

On the RIVER

Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS



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The deadline for receipt of any materials is the 15th of the month.

Issues go out before the 1st of each month, and may be edited.

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

FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL Alva area news: Rte 31 development
- LOCAL history: A doctor's house still on Rte 80
- LOCAL Community services: Closer than you think
- LOCAL club and organization news: Alva Garden Club
- LOCAL recipes: Florida Mango Muffins
- LOCAL sport:



ISSUE 45, Oct 2022, 1300+ subscribers. Archives & MORE at www.ontheriver.org Ken DeWalt, publisher

3000+ may view in Alva Florida Friends and Family <https://www.facebook.com/groups/alva.fl/>

1000+ may view in Know Your Neighbors 239 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/757702127967077>

800+ may view in Fort Myers Shores Neighborhood <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1296361133883401>

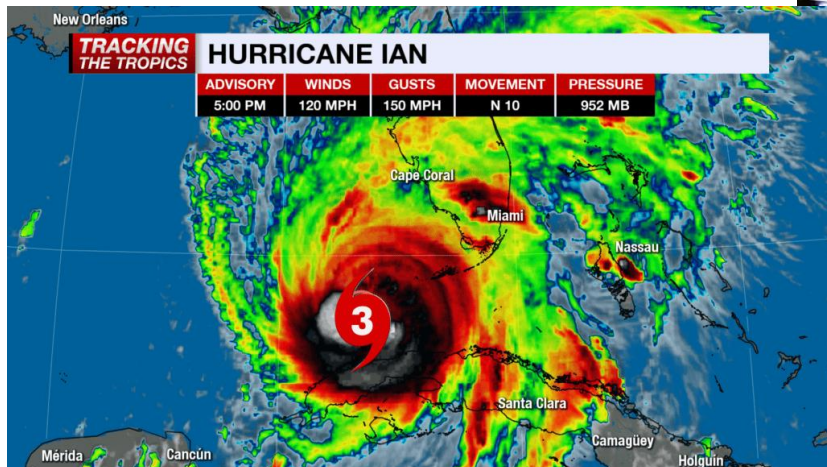
5300+ may view in Preserve Buckingham <https://www.facebook.com/groups/665471610185127>

1500+ may view in What's Happening in Buckingham & Alva <https://www.facebook.com/groups/195607809187479>

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12,000+ may view in What's Happening in LaBelle Today <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1690641604483126>

IN THE HOURS BEFORE



DURING



AFTER



**Some roofs
flew,
but the
steeple
stayed!**



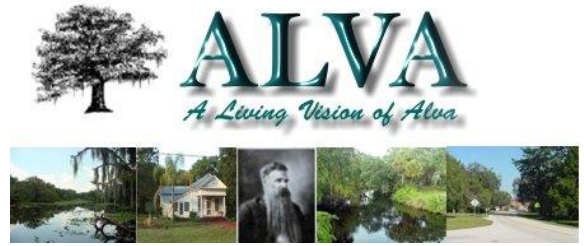
We ask for prayers and God's help for all of those who have experienced loss of any kind, especially home or loved ones.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

Lee County schools call off school next week

ALVA INC, At the Alva Community Center.

ZOOM access will be available for those who are unable to attend.



Info@AlvaFl.org WEBSITE www.ALVAFL.org

NEXT MEETING: Every Second Tuesday, 7pm, Alva Community Center

Alva Inc has four speakers lined up for the coming fall meetings, but none of them could make it to the make it to the September meeting so that meeting was cancelled. The next ALVA INC meeting will be Tuesday, October 11, 2023.

A meeting will be held sponsored by Alva INC between St. Matthew's Ministry and Cypress Drive residents to inform the Alva community about their program. We will announce the date when confirmed.



FDOT plans 2 new bridges for LaBelle

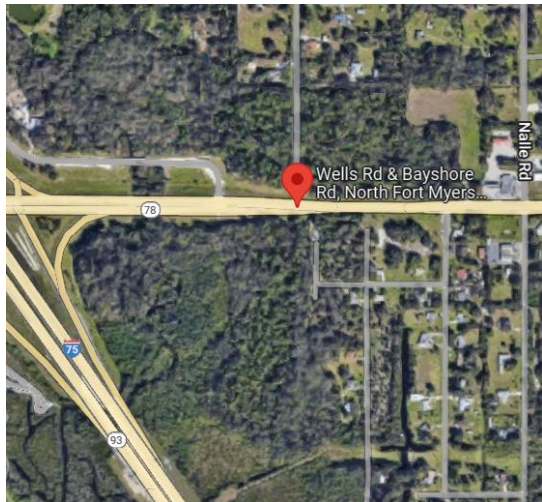
Several years ago, the Florida Dept of Transportation approached the leaders of LaBelle about the need for a second bridge across the Caloosahatchee. They agreed, and requested that a second bridge should be located close to the first bridge. Traffic was light and extra traffic would not pose a problem. There was no money at that time to plan for the bridge.

On June 6 of this year FDOT submitted a new plan to representatives from LaBelle that showed two new bridges close to one another. After analysis, Mr. Leonard (Len) Enriquez, (owner of Cambridge Project Company, www.cambridgeprojectdev.com), leader of the new concerned residents 'LaBelle's Second Bridge Group' asked to present his idea of building one new bridge to bypass the town instead of dividing it with two main highways going through the middle. Len requested a meeting with the mayor and city council to present this alternative on Sept. 8, 2022.

That evening the City Hall was filled with people, thirty of whom were there to hear about the second bridge plan. There were several items on the agenda before Len presented his slides that demonstrate towns and cities that have bridges that benefit with a bypass versus those that essentially ruin the ambiance of the community.

Council members agreed that the old plan does not fit LaBelle because of the abundance of traffic going through it now. FDOT is now aware that there is some controversy about the former plan and the mayor said they may come to another meeting with completely different plans.

All interested citizens to attend the next open meeting with FDOT on Wednesday, October 26 at the LaBelle Civic Center at 6PM.



Bayshore Village Seeks 100% + Increase in Commercial Space

(TY Steven Brodtkin - CCBC, Concerned Citizens of Bayshore Communities)

Representatives for the proposed Bayshore Village rezoning will give a presentation and answer questions about their rezoning application at an open to all public meeting to be held on

Oct. 3rd, 7 PM, at the

New Hope Christian Church, 17181 Tarpon Way, North Fort Myers, FL 33917

Bayshore Village is an 8.75-acre parcel at the northeast corner of Bayshore Road and Wells Road. In 2006 the parcel was rezoned from Ag-2 to CPD (Commercial Planned Development). The current courtesy notice to adjacent property owners' states:

"Amend CPD to permit an increase in total floor area from 61,000 sq. ft. to 150,000 sq. ft. and the addition of heavy commercial uses."

This looks like a massive overreach since county staff says they typically permit 10,000 sq. ft. of commercial space per acre for developments like this. They've also added a number of possible uses, including self-service fuel pumps, that were not included in the 2006 rezoning. They have also eliminated the buffer wall on the north side of the property which was to separate the commercial development from residential areas.

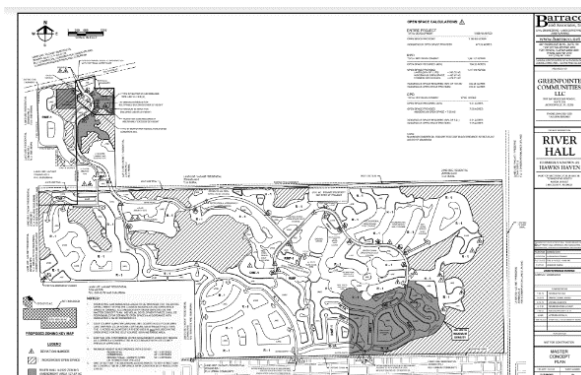


County and Developers continue discussion on near 500 new homes, single and higher density, in River Hall.

A Local Planning Agency Meeting scheduled for September 26th has been moved back to October 24th. All interested persons are asked to attend on the new date. Agenda for this 9am to 9pm meeting will be found when posted or contact Janet Miller at 239 533 8583.

The River Hall Concerned Residents group is hoping to have the county leadership decide to stop any future discussion on increased density housing in their community.

And now this challenge arises for all river Hall residents...



Hundreds of River Hall residents upset that mail is no longer delivered to their homes

(TY WINK NEWS)

Hundreds of neighbors in the River Hall community in Lee County say they are not getting mail delivered to their homes.

Instead, they say they have to drive miles to pick it up.

When people moved into the neighborhood, they got mail delivered to the mailboxes in front of their homes just like everyone else. That changed on September 3.

That's when the post office delivered a letter saying they would no longer deliver letters or amazon packages to their homes.

"We moved in, in April of this year, we had mail for three months. And then we were told, no mail. And then they started back up again, two weeks later, and then kept it for three weeks and then stopped delivering mail again," said Rich Hrach, a River Hall resident.

What the post office's letter means is that people living in newer homes in River Hall will have to go to the Alva post office, at least 15 minutes away, to get their mail.

The reason why is River Hall was supposed to have postal units where a carrier can deposit mail to everyone in one place, but those postal units have not been installed yet.

"When we first built the house, nobody told us that there was going to be no mailboxes or mail service. It was not advertised then. So, we work from home, nine to five. And coincidentally, that's the same time that the post office is open. And they close for lunch, the only time that we can go get mail. So we've had to, like, route our mail to my in-law's house," said Juan Arango, a River Hall resident.

The builders of the neighborhood, Pulte and Lennar, have not yet responded about when the contract postal units will be installed.





“The Hut” in Buckingham has been sold

(TY Lehigh Gazette)

In August 2016 Peace Tropical Gardens LLC, aka “The Hut”, was put up for sale at 2.3 million dollars. The property at 5150 Buckingham Rd Ft Myers, FL has been sold to Shows Team Enterprises LLC ,based in Arcadia, FL at 7500 SW County Road

769. for \$1,900,000 on August 30, 2022.

Owned by Shauna and Jesse Shows, according to BIZPROFILES at <https://bisprofiles.com/fl/shows-team-p17000097945> . Incorporated in late 2017. It is listed a domestic US company with two employees, the owners, at the time this report was documented.

The Shows are also listed as principles and managers of CHARLOTTE HARBOR CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY AND CANVAS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, incorporated in 2018. This business is located at 23295 JANICE AVE, UNIT 15, PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, 33983.

Plans for the property have not been shared at this time.

The name “Peaceful Gardens” back story:

Once upon a time, a beautiful Tahitian princess traveled to a remote land to live. Her husband, a world traveler, dreamed of creating a world-class tropical garden there and succeeded in his ambition, importing unusual plants from all over the world.

Princess Ramira Stephagee and her husband, Edwin Peace, raised their son and daughter and entertained the likes of fellow plant devotee Thomas Edison in this tropical paradise today known as Buckingham, a quiet community east of Fort Myers.

The Peace children, Oscar and Lolita, sold the property in the late 1960s to Marie Louise Books Rector, who dreamed of creating a tropical restaurant amidst the lush gardens. In the early 1970s, she opened her restaurant and “The Hut” became a popular gathering spot for the better part of 30 years.

But as with so many such establishments, it eventually closed, the buildings and gardens forgotten and forlorn. In the Summer of 2012, Buckingham LEGEND resident and entrepreneur Tommy Lee Cook found himself dreaming about the property.

“I sat alone in the gardens,” he writes on the restaurant’s website, “and imagined the place restored, brought back to the splendor it deserved. I saw the people, the parties, the weddings and anniversaries, the fun and the life, swirling around me in my mesmerized trance. I had a new dream.”

The Hut has long been one the areas favorite places to chill out and dine. The surrounding grounds are so peaceful.... but both came alive when Tommy Lee Cook was on site. Tommy Lee had a way with the guitar, and hospitality, and I hope his next leg of life’s journey is filled with as much happiness as he’s given to others over the years.

Lake Okeechobee levels are at dry season levels during the height of rainy season

(TY News-Press, Chad Gillis)



Lake Okeechobee levels are low with only six weeks left in the rainy season, a scenario that could put sea grasses, oysters and marine critters that rely on the Caloosahatchee River estuary in trouble.

Summer is typically the time of year when Okeechobee releases blast down the channelized portion of the river, sending whitewater flows through the Franklin Lock and Dam in Alva.

But this year, lake levels are low at 12.6 feet above sea level, just above the lower end of the management spectrum. Those levels usually aren't seen until the late spring, well into the dry season. "There's a lot of concern because September and October are kind of lottery months," said Paul Gray, a scientist with Audubon Florida. "(But) one tropical storm or hurricane can change things, so it's too soon to panic."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in charge of lake levels and tries to keep the surface of the lake between 12.5 and 15.5 feet above sea level to provide flood protection and water supply for agriculture, urbanized areas and ecological systems like the Caloosahatchee.

Historically, the Caloosahatchee River was not directly connected to Lake Okeechobee, but developers blasted a channel down the river decades ago to drain the Everglades for farming and development.

Nowadays too much rainwater runs off the landscape too quickly, and there's little left to feed the river's estuary during the drier months. That's where the lake comes into play during dry times. It provides what the ditched-and-drained watershed can't.

Flows from the lake have been cut off in recent weeks, meaning that all the water flowing through the dam is coming from the eastern Caloosahatchee River watershed. The dam is the cutoff point for the estuary, the separator between the fresh, upstream conditions and the brackish, downstream waters.

River advocates say the Army Corps has done a better job in recent years at providing the river with the needed water during dry times.

"What the Corps is trying to do is use their additional flexibility to hit a sweet spot," said Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani. "If we get a hurricane and a lot of rain, that is going to fill the lake too fast; but if it stops raining and the lake stays low, there isn't enough water for water supply and for natural systems. They're walking the fence."

Army Corps spokesman Jim Yokum said there is a risk that less-than-average rain will fall north of Lake Okeechobee in the coming weeks and months. "The forecast for the upcoming dry season indicates there is an increased risk of below normal rainfall due to a strong La Niña this winter," Yokum said. "Stronger La Niña conditions tend to mean less rain in the dry season."

Yokum said the idea is to keep water in the lake at this stage, not to conduct large releases.

"Holding that water in the lake right now when it isn't needed can be helpful later in the dry season when it is more likely to be needed to meet the needs of water supply, including the needs of environmental water supply," he said.

Cassani said his group would like to see river flows around 750 cubic feet per second at the Franklin Lock and Dam. Ideally, the flows stay between those 750 and 2,800 cubic feet per second, the high-end harm threshold.

The two sources, when combined, can wreak havoc on the estuary during large tropical storms and hurricanes. Water from the land and the lake are forced down the river, into the estuary and several miles out into the Gulf of Mexico.

"Right now, the rainfall in the local basin has been providing the Caloosahatchee River estuary with the freshwater it needs with very little support from the lake," Yokum said. "While we set a 457 (cubic feet per second goal), it has been getting significantly more than that this rainy season, and our periodic scientist calls and reports from partners and stakeholders indicate the salinity is in a very good spot right now."





The Estero Council of Community Leaders (ECCL) will be holding a town hall style Public Forum on Greater Estero Water Quality and Environment Actions and

Solutions at The Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University on Thursday, October 13, 2022, starting at 5:00 pm.

The forum features four local experts on water and environmental issues facing Southwest Florida and the Greater Estero area. A panel discussion will focus on current and future threats to our community's environment, scientific information on the causes of these threats, and specific initiatives to reduce the negative impacts on local water quality.

The evening will also include tours of The Water School, a state-of-the-art research and education facility devoted to advancing our understanding of water threats like algal blooms and sea-level change and developing tools and solutions to these problems. Tours begin at 5:00 pm and end at 5:45 pm. The forum commences at 6:00 pm.

The event is free; however, seating is limited, and reservations are required. Please visit the event page on ECCL's website and sign up today.

Panel Speakers include:

- John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper**
- Matt DePaolis, Environmental Policy Director, Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF)**
- Bob Moore, Co-Chair of the Sanibel-Captiva Renewable Energy Working Group**
- Greg Tolley, Executive Director of The Water School at FGCU**

For additional information, please contact Jim Gilmartin at 630-337-9900 or ecclpres@gmail.com

The Estero Council of Community Leaders (ECCL) is a volunteer, non-partisan, non-political, IRS-designated 501c3 nonprofit organization.

Second Lee County woman wins \$1 million on a scratch-off ticket

(TY NBC2-Mariana Ortiz)



An Alva woman claims a \$1 million prize, being the second local winner to receive a one-time lump-sum payment this week.

Christina Baldino played the \$30 BILLION DOLLAR GOLD RUSH SUPREME Scratch-Off game. According to the Florida Lottery, she received a payment of \$880,000.00.

Baldino purchased her winning ticket from Handy Food, located at 21321 State Road 80 in Alva. The retailer will receive a \$2,000 bonus commission for selling the winning ticket.

The odds of winning this game are 1-in-2.59.

Three projects under construction in the Alva Area



The Riverdale library is well on its way to completion of its new look and space designs.

The new fire station at River Hall has broken serious ground near the entrance to the community.

The new senior living center in Alva on Palm Beach seems to be in a holding pattern at the moment.

Rte 31 & Rte 78

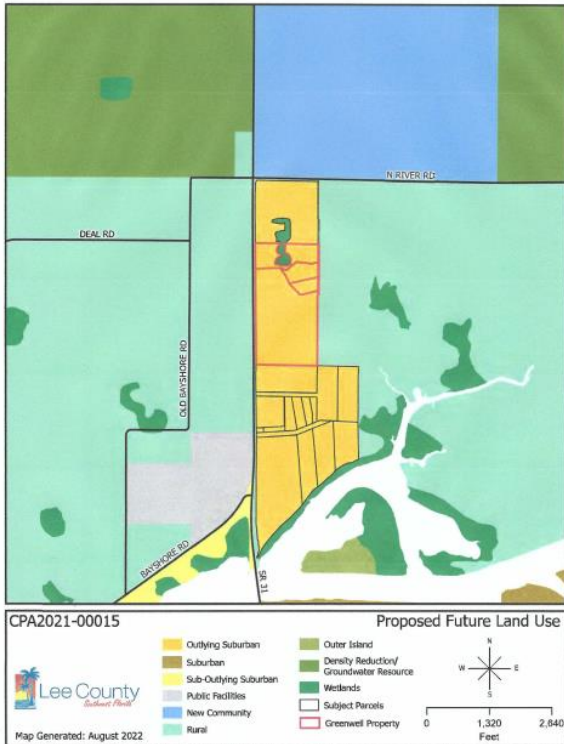
Zoning Changes Approved

(TY Steve Brodtkin)

On September 21st the Board of County Commissioner's (BOCC) voted to change all of the property fronting Rte 31 from North River Road to the River from zoned Rural to Outlying Suburban. This change allows more density of single homes, higher density house or apartment construction, and a large increase for the primary owner of the land, Mike Greenwell, from 100,000 to 400,000 square feet of commercial/retail space. Commissioner Mike Greenwell was present but he abstained from this vote.

The owner of about 40 acres at southeast corner of Rte 31 and rte 78 is Dan Kreinbrink. He has wanted to develop this property in the past (2015) at a time when the BOCC was less

favorable to land use changes in rural areas. The 45-acre parcel on the east side of SR 31 and bordering the river is owned by Syd Kitson, the developer of the Babcock Ranch Communities. Kitson has also wanted to develop there in the past. Syd Kitson and Dan Kreinbrink have not applied for a land use change that would increase the value of their land recently, so they will receive this benefit with no cost or effort on their part. The owners of the on Old Rodeo Road did not respond to certified letters they received about this change.



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

Caloosa Humane Center 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle

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.



South Florida Wildlands Association

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

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



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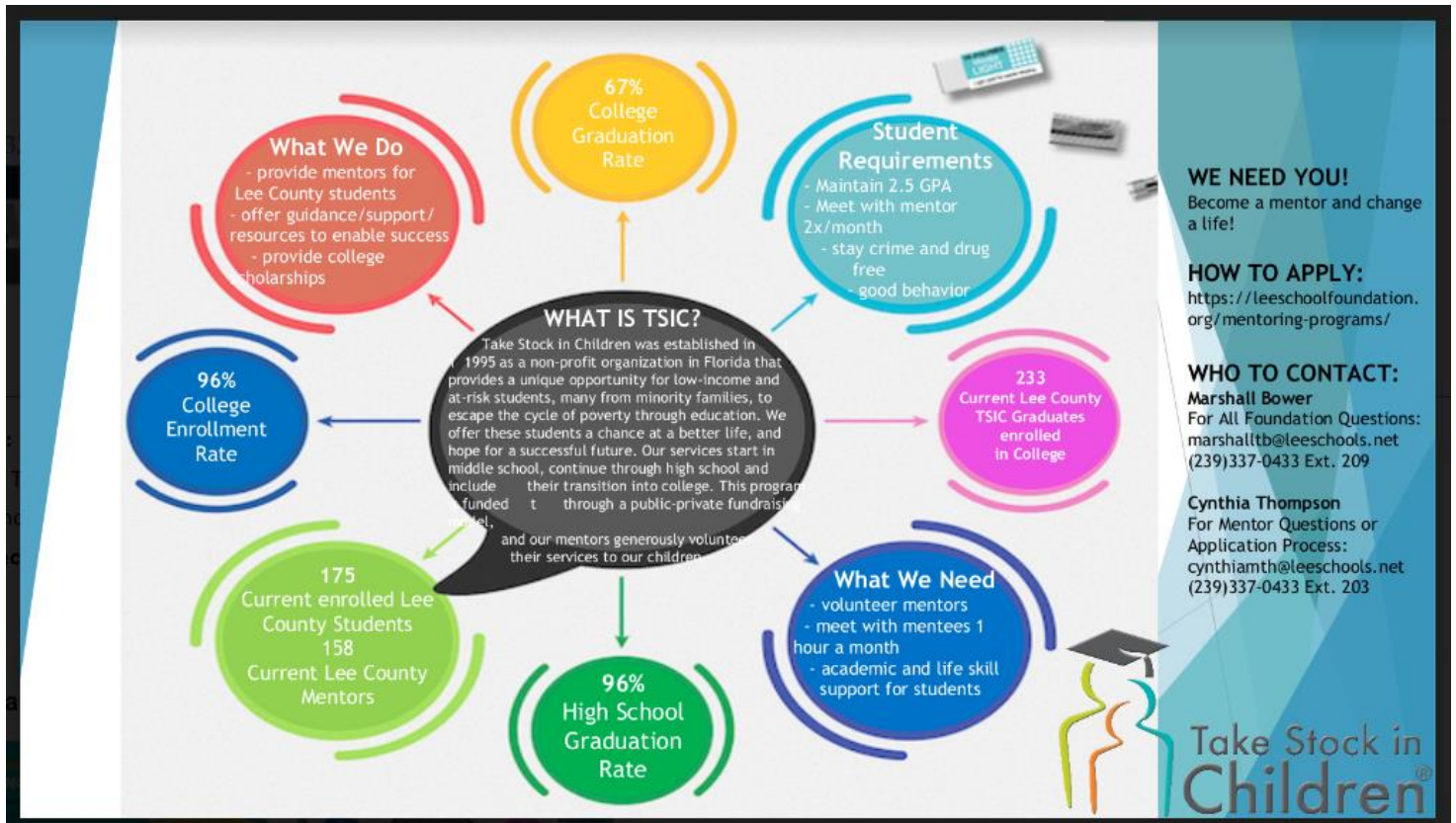
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What is TSIC?
TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN.
You can.



Barron Library



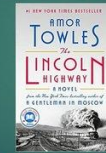
LaBelle, Florida

BARRON LIBRARY

at the LaBelle Caloosahatchee Dock
Park

Barron Library Book Club

Selection for October 2022



The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles
October 7th @ 10:00 am



It's
Puzzling!

Puzzle Competition @ Barron Library

September 5th– October 3rd.
Teams of 2 to 4 players compete to
assemble puzzles in the shortest amount
of time. Form your teams now and
register at the library or
call 863-675-0833.
First round competition begins the week
of September 5th.

**YOU KNOW IT'S FALL
IN FLORIDA WHEN...**



**THE LICENSE PLATE
COLORS BEGIN TO CHANGE!**

*The Alva Chapter USS Hannah,
Daughters of the
American
Revolution*



USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida

On Saturday, Dec 17, 2022 at 12 noon sharp there will be a ceremony and laying of wreaths at Alva cemetery to honor and remember our veterans.

USS Hannah Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution has been taking care of this ceremony for the past 5 years.



You can purchase a wreath for \$15 at the Wreaths Across America website that will connect directly to our chapter to be sure we receive enough wreaths for the 140 veterans buried at Alva Cemetery. Please show your support and honor and remember a local veteran. Thank you!

The direct link to use is: www.wreathscrossamerica.org/FL0533P.

Cutoff date to purchase is November 28th.

Any questions can be directed to Georgette Lundquist at jglundy7@gmail.com USS Hannah Chapter,

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



FORT MYERS EAST ROTARY CLUB

NEW LOCATION!

We meet every Wednesday at 7:30 AM at the Cracker Barrel at I-75 (Exit 141) and Palm Beach Boulevard. Contact Ellen Erickson at 239-218-4789 to learn how you can be a part of this long-standing service and fellowship club.



IMAGINE ROTARY



The Alva Library Museum

NOW OPEN EVERY SATURDAY
2-4 PM!!



Public Library, Alva

Originally a public library built in 1909, it now serves as a museum of artifacts from the original settlers of Alva.

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

Alva Fire & Rescue District

PREVENTION.
SERVICE.
EXCELLENCE.

The Alva Fire Department is committed to providing excellent public service for all residents, businesses and visitors.



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



Just a FEW of our members on an outing last spring

The ALVA GARDEN CLUB

The Alva Garden Club kicks off its 2022-2023 season in a new location.

We will be meeting in the Alva Methodist Church Fellowship Hall the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1 pm beginning Tuesday, October 18th, 2022.

The program that day will be about Monarch Butterflies, the dangers they face and how we can help to sustain the species.

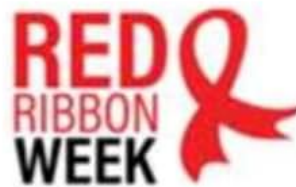
Each month we have special speakers presenting interesting and relevant information.

We also plan field trips that enhance our knowledge and inspire good garden practices.

Membership in the Alva Garden Club is still only \$10 per person.

Everyone is welcomed to join!





The last week of October is
Red Ribbon Week,
and we need some help spreading joy!



The Alva School would like to collect
1400 Landscape Stones to create a
Kindness Rock Garden near the library.

If you are able to help, please consider grabbing a bag on your next trip to Home Depot or Lowes, and dropping off in the front office.

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 30 plus SCORE volunteers and personal certified mentors are waiting for your call or email. And remember, our services are completely FREE. We volunteer to serve so YOU can succeed.

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

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

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

Life-Long Learning Made Easy

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

Free Resources

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

Contact (239) 931-9807, swflscore@gmail.com for more information



JOB-LINK



Florida Job Link connects talent and opportunity, enabling on-the-spot HIRING! UPCOMING EVENTS BELOW! WE KEEP FLORIDA WORKING! The Best and Brightest Candidates connect with Top Florida Employers face-to-face via our Hiring Events in cities throughout Florida! Florida Job Link is voted #1 Job Fair experience in the state of Florida by attendees!

<https://www.indeed.com/q-Goodwill-I-Lee-County,-FL-jobs.html>



Charleston Park Neighborhood Association

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

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



The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail

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

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



www.RichAndLaurieInSouthFlorida.com

Listen to the Podcast and follow on Youtube, and more!

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

The Firehouse Community Theatre, Inc. Announces Their 30th Season!

241 N Bridge St, Labelle, FL 33935 (863) 675-3066

The 30th Season includes the following shows:

"A Murder Has Been Renounced" (Murder Mystery Comedy) October 28, 29, 30 & November 4, 5, 6

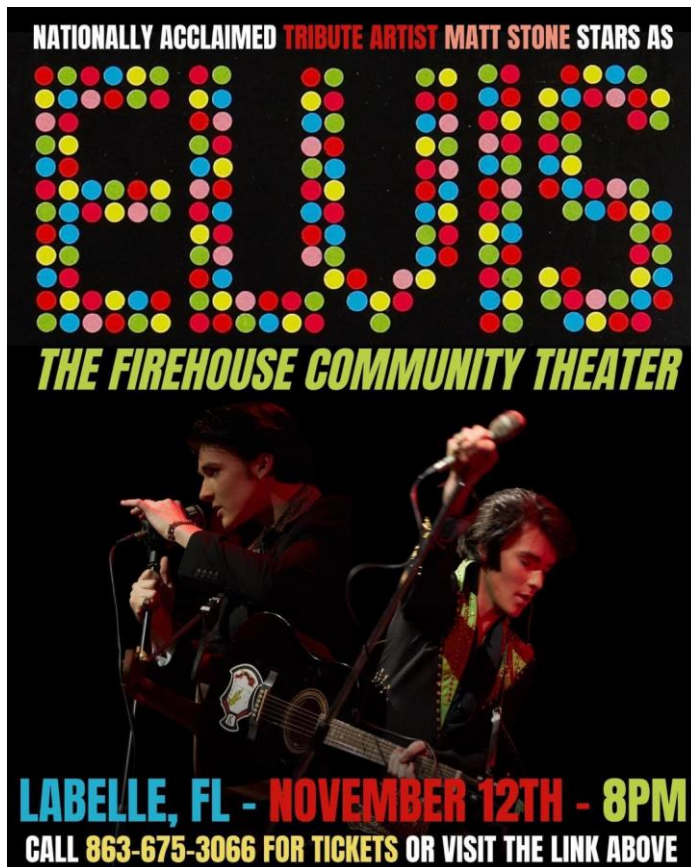
"The Elves and the Shoemaker" (Musical) December 2, 3, 4, & 9, 10, 11

"Side kicked" (Comedy) January 6, 7, 8 & 13, 14, 15

"Same Time Next Year" (Comedy) February 10, 11, 12 & 17, 18, 19

"Four Old Broads" (Comedy) March 10, 11, 12 & 17, 18, 19

"Divorce Southern Style" (Comedy) April 21, 22, 23 & 28, 29, 30



A bit of ALVA History

An Old House in Alva on Palm Beach Boulevard

(TY Joanne Iwinski Miller-Researcher, author, and photographer)



Today when you drive down Palm Beach Blvd just west of the Alva turnoff, you will pass a very old house. The house has seen better days and it stands out like a sore thumb, a reminder of the old pioneer days. The question is "what was it and who lived there?" Let's find out.

In 1917 Dr Archie S Byle of Illinois moved to Lee County with his wife Wilhelmina. He was a graduate of Herring Medical College in 1909 and began his medical career in Chicago. Archie and Wilhelmina were married in 1913. They stayed at the Hotel Leon in Fort Myers and started to acquire property in the Alva area and soon moved there

In 1920 the Byle's lived in the Tussey Bungalow and then moved into the Cox home in Fort Myers. Dr Byle soon began treating patients from Alva, Fort Denaud and Fort Myers. He was mentioned often in the Fort Myers News Press for patients he treated. By all accounts Dr Byle was well-liked along with his wife Wilhelmina.

From 1920 to 1925 Dr Archie Byle owned Block A of the Francis Perry Subdivision in Alva, Florida. It appears he did not live there. In 1920 Minnie Collins and her husband J W Collins of Desoto County, Florida, sold some property to Dr A. S. Byle. This is where the property south of the river along Palm Beach Blvd, our old house, was built (Deed Book 57 Page 163).

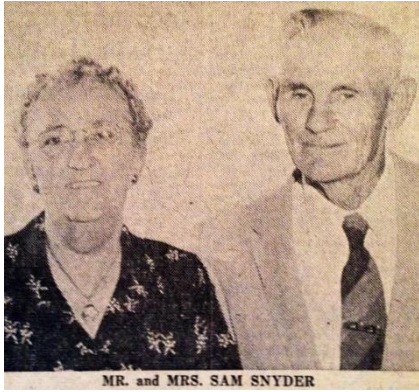
The property appraiser has the house at 21101 Palm Beach Blvd listed as being on the tax roll since 1930 but by all accounts, it seems it was built in 1928. In 1928 a newspaper article read : Dr Byle has had his real estate office moved along side of his dwelling house and when completed will be used as a reception room for his patients.

Trey English remembers that Dr Byle came to his grandmother's house in Alva and delivered his father Jim English.

There is a wonderful Facebook post about Wilhelmina's early memories that the Southwest Florida Historical Society has. This can be found on the "Fort Myers Florida Old Photo Facebook Page" Go there and search "Byle".

Dr Byle and Wilhelmina owned the home until 1941 and then it was sold to Sam Snyder for \$1,500.00. Dr Archie Byle died in 1954 at the age of 68 and Wilhelmina Kern Byle died in 1983 at the age of 90. Both are buried in the Alva Cemetery.



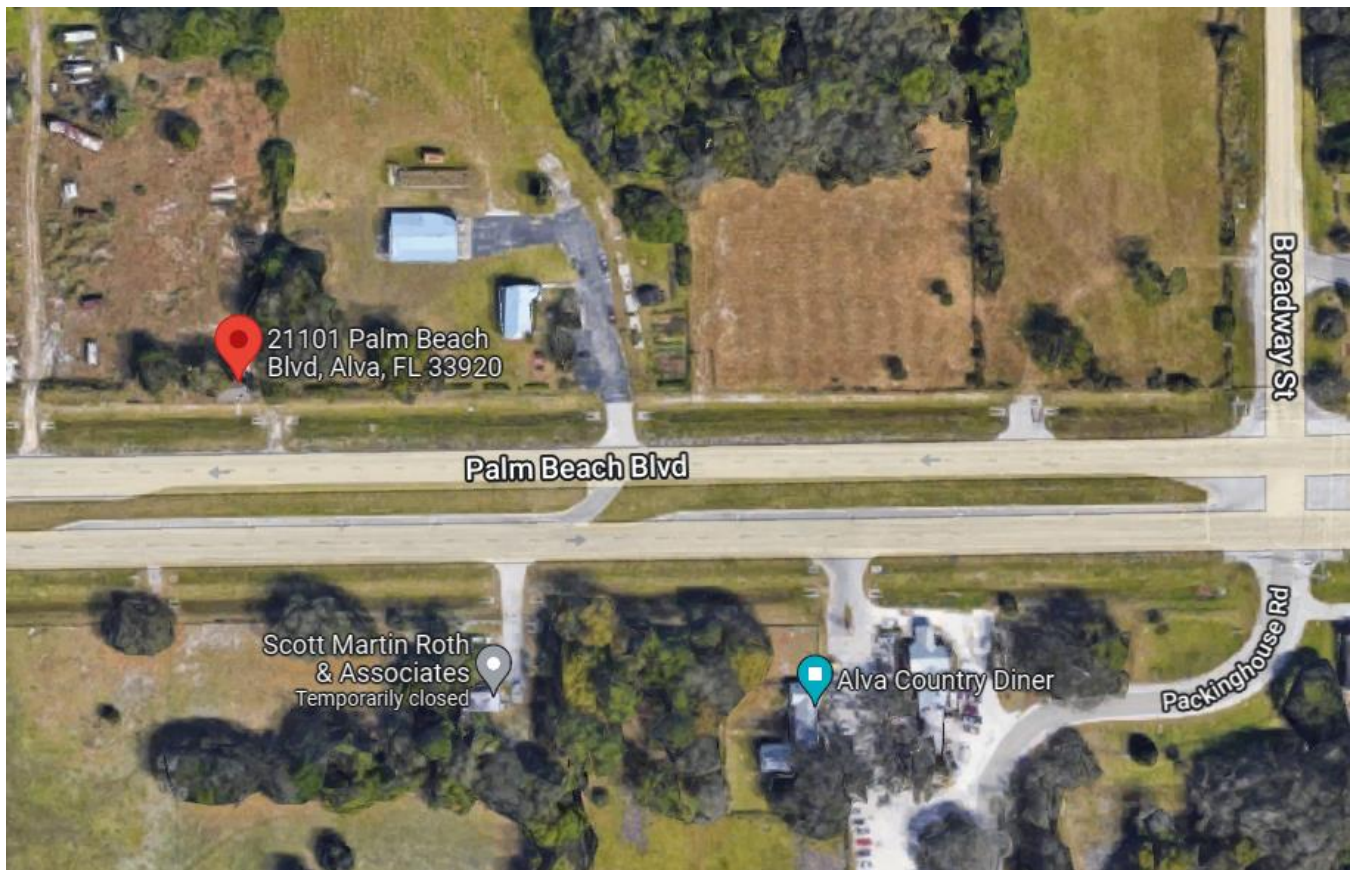


Betty Hawkins wrote a story for the News Press about Sam Snyder in 1969 that can be Googled and read in the Lee County Library Internet Newspaper archives. She interviewed Sam and his wife for the story. Sam worked in an orange grove when he first moved here for \$1.00 a day. The article also mentions Sam living in the house that Bob Fox built and Dr Byle lived in at one time.

Sam Snyder owned the home until 1970 and he sold it to Herbert Hammond of Miami for \$21,000.000. Sam's wife Florence died in 1970 at the age of 82, and Sam passed away in 1980 at the age of 98. Both are buried in the Alva Cemetery.

Herbert Hammond sold the house in 1972 to Mitchell and Evelyn Langford for \$14,400.00. Langford agreed to assume and pay the remaining mortgage from Sam Snyder to Hammond. In 1975 Mitchell and Evelyn Langford sold the house to Arthur Adams of Connecticut for \$14,400.00.

In 1986 Arthur Adams sold the house to Leigh A. Adams for \$46,000.00 and Mr. Adams is the current owner today, August, 2022. The house is in unstable condition today and I am unsure if it can even be saved.





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

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



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

<https://babcockranchecotours.com/>



Alva Angel's



Giving back to the families of our community

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

Lee County

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



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



Aerial view of Oak Hammock Preserve

Oak hammock



Alva Scrub Preserve



Telegraph Creek Preserve



Frank Mann Preserve



Lee County Hurricane Preparation Guide

Click on, read, join the seminar, PREPARE before any storm hits

https://www.leegov.com/hurricane?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Hurricane

HURRICANE SEASON ENDS IN NOVEMBER

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 PS 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.

A TASTE OF THE OLD SOUTH

BUTTERED HEARTS OF PALM:

Slice two (2) swamp cabbages into medium strips, barely cover with boiling water; add one-half (1/2) teaspoon of salt and simmer ten (10) to fifteen minutes. Drain water, add two (2) tablespoons butter and pepper to taste. Reheat and toss to coat with butter. Serve with any meat.



Photo: Agnes Cypress, preparing swamp cabbage. From the Florida Memories archives.

TY

LaBelle Downtown
Revitalization
Corporation

Southwest Florida Cooking by

MAGGIE McMann

of Oak Park, Alva

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



Florida Mango Muffins

Ingredients

- 1 ½ cup flour
- ¼ cup Florida cane sugar
- 2 teaspoons of baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 3 large eggs
- ¼ cup heavy whipping cream
- ¼ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup cinnamon
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- 3 ½ cups cubed mango
- 1 teaspoon vanilla



Instructions

- Combine flour, sugar, baking soda, and walnuts in a bowl.
- Beat eggs and add cream and butter. Beat until smooth.
- Add remaining ingredients and mix to moisten.
- Spoon into muffin tins.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes or till you test with a toothpick.



Become a Certified Calusa Waterkeeper Ranger!

<https://calusawaterkeeper.org/>



Major William M. Footman Sons of Confederate Veterans

Camp 1950, Fort Myers, FL



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

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

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

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

Brigade Commander: Sean McFall, Find out more about us at <https://www.camp1950.flscv.org/>

LaBelle Downtown Revitalization Corporation proudly announces the Downtown LaBelle Historic Walking Tour! Take a walk into Old Florida's past through our new self-guided tour, featuring audio clips of those that helped make LaBelle what it is today.

Visit Downtownlabelle.com/walkingtour.com to start your tour today, or download the app with your Apple or Android device by searching "Downtown LaBelle." Happy trails!

Take the Tour!
Step back in time on your own time!



DOWNLOAD THE APP OR USE YOUR BROWSER!

THE RIVERDALE BRANCH LIBRARY

is undergoing renovations!



The Alva Park and Community Center,
21471 N River Road, will host the Lee County Library System during the renovation of the Riverdale Branch Library.

Hours of Service

Monday – Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Temporary service will begin on Monday, May 23, 2022.

Limited service includes:

- Read and Return Materials
- Holds Pick Up
- Computer Access and Printing
- Library Staff Assistance
- Free Programs for all ages
- Exterior book return
- Library card registration

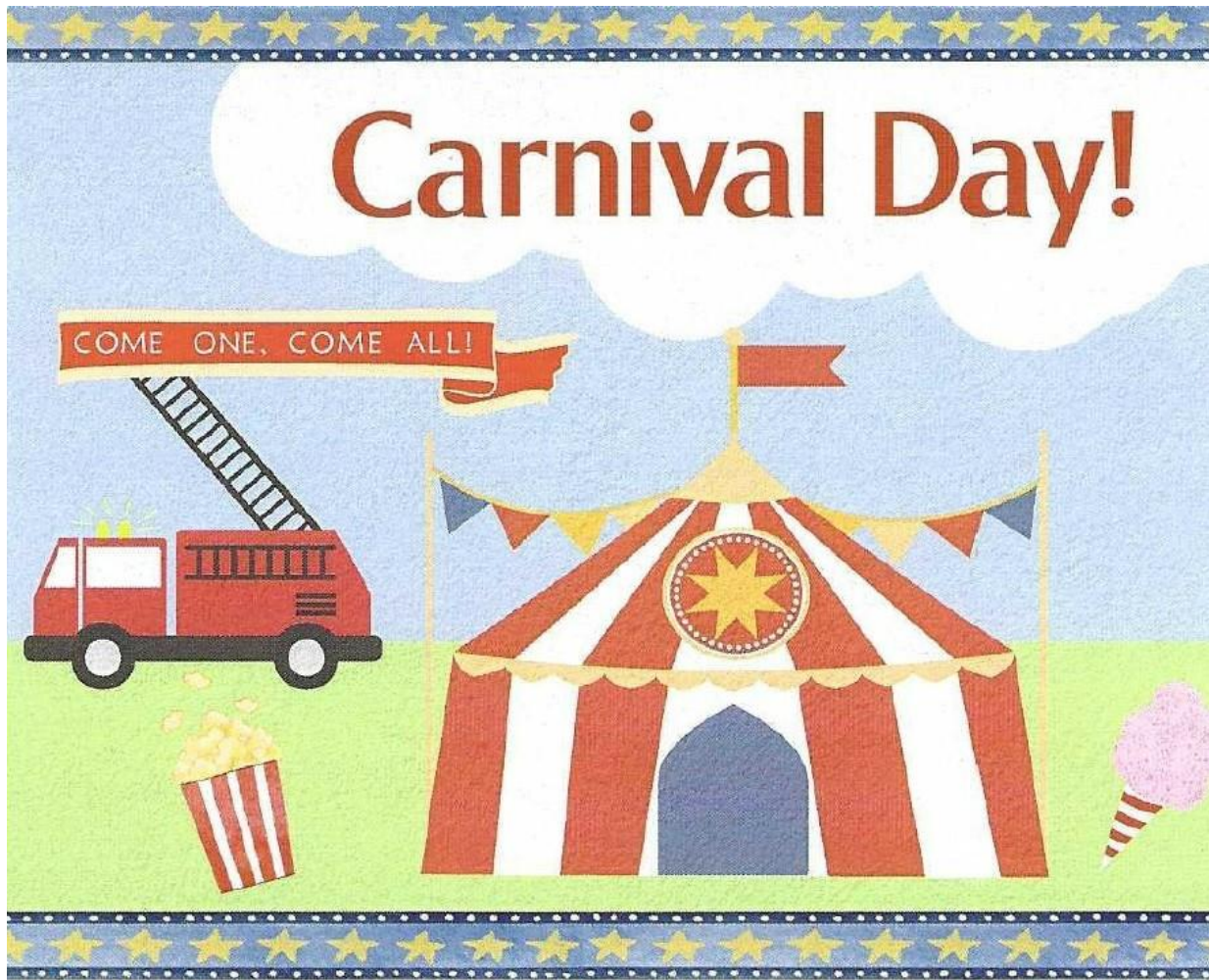
Sign up for the Riverdale Branch Library Program and Events Newsletter at leelibrary.net/subscribe for service updates.



Visit leelibrary.net or call 239-479-4636 for more details.

All programs are free and open to the public. Sign language interpreter available with five business days' notice to library staff. While attending library programs, visitors may be photographed by library staff. Photos become library property and may be used in library promotions. Individuals who do not want to be photographed or recorded are responsible for removing themselves from the area or notifying the photographer of their opt-out status. The school is neither endorsing nor sponsoring this event, product or service, nor endorsing the views of the sponsoring organization.

Rev. 04/22



1 P. M.
FRIDAY,
OCT. 14

Step right up to the library and join us for an afternoon of carnival activities, games and prizes. Special appearance by the the Alva Fire Department's fire engine!



Alva Community Center

Hosting the Riverdale Branch Library
21471 N River Road, Alva

Visit leelibrary.net/events or call 239-479-4636 for details.



All programs are free and open to the public. Sign language interpreter available with five business days' notice to library staff. While attending library programs, visitors may be photographed by library staff. Photos become library property and may be used in library promotions. Individuals who do not want to be photographed or recorded are responsible for removing themselves from the area or notifying the photographer of their opt-out status. The school is neither endorsing nor sponsoring this event, product or service, nor endorsing the views of the sponsoring organization.



Landlord/Tenant Law in Florida

Know the law before you let, or rent, a property

On this page you will find a summary of Florida's Landlord/Tenant Law. It is not intended for the purpose of providing legal advice. For additional information, refer to Chapter 83, Part II, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Before You Rent

If possible, arrange for a walk-through of the premises to identify any problems that should be fixed BEFORE signing a rental agreement. Take pictures or video or make notes of any questionable conditions and include provisions for repairs in the rental agreement or in a separate written document signed by both parties.

A tenant is an equal party with the landlord. You never have to agree to any rental arrangement. Before you sign, make sure you thoroughly understand the terms of the agreement. If you DON'T understand, DON'T sign the agreement. There is no grace period allowed for canceling a rental agreement, so if you sign, you are bound to its terms.

A landlord has the discretion to collect various deposits, as well as some rent in advance. You should be careful about paying in advance unless you have decided to move into the unit. A tenant who pays in advance but then decides not to occupy the unit MAY NOT be entitled to a refund. It should be stated in the rental agreement if money paid in advance is nonrefundable.

Oral and Written Rental Agreements

A rental agreement is an agreement to rent property (commonly referred to as a lease). Rental agreements may be either written or oral. Most rental agreements are written because oral agreements can be subject to misunderstandings and are difficult to prove if there's a dispute. A written rental agreement can be a formal contract or simply a copy of a letter stating the rights and obligations of both the landlord and tenant.



Florida law requires that notices to and from a landlord must be in writing and must be either hand-delivered or mailed, even if the rental agreement is oral. You should always retain a copy of any correspondence to and from your landlord.

Deposit and Rent Requirements

A damage deposit is the most common requirement of landlords. Before signing a rental agreement, examine the premises and make note of any damaged items (e.g., broken fixtures) and, if possible, take a picture and include a date stamp. Give a copy to the landlord and keep a copy for your files. This may help eliminate or minimize disputes later.

On vacating the premises for termination of the lease: If the landlord does not intend to impose a claim on the security deposit, they must return your deposit within 15 days or,

Within 30 days, the landlord must give you written notice of how much of the deposit will be kept and why. This must be done by certified mail, to the tenant's last known mailing address. If this notice is not sent as required within the 30-day period, the landlord forfeits their right to impose a claim on the deposit.

After receiving the landlord's notice of intention to impose a claim, you will have 15 days to object in writing. If no written objection is received, the landlord may then deduct the amount of their claim and shall remit the balance of the deposit to you within 30 days after the date of the notice of intention to impose a claim for damages.

If you object to the landlord's claim, you may file a complaint with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) or institute an action in court to adjudicate the landlord's right to the security deposit.

Responsibilities



The responsibilities of the landlord and tenant may vary based on your rental or lease agreement and the type of rental unit.

The Landlord

The landlord's responsibilities will depend on the type of rental unit.

Single-Family Home or Duplex: At all times during the tenancy, the landlord of a single-family home or duplex shall:

Comply with the requirements of applicable building, housing and health codes; or

Where there are no applicable building, housing or health codes, maintain the plumbing in reasonably good working condition and maintain the roof, windows, screens, floors, steps, porches, exterior walls, foundations and all other structural components in good repair and capable of resisting normal forces and loads.

The landlord's obligations may be altered or modified in writing when renting a single-family dwelling or duplex.

Apartment: At all times during the tenancy, the landlord of a dwelling other than a single-family home or duplex (e.g., an apartment) shall:

Comply with the requirements of applicable building, housing and health codes; or

Where there are no applicable building, housing or health codes, maintain the plumbing in reasonably good working condition and maintain the roof, windows, screens, floors, steps, porches, exterior walls, foundations and all other structural components in good repair and capable of resisting normal forces and loads.

The landlord will also make reasonable provisions for:

Extermination of rats, mice, ants, wood-destroying organisms and bed bugs,

Locks and keys, Clean and safe conditions of common areas, Garbage disposal facilities and outside receptacles, and

Functioning facilities for running water, hot water and heat during winter.

This does not mean that the landlord is obligated to pay for utilities, water, fuel or garbage removal, although they may choose to do so.



The Tenant: At all times during the tenancy, a tenant shall:

Comply with all building, housing and health codes and keep the dwelling clean and sanitary;

Remove garbage from the dwelling in a clean and sanitary manner;

Keep plumbing fixtures clean and in good repair;

Not destroy, deface, damage, impair or remove any part of the premises or property belonging to the landlord, nor permit any person to do so;

Conduct themselves and require their guests to conduct themselves in a manner that does not unreasonably disturb the tenant's neighbors or constitute a breach of the peace; and

Use and operate in a reasonable manner all electrical, plumbing, sanitary, heating, ventilating, air-conditioning and other facilities and appliances, including elevators.

Access to the Premises

The tenant shall not unreasonably withhold consent to the landlord to enter the rental unit from time to time to inspect the premises.

The landlord may enter the rental unit at any time for the protection or preservation of the premises.

The landlord may enter the rental unit on reasonable notice to the tenant and at a reasonable time to make repairs to the premises. "Reasonable notice" is defined as 12 hours prior to entry, and "reasonable time" is defined as between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The landlord may also enter under any of the following circumstances:

With the consent of the tenant;

When the tenant unreasonably withholds consent; In case of an emergency; or When the tenant is absent from the premises for a period of time equal to one-half the time for periodic rental payments. If the rent is current and the tenant notifies the landlord of an intended absence, then the landlord may enter only with the consent of the tenant or for the protection or preservation of the premises.

The landlord shall not abuse the right of access or use it to harass the tenant.

Failure to Meet Obligations: If the Landlord Does Not Comply:

A tenant must notify the landlord, in writing, by hand delivery or mail, of noncompliance with Florida law or the requirements of the rental agreement. The written notice shall also indicate the tenant's intention to terminate the rental agreement due to this noncompliance. The tenant may terminate the rental agreement if the landlord fails to come into compliance within seven days after delivery of the written notice.

Failure to Meet Obligations: If the Tenant Does Not Comply:

A landlord must notify a tenant in writing of any perceived noncompliance except for the failure to pay rent.

If the issue can be corrected, the tenant will have seven days in which make the correction. If the tenant still has not complied after seven days, the landlord can begin the eviction process based on noncompliance.



If the issue is one in which the tenant should not be given an opportunity to correct it (i.e., destruction, damage, intentional misuse or continued unreasonable disturbance), the tenant will have seven days to surrender the premises.

Each eviction case is unique, so be sure to obtain legal advice. A landlord MAY NOT evict you solely in retaliation for the tenant complaining to a governmental agency about code violations or asserting other tenant rights. **Nonpayment of Rent**

The landlord must serve the tenant a written notice allowing three days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, for the payment of the rent or vacating of the premises. If the tenant does not pay the rent or vacate, the landlord may begin legal action to evict.

For the landlord to gain payment of rent or possession of the dwelling, they must file suit in county court. The clerk of the county court will then send the tenant notification by summons. The tenant must meet the requirements outlined in the summons within the time frame cited. Failure to meet these requirements may result in a judgment being entered against you. The clerk of the county court will then issue a "Writ of Possession" to the sheriff, who will notify you that eviction will take place in 24 hours.

If the Landlord Does Not Comply

The tenant MAY be able to withhold rent if the landlord fails to do what the law or rental agreement requires. A tenant must notify the landlord, in writing, by hand delivery or mail, of the noncompliance. The written notice shall also indicate the tenant's intention to withhold rent due to this noncompliance. The tenant may withhold rent if the landlord fails to come into compliance within seven days after delivery of the written notice.

Please note, if these events transpire, the landlord can present the tenant with a three-day notice for payment of rent.

Upon breach or early termination of the rental agreement by the tenant, the landlord's potential remedies may include:

Terminating the rental agreement, retaking possession of the rental unit, and terminating any further liability of the tenant.

Retaking possession of the dwelling unit, holding the tenant liable for the difference between the rent stipulated to be paid under the rental agreement and what the landlord is able to recover from reletting the rental unit.

Stand by and do nothing, holding the lessee liable for the rent as it comes due.

Florida Law does not allow a landlord to force a tenant out by:

Shutting off the utilities or interrupting service, even if that service is under the control of the landlord or the landlord makes the payment;

Changing the locks or using a device that denies the tenant access;

Removing the outside doors, locks, roof, walls or windows (except for purposes of maintenance, repair or replacement); and/or

Removing the tenant's personal property from the dwelling unless the action is taken after the surrender, abandonment, or recovery of possession of the rental unit due to the death of the last remaining tenant or after lawful eviction.

If any of these occur, the tenant may sue for actual and consequential damages or three months' rent, whichever is greater, plus court costs and attorneys' fees.



When You Decide to Move:

Under certain circumstances, if allowed by the provisions of the rental agreement, a rental agreement may be ended when either party gives written notice to the other of their intention. The amount of notice required is determined by the rental agreement or, if this is not specified in the rental agreement, by the periods for which the rent is payable.

For example, if the rent is due weekly, seven days' notice is required. For monthly rental payments, 15 days' notice is required. Send all correspondence relating to your intentions to the landlord by mail or deliver it by hand and insist on a receipt. It is usually a good idea to speak with the landlord in person too.

When you move from a rental unit, regardless of the duration, be sure to settle all accounts. Terminate utility service the day you leave, notify the landlord, post office and others of your address change, and leave the premises in a clean condition. If it can be arranged, it is always best to take a last walk-through with the landlord and document any damages.

Military Service:

Florida law provides that a military service member may terminate their rental agreement under certain conditions.



FRAUD ALERT!

Following the announcement of recent legislation designated to offer limited loan forgiveness, scammers diligently went to work to find ways to extract personal information from enthusiastic and unsuspecting student-load consumers.

It has been reported, nationwide, that individuals have received phone calls, text messages and messages across social media platforms asking student-loan consumers to call a variety of numbers.

These messages are fraudulent and are an attempt to steal personal information including social security numbers, date of birth, bank information, etc.

DO NOT return these calls, respond to these messages or click on these internet links.

For accurate and legitimate information, please visit the United States Department of Education web site at <https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement/>.

Additionally, one can sign up for email updates, from the U.S. Department of Education by visiting <https://www.ed.gov/subscriptions>.

<https://www.facebook.com/sheriffleefl/>://www.sheriffleefl.org/



TALENT AND VOLUNTEERS ARE BEING SOUGHT BY THE PLAYERS CIRCLE THEATRE

variety of musicals.

The Players Circle Theatre has announced its 2022 cabaret shows. Included in the lineup are comedians and a

Those interested in acting at the theatre should email Rcacioppo@playerscircle.org for information about acting positions.

COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE

Community Cafe, Mobile Pantry's, and Meals on Wheels

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

Tami@communitycooperative.com or call 239-332-7687, ext. 125.



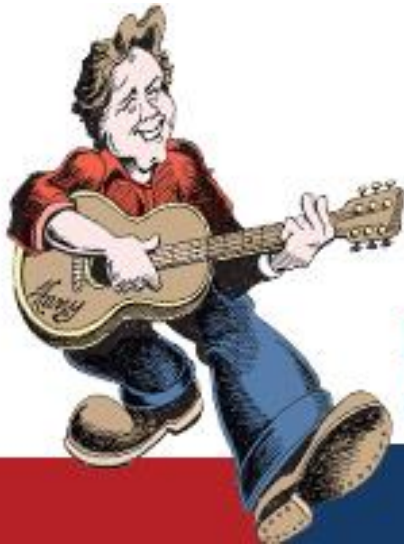
Higher grocery prices mean the donated dollars we use to purchase food for Sam's Community Café, our Community Market, mobile food pantries, and Meals on Wheels are not going nearly as far.

Tickets On Sale NOW!



It's time to grab your tickets for the return of one of SWFL's most fabulous fundraising events of the year.

Join us on Thursday, October 13 at The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon for an evening filled with food, drinks, dancing, shopping, and silent and live auctions, all to support our crucial programming to end hunger and homelessness in Lee County.



Harry Chapin Food Bank OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope

Give TIME. Give MONEY. Give FOOD.

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

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org

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

For Food pickup locations:

<https://harrychapinfoodbank.org/?s=Food+locations>



**PLEASE, DONATE BLOOD IF
YOU CAN...**

Sunday October 30, 8am to 1pm

Alva United Methodist Church,
Pearl Street, Alva, Florida



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

Charleston Park Community Center

239-728-8895

FOOD PANTRY

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

ALVA UMC

Food Pantry @ Bethany House

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

239-728-2277

CALVARY NATIONS Church

19850 Palm Beach Boulevard, Alva

Every Saturday, 3pm until supplies run out.

239-7285566

St. Vincent DePaul RC

Our Lady's Cupboard Food Pantry

Call (239) 694-3985 for hours open.

Some of our local ALVA area churches:

St. Vincent DePaul's RC Church

13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.stvincentftmyers.org 239-693-0818

Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96

Alva, FL 33920

Alvamc@embarqmail.com

www.ouralvachurch.org 239-728-2277

Alva Church of God

21520 Park St, Alva, Florida 33920

239-728-2644

Liberation International Church

Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL 33920,

239-601-4870

New Hope Faith Temple of Jesus Christ

23210 Avenue D, Charleston Park

Alva, FL, 33920 239-770-4974

Buckingham Presbyterian Church

4241 Buckingham Road

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.buckinghampc.org

Light of the Nations Filipino Congregation

19850 Palm Beach Blvd (at Calvary Church)

Alva, FL, 33920

239-728-5566

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 Nations Church

19850 Palm Beach Blvd

Alva, FL 33920

CalvaryChurchSwfl@yahoo.com

www.calvarynations.org 239-728-5566

First Baptist Church of Alva

2790 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

www.alvabaptist.com 239-728-2034

Grace United Methodist Church, Ft Myers Shores

14036 Matanzas Drive, Ft Myers, Florida 33905

www.egracechurch.com 239-694-2797

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14531 Old Olga Road,

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.blcefml.org 239-694-3878

Olga Baptist Church

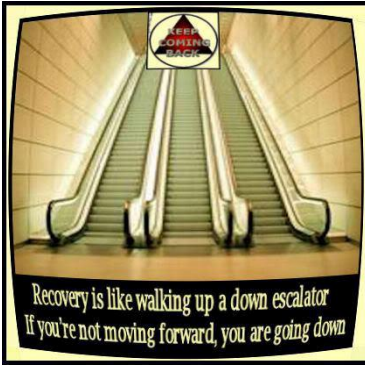
2364 South Olga Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.olgabaptist.org 239-694-2012

olgabapch1@embarqmail.com

RECOVERY Groups in the Alva Area



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

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

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

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

ALVA:

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

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

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

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

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

FORT MYERS SHORES:

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

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

-AA Men: Mon, 7pm, office

-AA Women: Tues, 7pm, office

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

-AA Open Disc: Thu, 7pm, office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

-Night Owls OD – Saturday, 10:05 pm

LEHIGH ACRES:

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

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

LEHIGH ACRES (cont):

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

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

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

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

-AA SPIRITUAL SEARCH GROUP - TUESDAY 8PM

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

-AA THIRSTY THURSDAYS - THURSDAY 6:30PM

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

-AA HERE AND NOW- SUNDAY 6:30PM

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres, 33971,

(239) 275-5111

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

705 Leland Heights Blvd. E., Lehigh Acres,

(866) 819-5346

-AA LEHIGH SUNDAY NIGHT - SUNDAY 8PM

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

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

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

-AL ANON MOVING FORWARD AFG - MONDAY 10AM

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(888) 425-2666

-AA FIRST THINGS FIRST - MON-SUN 7AM

5513 8th St W, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

-AA NOONERS - MON-SUN 12PM

705 Leeland Heights Blvd E, Lehigh Acres

(239) 275-5111

LABELLE:

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

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

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

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

-WED BIG BOOK GROUP- OBBH- WEDNESDAY NOON

-OPEN DISCUSSION -ODH- FRIDAY 7:00PM

First Christian Church, Rte 29 & Ford Ave, LaBelle

-LABELLE GROUP-ODAH- THURSDAY 7:00PM

-STEP GROUP-Cst- TUESDAY 7:00PM

-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



Who We Are

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

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

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

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



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

Call our Welcome Center at 239-275-3222 Mon. – Fri. 8:00 am – 5:00 pm to speak with a customer service representative to schedule a Care Connection appointment in-person or via tele-health; or Walk-in for a Care Connection visit prior to 1:00 pm (pending availability)

Paid Advertisement 10-4/23



Come join us at The Venue at Mudge Ranch to listen (and maybe even dance) to live Vegas Style Shows. Enjoy a night out with your special someone or a group of friends. You'll find we are offering a wide variety of genres to fit everyone's taste and style.

- Relive your "yesteryears" with throwback shows and classic music.
- Add a little Rockabilly to your nights.
- Many other fun entertainment genres such as impersonations and comedy!

No matter what your preference, you'll always be able to enjoy a fun show in a fantastic setting - You'll find we're the best place in and around LaBelle to chill with friends. From country to rock, to swing, to pop, and so much more, there's nothing like laughing it up or listening to a live performance to liven up your night!

- Tickets will be available soon.
- Check our website for show dates and availability.
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

Address: 1323 Loblolly Bay Rd SW, LaBelle, FL 33935



LaBelle Entertainment

Visit our website for more information and check out our upcoming shows!

<https://www.labelleentertainment.com>

Most events have dinners available for purchase. Dinners start at 5 PM or 6 PM, depending on show time. Dinners are optional and you may accept or decline the dinner when purchasing your ticket. No dinners will be sold at door. Show tickets may be available at door, cash or check only.

Our event season will open on December 16th with a Christmas Show.

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
Storm Ready	www.weather.gov/stormready/

You Have a Choice

Are you satisfied with the way our current county commissioners have been running the county? You have a choice in the upcoming election.

Is it responsible to vote to increase residential density by 70% in the Coastal High Hazard Flood Zone? Is it responsible to approve a 96-slip marina (which requires dredging) where seagrasses are being restored (Owl Creek)? Do we want starving Manatees as has occurred on the east coast?

Are you satisfied with the lack of funding for road improvements, resulting in increased traffic congestion? Are you happy with reduced impact fees resulting in the current residents subsidizing new infrastructure costs in order to increase developers' profits? Other counties have maintained full impact fees and kept ample growth.

Is it responsible to approve a settlement agreement that will allow 10,000 homes on 6676 acres in the DR/GR area (Density Reduction/ Groundwater Resource), including 2474 acres that were not involved in the original lawsuit? Is it responsible to continue to overdevelop rural areas, significantly reducing wildlife habitat, including habitat for Panthers, Gopher Tortoises, and other threatened and endangered species?

Is it a conflict of interest when Commissioner Hamman serves both as a Lee County Commissioner and head of the Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce? When he votes on the commission, is he representing the citizens of Lee County or the interests of the Chambers members?

Is it in the public interest to prohibit communications with commissioners regarding zoning applications when other counties allow these communications? Under the current Lee County rules there is never an opportunity for a citizen to have a conversation with any commissioner or the Hearing Examiner when there is a rezoning application.

Do you want commissioners who get most of their campaign funds from developers, and then say it has no impact when they vote on development applications?



You have a choice. You can send a message to the commission that the county is headed in the wrong direction. If there is enough dissatisfaction demonstrated in November it will encourage candidates who are committed to the peoples interests to run in the future. If you want the commission to change direction, write in Karen Watson for commission district 2 and Jim Sheets for commission district 4.



Consider the endorsements from Women for a Better Lee below.

Women For a Better Lee Endorses Watson, Sheets for County Commission

(Written On Sep 7, 2022, at 9:21 AM, Women for A Better Lee)

Women For a Better Lee today endorsed write-in candidates Jim Sheets and Karen Watson for election to the Lee Board of County Commissioners. Jim is running against Brian Hamman in District 4 and Karen is opposing Cecil Pendergrass in District 2. Both candidates are eminently qualified to lead our county during a time of massive development and explosive growth. They possess the vision, knowledge and integrity that we ask from our elected leaders – traits sorely absent on our County Commission.

Jim Sheets, a former prosecutor, private attorney, zoning commissioner and fighter pilot, is a man with grit, vision and understanding of Lee County. A plain-spoken native of Cincinnati, Jim came to Lee County 18 years ago, and previously ran for Iona-McGregor Fire Commissioner. He is running today because he believes that choice on the ballot is a critical part of ensuring democracy. “I found out that if a candidate has no competition and nobody files for a write-in, they’re essentially anointed,” Jim said, “I do not believe that’s what our Founding Fathers intended.”

Furthermore, Sheets is concerned, as are many, that special interests have taken over our county. “The future of Lee County...is in dire straits unless thoughtful, qualified and honest leadership is elected. The current incumbents are not in that category. They are firmly and completely in the pocket of developers, business, miners and cane growers.”

Karen Watson came to Lee County at age three and since then has added immeasurably to the quality of life in the community. She previously ran for the Lee County School Board and is fully familiar with the issues faced by Lee residents. Her list of community activities and leadership initiatives makes us wonder how she finds the time for her job as a full-time social worker in the health field. Her achievements include co-founding Impact Dunbar through Collaboratory’s Legacy Fund. Impact Dunbar mentors’ women and girls from the Dunbar community.

These candidacies are a response to mounting criticism of the outsized influence of developers on Lee County Commissioners. “We have been asked why we are endorsing write-in candidates since they are a long shot,” said Charlotte Newton, a member of the WFBL Steering Committee. “We feel that if there is no option to vote otherwise, our county commissioners will just continue on their current disastrous path of paving over our paradise without voters even weighing in.”

“No matter what one’s political affiliation – Republican, Democrat or non-party affiliated – we applaud Karen and Jim for stepping forward and putting themselves out there to the voters. This is the very essence of our democratic system and Women for a Better Lee proudly supports their efforts,” Newton concluded. For more about Karen go to: karenwatson4ourcommunity.com; you can find Jim on Facebook at [electjimsheets](https://www.facebook.com/electjimsheets). Further information about the candidates and brief issue papers on important campaign topics can be found at

womenforabetterlee.com/2022-election.

Women For a Better Lee is a nonpartisan, all-volunteer political action committee working to bring accountability and transparency to our Lee County Commission and government.

Manatee & Eco River Tours

Located at Sweetwater Landing Marina (16991 S.R. 31, Fort Myers, FL 33905)

www.ManateeAndEcoRiverTours.com

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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.

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

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