193, Alva FI, 33920

OR online through the



CASH APP

with the code:

\$Liberationoutreach09



South Florida Wildlands Association

is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of wildlife and habitat in the Greater Everglades.

https://www.southfloridawild.org/

https://www.facebook.com/sheriffleefl/



https://www.sheriffleefl.org/

ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE

We continue to collect towels (cloth and paper), disinfectant, disinfectant wipes, large trash bags, mops, buckets, squeegees,

bleach, laundry detergent, Dawn dishwashing liquid, dog and cat toys (especially toys for "heavy chewers"), harnesses, potty pads, dog and cat food, puppy replacement milk, cat litter, leashes, grooming supplies, large Nylabones, Kong toys, Isopropyl alcohol, Hydrogen peroxide, garden hoses and spray nozzles for our local animal rescues and shelters.

Donations can be dropped off at Crowther (located at 11791 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33966), Sun Sports Cycle & Watercraft (located at 3441 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33966) and at any of the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Centers located at Cape Coral (Brotherhood of Heroes Museum), 4522 Del Prado Blvd. South, Cape Coral, Florida 33904 (Hours of operation: Mon-Friday 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm), Downtown, 2125 First St. Suite 100, Fort Myers, Florida

33901 (Hours of operation: Monday – Sunday from 9am to 5 pm), Edison Mall, 4125 Cleveland Avenue, Suite 1930, Fort Myers, Florida 33901 (Hours of operation: Mon-Sat 11 am to 7 pm, Sunday 12 pm to 6 pm), Miromar Outlets, 10801 Corkscrew Rd. Suite # 190 Estero, Florida 33928 (Hours of operation: Mon-Sat 10 am to 7 pm, Sun 10 am to 6 pm).



Cape Coral Woman arrested for starving dogs



With the 2021 holiday season in the rearview, it's time for savvy

Consumers need to take stock and make sure their personally identifying information (PII) didn't become a Christmas gift for someone else.

Consumers make more purchases during the holiday season than they do at any other time of the year. This increased shopping activity combined with a tendency to be more distracted during the holidays puts consumers at a greater risk of falling victim to identity theft.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reported receiving 4.8 million identity theft and credit card fraud reports in 2020 totaling \$4.5 billion in consumer losses. Identity theft involves stealing a victim's PII, which can include name, address, Social

Security number, or other identifying numbers like medical insurance or credit card numbers. Identity thieves use PII to pretend to be someone else for

the purpose of committing fraud in that person's

name. They can use PII to do the following:

- Open a new credit card or loan
- Open new utilities accounts in your name
- Open a bank account and write bad checks
- Obtain a new mobile phone
- Obtain a new driver's license
- Rent an apartment
- Use the stolen PII if arrested





Alva Area FOOD PANTRIES

Grace UMC, Fort Myers Shores

Second Saturday Free Meal & Food Pantry, 8am to 2pm

CALL to RESERVE your FOOD

239-205-3123

ALVA UMC

Food Pantry @ Bethany House

Food Pantry: 9am-12pm 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

239-728-2277

Charleston Park Community Center

239-728-8895

FOOD PANTRY

2nd and 4th Friday at 10am-1pm

CALVARY NATIONS Church

19850 Palm Beach Boulevard, Alva

Every Saturday, 3pm until supplies run out.

239-7285566

St. Vincent DePaul RC

Our Lady's Cupboard Food Pantry

Call (239) 694-3985 for hours open.

Some of our local ALVA area churches:

St. Vincent DePaul's RC Church

13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.stvincentftmyers.org 239-693-0818

First Spanish Assembly of God Church

2219 Joel Blvd

Alva, FL 33920 239-728-5440

Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96

Alva, FL 33920

Alvamc@embarqmail.com

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, FL 33905

www.buckinghampc.org

Light of the Nations Filipino Congregation

19850 Palm Beach Blvd (at Calvary Church)

Alva, FL, 33920

239-728-5566

Countryside Wesleyan Church

17750 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL 33920

239-368-3270

Calvary Nations Church

19850 Palm Beach Blvd

Alva, FL 33920

CalvaryChurchSwfl@yahoo.com

www.calvarynations.org 239-728-5566

First Baptist Church of Alva

2790 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

www.alvabaptist.com 239-728-2034

Grace United Methodist Church, Ft Myers Shores

14036 Matanzas Drive, Ft Myers, Florida 33905

www.egracechurch.com 239-694-2797

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14531 Old Olga Road,

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.blcefm.org 239-694-3878

Olga Baptist Church

2364 South Olga Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.olgabaptist.org 239-694-2012

olgabapch1@embarqmail.com

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.

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 COED, Open Disc: Mon, 12pm, office

-AA Men: Mon, 7pm, office

-AA Women: Tues, 7pm, office

-AA COED, Open Disc: Wed, 12pm, office

-AA Open Disc: Thu, 7pm, office

-AL Anon COED: Fri, 12pm, Classroom 2

-AA COED, Open Speaker: Sat, 7pm, Community

Center

-AA COED, Open Disc: Sun, 7pm, office

-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

-Al 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



Who We Are

SalusCare is a Fort Myers, Florida based not-for-profit mental health and substance abuse service provider.

SalusCare has 6 locations to serve you throughout Southwest Florida. Our fees are affordable and may be adjusted to the means of our patients based on household income.

SalusCare accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Visa, MasterCard and some major health insurance providers. Please call us beforehand to verify that your insurance is accepted.

SalusCare provides services for all regardless of disability or handicap. Accommodations will be provided upon request. All substance abuse programs and most mental health services are accredited by CARF International, an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services.



https://www.saluscareflorida.org/

Call our Welcome Center at 239-275-3222 Mon. – Fri. 8:00 am – 5:00 pm to speak with a customer service representative to schedule a Care Connection appointment in-person or via tele-health; or

Walk-in for a Care Connection visit prior to 1:00 pm (pending availability)

How to properly wear a face mask

Check that face masks:

1. Cover your nose and mouth
2. Are secure under the chin
3. Fit snugly to avoid gaps on the sides children's health?



Important Alva Area Lee County Phone Numbers & Websites

(as of August 1, 2020)

Agency	Normal Business	Emergency
ANY immediate life-threatening emergency		911
American Red Cross (Local Chapter)	239-278-3401	239-278-3401
Arson Alert Hotline	800-342-5869	800-342-5869
Blood Donor Centers	888-9-DONATE	
- Lee Memorial Blood Center	239-343-2333	
- Florida's Blood Centers	239-574-3170	
Dept. of Financial Services (Insurance)	239-461-4001	800-22-STORM
Federal Emergency Management Agency	800-621-3362	800-462-7585
Florida Division of Emergency Management	850-413-9969	
Lee County Animal Services	239-533-7387	239-533-7387
Lee County Emergency Info Hotline/United Way	39-433-2000	211
Lee County Emergency Management	239-533-0622	239-533-0622
Lee County Government 239-533-2111		
Lee County Health Department	239-332-9501	239-332-9501
Lee County Public Safety & EMS	239-533-3911	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office 2	39-477-1000	911
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	850-617-3004	
National Weather Service/Tampa Bay	813-645-2323	
Poison Information	800-222-1222	800-222-1222
Salvation Army, The	239-278-1551	239-278-1551
Traffic Conditions in Florida (Current)	511	511
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades & Okeechobee	Counties 239-433-2000	211
Agency Web Addresses		
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)	www.ready.gov/citizen-corps	
Department of Financial Services (Insurance)	www.myfloridacfo.com	
Department of Homeland Security	www.dhs.gov/	
Florida Lightning Safety	www.weather.gov/safety/lightning	
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	www.flhsmv.gov/mobilehome	
American Sign Language Preparedness Videos	www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan	
StormReady	www.weather.gov/stormready/	

Paid Advertisement 1-7

WE WRITE ALL HOMES INCLUDING OLDER HOMES!!

128 W. Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950



Integrity Insurance Agency has been serving all of Florida for over 20 years. The majority of our business is right here in SW Florida. A team of agents, with over 100 years of total experience, we are dedicated to the service we provide to all our clients. We can handle any insurance situation you may have. We provide coverage and service for all inems listed below.

Auto, Homeowners, Renters, Condo, Manufactured Homes, Casitas, Flood, Motorcycle, RV, Boats, Golf Carts, General Liability, Commercial Package, Commercial Auto, Workers Comp, Bonds, Liquor Liability, Special Eventr, Life Insurance. Health Insurance, Long Term Care, Medicare Products, and Professional Liability.

We would be proud to be called your insurance agency. Since we are an independent <u>degrey</u> we have a number of companies we work with to get you the best coverage for the best price. Cell integrity today and experience the client services we provide <u>941-765-1411</u>, You can go on our website to get more information at <u>Hazencies.com</u>

Paid Advertisement 1/22-11/23







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 with us.



ON THE RIVER Alva Area Newsletter Advertising Rates (current since January 17, 2020)

This monthly newsletter is a free to subscriber on-line offering. We are not offering anything in print form at this time. We encourage folk to share it with anyone and in any way they wish, and we place the newsletter in the *Alva Florida Friends and Family*, and the *Know Your Neighbors 239*, Facebook Pages which have over 3000 subscribers, and the *NEXT DOOR ALVA* web page which has over 5,000 subscribers. We have over 1,200 personal email subscribers.

Ads run full across the 9x11" OTR page, then down the fraction of the page you choose.

Advertising rates per month:

1/8th Page... one issue: \$15.00, six issues: \$12.00, twelve issues: \$10.00

4 Page... one issue: \$25.00, six issues: \$20.00, twelve issues: \$17.00

5 Page... one issue: \$45.00, six issues: \$35.00, twelve issues: \$30.00

Full Page... one issue: \$75.00, six issues: \$60.00, twelve issues: \$50.00

Ads will only appear on pages following all articles and nonprofit promotions are formatted. We can format ads for you with WORD.doc copy and j.peg photos or logos. We can also scan any copy and/or photos you provide to create a single j.peg of your ad.

You will receive a screenshot proof of the ad as soon as we have it formatted for your approval before its issue is published. Lack of response to the proof will be considered acceptance.

Full payment for all issues contracted for is to be made in full by the 15th of the month preceding the first month in which the ad is to appear, which is also the date the ad copy is to be received. Payments are to be by check (made out to Ramona DeWalt, noted: OTR.

CONTACT: Ken DeWalt, publisher, with any questions. kendewalt@ontheriver.org