



# 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*

*[kendewal1@gmail.com](mailto:kendewal1@gmail.com) . The deadline for receipt of any materials is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month previous to the month you wish the articles to run. Issues go out before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, and are subject to editing if necessary.*

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## **ALVA INC hosts meeting with developers of Assisted Living Center planned along rte 80**



On Tuesday February 11 Dan and Linda Scalf of North Fort Myers, along with their civil engineers Quattrone & Associates, <https://www.qainc.net/>, presented their plans for a 32 resident assisted living facility they are planning to build on the north side of route 80 near the Alva Village Market at Balsy Road. Two other physician couples, also active owners in the project, were not present.

Originally the developers were asking for a re-zoning of the rural land but now are simply asking for a single use exception to its

current rural status as AG-2.

The 3.19-acre site will have two one story buildings constructed, each with 16 single resident rooms with en-suite baths and a group dining room, living space and kitchen. The appearance will be as large homes rather than institutional buildings. Multiple gables and roof lines, lots of exterior space with plants and trees are planned as well. The owners say they wanted to build a rural environment for aging seniors to enjoy. Full capacity for both buildings would be 32 residents and 4-6 staff at any one time.



Possible changes to adjacent roadways may include a developer paid widened Balsy Road to the site's entrance, and an entrance lane from route 80 west. Some audience members asked that the owners move their plan farther east or west on 80, nearer Olga or LaBelle. Ruby Daniels suggested the Alva Plan should place this facility nearer the Alva Village Center, possibly on the north side of the river since she said it was commercial, but the engineers pointed out that this is a recognized residential facility by Lee County zoning rules.



Concerns for increased traffic were shared by attendees, as well as a desire by some for no new development in Alva at all. Worries of sewage outflow from the drain field and reduction in our already stretched area fresh water aquifer was discussed. Water use is expected to be about 3300 gallons a day including all bathrooms and the two kitchens.

Some suggested concerns that this project would only encourage other developers to bring strip centers and professional offices to the area to support this facility, and other possible similar projects. While the engineers did

not say this won't happen, they reiterated that this they are only seeking a single use exception and any future plans by others would have to go through the same rigorous evaluations by local residents and the county as they must.

One question that gained a lot of attention was what the developers are expecting to charge for a room. Dan Scalf said final costs could only be estimated after all construction and start up costs are evaluated, but that in 2018 the average cost of an assisted living room in Lee County was \$4,000 a month. He said that because of the small size of this facility that may be close to the final determined cost here, adjusted for inflation.



While details of these and other issues like outdoor lighting, plant and tree removal and retention basin location must await further plans and studies, and all receive approval from Lee County, the engineers and the Scalf's were open and willing to share and note all concerns and questions asked. Future public meetings will be held where interested persons may attend and comment. The developers will be meeting in a similar community gathering at the Olga Community Center, which may have occurred by this writing.



If you wish to comment to the county, or request to offer testimony at a hearing during this possibly year long process for the builders, it was suggested you contact Peter Blackwell, [PBlackwell@leegov.com](mailto:PBlackwell@leegov.com), 239-533-8312, planner on the Lee County Development Staff.

# Confederate soldiers' graves vandalized at Alva cemetery

(TY WINK NEWS and Marva Deane Lynch-Phelps on the ALVA Facebook Page)



Someone knocked over statues on top of two graves where confederate soldiers are buried. Thursday morning Feb , crews discovered the grave sites for two Confederate soldiers vandalized at the Alva Cemetery.

There are five headstones at the cemetery honoring the lives of Confederate soldiers who fought during the Civil War. People we spoke to whose family members are buried in are extremely upset because they say it's sacred ground. Theresa Farabee's daughter is buried close to the desecrated graves.

About a dozen families rushed to the cemetery after seeing a picture of the vandalized Confederate graves on Facebook. "You just

don't mess with, you know, somebody's grave," Farabee said.

Rosa-Mary Lippincott McCoy's family is buried at the cemetery and was unsettled to hear about the damages to the graves near her own family members' final places of rest. She said this isn't the first time graves have been desecrated at the cemetery. "To us, this is sacred ground," McCoy said. "We want it to stop. They keep coming out. We put up cameras. They shoot the cameras."

On Saturday, February 8 the graves at the Cemetery were set right! Two members of the USS Hannah Daughters of the American Revolution, one member of the Sons of the Confederacy, and two funeral workers joined forces to get it done.

New cameras, perhaps hidden, are being discussed.

PS: Similar desecration of Confederate graves also took place a week earlier at the Fort Denaud Cemetery. They were privately repaired quickly.



## ALVA INC

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

Contact Emily Smith, treasurer, at [emilysmith@msn.com](mailto:emilysmith@msn.com) to join. Dues are only \$25.00 a year

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday March 10, 7pm, Alva Community Center**

Nick Batos, candidate for Lee County Board of Commissioners, will be present and discussion will include follow-up to Southwest Tollway and Alva Assisted Living projects



*The Alva area and both shores of the Caloosahatchee are home to more homeless than you might imagine. Rtes. 78 and 80 bring transients as well as local homeless persons and families our way daily. You can make a difference! [Leehomeless.org](http://Leehomeless.org)*



## ***EARTH DAY 2020***

*The world needs you — and your actions — for Earth Day 2020.*

*There's so much you can do to help protect and restore our planet, from joining a cleanup or climate strike, to taking part in the world's largest citizen science initiative, to hosting an event in your own community!*

***APRIL 22, 2020 MARKS 50 YEARS OF EARTH DAY***

***YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD***

***JOIN THE MOVEMENT***

***<https://www.earthday.org/>***

**Honey**  
*Festival*

**Saturday, March 28th, 2020**  
**From 10a.m. to 3p.m.**  
**at the Muse Community Building**  
**(3897 Loblolly Bay Road Labelle, FL 33935)**

Dessert table from those famous *Muse Ladies*  
Featuring Mavis "The Honeygirl"  
**Honey**, live music, food, vendors,  
and all types of activities for adults & kids

Bring a chair and enjoy music by  
*Southwind Bluegrass Band*

**For further information call**  
*Bonny Callahan at 239-246-1149*  
*Lynne Kilcoyne at 239-849-9225*

**The following is a characterization of remarks and comments made during an OAK PARK VILLAGE, Alva, Boat Club meeting on February 5 of this year.**



John Cassani of the Calusa Waterkeeper's organization here in Lee County presented a program on the current condition and futures prospects for our river and much of the Southwest Florida water situation. Calusa Waterkeeper is part of the International Waterkeeper Alliance and here in our area they focus on the Caloosahatchee River, Lake Okeechobee and Charlotte Harbor. John has spent his life in water biology and education for industry, government and the public.

John shared that currently the health of our Caloosahatchee River is not as bad as it's been in 2018 however, but he will never eat a fish caught in it from Lake Okeechobee to the Gulf.

Cyanobacteria and neuro toxins of the types that cause neurodegenerative disease in humans such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, etc, visibly apparent from algae blooms which in 2018 were found all up and down our river continue to damage the environment and keep John on but definitely out of the water. Sadly, John says, the toxins his organization identifies regularly in the Caloosahatchee are not regulated by state or federal government and many water protections of the past decades have recently been dropped by the current Washington Administration.

In addition to toxins from industry, urban development, agriculture and golf course/resident lawn runoff John warns that mercury levels, long a bane of the seafood and fresh fish gourmet, remain high in the Caloosahatchee.

Another issue of concern is the proliferation of water hyacinths choking our favorite fishing holes, the oxbows along our river. John believes less spraying of herbicides is a response by government agencies to reduce chemicals entering the river, but such plants when too abundant impact fish life and habitat when they get too thick.

Questions about the future of our Okeechobee Water System were raised as well. John is very concerned that the planned huge reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee will be a temporary fix. BIG SUGAR will continue to dump its residue waters into the new reservoir.



*Photo from 2018*

Impact on the entire west coast of Florida's fresh water aquifer from the new Southwest Tollways planned to extend north to south possibly as close to Alva Village as the Lee-Hendry County line will be similar to the effect that construction of I-75 had on water flow when it was built. That highway acted, and still does where costly remediation has not yet been completed, like a hundred-mile-long dam from Tampa south, causing some of the worst flooding in heavy rain seasons ever recorded.

And then there is sea level rise. Expected by water and weather watchers of all scientific disciplines to be up to 6" above present levels by about 2050, the real concern is storm surge heights from increasingly more fierce oceanic cyclones, and a rise in air temperatures due to warmer ocean water that may drive residents north in the summer well before Alva becomes beachfront property.

In closing John brought his dire and actually conservative comments on changes we may expect over time to a realistic close. He does not expect folks of his or our retiree generation, to be driven from South Florida by climate change. However, the predictions for rate of change increases when overall predictions are made. And our current state and federal governments are not acting to address these serious predictions with any urgency.



So, what can we do as individual water sport lovers, fishing folk, and riverside home dwellers?

John suggests we join the Calusa Waterkeeper, a registered 501-C (3) non-profit, as financial supporters in any way we can afford, and consider joining the many volunteer water watchers who use their own watercraft (kayaks and paddleboards to fishing trawlers) to participate in advocating for our own local waters. [www.CalusaWaterKeeper.org](http://www.CalusaWaterKeeper.org)



**Another great line-up  
for their 27th Season!**



"'til Beth Do Us Part" (Comedy) March 13, 14, 15 & 19, 20, 21,22

"A Murder Has Been Renounced" (Mystery) April 17, 18, 19 & 23, 24, 25, 26

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Waterway**

Contact Bev MacDonald at [friendsofoww@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofoww@gmail.com) for more information.

"We are trying to provide bus stops with a bench for the kids, so they are not standing in the road. Two little girls were killed last year. They weren't visible. That's where this program came in," he said. "We are collecting donations and grant money to buy benches for these kids. "So far 75 benches are scattered throughout Lehigh Acres with the hope of placing another 30 throughout the community.

**Are any ALVA folk interested in sponsoring bus stop  
tables for their children?**

**CONTACT: James Branham, Director, at  
[swfloridashield@yahoo.com](mailto:swfloridashield@yahoo.com)**



**Sunday March 8, 9am to 12pm**

**YOU may donate blood**

**at Grace United Methodist Church**

14036 Matanzas Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33905,

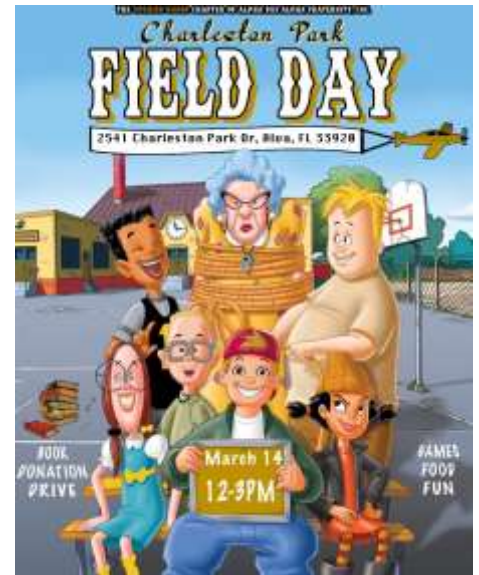


**Charleston Park DAY,  
Saturday April 25, 2020 is  
COMING!**

We invite you to consider participating as a non-profit or for-profit vendor in our 28th Annual Charleston Park Day Festival Saturday April 25. The event runs games, music, food vendors, and fun

Beyond the festival day, Saturday Charleston Park Day are being planned for the previous Friday evening and a gospel concert the following Sunday afternoon, all in Charleston Park.

To participate simply send me a request via email and I will send you our packet of information, the vendor site layout and the application. Ken DeWalt, kendewalt1@gmail.com



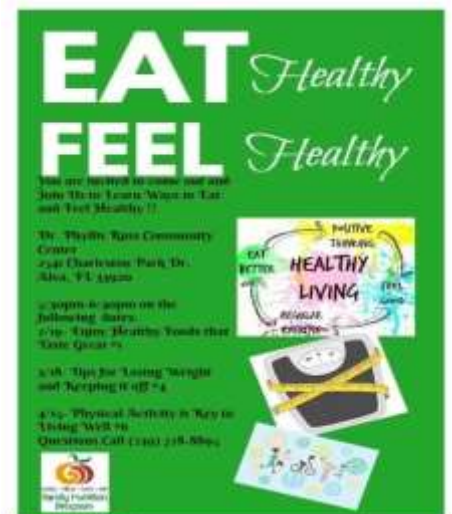
from the parade at 10:00am till dusk with for all ages.

April 25, other public events connected to



**THE NEW  
Charleston Park Children's &  
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**Your gifts and donations helped  
make this dream come true!**



# Charleston Park HISTORY



*As remembered by Mother Alice Washington in 2015*

(second of four installments)

After the World War 2 years men with families who came from one plantation or the other got construction jobs paving streets in Lehigh Acres. Most of our now aged seniors worked for one or the other of these construction companies. Crabtree, or Burnip and Sims. They still (2015) tell us stories about the biggest Rattle Snakes and longest Coach Whips anyone has ever seen while clearing out the palmettos, to build the roads. These stories make your hair curl and cause you to watch where you step, even now in Lehigh.

The only reason I didn't move to Lehigh is because of the size of the rattlers I saw crossing the roads as I commuted back and forth to Immokalee for ten years as a Social worker for Human Resource Services (HRS). They changed my mind in a hurry. The first and only paved black top road in Charleston Park was built in the early sixties, and it ran from north to south (today's First Street), with little sand trails branching off to the east side. Solomon Dr., Railroad Ave, where a freight railroad ran straight through East to West, From Fort Myers to LaBelle. Most of us lived in old homemade houses. Maybe rough, but built and owned by US. Others lived in small camper trailers, here and there. Mrs. Martha Pashall had a trailer campground, and many families rented from her up into the 1990's, when she retired. Many old one room shanties were built in the early days by the family that lived in it, like Mr. Cooper, Papa Charles Smith, Mrs. Narsisse Purdue, Carrie Simmons, and many others. In the late fifties Jim Walter and Mid State homes began building homes on these 50 ft wide lots and many of them are still standing today, like Mrs. Rose Copeland's, Aunt Tunie's,

Mrs. Georgia Davis told me they would meet the builder for the signing of the papers at the empty lot and sit on whatever they could find to complete the contract, leave and go back to wherever they still lived until the house was framed and they put in the bathroom, plumbing, sheetrock and doors themselves. All they got was a shell, with a top. Many claim they stayed in the houses without windows and doors until the rest was done.

Some cement block houses were built in the 60's too, like the Jonas and Becky Jackson, Abraham Woods, Rose Bryant, John Henry Swan, and these house are now lived in by others, like Frank Neal who lives at this writing in the original Swan house, Jeanette Smith is in the Johnnie Jenkins place, the Mr. Wheeler house, Betty Smith in Mrs. 'Little Bit' and Trey house, Ms. Ollie is in Abraham Woods old house, and others are yet being lived in. Then in the middle 1960's the Farmer's Home Administration,(FHA) using Volunteers in Service to America workers (VISTA) started the Self Help Housing Program, similar to the future Habitat for Humanity where the owners had to put in sweat equity. When we got our houses, we had to work all day at our jobs and then go to our house, or another's, whoever house we were to work on that evening.

Nine houses were built by the residents, themselves, directed by the VISTA workers. It was hard. Many of the original owners are yet living in the houses they built, like Jesse Russ, Melvin Lawson, and the Babb's. The VISTA workers lived in the community right with us, and built a little house for themselves, and Robert and Ruth Russ have lived in that house since the VISTA volunteers left. These homes are HISTORIC.



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**RESERVATION REQUIRED**

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# *A bit of ALVA History*

## **Seminole War on the Caloosahatchee**

On this past February 6<sup>th</sup> the Florida historian couple John and Mary Lou Missall were invited by the LaBelle Heritage Association to speak at the Community Room of LaBelle City Hall on the Seminole War(s). They were especially asked to focus on the Caloosahatchee and Lake Okeechobee areas and so chose as their specific center of discussion the commonly titled Third Seminole War.



The Seminole Tribe, called the ONLY UNCONQUERED Indian group in America, treats all three 'wars' as one since between the flare-ups of violence called separate wars by American Military archivists there was constant tension and often strife.

The first 'war' occurred in 1817-18 when future president Andrew Jackson left his home in Nashville under orders from President James Monroe to lead his rangers, volunteers, Creek Indian allies, and regular army soldiers against the Seminoles in Florida. His stated purpose was to stop violence on the Florida-Georgia border and their support of escaped slaves from Georgia and Alabama but having the final effect of taking all of Florida for the United States.

Seminoles, then living in their thousands over the entire state, had protected the escaped slaves, making many 'Black Seminoles' whose descendants live proudly in Florida today.



In fact, I was corrected by John Missall when I shared that I had seen Billy Bowlegs, the last war chief of the Seminole's, grave in a cemetery near Moorehaven, Florida, just a few miles upriver from LaBelle. John told us that after this brave and tenacious chief's surrender at the end of the Third War and his removal as a prisoner to Oklahoma a few remaining Seminole took his name for themselves and their children. The grave near Moorehaven holds a Black-Indian man by that name.

The Second War occurred in 1835, after the same Andrew Jackson got Congress to approve a massive and near genocidal removal of as many Eastern United States Indians to west of the Mississippi River as possible. To Jackson's partial credit his original intent was to save these Indians from the expected white European settlers incursions onto their eastern lands. He thought they would be well treated by the military escort. Such was not the case. And the many Trails of Tears, as the varied routes west came to be known, saw thousands of walking, starving, dying Indians left along the way. Florida's Seminoles refused to go, unless captured. John and Mary Lou shared that in this war there were up to half of the entire US Army stationed in Florida, some at Fort Denaud (First built in 1838) on the Caloosahatchee.



Fort Denaud (spelled Deynaud originally) was closed after the Second War and reopened and rebuilt larger right before the Third War in 1855. John shared that at that time stables for 80 horses were installed, as well as a hospital, barracks to replace the original tent quarters as well as a blockhouse.

While Fort Myers held both regular army and volunteer Florida troops Fort Denaud was staffed primarily with regulars. Commanding General Harney, at Fort Myers, was appalled at the lack of discipline among his volunteers. He found them drunk much of the time. A volunteer officer declared his volunteers behavior made them 'better soldiers than citizens', which is what he wanted on the Caloosahatchee in this war.

Indeed, danger lurked in every swamp hammock, and behind every live oak or swamp cabbage palm. The closest violence to Fort Denaud occurred in 1856 when a troop of wood cutters were ambushed and many killed not far from the fort. Nonetheless, at the height of the Third War, while there were 1500 regular and volunteer troops in the field for the United States there were rarely more than 150 warriors in action against them. They simply could not be found in the Big Cypress Swamp and the everlasting Everglades.

The Indians were not all the soldiers had to fight in Southwest Florida. All year long, but especially in the rainy summers the temperatures, humidity, mosquitos and FLEAS drove some men mad. The fleas were especially awful; In beds, trunks, floors, walls, food, hair, clothes, and every bodily orifice.

Someone say THANK GOD FOR SCREENS! Oh, and air conditioning.



Finally, in the Fall of 1857 the army did succeed in waging a scorched earth campaign against Seminole villages and farms after an immense amount of expense in manpower (many lost to disease) and equipment. Billy Bowlegs and his own band finally surrendered and were removed west as prisoners. By the time the United States declared the war successfully concluded



there were less than 300 Seminole in total left in the most remote areas of the Big Cypress and Everglade swamps. All Seminole in Florida today who are part of the Seminole UNCONQUERED tribe are descended from these few.

Fort Denaud burned down in 1856, and another site for the fort was found across the river and a mile farther west. However, that site was closed at the end of the Third War and is buried unmarked in woods or groves today. Our river went back to a very few white settlers and no Indians, since they remained in swamps protected out of sight and out of most minds, until the 1880's when Captain Peter Nelson founded Alva, and later Captain Francis Hendry founded LaBelle. The tiny river settlements of Muse, Ft. Denaud, and Olga appeared during this time.



The name 'Seminole' is a white European name for the mixed Creek, Miccosukee and escaped black slaves who fought the US Army for more than 40 years. It is proudly born by today's Seminole who share an unconquered heritage with no other Indian nation in America.

You can find out everything about John and Mary Lou Missall's historical research, their many Seminole history books and historical novels on their website: [www.missall.net](http://www.missall.net) You may email them at [info@missall.net](mailto:info@missall.net)

The couple lives in North Fort Myers and are active in Florida Seminole War re-enactments and historical events across the state.



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



17391 Durrance Road, North Fort Myers, FL 33917 | 239.543.3246 | [info@echonet.org](mailto:info@echonet.org) <https://www.echonet.org/>

### Global Farm Tour Schedule:

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>



## Diverse Topics Featured at 2019 Friends of SIX MILE CYPRESS SLOUGH Gatherings

By Charles O'Connor

We have an interesting range of topics for our Friends' Gatherings in 2019. We'll learn how to attract birds to our own habitat, learn more about reptiles, discover new things about creatures that lived here in prehistoric times, and review a year in the Slough. Presentations start at 7 p.m. but please come early to socialize if you like.

To reserve your spot, send an email to Theresa Roake [troake@comcast.net](mailto:troake@comcast.net) or call the Friends at (239) 533 7557. Dates are as follows:

**February 27: Dan Quinn, Biologist , FWC - SWFL Invasive Animals** Dan Quinn is the lead nonnative wildlife biologist for FWC in Southwest Florida. Originally from Kansas City, MO, he graduated with a B.S. in Biology from Truman State University and received his M.S. in Wildlife Conservation from the University of Georgia. He has worked and conducted ecological research domestically and abroad and has spent the last 7 years working in the field of wildlife conservation in the Southeastern United States. His current projects focus on priority invasive wildlife such as Nile Monitors, Tegus, and Pythons.

**March 27: Roxanne Taylor, Land Steward, Lee County - State of the Slough** Roxanne Taylor is as she puts it: "The new Bob". Roxanne is the Slough's new Land Steward. She is responsible for the natural areas management of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, Six Mile North, and additional preserves. Roxanne has a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Central Florida and a Master's degree in Environmental Management from Portland State University. She is a Professional Wetland Scientist and a Certified Ecologist. Roxanne previously worked at the South Florida Water Management District for more than 10 years as an environmental analyst and project manager. She has experience in wetland enhancement, restoration, mitigation and creation.

**April 24: Dr. Charles O'Connor - Florida's Incredible Prehistoric Animals** Dr. Charles O'Connor, Board Member and Education Director for the Friends will be our speaker in April. Dr. O'Connor is a native Floridian and an amateur paleontologist. He was an assistant in the Vertebrate Paleontology Laboratory at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, one of the premier Pleistocene fossil museums in the nation. He has received the Golden Apple Award, SW FL Audubon Educator of the Year Award, Ding Darling Conservation Award, and was a Lee County Environmental Teacher of Year for his classroom science activities and community environmental education work. He has taught community and school groups for over 20 years. There will be a large teaching collection of vertebrate fossils on display

**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

**Find out how many manatee are IN! 239 690 5030**



## Olga Community Park

2325 S Olga Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33905  
(239) 533-7275

Home of Alva area AFTER SCHOOL program

## Buckingham Prebyterian Church FISH FRY

w' home made hush puppies & dessert!

First Friday of every month, 4pm till sold out

4241 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905

239-694-2444.



## 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

Public boat ramp with 15 parking spots. Parking fee is \$5 per day. Lee County Parking Stickers are valid at this location. Parking fills up early on weekends.



## 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



## Alva Community Center PARK

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

Three of the many activities here:

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



## Caloosahatchee Regional Park

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

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

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



## NORTH FORT MYERS Recreation Park

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

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

## Veterans Park Recreation Center

55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

Contact Information (239) 369-1521

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



## ALVA FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE SERVICE

2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920

(239) 728-2223



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.

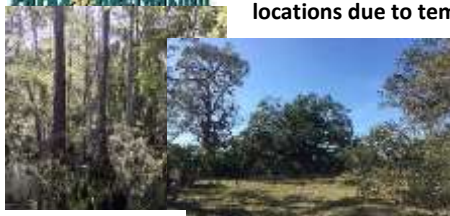
Preserves are open daily during daylight hours. Access may be limited at certain locations due to temporary flooding, special restoration projects, or isolated location.

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](mailto:carneydeb@hotmail.com) or 292-3416.

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

A friend who lives in Arcadia once told me, “The best hospital is the closest hospital.” That statement is true for Arcadia as well as Lehigh Acres and Alva.

Alva is 40 minutes to the closest Lee hospital. I once waited with a man and his family in Oak Park after EMS called for a Medical Helicopter. The pick-up time was about 30 minutes. Sometimes we are so close yet so far.

So what about our closest Hospital, Lehigh Regional Medical Center? I have been there about a dozen times and have been intrigued. The hospital employs more than 300 people and is very friendly with a small-town warmth. The Emergency Room, ICU and Medical-Surgical Floor are well run.

Last month a Church Member was admitted to Lehigh Regional and he gave it a great review! I was with him when a young Cardiologist named Haris Turalic made rounds. Dr. Turalic had been in twice each day to see him. According to the internet, Dr Turalic has a 5 star review, is Board- Certified in two Specialties, and is also affiliated with the Lee Health Hospitals.



At a recent Ministerial Association Meeting, Lehigh Regional CEO, Gary Bell addressed the Members. He explained that Prime Health Care, based in Ontario California, bought the Hospital in 2016. At that time the Hospital was rough around the edges and lacking in basic medical equipment. He stated, “We are in the process of turning it around. Our hospital is in a high tech, high touch, people business.” Gary proclaimed their Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade went from an F to a B and their Joint Commission rating is “the best it can be.”

The Senior Behavioral Health Services is a 35-bed Inpatient Unit designed for adults aged 55 and above who are experiencing a wide range of emotional, social and behavioral issues that affect the healthy function of their daily lives. Dr. Ralph Ryback, who is board- certified in Psychiatry and Neurology, is responsible for the Unit. He also trained at Harvard University.

Want to see for yourself what is happening? We are invited to lunch and a tour on Wednesday March 4th at 12 noon, and we will meet Dr. Ryback and learn about treatment for depression. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity and call and RSVP to me at 239-292-3416 or [carneydeb@hotmail.com](mailto:carneydeb@hotmail.com)

More News:

Gulf Coast Medical Center (GCMC) has finished renovating its ER. The number of ER beds is now doubled to 80. In the next few months, Lee Health will be moving their Oncology Unit and their Orthopedic Unit from the downtown Lee Memorial Hospital to GCMC.

We will be at the Alva Museum Strawberry Festival on March 14 doing blood pressure screenings, handing out Advance Directives and ICE (In Case of Emergency) packets for your refrigerator.

**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](mailto:Rose@CommunityCooperative.com)**

**Fight for the Light at SR31 and SR78**

If you are a concerned resident or worker in Alva, North Olga, Babcock Ranch or North Fort Myers, Florida, please sign this petition and help Fight For The Light!

Sign the petition on here or FACEBOOK now:

[www.thepetitionsite.com/960/363/539/fight-for-the-light-at-sr31-and-sr78/](http://www.thepetitionsite.com/960/363/539/fight-for-the-light-at-sr31-and-sr78/) Sue Bisplinghoff, 239 980 2470



**USS Hannah Chapter NSDAR  
National Society**

**Daughters of the American  
Revolution | Alva, Florida**

*Consider joining your local DAR Chapter*

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

**Would you be able to help us locate your veteran relatives grave?**

We want to place a live pine wreath on every veteran grave at the Alva Cemetery next December 19th on **Wreaths Across America day**. We know there are graves without veteran markings that should have them. If you know of any, please contact:

**Georgette Lundquist**

**[jglundy7@gmail.com](mailto:jglundy7@gmail.com)**

**239-590-6927**

**7305 FL-78, Fort Denaud, FL 33935**

**(863) 675-0334**



**Mission: Riverside** will immerse your students in all the aspects of planning a mission trip. Your team will begin with fundraising for their specific project and tools, and then will be given the time and space to complete your project. The Riverside staff will be here to encourage your group, lead worship times, and facilitate the groups meal times. Mission: Riverside is \$250 per participant. Contact Kimi to reserve a week this summer for your group!



## Tax Identity Theft Awareness

From YOUR Lee County Sheriff's Department

It is tax season, which means identity thieves and IRS imposters are hard at work trying to steal your personally identifying information in order to file a phony tax return.

Do you know how to protect yourself and what to do if someone were to use your Social Security number to collect a fraudulent refund? While tax identity theft isn't always avoidable, there are some steps you can take to help lower your risk of becoming a victim.

-File early. The IRS only accepts one tax return per Social Security or Taxpayer ID number. If a thief submits your information first, your legitimate tax return will be rejected.

-Always use anti-virus software with automatic updates.

-Do not respond to phony phishing emails, deceptive phone calls, and bogus texts from supposed "IRS agents". The IRS will not contact you without first sending you a bill.

-Never send cash via a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. The IRS will never require you to use a specific method of payment or ask for a credit/debit/gift card number over the phone.

For more information about Tax Payer Identity Theft, log on to [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov) or [www.IRS.gov/identitytheft](http://www.IRS.gov/identitytheft). To report a suspicious call, text, or email, contact the Sheriff's Office fraud line at **239-258-3292**.



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

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

### 2020 SCHEDULE

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

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

Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Center Miramar Outlets

10801 Corkscrew Road Suite 190, Estero, FL 33928

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



**DINNERTIME for all**  
 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church—Missouri  
 Synod, 14531 Old Olga Rd. Fort Myers, FL 33905,  
 239-694-3878

Monthly dinners Sept–April. Every Second  
 Thursday 4–7pm





*Southwest Florida Cooking by*

*MAGGIE McMann*

*of Oak Park, Alva*

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

# **Florida Salmon**



## Ingredients:

- 1 can full fat coconut milk; 4 pieces salmon
- 2 tablespoons garlic, minced; 2 tablespoons fresh ginger, minced
- 1 orange bell pepper, diced; 2 tablespoons fish sauce, divided
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce, divided; Juice and zest of 2 limes, divided
- 1 tablespoon olive oil; 2 tablespoons fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil-Each chopped for garnish
- 2 green onions, diced; 4 -6 cashews

**Add 2 tablespoons olive oil to a large sauté pan. Add the garlic, ginger and bell pepper and cook for 6-8 minutes or until the peppers begin to soften.**

**Add the coconut milk stirring to combine. Add the zest and juice of 1 lime, 1 tablespoon fish sauce, and 1 tablespoon soy sauce to the coconut milk mixture. Let simmer while you cook the salmon.**

**Set broiler to high ...line a sheet pan with foil. (Spray foil with non-stick spray).**

**Toss salmon with the remaining soy sauce, fish sauce, lime zest, and juice.**

**Broil the salmon for approximately 5 minutes on each side or until the desired temperature is reached.**

**Serve the salmon over steamed white rice. Pour the coconut broth over the salmon and rice. Garnish with fresh cilantro, basil, green onions, and cashews.**





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

**Join Our Team! Become a Certified Ranger**

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



**JUST BE KIND**

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

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

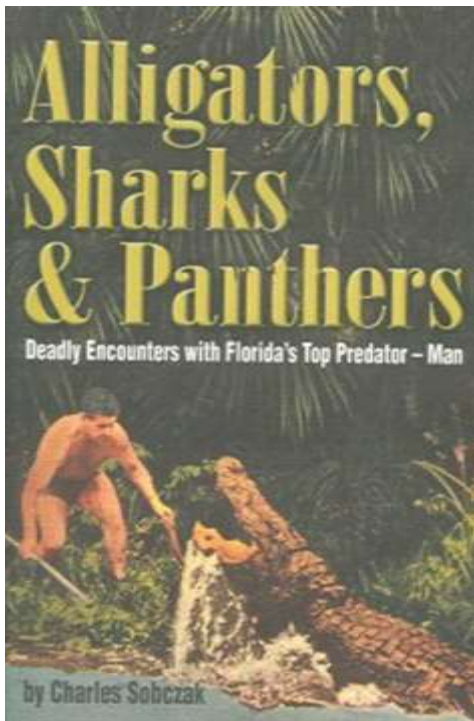


**Your RIVERDALE LIBRARY**

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



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



**Alligators, Sharks & Panthers or  
*How to Avoid Being Eaten***

**Presented by Charles Sobczak**

**Saturday, April 11, 2020**

**@ 2:00 pm**

Based on his 2007 award-winning book, Alligators, Sharks & Panthers, Charles Sobczak puts his unique sense of eco-humor to work, by showing how the likelihood of actually being attacked, let alone eaten, by any of these animals is extremely remote. He will also explain ways by which everyone can lower that risk even further. The lecture will also explore evolutionary biology and why the new world predators are markedly less aggressive than their old world counterparts.



**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 Open to EVERYONE!



**ALVA GARDEN CLUB**  
ANNUAL PLANT AND STRAWBERRY  
SHORTCAKE SALE



Saturday March 14, 2020  
9:00 - 1:00 pm



at  
**ALVA LIBRARY & MUSEUM**  
21420 Pearl Street  
Alva, FL 33920



We will have a large selection of plants,  
strawberry shortcake, homemade baked  
goods, used books and much more  
for sale!



Questions:  
Joyce: 239-728-3586  
Pam: 518-879-2520



<http://www.fmlcgardencouncil.com/council-directory/102/alva-garden-club/>



## 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.alvafilmuseum.com](http://www.alvafilmuseum.com)

# 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 of your convenience.  
[www.ummsa.me/webinars](http://www.ummsa.me/webinars)

**SPONSORS:** FutureMakers Coalition, Florida SouthWestern, Florida Gulf Coast University, Cape Coral College

**#stayready**

September 16th  
Testing: How 2 Prepare 4 ACT, SAT & PERT

October 13th  
College Applications: What U Need 2 Know

November 17th  
FAPSA: 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: Hixing 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.

	<b>ACRYLIC PAINTING</b>		<b>DRAWING</b>		<b>FAMILY ART</b>		<b>HAND BUILDING WITH CLAY</b>		<b>WATERCOLOR PAINTING</b>		<b>WATERCOLOR &amp; THE ART OF JAPANESE</b>
	<b>BLS/CPR</b>		<b>FITNESS EVOLUTION</b>		<b>FITNESS EVOLUTION REFRESHER</b>		<b>GET BIG GET FIT</b>		<b>REGISTRATION</b>	Various Locations in Lee County	

**Register TODAY!**

[WWW.LEESCHOOLS.NET/LLC](http://WWW.LEESCHOOLS.NET/LLC)

	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE</b>		<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE</b>		<b>CREDELE</b>		<b>ENGLISH</b>		<b>ITALIAN</b>		<b>ITALIAN</b>
	<b>MANDARIN CHINESE</b>		<b>SPANISH</b>		<b>SPANISH</b>		<b>BEGINNER &amp; BEYOND</b>		<b>CITIZENSHIP CLASSES</b>		<b>COMMUNITY BAND</b>
	<b>PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL</b>		<b>ADOBE PHOTOSHOP</b>		<b>AUTOCAD DRAFTING SOFTWARE</b>		<b>COMPUTER BASICS</b>		<b>DIGITAL MARKETING</b>		<b>MICROSOFT EXCEL</b>
	<b>NEW TO USE AN ANDROID DEVICE</b>		<b>MICROSOFT OFFICE FOR BUSINESS</b>		<b>WEB DESIGN</b>		<b>B&amp;B</b>	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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 10am-2pm

**ALVA UMC**

**Food Pantry @ Bethany House**

Food Pantry: 9am-12pm 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

Bread Pantry: 8am-10am 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

# National Consumer Protection Week

March 1-7, 2020



(reprint from march 2019)

Scams come in all shapes, sizes, and levels of sophistication. However, they all share the common goal of identifying a victim's points of vulnerability and exploiting them to make money.

Scammers are either trying to get directly to their victim's money, or they are after the victim's identity to set up fraudulent accounts. Either way, the victims are the ones who pay the price.

As consumers, we must be careful about the messages to which we respond and vigilant about protecting our personal information. Being informed and aware are our best defenses against scammers. Here are a few simple tips that can help consumers avoid becoming a victim:

- Be skeptical of any unsolicited personal contact, telephone calls, letters, emails, or social media messages.
- Do not use the telephone numbers, email addresses, or website addresses provided in an unsolicited contact to verify the validity of the information provided. Independently verify contact information through several sources before responding.
- Get details in writing before signing agreements, sending money, or giving financial information.
- Do not respond to high pressure tactics. Take the time to verify information and seek counsel from family, friends, or trusted professionals.
- Be wary of anyone requesting payment through money transfer, money order, or by sending cash or gift cards.
- Avoid using debit cards whenever possible. Purchases made by credit card will allow a consumer the ability to dispute charges.
- Check a company's complaint history at [www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com](http://www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com) under "Business/Complaint Lookup," or by calling 1-800-435-7352. If the business is regulated by FDACS, be sure to find out if they are registered.
- Use "Check-A-Charity" at [www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com](http://www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com) or call 1-800-435-7352 to verify a charity's registration status and to check their financial information.



# Calusa Blueway speaker series

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

## Mark your calendar for

-March 3 – Victoria Burgess – Cuba to Key West on a Standup Paddleboard

Note: Programs will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Wa-Ke Hatchee.

For more information and directions to the program, contact Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center at 239-432-2154. Trail information is at [www.calusablueway.com](http://www.calusablueway.com) or [www.leeparks.org/blueway](http://www.leeparks.org/blueway).



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.



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

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



GALUSA WATERKEEPER PRESENTS:

# GALUSA OPALOOZA 2020



## CONCERT FOR CLEAN WATER

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020, 10AM - 9PM  
CENTENNIAL PARK | FT. MYERS, FL

*Hotel California*  
THE ORIGINAL  
EAGLES TRIBUTE



IT'S ALMOST SPRING IN FLORIDA.  
YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?!

# NOTHING.

WINK

IT'S ALREADY 85 DEGREES AND  
EVERYTHING IS COVERED IN POLLEN.



## Some of our local ALVA area churches:

**St. Vincent DePaul's RC Church**

**13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33905**

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

**239-693-0818**

**Alva United Methodist Church**

**21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96**

**Alva, FL 33920**

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

**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**

**First Spanish Assembly of God Church**

**2219 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL 33920**

**239-728-5440**

**Countryside Wesleyan Church**

**17750 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL 33920**

**239-368-3270**

**Calvary Church**

**19850 Palm Beach Blvd**

**Alva, FL 33920**

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

**239-728-5566**

**First Baptist Church of Alva**

**2790 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920**

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

**239-728-2034**

**Grace United Methodist Church, Ft Myers Shores**

**14036 Matanzas Drive, Ft Myers, Florida 33905**

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

**239-694-2797**

To have your church listed here simply contact me, Ken DeWalt, at [kendewalt1@gmail.com](mailto:kendewalt1@gmail.com) with as much contact info as you can share.

# 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:

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA), Al-Anon/Alateen (for friends and families of alcoholics), Cocaine Anonymous (CA), Clutterers Anonymous (CLA), Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA), Co-Anon (for friends and family of addicts), CoDA –Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) – for people working to end patterns of dysfunctional relationships and develop functional and healthy relationships, COSA (an auxiliary group of Sex Addicts Anonymous), COSLAA – CoSex and Love Addicts Anonymous, A –Debtors Anonymous



(DA), EA –Emotions Anonymous (EA) for recovery from mental and emotional illness, Families Anonymous (for relatives and friends of addicts), Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous, Food Addicts Anonymous (FAA), Gamblers Anonymous (GA), Gam-Anon/Gam-A-Teen (for

friends and family members of problem gamblers), Heroin Anonymous (HA), Marijuana Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Nar-Anon (for friends and family members of addicts), Nicotine Anonymous (NicA), Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Online Gamers Anonymous (OLGA), Pills Anonymous (for recovery from prescription pill addiction), Sexaholics Anonymous (SA), Sex Addicts Anonymous (SAA), Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA), Survivors of Incest Anonymous (SIA), Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA), Sexual Recovery Anonymous, Underearners Anonymous, Workaholics Anonymous.

Any type of group you do not find listed below may be sought at this website: <https://www.addicted.org/directory/category/lee-county-3.html>

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

## ALVA:

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

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

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

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

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

## FORT MYERS SHORES:

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

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

-AA men: Mon, 7pm, office

-AA Women: Tues, 7pm, office

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

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

-AL Anon: Fri, 12pm, Classroom 2

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

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

-NA Step: Sun, 6pm, Classroom 2

**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



COMING SOON TO Grace UMC, Fort Myer's Shores: CHOOSE RECOVERY. More information: (239) 694-2797, 4036 Matanzas Dr, Fort Myers, FL.

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! [Kendewalt1@gmail.com](mailto:Kendewalt1@gmail.com)

**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

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## INTEGRITY INSURANCE AGENCY



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239-693-1959

Email  
PattyWalkerREMAX@gmail.com

Web  
GulfCoastLivingPatty.com

Address  
12928 Palm Beach Blvd., Ste A  
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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

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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 issues contracted for is to be made in full by the 15th of the month preceding the month in which the ad is first 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.