



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 . 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 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 Archive of all OTR newsletters and lots more, all FREE including a link to www.ALVAFL.org/newsletter to see previous the publisher's Alva newsletters archived since 2010

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

FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL area news
- Community services
- Close by COVID-19 Testing sites
- SWFL recipes and health tips
- Local club and organization NEWS
- The new light at rte 31 and North River Road
- And so much more!



Closest Covid-19 test sites to Alva Florida in Lee County



(TY NBC 2)

As coronavirus cases continue to increase in Southwest Florida, many people want to get a test for peace of mind.



Walmart, Lehigh Acres BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

2523 Lee Blvd 2393685700

Anyone with symptoms, health care providers, and first responders can get tested here. However, it is by appointment only.

Testing is offered Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 10 a.m.

Walmart, Fort Myers BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

4770 Colonial Blvd 2392742920

Anyone 18 years and older with symptoms, health care providers, and first responders can get tested here. However, it is by appointment only.

Testing is offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. (weather permitting.)

Walmart, North Fort Myers BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

545 Pine Island Road 2399979991

Anyone 18 years and older with symptoms, health care providers, and first responders can get tested here. However, it is by appointment only.

Testing is offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. (weather permitting.)

CenturyLink Sports Complex, Fort Myers NO APPOINTMENT, DOCTOR'S NOTE, OR PRESCRIPTION REQUIRED

14100 6 Mile Cypress Pkwy 2395337695

Anyone over 18-years-old can get tested here.

To be tested, you must bring a valid photo ID, a face-covering/mask, water, snacks, and any medication that you will need for the wait in your car. The test site is drive-thru only.

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



Fight For The Light is WON!

On June 19th residents of District 5, Lee County, received a personal letter from Frank Mann, one of our County Commissioners, telling us that the long wait for a traffic light at State Road 31 (Babcock Road) and North River Road is being planned. Below is a copy of the letter we all received.

Thanks to all who petitioned and begged for this safety feature over the past several years.

Dear Neighbor,

Good news about the intersection at SR 31 and North River Road. The long hoped for traffic signal is on the way and should arrive in September. You may have been one of the residents that have been decorating your lawns with the little signs that say, "Fight For the Light". Well, you won the fight.

I drive that intersection every day, and no one knows how badly we've needed a signal there better than myself. If it were up to the county to have approved the light, it would have been there already. The problem causing the delay has been that North River Road is a County Road, but SR 31 is under State control. So we've had two agencies of government that had to agree on how and when to go about installing a light. My challenge was to get them all in the same room at the same time and work it out. The state had planned a light at that intersection for some time now, as part of the future widening of SR 31, but recent traffic counts would not justify their requirements for a light placement now. My point, and one all of us could see, was that traffic resulting from the heavy activity at Babcock Ranch, combined with construction activity at the new gas station about to open right at the intersection, was clearly making the location both slow and dangerous. Sadly, it took several recent accidents to help make our point of the need for the light.

Engineering studies are being completed right now, and equipment for construction is being ordered. These projects always take a little longer than we'd like, but help is indeed on the way. Thanks for your patience.

Your friend and neighbor,

Frank Mann
Lee County Board of County Commissioners
District #5

Two quiet parks for pandemic-safe picnics



Out east of Alva there are several places folk can go for nice safe and private picnics. Most of us on the Caloosahatchee know about the Franklin Lock Park near Riverdale, and Barron Park in LaBelle, each offering pleasant riverside picnic tables, and a few private roofed tables. However, two less known spots nearby need mentioned.



For a farm and country environment there is the Muse Playground at the Muse Fire Station at Loblolly Bay Road and Rainbow Boulevard (Don't you just love our wonderful street names?!). This is a LaBelle address but the park is located miles to the northeast of town, quiet and private most of the time.



Another park a bit closer to town and on the river is the Bob Mason Park that stretches multiple private shaded picnic sites and covered benches along the north bank of the Caloosahatchee and Rte 78. It's just west of the public docks and the LaBelle bridge. There are even public tie-ups for boats here as well.

The many old oaks, pines and palms make this

a perfect place to share a quiet picnic with the family, or just read a good book away from home for a change.





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

Contact Emily Smith, treasurer, at 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/>

One local Episcopal Church deals with Pandemic (TY Caloosabelle)



It seems so long ago now. Weeks have passed into months. And still, while meeting together inside now, we still require social distancing, masks, and communion is no longer by the common cup.

The article below was published in the Caloosa Belle Newspaper on April 12th, 2020. I have republished it here at the request of the priest, Reverend Elizabeth L. Nelson, for readers interested in how one church, her small parish, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, has dealt with, and is dealing with, our pandemic

All those things we treasure—prayer groups, Lenten studies, Stations of the Cross, the traditions of Palm Sunday, the glorious triumph of Easter complete with the fragrant smell of lilies filling the sanctuary—all of it has been taken away from us because of the Corona Virus. We have been forced into an everyday life of constant sacrifice, albeit not

because we are remembering the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. We have no choice in the matter. Sacrifice has become the “new normal.”

These thoughts took me back to fourth grade—Holy Ghost Catholic School. I remember a Lenten poster of an enormous crown of thorns hanging on the chalk board. It was terrible to look at, but designed to make a point: Jesus wore this crown, experienced this much pain, because He loves us. And there was a task attached to this poster. Sister had a pad of rosebud stickers on her desk that came with a challenge: “If you go to Mass in the morning before you come to school, you can take one of these rose buds and stick it over one of the thorns in Jesus’ crown.” Well, that’s easy enough, I thought. I walked to school anyway and the church was right next door. An easy challenge...until it wasn’t. The first time I missed Mass, I sat there and watched as other kids put a rose bud on a thorn and I cried silently. I had disappointed Jesus, I thought, or worse yet, He might stop loving me.

Fast forward almost forty years. I had become an Episcopalian with a call to the priesthood, and I actually found myself at a function with the principal of that very grammar school! Awkward! I began to feel the same guilt I had felt as a child. She’s going to condemn me, I thought. As we talked I found myself saying that I didn’t know that God loved me until I was twenty-one years old. I noticed a tear in her eye, and she said, “We didn’t teach you that, did we?” That little, profound statement said it all.

God is love. What God has given us, what God has done for us, is all out of love. And He doesn’t give us rules and regulations to frighten us into submission. He doesn’t insist on any particular form of prayer and worship. He just wants us to return to Him and to each other what He’s given us...pure, unselfish, love! Look it up in 1 Corinthians 13. There is no greater love than this. It was never about covering thorns with stickers or following rules out of fear. It’s always been about love. And all those things you’ve had to sacrifice because of the virus? You now have more time for prayer, for talking with the One who has you and all the world in His loving arms. This current crisis will have an end. As for God...He is eternal, and His love is never-ending.

The Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson is the pastor of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 1098 Collingsworth Pkwy, LaBelle

No matter how long this pandemic, or racism, or fear of hurricanes, storms and new diseases and old lasts we can always take comfort and indeed joy in the ‘Peace that passes understanding’.

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.

If you'd like to host a food drive or have any questions about Summer Drive for Hunger, email Development and Events Coordinator, Jazzy Proctor at Jazzy@CommunityCooperative.com

firehouse
community theatre
inc.

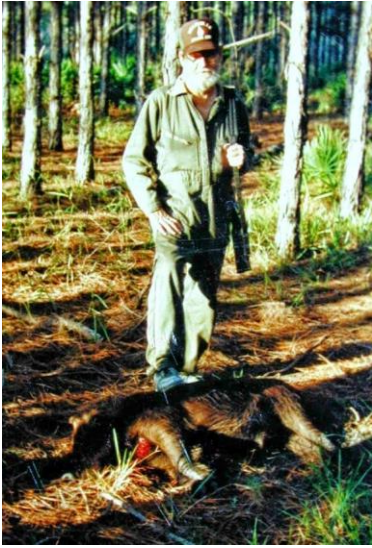
241 North Bridge Street, Labelle, Florida

www.firehousecommunitytheater.com

863-675-3066

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





The Corbitt Hog Hunt

(By Sandra Corbitt-Burdick, via Facebook's Alva Page)

I Want to share a story with y'all about Archie Corbitt, my dad. My husband, Wayne Corbitt, was raised a little bit old-fashioned and I never will forget when he asked my dad if he could have my hand in marriage. It was 1974. Those of you who knew my dad knew he was a quiet, simple Man but he had a little bit of a stinker side too.

Dad was an avid hunter. When I could barely walk, maybe six years old, I went coon hunting with him and I would drag the sack and shine our light in the trees. It was just me and him. He'd get me out of bed in the middle of the night and I'd always be right there with him. He loved hunting many species but his biggest passion was hog hunting.

Back to my marriage story: My intended and I went over to his place on a Friday and dad was getting ready to go on a hog hunting trip. I forget who all was on that trip but I'm seemingly thinking that Donnie Handley was on this trip too. If I remember right there were several others along.

My father had a straight solemn face and looked at my husband and said, "You can marry my daughter if you'll go on this hog hunting trip with me this weekend in Corkscrew Swamp." My husband was raised a country boy, and he did some small game hunting when he was younger but wasn't a big animal hunter. Nonetheless he said, "Sure". How bad could this be? Well, he told me when he arrived home, "I'll never go on another hog hunting trip with your dad!"

He said, "He run me day and night all weekend. Especially all night. He'd run through them woods chasing them dogs and chasing them hogs and them wild boar down and he'd shoot one and throw it over his shoulder and walk out of those woods like he was a 20-year-old man."

He said, "It's going to take me a week to rest up from this hog hunting trip!"

Fast forward to 1989. Dad wasn't feeling very well at all but still wanted to go hog hunting. He was sick, but My dad wanted to hunt. He was the only one of that group that killed a hog that weekend, the last weekend he ever went hunting.

The photo with this story is of Dad and a hog that he killed on one of his last hunts with his friends. He passed from this life doing one of the things that he truly loved.

My grandfather Reuben Corbitt was a pretty good Hunter as many of you know too. I would surely imagine that Grandpa was the one that taught Daddy to hunt. And maybe they're hunting together right now. Archie Eugene Corbitt passed away on December 19, 1989.

My husband Wayne passed in 2011 after almost 38 years of marriage. We never lived in Alva but I spent half my childhood there. My family moved to Buckingham but every weekend and every holiday I and all my cousins were always at Grandpa's in Alva. Our whole family was very close and every Sunday all dad's siblings and my cousins had dinner under the big oak in Grandpa and Grandma Corbitt's front yard on Packinghouse Road.

Today Sandra Corbitt-Burdick spent her earliest years in Alva, and now lives near Lake Seminole, Georgia. She still maintains close ties with friends of her childhood along the Caloosahatchee River and everywhere she has lived.

Give TIME. Give MONEY. Give FOOD.

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



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

(TY TV 4, for the following NEWS, June 19, 2020)

In response to the numerous children killed in hit and run accidents in Lee County, Shield 4 Kids partnered with the community to paint benches to be placed at local bus stops.

The lack of sidewalks and street lights in Lee County have lead to an alarmingly high number of children killed in hit and run accidents.

The latest victim, was 14-year-old Allana Staiano.

“There’s nowhere near enough lights...the cars don’t slow down around here, they are very fast...they don’t pay attention, and there are not enough lights,” said Heather Atwood.

Young people say they are taking a stance against reckless drivers.

“People don’t watch out for little people when they’re driving also,” said Damion Lord.

“There should be more safety for kids...because its super sad when they get hurt,” Savannah Atwood.

One volunteer urges drivers to slow down in neighborhoods, and children to stay aware.

“Pay attention because bad things can happen even on a good day, “Michael Driekorn.

The organization Shield 4 Kids says this event was just a start, there is still so much more to be done to ensure the safety of our children.

For information on how to can help, head to www.swfloridashield.com

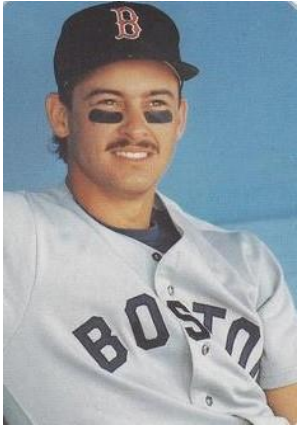


Charleston Park Neighborhood Association

2541 Charleston Park Drive, Alva, FL 33920239-728-8895 ,
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:.

ALL return as it is safe to do so.



A bit of ALVA History

ALVA is home to a major league ball player and current business leader

(TY Wikipedia, and Tripadvisor)

Mike Greenwell was born in Louisville, Kentucky. When he was five years old, his family relocated to Fort Myers, Florida; he would later attend North Fort Myers High School, where he played both baseball and football.

Greenwell was drafted in the third round of the 1982 Major League Baseball Draft by the Red Sox, and was signed on June 9, 1982.

On September 14, 1988, Greenwell hit for the cycle, becoming the 17th player to do so in Red Sox franchise history. On September 2, 1996, the Red Sox beat the Seattle Mariners 9–8 in 10 innings at the Kingdome, with Greenwell driving in all nine runs for the Sox, a record for most runs driven in by one player accounting for all of that team's runs in a single game. He also holds the American League record for most game-winning RBIs in a single season, with 23 in 1988; the game-winning RBI has since been discontinued as an official statistic. Greenwell was inducted to the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame in 2008.

Following his American pro ball career Mike played professionally in Japan, then did some coaching back in the states. Upon his retirement from baseball, Greenwell began driving late model stock cars at New Smyrna Speedway, winning the 2000 Speedweeks track championship. In May 2006, he made his Craftsman Truck Series debut at Mansfield Motorsports Park for Green Light Racing, starting 20th and finishing 26th. In 2010, Greenwell gave up racing.

Today Mike Greenwell owns a 890-acre ranch in Alva, Florida, on which he grows fruits and vegetables. He owned an amusement park in Cape Coral, Florida, called "Mike Greenwell's Bat-A-Ball & Family Fun Park", which opened in February 1992 and was later sold.

Greenwell's wife Tracy is a nurse, and they have two sons, both of whom Greenwell coached to young careers in college and minor league baseball.

Today the Greenwell family owns and operates ROUTE 31 Produce and Mining, located at the intersection of route 78 and 31 just north of the Sweetwater Marina. The pandemic has hit this business as hard as any, but their website says new outdoor seating, a full menu, and lots of new items are available to purchase. I invite you to check out Mike's current ball park:

<http://www.31produce.com/>



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
<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.



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 REMAINS CLOSED



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

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

Contact Information (239) 369-1521
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



Olga Shores Preserve



Daniel's Preserve at Spanish Creek



Buckingham Trails Preserve



Telegraph Creek Preserve



Health Happenings

Debra Carney, A Faith Community Nurse is a licensed registered nurse who intentionally cares for her congregation, Alva United Methodist Church, in body, mind and spirit throughout their lifespan. I can be reached at carneydeb@hotmail.com or 292-3416.

Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. 1 Chronicles 16:11

A FREE MAKE-OVER FOR YOUR HANDS!

Does this seem like an advertisement? I found the solution for wrinkled hands quite by accident. Yes, I thought those wrinkles were the price I paid for my nursing career. Frequent hand washing in the hospital was my way of life for over 30 years. Lotion was a temporary fix until recently.



In April, during a routine appointment, the doctor questioned my elevated blood pressure. She thought it could be more than white-coat hypertension. Combined with high cholesterol and lower than normal kidney function (borderline stage 3 kidney disease), she advised checking my blood pressure frequently.

Shockingly, my morning blood pressure was 164/80 at highest. I decided to seek a second opinion from a nephrologist at Cleveland Clinic in Weston Florida. A

nephrologist is an M.D. that specializes in care of the kidneys, who also is competent in difficult-to-treat high blood pressure. I immediately (same day) had a virtual visit with a wonderful physician named Dr. Diane Sandy. Her orders were for a blood pressure medication called Amlodipine, decrease my caffeine consumption to two cups at most per day, drink at least 50 ounces of water daily, and have some blood tests and a renal ultrasound.

I was excited to have a plan of action and followed her orders perfectly. I changed my diet to less eggs and more fiber such as oatmeal and bananas. I didn't care for water but was able to doctor it up with frozen lemons, limes and stevia for sweetness. Now I love water! After 3 days on the medicine with all my other changes, my blood pressure dropped to 96/60. I also employed deep breathing exercises and meditation (PRAYER) which immediately lowers blood pressure.

My tests all came back normal so I am doing great. I feel like I have been given a second chance to take care of my body. The hardest part is trying to lose weight and exercise, but that is my long term goal. *So what is the FREE makeover for your hands?* A wonderful side effect of being hydrated is WRINKLE FREE hands and legs! My face may be a little better as well. If water works this well for skin, just imagine what it does to the interior of our bodies!

Remember summer is here and hot weather is a great set-up for dehydration, heat exhaustion, and possible heat stroke. Drink plenty of water unless contraindicated by a medical condition. My friend recently had a second opinion at CLEVELAND CLINIC in WESTON FLORIDA. She was disenchanted with her cardiologist and was able to see a new doctor in just 2 weeks! She drove to Weston (a 2 hour trip), loved the cardiologist, and is feeling so much better with the change in care that he provided.

DRINK WATER!

In my and many others opinion and Cleveland Clinic is considered to be the BEST HOSPITAL for Cardiac Care in the nation!

If I can be of service to you, pray with you or be a listening ear, please contact me.

WE ARE DELIVERING!

Fort Myers MEALS ON WHEELS now serves homebounds 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.

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

Rose Goree-Lawrence, Admin. Asst., PO Box 2143, Fort Myers, FL 33909 or call her at 239-337-1055 or email her at Rose@CommunityCooperative.com



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 Miromar Outlets

10801 Corkscrew Road Suite 190, Estero, FL 33928

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





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



Lee County Elections



Lee_Elections



@LeeSOEPIO

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



Southwest Florida Cooking by

MAGGIE McMann

of Oak Park, Alva

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

Maggie's husband Steve is ALSO an awesome chef! Check out this favorite of all their friends, and of course, Maggie:

Steve's Homemade Biscuits

2 c all-purpose White Lily flour

1 Tbsp baking powder

2 Tbsp sugar

1 tsp salt

8 Tbsp (1 stick) real butter (very cold)

3/4 c whole milk

Preheat the oven to 400.

Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper or use a silicone mat.

Combine dry ingredients and set aside.

Grate the cold butter and add to the dry ingredients.

Add the milk and combine with a wooden spoon or silicone scraper.

Do not overwork! When dough is cohesive, place it on a floured surface. Fold the ball in half and with hands (NO ROLLING PINS), flatten, turn dough 90 degrees, fold in half again and repeat this process 5 or 6 times. Then flatten to 1 inch thick. Dust a biscuit cutter with flour and press straight down (DO NOT TWIST IT) and put biscuits on cookie sheet. Bake at 400. Check them at 10 minutes-usually takes about 12 minutes depending on oven.





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 239) 784-0880

Run Lake O! Virtual Florida Race Challenge



Run Lake O! is a *virtual* race challenge inspired by a trail around the largest lake in the state: Lake Okeechobee. Distances range from 228 to 20 miles with 35 days to finish (until 8/1/2020). Finisher medals, race tech shirts, virtual badges and other goodies included in the registration fee. The race benefits two Lake Okeechobee region non-profits including Calusa Waterkeeper. Please consider a donation.

Register [HERE](#):

<https://www.facebook.com/events/712044129548627/>



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



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 or call 239-479-INFO.

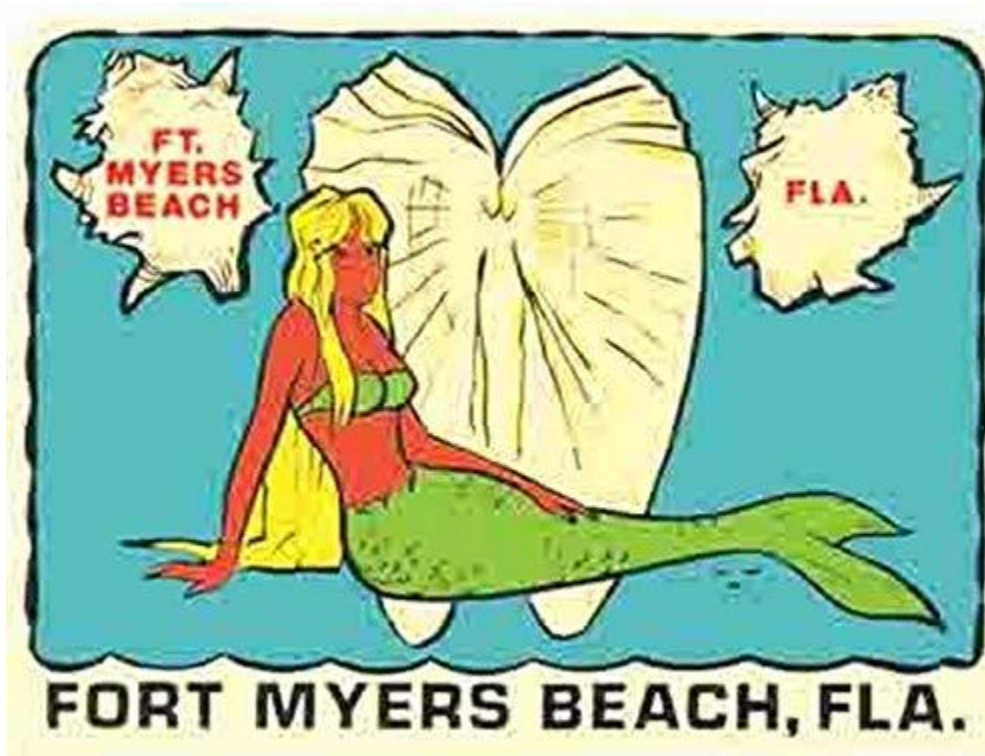
COVID-19 Update

"For the most up-to-date information regarding the Lee County Library System's current hours and operations, please visit leegov.com/library 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



Jan Blythe and husband Jim moved from Miami to Fort Denaud on the shores of the Caloosahatchee River in 2014. She joined the Alva Garden Club in 2016. Jan is an active member of the club's landscaping committee that is responsible for watering, clipping, weeding, and planting on the grounds of the Alva Library and Museum.

The committee is in the process of designing and planting new flower beds, so this is an exciting time for the club and the public who will soon be able to enjoy the beauty of the grounds as well as the museum itself.

Jan has an unparalleled gorgeous garden at her own home, and she works daily to keep everything blooming and alive. She has many varieties of croton, bromeliad, ginger, coleus, hibiscus, canna lily and begonia in beautiful colors. She also has large specimens such as the pagoda plant, crepe myrtle, many fruit trees, and the Australian tree fern.

One of the most interesting plants in her garden is her caladium collection. The white Moonlight variety is pictured here and Jan reports that she has had great success with it each year. Caladium is an outstanding plant that is a fast grower anywhere in South Florida. The leaves die back in late fall as cooler weather begins and re-emerge in late spring.



Caladiums grow very well in a partial to full shade garden. An ideal location provides a bit of morning or late day sun and not much more than dappled sunlight during the afternoon. Most plants range in height from 1 to 2 feet.

Peak performance for caladiums lasts several years, then the leaves tend to be smaller. You can freshen a caladium bed by interplanting with new ones but digging up the old tubers and starting over gets the best results, as Jan has found. Most caladiums tubers used worldwide are produced in Florida.

Lake Placid-Sebring area is known as the Caladium Capital of the World and offers an annual Caladium Festival in July each year (this year's is unfortunately canceled). Jan has visited the festival and reports that it is a worthwhile and enjoyable experience!

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 website:

alvafilmuseum.com. New members are always welcome!

[Excerpts on caladiums from south-florida-plant-guide.com](http://south-florida-plant-guide.com).

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

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



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



We are now hiring for Summer 2020!

We have counselor and program positions
still available. Head to our website for
your application today.

Send questions to jennifer@riverside.org

Sign up now to join us for our Mom and Me
retreat this April! This will be a great
weekend of fun for Moms and
children of all ages!
Email kimi@riverside.org with any questions
and how to register.



Summer camp registration is now open!

Be sure to register your camper to join us this
summer! We are offering 10 weeks of day camp
and 4 weeks of overnight camp.

Head to our website to register your camper
today!

Questions? jennifer@riverside.org



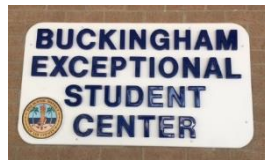
Lee County's newest professional theatre is located at The Shell Factory & Nature Park, North Fort Myers. Directions can be obtained by Googling Players Circle Theatre. Parking is free. Reservations for all performances may be obtained by calling 239-800-3292 or clicking on

www.PlayersCircle.org

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

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

SPONSORS: FutureMakers Coalition

#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

CLASSES for ADULTS 2020

AFFORDABLE. ENGAGING. FUN.

	ACRYLIC PAINTING	DRAWING	FAMILY ART <small>CREATE & THRIVE! CREATE A THRIVING ART TOGETHER!</small>	HAND BUILDING WITH CLAY	WATERCOLOR PAINTING	WATERCOLOR & THE ART OF JAPANESE BRUSH PAINTING
	BLS/CPR <small>MAKES SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS CERTIFICATE</small>	FITNESS EVOLUTION	FITNESS EVOLUTION REFRESHER <small>PERSONALIZED EXERCISE & GROUP SETTING</small>	GET FIT GET FIRM	MEDITATION <small>STRETCHING</small>	Various Locations in Lee County

Register TODAY!

WWW.LEESCHOOLS.NET/LLC

	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FOR FAMILIES	CONVERSATIONAL CREOLE	CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH	ITALIAN <small>BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE ADVANCED</small>	ITALIAN CONVERSATION
CONVERSATIONAL MANDARIN CHINESE	SPANISH <small>VARIOUS LEVELS</small>	CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH		AVIATION FOR THE BEGINNER & BEYOND	CITIZENSHIP CLASSES	COMMUNITY BAND
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DIGITAL MARKETING	HOW TO USE MY ANDROID DEVICE	MICROSOFT EXCEL	MICROSOFT OFFICE FOR BEGINNERS	WEB DESIGN		BBQ SMOKING

Adult Enrichment Classes for Every Interest

239-939-6321

Grace UMC, Fort Myers Shores
Second Saturday Free Meal & Food Pantry, 9-11am
Call 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 Community Center
 FOOD PANTRY.
 Every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 10am-2pm

ALVA UMC
Food Pantry @ Bethany House
Food Pantry: 9am-12pm 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
Bread Pantry: 8am-10am 2nd & 4th Wednesday

(TY Betsy Clayton, APR/CPRC, Communications Director, Lee County Government, 239-826-4606, bclayton@leegov.com)



Trail information is at www.calusablueway.com or 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:

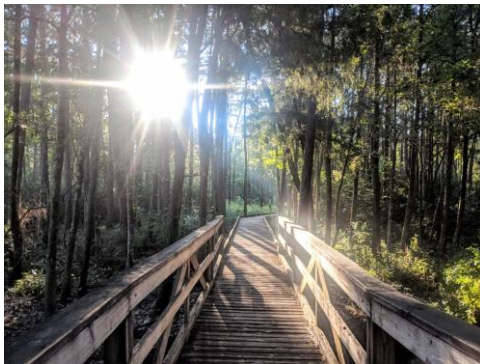
Jewish Family and Children's Services via phone 941-366-2224 extension 628 (Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:00pm)





Florida Forest Service Reopens Additional Recreation Areas, Moves to Cash-Free Point-of-Sale System

Tallahassee, Fla. — As Independence Day approaches, Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried and the Florida Forest Service announced that additional Florida State Forest recreation areas are reopening as they move to an online, cash-free point-of-sale (POS) system.



“As we reopen additional Florida State Forest recreation areas, we encourage everyone to be cautious during COVID-19 and to take advantage of our state’s natural treasures responsibly,” said Commissioner Fried. “The online, cash-free sale system will help everyone safely enjoy all that our Florida State Forests have to offer, including trailheads, campsites, and off-highway vehicle areas.”

Dates you need to know:

June 24: Annual Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) passes will be available for purchase. Passes are valid for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2020 and ends June 30, 2021.

July 1: Day-use passes for recreation areas, including trailheads and OHV riding areas, will be available for purchase.

July 10: Group campsites, picnic pavilions and group recreation areas will reopen with a capacity limit of 50 people.

“We look forward to transitioning Florida State Forest recreation sales to a digital platform,” said Erin Albury, State Forester and Director of the Florida Forest Service. “The online system not only streamlines the payment process for Floridians and visitors but reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19.”

To purchase passes or to make a campsite reservation, visit FloridaStateForests.ReserveAmerica.com or call (877) 879-3859. Quick Response (QR) codes will be posted in all Florida State Forest day-use areas as a convenient alternative payment option for visitors with smartphones. Cash will no longer be accepted for Florida State Forest recreation sales. Checks and money orders will be accepted for miscellaneous items that are not available for purchase online. Click here to find a Florida State Forest recreational area near you.

HOWEVER!

With Florida Covid-19 Pandemic numbers climbing higher every day

DO wear a mask when with other people

DO distance at LEAST 6 feet from others

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

Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96

Alva, FL 33920

Alvamc@embargmail.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, 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

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

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 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

**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



20 YEARS

"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/>

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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We would be proud to be called your insurance agency. Since we are an Independent Agency, we have a number of companies we work with to get you the best coverage for the best price. Call Integrity today and experience the client services we provide. 941-766-1411. You can go on our website to get more information at iiagencies.com

Paid Advertisement 7-4



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ON THE RIVER Alva Area Newsletter Advertising Rates as of 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 currently have over 800 subscribers. 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 Facebook Page which has over 2,200 subscribers, and the Alva Area NEXT DOOR web page which has over 3,300 subscribers.

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

Advertising rates :

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

¼ Page... one issue: \$25.00, six issues: \$20.00, twelve issues: \$17.00

½ 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 after all articles and nonprofit promotions are formatted. we can format ads 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