

ISSUE 32, September 2021. 1300+ subscribers Archives & MORE at www.ontheriver.org Ken DeWalt, publisher

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On the RIVER

Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS

TO SUBSCRIBE or offer articles (maximum 300-500 words), 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.

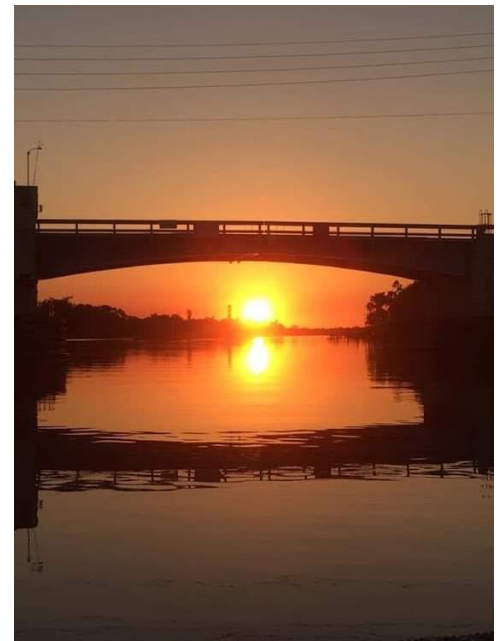
Now accepting advertisements. See our terms on the last page of this newsletter. We encourage all subscribers to consider patronizing the paid advertisers you find at the conclusion of this newsletter. Their support of our mission helps us provide you with this local Alva area newsletter.

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 Alva INC 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 Alva area news
- LOCAL history
- LOCAL Community services
- LOCAL club and organization news
- LOCAL school news
- LOCAL recipes and health tips
- Local safety information





Lee County students have moved to virtual learning

(TY TV 43)



The Lee County School System says they are continuing to experience a severe shortage in teachers, substitute teachers, bus drivers and some other staff positions due to the impact of COVID-19.

All schools will, or will consider, transitioning to an at-home learning.

With over two dozen classrooms reported quarantined and Covid-19 infecting many more students and staff every day expect the current Covid-19 Delta Variant, and possibly other variants in the future, to require constant flexibility in creating the healthiest environment for staff and students possible.

Each school will be in touch regarding their remote learning process and packets.

Please direct any instruction-related questions to your child's teacher.

The Food Services Department will be coordinating meals during this time. More information regarding locations and scheduled times will follow.

The school system says that the decisions are being carefully made with input from principals, health professionals, other leaders and with the support of the school board.

Superintendent Dr. Jason Miller says that they understood that parents need to plan for their student's care or take off from work and it weighs heavily in on the decisions made. The school district will continue to make decisions based on the best interest of all students and employees while monitoring ongoing matters relative to the pandemic.

It was hoped that the 2021-22 year would be a return to pre 2020 normalcy, but it seems that is nowhere near happening.



HELP REDUCE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE AND BE FERTILIZE SMART

IT'S THE LAW IN LEE COUNTY June 1 through September 30, 2021

<http://www.fertilizesmart.com/>

Lee County is asking people to stop using phosphorus and nitrogen formulas from June 1 to October 30. If you use fertilizer during that time, you could receive a citation.

Not all fertilizers are banned during the blackout period. Only those with Nitrogen and Phosphorous.

We can still use fertilizers containing other minor packages which are beneficial to plants and turf but cause no issues with the waterways during this time of the year.

Doing your part to preserve our water quality is as simple as doing less yardwork! During the rainy summer season, unnecessary fertilizing and improper fertilizer application can result in runoff that sends nutrients meant to feed your lawn into our waterways where they feed harmful aquatic algae instead.

JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30 - Lee County Ordinance 08-08

App lets you track your child's school bus

(TY WINK News)

As your kids head back to school Tuesday, do you know how they are getting there? School bus pick-up and drop-off can be tricky, but there are tools to help.

The School District of Lee County has several mobile apps designed to help families navigate through the school year, including the "Where's the Bus" app, with which you can track your school bus and see how close it is to your stop. The School District of Collier County also has its own app for the upcoming school year.

Families WINK News spoke with are feeling a mix of excitement and nervousness as Tuesday approaches. "There's always going to be fears and the unknown, you know what I mean?" said one parent who did not wish to be named. "And you never can tell what happens, but I'm excited for them. I was always told when my kids were young, that you kind of got to let them fall on their own and learn on their own, and it's all about making friendships."

And you parents will want to pack your patience Tuesday; the school districts are already warning you to expect delays. Lee County is still short of at least 100 bus drivers.

Now, at least, you can sign up for an app to help you know where your child's bus is, or if it's delayed.

You will need your child's school ID number in order to set up an account.



Lee County needs bus drivers; diploma requirement waived

The School District of Lee County is in need of bus drivers for the approaching school year and has immediate openings.

If you're still working on your GED or diploma, you've got time: That requirement is waived until the end of February 2022. The hourly rate starts at \$14.69 and you will receive a training stipend after driving for 45 days.

Go to the SDLC website's career page to apply.

Lee County trying to make up for teacher shortage with training program



Lee County is hiring more teachers through a program called Alternative Lee, an alternate route to getting professionally certified as an educator. Through this program, anyone with a degree, no matter what the focus, can become a professional teacher. Alternative Lee simplifies the process by allowing these new teachers the chance to meet state requirements through job-embedded tasks designed to support their effectiveness in the classroom. The district offers the program free to qualifying teachers who, in turn, agree to teach in Lee County for three years after graduating.

SDLC says it offers this program to help combat turnover and support its new teachers, since the first two to four years are critical to making teachers both successful in the classroom and satisfied with their choice of career. New teachers are typically the most vulnerable group within the profession.

"If teachers are looking to come to our district, please, please, please—if they have not gone through the college of education, if they don't have an education background, if they're preparing for professional educational testing and qualification—this is the course that they need to be in," said Devarsious McCants, an educator and graduate of Alternative Lee who works at Lehigh Acres Middle School.

Visit The School District of Lee County's website career page for opportunities.



Legislation introduced to reclassify manatees as endangered

(TY WINK News)

A record number of manatees have died this year than in any other year in Florida's recorded history, primarily from starvation due to the loss of seagrass beds. Now, two congressmen are calling on federal officials to grant the animal "endangered" status. U.S. Reps. Vern Buchanan, R-FL, and Darren Soto, D-FL, announced Monday they have introduced legislation to grant manatees the highest level of federal protection available.

The Manatee Protection Act, H.R. 4946, would officially upgrade the West Indian manatee from "threatened" to "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Upgrading their designation under the ESA will not only require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to refocus their attention on manatee population rehabilitation, but also allow for increased federal resources including more funding and personnel.

"Manatees are beloved, iconic mammals in Florida," said Buchanan. "This year's record-breaking number of manatee deaths is staggering and extremely concerning, which is why upgrading their ESA status is absolutely critical. We must do everything we can to protect these gentle giants and Florida's official marine mammal."

Congressman Darren Soto said, "2021 was the deadliest year for the West Indian manatee in our home state of Florida. These mass deaths should alarm us all and incite us to take immediate action to protect these precious mammals. By adding the West Indian manatee to the ESA's endangered list, we are ensuring that necessary steps are taken to prevent any more unnecessary deaths."

According to Florida's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), 890 manatees have died in just the first seven months of this year. That number has already surpassed the previous record of 830 deaths in all of 2013. Eighty-four of those deaths occurred in Lee County, which ranks second in the state behind Brevard (319) for manatee mortality.

The most recent FWS data estimates that there are only around 6,500 West Indian manatees in the southeastern United States. Most experts attribute the soaring manatee death count to a significant loss of seagrass along the Atlantic coast, which is causing many manatees to starve to death, as well as a worsening bout of red tide in the Gulf. They also face continued threats from habitat loss and watercraft collisions.

The U.S. House recently passed a Buchanan measure to transfer \$2 million to FWS to examine the record number of manatee deaths in Florida this year and report to Congress on ways to protect the species.



SPONSOR

Find out how to become a sponsor

We appreciate your consideration and any gift you give us to help have a successful league is GREATLY APPRECIATED! If you would like to pay by check or cash, please see a board member or fill out the available form from the following link: <http://alvababeruth.website.siplay.com/Site/More/Documents>

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



Caloosa Humane Society

Caloosa Humane Center 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle

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

<https://caloosahumanesociety.org/>

OUR MISSION

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



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 emilyrsmith@msn.com to join.

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



BABCOCK RANCH ECO TOURS, Museum and Gator Shack Restaurant

Go to website to reserve tours



<https://babcockranchecotours.com/>

COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE

HOW YOU CAN HELP: **DONATE** so that we can continue purchasing food to distribute at our Mobile Pantries. **HOST A FOOD DRIVE** and collect non-perishable food items to stock our shelves. **VOLUNTEER** in the Community Cafe, at a Mobile Pantry, or as a Meals on Wheels Driver. Call (239) 332-7687



NEWS from the BARRON LIBRARY at the Caloosahatchee Dock park in LaBelle, Hendry County

Chess Club at BARRON LIBRARY

For the EXPERIENCED and
the BEGINNER.

Monday evenings from 5:00 to 6:30

Fun for all ages!



LOOKING FOR TUTORS

Volunteer to spend quality time teaching English to non-native speakers.
Literacy Council Gulf Coast will be conducting classes on Monday & Wednesday
10:00am-11:30am at Barron Library in LaBelle. Training will be provided. Classroom
teaching experience & knowledge of Spanish not essential. For more information,
contact Literacy Council Gulf Coast @ 239-676-5202
or email: susan@literacygulcoast.org

Riverdale High School Band Boosters

Diane Doden
President

Ashley Smith
Secretary

Shannon Walter Golden
Director of Bands

Jodi Giff
Vice President

Amy Martin
Treasurer

Date: July 20, 2021

To: Friends, Community Members and Music Education Supporters

From: Riverdale Band Booster Club, Inc.
501(c)(3) Non-Profit Fed Tax ID # 23-7095527

Greetings,

We would like to thank you for your interest and support of our Riverdale High School Marching Band. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, whose goal is to support the band program by seeking donations, financial support, and volunteers from individuals, businesses, and community organizations. Your support provides opportunities for students to have an enriching education beyond what local schools are able to provide. Students and their families participate in car washes, sales, concessions, and parades. Students sacrifice their free time because they believe in, and receive benefits from, being involved in their school music activities. They learn mental discipline, cooperation, responsibility, time management, leadership skills, and self-motivation — life-skills that allow success in their academics as well as success after graduation.

Under the direction of Band Director Shannon W. Golden, our Marching Band has grown tremendously, from a handful of musicians in 2016, to *over one hundred members* in 2021. They enjoy and have rightfully earned the respect of being a totally dynamic Marching Band. The Marching Band represents the beating Garnet and Gold heart of Riverdale High School and the community.

Of course all this takes money. We need your help! Funds are needed for instrument purchase and repair, purchase of music, uniform cleaning, travel expenses, extra instructors and staff, color guard flags and show props, competition registration fees, and other band expenses. In the recent past, "The Raider" Marching Band marched and performed at Disney World and Universal Studios in Orlando. This dream could never have been fulfilled without the generosity and support of you, our community leaders and friends. This upcoming school year (2021-22) promises to be even bigger and better. The band has been given an opportunity to perform this school year at Walt Disney's, 50th Anniversary Magic Kingdom Parade and Universal Studios' Main Parade in Orlando, among other exciting performances!

- **Bronze Sponsorship** \$100.00-\$249.99
Your logo or name will appear on a banner at every home football game.
- **Silver Sponsorship** \$250.00-\$499.99
Your 1'x1' logo or name will be displayed on our equipment trailer and it also will appear on a banner at every home football game.
- **Gold Sponsorship** \$500.00-\$999.99
Your 1'x1' logo or name will be displayed on our equipment trailer and it also will also appear on a banner at every home football game. In addition we will also provide you with a plaque to be proudly displayed at your business.
- **Platinum Sponsorship** \$1000.00+
Your 2'x2' logo or name and contact information will appear on the back of our equipment trailer. Your Logo will be displayed at every home football game. In addition you will receive a plaque to be proudly displayed at your business. In addition your business will be advertised on our Facebook page.

The following are events where you, as our sponsor, can expect to see your business promoted:

- All RHS football games, both home and away
- Walt Disney World, Magic Kingdom, Orlando
- Universal Studios, Orlando
- The Edison Festival of Light Parade, Ft Myers
- The Edison Festival of Light Junior Parade, Ft Myers
- Swamp Cabbage Festival Parade, LaBelle
- Saint Patrick's Day Parade, Naples

We are extremely grateful for support in *any* amount.

Please make checks payable to: **RBBC** (or, if you prefer, Riverdale Band Booster Club) and mail to Riverdale High School, Band Booster Club, 2600 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905. Receipts are available, upon request.

Musically,

Shannon Walter Golden
Director of Bands

Raiderbandnews@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook: *Riverdale.Raiders.Band*



Join the Nation ... Thank a Vietnam Veteran!

Please join USS Hannah Chapter, NSDAR, a Commemorative Partner in the United States of America 50th Vietnam War Commemoration, in Honoring our Vietnam Veterans! USS Hannah Chapter will be holding a pinning ceremony January or February 2022 in Labelle, Florida to honor our Vietnam Veterans.

We are actively searching for Vietnam Veterans who have served in our United States Military between November 1, 1955 through May 15, 1975 regardless of service location.

If you know of a Veteran, or a surviving Spouse, who served during the above dates, please contact Cathy Lowe, Service for Veterans Chairman



USS Hannah Chapter, NSDAR.

Cathy Lowe: cathy_lowe69@yahoo.com

All names must be submitted by October 1, 2021

USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida

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

SCORE Southwest Florida

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

If you are dreaming of starting your own business, or needing to grow your current business, the local 40 plus SCORE volunteers and personal certified mentors are waiting for your call or email. And remember, our services are completely FREE. We volunteer to serve so YOU can succeed.

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

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

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

Life-Long Learning Made Easy

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

Free Resources

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



JOB-LINK

https://expertjobmatch.com/cro/reg/goodwill?origin=bing-ads-search&type=cpc&msclkid=3e1c1e87bb021e31b6f5415c3d06719e&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Company%20%7C%20Retail%20-%20Clothing%20%7C%20Goodwill&utm_term=%2Bjobs%20%2Bat%20%2BGoodwill&utm_content=Jobs%20%7C%20BMM



Give TIME. Give MONEY. Give FOOD.

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



Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

Ft Myers Camera Club

<http://www.ftmyercc.com/>

Please NOTE: Our 2020-2021 meetings will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice. We welcome non-members to join a Zoom meeting and encourage prospective members to join FMCC. Please contact Carol Heffernan to request a Zoom invitation. carolheff28@gmail.com



Our last meeting will be for Image of the Year on April 9, 2021 and we won't meet this summer (due to covid). Plans are to either Zoom or be in person starting again in October.

Charleston Park Neighborhood Association



2541 Charleston Park Drive, Alva, FL 33920. 239-728-8895
Charlestonpark1926@gmail.com

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

Lashay Russ, Charleston Park Community Center Director asks everyone to consider donating...

"We are currently looking for donations of mulch cover the ground inside of our fenced-in area around the Neighborhood Community Center to start a **FOOD FOREST** here at the center, so we can distribute fresh fruit and veggies along with groceries from our food pantry.

"We also are asking for financial donations to help with a mural we are hoping to have professionally painted on the wall of the Community Center. Donations may be mailed as a check to the Center at the address above or they can use CASH APP:

\$Charlestonpark. Oh I almost forgot all donations are tax-deductible!"



This Design is ©Roland Ruocco 2021
It cannot be reproduced without the permission of Artist Roland Ruocco
r2w2@comcast.net 954 829 3832

A NEW FREE service to Southwest Florida residents!

(Mileage is charged outside of Lee County)

MANGO AWAY!

Let us schedule a time to come to your home and remove fruits from the tree you do not want at our own risk, free of charge in the lee county area. Outside of lee county we charge a travel fee. We do not remove fruit that has fallen on the ground.



SERVICES

- :Removal of mangos
- :Removal of star fruits
- :Removal of citrus fruits

We do not remove the tree!
Fruit only



BOOK US NOW!

**CALL MATT
917-701-8395**



**DON'T TALK
TO THE
ACTORS**

by Tom Dudzick



(Comedy) The best plans go awry when the cast and crew of a Broadway-bound play resort to manipulation, diva-like behavior and chaotic abandon to get what they want.

**October
1, 2, 3 & 8, 9, 10
2021**

Tickets
CALL: (863) 675-3066 (leave message)

Special preseason play
Not a part of our regular season
Call for tickets now



**The Cascades Community at Riverhall on Rte 80,
Alva, is sponsoring a Blood Drive
Saturday, Oct 2, 2021 from 10am until 2pm.**



A bit of ALVA History

ON JULY 4TH, 1925, THERE WAS A HUGE CELEBRATION IN ALVA!

READ ALL ABOUT IT HERE!!!!!!

(TY Joanne Iwinski Miller)

Welcome to Alva Bridge **CELEBRATION**

Come spend the 4th with us

See the wonderful chances for the man with small means as well as the man who has big money to invest to make purchases that are sure to be profitable.

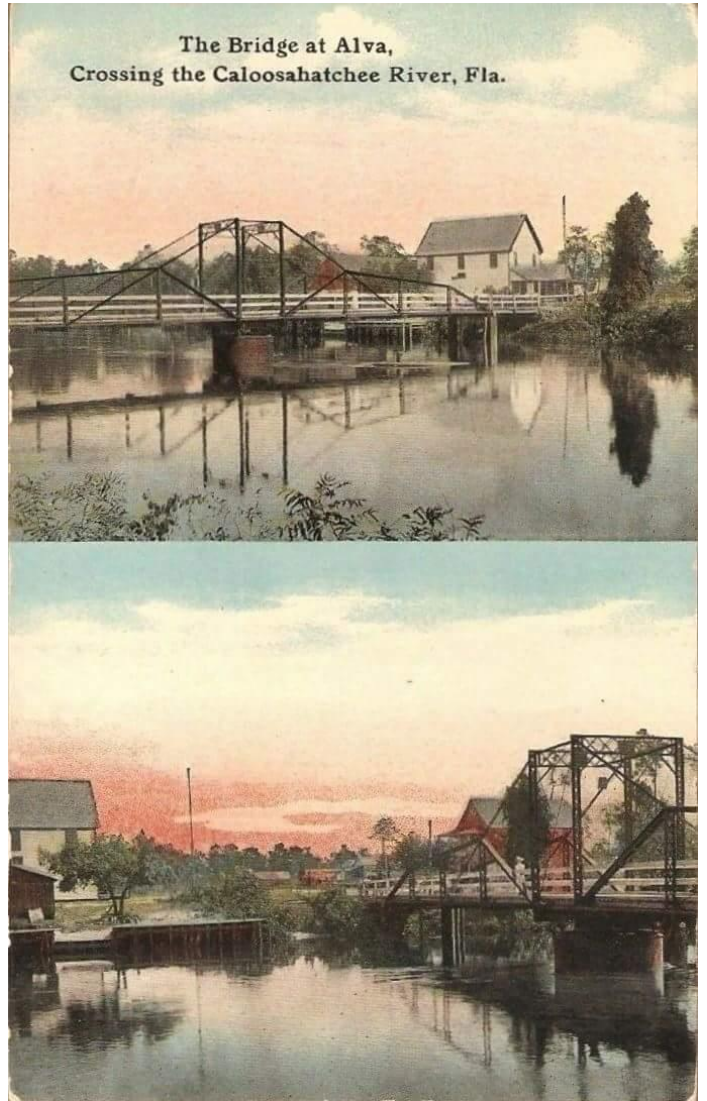
If you want information talk to us. We know all the land in this section and are always glad to show you without charge.

Ask about the best 129 acres in Hendry Co. with 1 mile Boulevard frontage.

Call at our New office on the Palm Beach Boulevard

R. E. WATSON & SON

The Bridge at Alva,
Crossing the Caloosahatchee River, Fla.



OVER 3,000 PEOPLE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALVA'S BIG BARBECUE

POST OFFICE NOTICE

The Fort Myers post office will be closed all day, Saturday, July 14th, except for one hour—from ten to eleven o'clock, at which time the general delivery and stamp windows will be open.

Double Celebration to Attract Throngs From Corners Of Three Counties

EVERYTHING ALL READY

Dedication Of New \$30,000 Bridge Among Main Features of Day

ALVA, July 3.—Alva is ready for the biggest day in her history. Independence day and the opening of the new \$30,000 bridge across the Caloosahatchee will be fittingly celebrated here Saturday with a monster barbecue and other popular features.

Alva is expected to entertain most of Lee, Hendry and Collier counties and has made ample provisions for the onrush of citizens. Twelve pigs, six steers, 1,000 loaves of bread, 25 gallons of pickles, sacks of potatoes, salad and other dainties await tomorrow's throng.

Three addresses are scheduled for the program. The speakers will be S. Wait Lawler, state's attorney; John E. Morris, chairman of the board of county commissioners and Walter O. Sheppard, county attorney.

Through the courtesy of Manager R. Dupuy the Fort Myers Concert band will be on hand to furnish plenty of tuneful music.

Alva bids all welcome to her celebration on the Fourth and Fort Myers will be well represented from all indications. The American Legion members of that city will be here in force as will several other organizations.

NATIONAL EDUCATORS AT INDIANAPOLIS

(By The Associated Press) INDIANAPOLIS, July 3.—The fourth business session of the representative assembly of the national educational association took up a diversity of subjects.

Mrs. Helen T. Hixson, of Washington, D. C., director of the division of records and accounts, reported a "decided improvement" in the association's finances and an increase of 18,000 cash memberships.

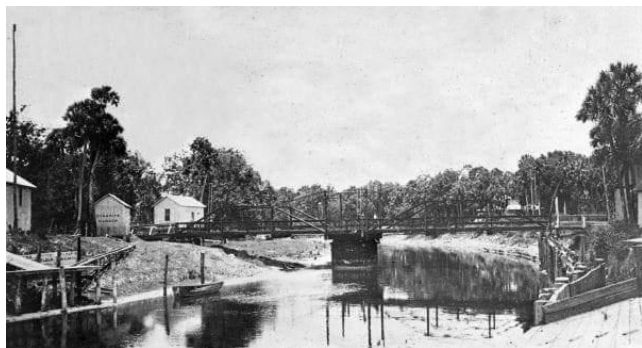
The property of the association, Harold A. Allan, Washington, D. C., director of the business division, reported was "in excellent condition," adding that several reductions in expense had been made in the business department. The income from advertising in the Journal of the National Educational association, he said, had increased to the extent of \$7,000.

The work of the Journal was discussed by its editor, Joy Elmer Morgan of Washington, D. C., who declared the association "is the largest publisher of educational literature."



AND HOW DID IT ALL WORK OUT???

Alva's big barbecue came off with flying colors on the Fourth. It was big alright, as about three thousand people were expected but according to the number of plates served and luncheon without plates there was about four thousand here. Fort Myers and LaBelle were well represented, and many other places besides. Some even coming from Relay Slough. The best citizens and business men of Fort Myers and LaBelle were present and we presume had a good time. The band was the drawing card as it was very much appreciated. We had plenty of meat and bread but pickles and salad gave out at about the three thousandth person. It wasn't anything unusual to see someone walking about the street with a loaf of bread under one arm and a leg of pork or a few rib bones of beef under the other. Fifty gallons of cream was sold and a hundred and fifty cases of cold drinks, so eat and drinks were not lacking.



July 3rd 1925

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>



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

Dogs must be accompanied by an adult and must remain on-leash at all times while walking in the park. Find out more at: <https://www.leegov.com/parks/dog-parks>



Six Mile Cypress Slough, Lee County Park

7751 Penzance Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL. 33966

A mile of wonder 30 minutes away from Alva.



Manatee Park
10901 Palm Beach Blvd,
Fort Myers, FL 33905
239 690 5030



Olga Community Park

2325 S Olga Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33905

(239) 533-7275



Hickey's Creek Mitigation Park

17980 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

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



ALVA BOAT RAMP PARK

21580 Pearl St,

Alva, FL 33920



W.P. Franklin Lock & Dam South Recreation Area



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

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

W.P Franklin Lock & Dam CAMPGROUND

Camp by reservation only

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

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





Alva Community Center PARK

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

Shady lawns & baseball field



Telegraph Creek: Unspoiled kayak trail worth discovering

(TY Florida Rambler)

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



Caloosahatchee Regional Park



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

EMAIL: leeparks@leegov.com

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



NORTH FORT MYERS Recreation Park

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

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

**Veterans Park Recreation Center
55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh
Acres, FL 33936**



**ALVA FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE
SERVICE**

2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920

(239) 728-2223

**Thank a first Responder every time
you see them.**



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

Preserves are open daily during daylight hours. Access may be limited at certain locations due to temporary flooding, special restoration projects, or isolated location. Information about each Conservation 20/20 preserve can be accessed from the website:

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



Bob Janes Preserve



Daniel's Preserve at Spanish Creek



Carter's Lane



Buckingham Trails Preserve



Olga Shores Preserve



Newest area 20-20 site, Oak hammock



Alva Scrub Preserve



Telegraph Creek Preserve



**VOLUNTEER FOR
MEALS ON WHEELS**

WWW.COMMUNITYCOOPERATIVE.COM

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

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

239) 332-7687

\$25.00 each. Available in Black or White letters.
Approx 10" long. Peel and Stick letters only.

ALVA Life **ALVA Life**

CAR or TRUCK WINDOW DECAL

ALL proceeds from sales go to military veterans.

The Veteran Visitor organization recognizes WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War veterans with FREE certificates and challenge coins in appreciation for their service. Proceeds from the sales of these window decals go towards certificate printing and challenge coin production. Ref: Website below.



In Stock. Or, Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Phone/Text 630-642-6500

Display your pride for our city and support our military veterans

How to properly wear a face mask

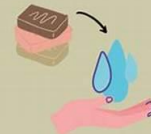


Check that face masks:

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

children'shealth?

PLEASE WEAR A MASK & STOP THE SPREAD



Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.



Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks.



To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

Source: World Health Organization



Southwest Florida Cooking by

MAGGIE McMann

of Oak Park, Alva

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

ON THE RIVER SALAD

INGREDIENTS:

Florets from 1 head of broccoli, blanched and drained (about 12 ounces of florets)

2 c raw cauliflower florets

2 stalks celery finely chopped

½ cup dried cherries, coarsely chopped

½ cup chopped toasted pecans

1 apple, diced

1 small onion, finely diced

1/4 c honey roasted sunflower seeds

1/4 c Pepito's

1/2 c local blueberries

FOR THE DRESSING:

3/4 C mayonnaise

1/4 c sour cream

3 Tbsp apple cider vinegar

1/2 C sugar

3 T local honey

1/2 tsp celery seed

1/2 tsp dry mustard

1/2 tsp salt

1/4 tsp ground black pepper



INSTRUCTIONS:

Combine all of the salad ingredients in a large bowl.

Whisk the dressing ingredients together in a separate small bowl.

Gently toss the salad and dressing together. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



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**



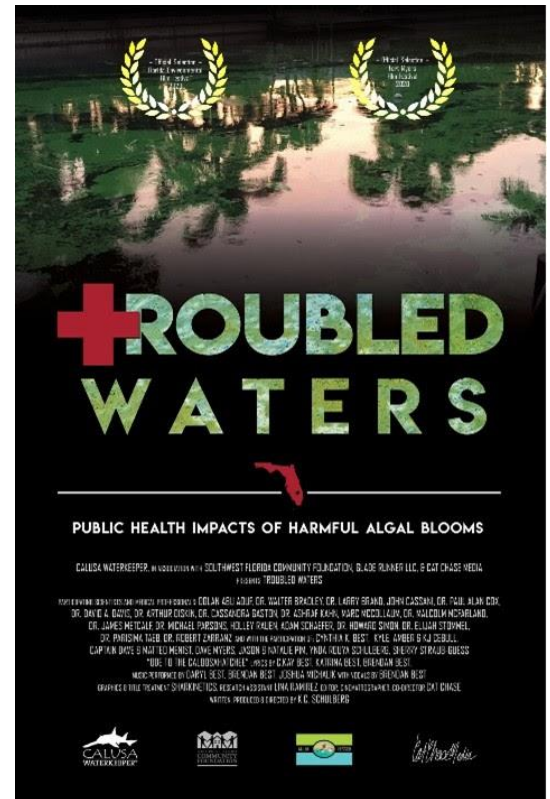
Ranger

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

NEXT CLASS: Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021 9am – 11:30am

Calusa Waterkeeper is pleased to make available its 2019 documentary “Troubled Waters: The Public Health Impacts of Harmful Algae Blooms” for free to the public!

During the height of the 2018 Blue-Green Algae and Red Tide HAB crises in Southwest Florida, Calusa Waterkeeper met and interviewed many of the nation’s leading research scientists studying HABs, but also doctors and nurses on the front lines and patients who had suffered harm. The result was a compelling, current, informative and entertaining 40-minute documentary conveying much needed information on potential risk – particularly on the aerosolized transmission of particles from HABs and the increased danger that poses to public health.



GO TO:

<https://calusawaterkeeper.org/troubled-waters/>

Alva Angel's

Giving back to the families of our community



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

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



Since 1964

Your RIVERDALE LIBRARY

Location: 2421 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL



EVERY SATURDAY, 12 noon till SOLD OUT except the 4th Saturday of each month

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



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

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

OR online through the



CASH APP

with the code:

\$Liberationoutreach09



South Florida Wildlands Association

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

SFWA is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated solely to protecting what remains of one of our planet's most unique natural areas. Diverse animals such as Florida panthers, wood storks, snail kites, manatees, corals, sea turtles, American crocodiles, and Florida black bears benefit from the many campaigns SFWA carries out. Relying on science, law, and public advocacy, SFWA works to protect habitat on public and private lands alike, while preserving clean water and quality of life for South Florida's human population.

And guess what... Alva is located in the 'greater' Everglades.

<https://www.southfloridawild.org/>



The ALVA MUSEUM

Originally a public library built in 1909, it now serves as a museum of artifacts from the original settlers of Alva and is maintained by the members of the Alva Garden Club.

The museum is now closed for the summer and will reopen on October 2nd but you can see a virtual video tour at: <http://alvafilmuseum.com> (click on Virtual Tour).

Please feel free to visit the lovely landscaped grounds at any time! For information about the Alva Garden Club, see: <http://alvagardenclub.org/>



LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT UPCOMING SPONSORED EVENTS

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING AT LCSO EDISON MALL COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

Facilitated by the Children's Advocacy Center, sponsored by the Cape Coral Community Foundation and hosted by the Lee County Sheriff's Office, a "Youth Mental Health First Aid Training" will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at the LCSO Edison Mall Community Outreach Center from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm.

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and



substance use disorders in youth. This 8-hour training gives adults who work with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to children and adolescents (ages 6-18) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.

This training is designed to benefit ANYONE who works with or interacts with children and/or teens. Register by contacting the instructor: Quinton A. Clawson, LMHC, NCC at 561-571-5413 or email qclawson@cac-swfl.org

TEEN DRIVER CHALLENGE

Teen Driver Challenge teaches young drivers the techniques and lifesaving skills used by professional drivers in a "hands-on" driving environment.

For more information, please email Staff Officer Stacy Detar at sdetar@sheriffleefl.org.



R.E.A.D.Y. WOMEN'S BASIC SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES HELD AT LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE OUTREACH CENTERS

Have you ever been approached by someone asking for money? Have you ever felt uncomfortable while walking or jogging? Has someone ever threatened you? Were you feeling frightened? Helpless? What did you do? What would you do?

The Lee County Sheriff's Office hosts R.E.A.D.Y. (Respond with Empowerment and Awareness to Defense Yourself) Women's Basic Self-Defense classes at our Community Outreach Centers. Interested? Call 239-477-1CRU (1278).

LCSO Crime Prevention Specialists discuss personal safety and situational awareness prior to demonstrating techniques that may be helpful in the event of an assault.



Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

\$500 High School Fishing Grants!



Does your high school fishing club or team need \$500 to help with club expenses and the purchase of fishing licenses or gear? The Florida R3 Fishing Grant Program is open to freshwater or saltwater fishing clubs or teams at public, private and charter high schools throughout Florida.

Application deadline is Sept. 17.

For more info, scroll down to “Florida’s R3 Fishing Grant Program” on MyFWC.com/HSF

Alva Area FOOD PANTRIES

Grace UMC, Fort Myers Shores

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

CALL to RESERVE your FOOD

239-205-3123

m Ctr

FOOD PANTRY

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

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.

ALVA UMC

Food Pantry @ Bethany House

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

239-728-2277



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/>



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.



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@embarqmail.com

www.ouralvachurch.org 239-728-2277

Alva Church of God

21520 Park St, Alva, Florida 33920

239-728-2644

Liberation International Church

Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL 33920,

239-601-4870

New Hope Faith Temple of Jesus Christ

23210 Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL, 33920 239-770-4974

Buckingham Presbyterian Church

4241 Buckingham Road

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.buckinghampc.org

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 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.blcefcm.org 239-694-3878

Olga Baptist Church

2364 South Olga Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.olgabaptist.org 239-694-2012

olgabapch1@embarqmail.com

RECOVERY Groups in the Alva Area



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

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

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

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

ALVA:

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

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

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

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

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

FORT MYERS SHORES:

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

-AA 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

Important Alva Area Lee County Phone Numbers & Websites

(as of August 1, 2020)

Agency	Normal Business	Emergency
ANY immediate life-threatening emergency		911
American Red Cross (Local Chapter)	239-278-3401	239-278-3401
Arson Alert Hotline	800-342-5869	800-342-5869
Blood Donor Centers	888-9-DONATE	
- Lee Memorial Blood Center	239-343-2333	
- Florida's Blood Centers	239-574-3170	
Dept. of Financial Services (Insurance)	239-461-4001	800-22-STORM
Federal Emergency Management Agency	800-621-3362	800-462-7585
Florida Division of Emergency Management	850-413-9969	
Lee County Animal Services	239-533-7387	239-533-7387
Lee County Emergency Info Hotline/United Way	39-433-2000	211
Lee County Emergency Management	239-533-0622	239-533-0622
Lee County Government	239-533-2111	
Lee County Health Department	239-332-9501	239-332-9501
Lee County Public Safety & EMS	239-533-3911	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office 2	39-477-1000	911
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	850-617-3004	
National Weather Service/Tampa Bay	813-645-2323	
Poison Information	800-222-1222	800-222-1222
Salvation Army, The	239-278-1551	239-278-1551
Traffic Conditions in Florida (Current)	511	511
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades & Okeechobee Counties	239-433-2000	211

Agency Web Addresses

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)	www.ready.gov/citizen-corps
Department of Financial Services (Insurance)	www.myfloridacfo.com
Department of Homeland Security	www.dhs.gov/
Florida Lightning Safety	www.weather.gov/safety/lightning
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	www.flhsmv.gov/mobilehome
American Sign Language Preparedness Videos	www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan
StormReady	www.weather.gov/stormready/



Cell
239-340-3904

Office
239-693-1959

Email
PattyWalkerREMAX@gmail.com

Web
GulfCoastLivingPatty.com

Address
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Fort Myers, FL 33905

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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. **941-755-1411**. You can go on our website to get more information at iagencies.com

Special thanks to all who financially support the mission of
ON THE RIVER.

We especially encourage our readers to patronize the professional
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Senior Companion Program (SCP)
Charlene Mitchell, Director
#239-332-5346 Ext. 103
charlene@drpipercenter.org

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)
Terri Erling, Assistant Director
#239-332-5346 Ext. 107
terri@drpipercenter.org



The Senior Companion Program (SCP) and Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) provide volunteer opportunities for people aged 55 and older. SCP volunteers serve frail elderly especially those who are home-bound and living alone. They offer friendship and connection to the outside world; they run errands, and transport them to medical appointments or the grocery store. FGP volunteers serve children with special needs in schools, after school and summer programs. They serve as tutors and mentors to children including those who are victims of abuse, neglect, illiteracy or disability. The emotional benefits of volunteering with us can be profound and lasting. While bringing enrichment to the lives of the seniors and children they serve, Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents often find that their lives are more fulfilling and enhanced.

2607 Dr. Ella Piper Way
Fort Myers, FL 33916
www.drpipercenter.org

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KRISTEN@ERESUCCESS.COM
239-229-8807



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

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

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

Advertising rates per month :

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

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

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

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

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