

# On the RIVER



## Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS

TO SUBSCRIBE, offer articles, or to contact the publisher/editor with any questions, email Ken DeWalt [kendewalt@ontheriver.org](mailto:kendewalt@ontheriver.org)

The deadline for receipt of any materials is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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

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

### FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL Alva area news: More homes on N River Rd
- LOCAL history: THE Captain / Charleston Park
- LOCAL Community services: Churches Plus
- LOCAL club and organization news: Alva Garden Club
- LOCAL recipe: Thanksgiving Egg Rolls
- LOCAL sport: Watermelon Man movin' UP



ISSUE 46, Nov 2022, 1700+ subscribers. Archives & MORE at [www.ontheriver.org](http://www.ontheriver.org) Ken DeWalt, pub.

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

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3400+ may view in Nextdoor Alva <https://nextdoor.com/city/alva--fl/>

[www.ONTHERIVER.ORG](http://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

We have learned that the online glitch with the October issue was not solved for all readers by our resending the issue with a different link. If you missed the last issue you may go to our OTR Archive at <https://www.ontheriver.org/archive> by clicking on this link or copying and pasting it into your browser. Then scroll down to the last row of pdf issues and click on 2022-10.

So sorry for this inconvenience! Ken DeWalt

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**ALVA INC, At the Alva Community Center.**

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

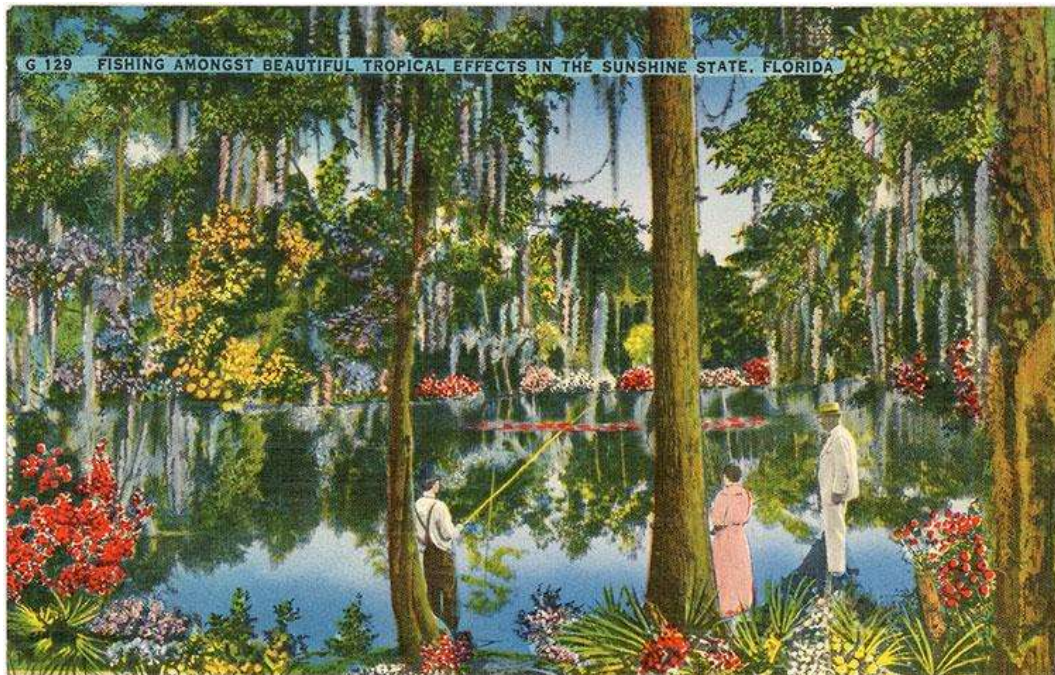


**Info@AlvaFl.org WEBSITE www.ALVAFL.org**

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

Saint Mathews program presentation will be December 13, 2022

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**"Tropical Effects... 1950's FX?"**



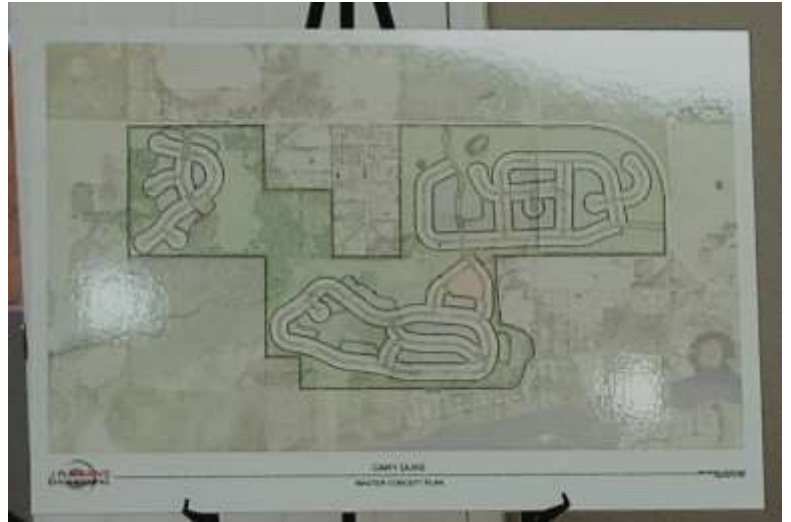


## North Olga Planning group approves of more careful growth along North River Road

At 6pm on Thursday night, October 20<sup>th</sup> the North Olga Planning group (NOP) met in regular meeting at the Bayshore Fire Company. Several members have had severe damage to their homes however several important issues needed care.

**Neal Properties presented** an updated plan they are readying to take to County officials when those bodies are able to see them, given the huge amount of work they now have with hurricane Ian damage.

Jason Frost and Brandon Frey described their concept drawing which showed an additional several hundred homes giving their now 791 acre gated, non-age limited community a possible total of 1,000 or more units which may average in price from the \$400,000's to a million dollars, similar to what they have built in Verandah on Rte 80 south of the river.



After input from local residents in two other NOP meetings they now show no access road attached to the riverside Duke Highway. However, one of the three planned access roads now enters the large S curve on North River Road which was strongly criticized by residents at this meeting as adding a very dangerous intersection to an already dangerous driving situation. Brandon assured all present that Neal will take this concern into their planning. As to the now greater concern for 1,000 new residents here, and around 500 at the approved Owl Creek development to the west on North River Road, Mike Greenwell, NOP Board member, and the Neal representatives tried to assure residents present that the county will take all this new traffic into consideration when studying the final drawings for the project.

**Other concerns** included possible increased flooding from all the newly developed land through Otter Creeks path into properties south of this development. Brandon shared several times runoff cannot by law be any more and should be less than before the project was built.

Potable water access is a concern, and Neal shared that the county is planning new public water access east on North River Road to North Olga. Whether it could go farther east would be a future consideration for the county. Duke Highway residents asked for a free fire hydrant run to their street which would reduce their home insurance costs. Neal will consider it.

**Enough public utility water** is a big concern and Mike Greenwell, governor appointed Lee County Commissioner for two months and a candidate to remain on the council in the November election, shared that the city of Fort Myers has held off expansion and even serious infrastructure improvements to its water system in past years. However even before Ian struck, the system has been getting upgrades demanded by the state, and its wells go far deeper than any rural wells so have access to plenty of water not now accessible to residents beyond its lines.

The earliest construction start date estimated, especially with county wide Ian rebuilding, is three years, according to Jason Frost.

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**The second important agenda item** was bylaw required nominations for board members, however there were not enough residents present to ask for the number of nominations needed so this was tabled to the next meeting and election will immediately follow at that meeting.

A newly open seat on the board became available when Mike Greenwell stood and resigned his seat and membership on the NOP. He cannot be a member of this group, as he says he expects to be re-elected to his seat on the County Commission.

Before departing the meeting Mike shared several personal observations that certainly got everyone's attention.

1-Mike believes there is a good chance, as a result of Ian's destruction costs, that the City of Fort Myers will go bankrupt and need to request re-entry into Lee County government.

2-FEMA's new rules made homes and business's much more expensive to build in surge and flood areas before this storm. The rules now in or going in place will make all such construction even MORE expensive. "We have placed buildings and people where we should never have allowed them to be."

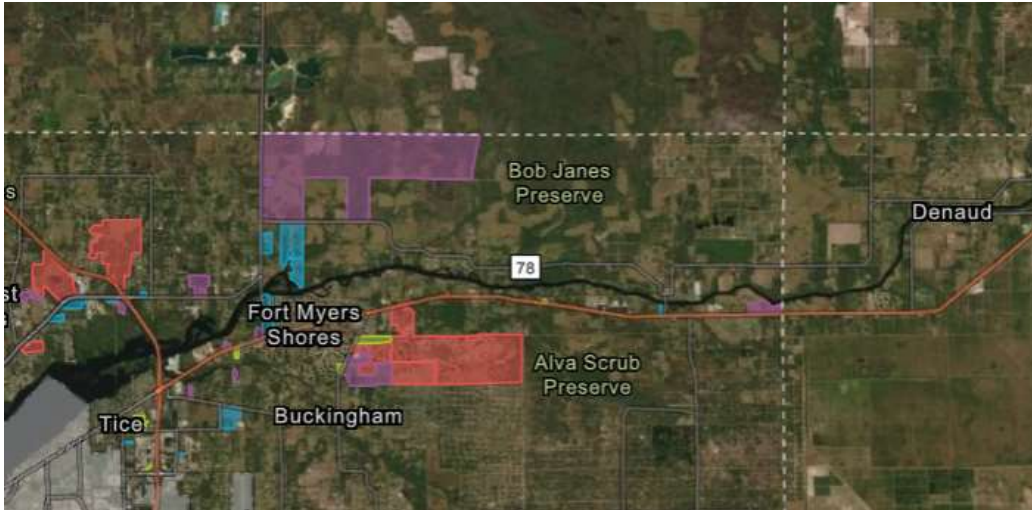
3-Route 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard), and by association, Route 78 (North River Road), need to be widened to an additional two lanes before new developments are built. Developers need to help pay for this expansion. Everything to the Hendry County line will be changed from rural to suburban zoning.

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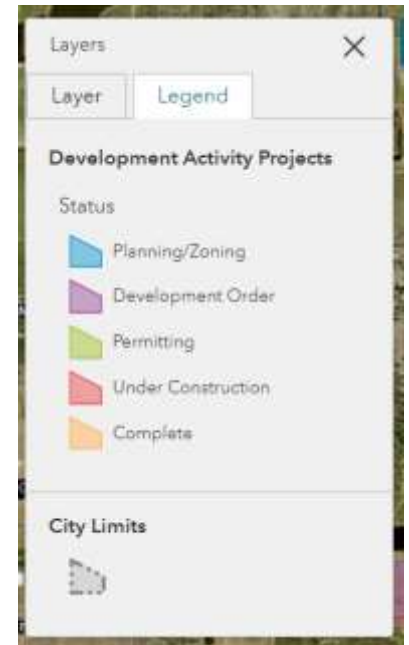


# Lee County Development Map as of Friday October 21



This map does not show the new Neal Properties Old Olga development as it has yet to be presented to Lee County.

Also unlabeled are the many homes being developed along Buckingham Road, and also along the east side of Rte 31, south of the bridge.



The purple area east of Alva to the Hendry County line is the proposed River Haven development.

The blue rectangle from the river to Rte 80 west of Broadway Street is the proposed new Seven Eleven convenience store and gas station.

Source:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7caaab36ece947948240c9dd657a2dd5/page/Page/?views=Details-%2CDetails>





# Lee County LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY approves River Hall housing expansion and higher density Request

(TY Steve Brodtkin, Contributing Reporter)

I attended the Monday October 24 River Hall Local Planning Agency (LPA) meeting. Lee Plan amendments for River Hall and the Economic Element were on the agenda. I did not stay for the Economic Element. About 35 River Hall residents showed up wearing their distinctive red shirts. Only four of the 7 LPA members were in attendance. They were James Ink, Ray Blacksmith, Dustin Gardner, and Donald Schrottenboer. Stan Stouder, Henry Zuba, and Alicia Olivo were not there.



## History of attempts to expand

In 2005 the River Hall development was approved for a maximum of 1648 d/u on 1726 acres. Many residents tell us they bought there because it was advertised as a less dense, less congested development as compared with other planned developments.

In 2015 the county adopted an increase capping the development at 2850 d/u, despite fierce opposition from the residents and other communities who recognized that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) granted the increase despite being inconsistent with the Lee Plan.

The decision was appealed and an administrative judge recommended in the resident's favor after taking extensive testimony from both sides. The recommendation was overruled by the governor and cabinet, and the residents and community groups eventually ran out of money to continue the opposition.

Now the developer wants to add another 489 dwelling units, further increasing the density and congestion that the earlier residents wanted to escape. This is not consistent with how the development was originally advertised and demonstrates bad faith on the part of the developer.

## This meeting

For GreenPointe Communities (the applicant), representatives gave a presentation, starting with Russell Schropp (Attorney), followed by Jennifer Sapen (general overview of plan), Carl Barraco (Engineer), Stephen Leung (Traffic analysis), and another on environmental issues. A Lee County representative, Brian Dunn, spoke briefly. Brandon said the development is relatively safe from natural disasters since it's inland and at a higher elevation



The first public speaker presented a petition with over 1,000 signatures from River Hall residents opposing the plan. Others from the audience spoke about traffic congestion, already too many units for the size of the golf course and other crowded amenities at present making it hard to get reservations for them. Other issues brought up involved wildlife protection, reduction of general quality of life, developer greed.

During the LPA discussions, Donald Schrottenboer said there is no standard in the Lee Plan for quality of life for them to consider.

No one from the public spoke in favor of the application. Carl Barraco was asked if the development is in compliance with Water Management. He said if there are any issues it is up to the River Hall Community Development District (CDD). Stephen Leung said road improvements should occur by 2030, resulting in laughter from the audience and smiles from some of the LPA members.

Note that years ago the state eliminated the requirement for road concurrency with regard to new development, meaning that needed road improvements don't need to be in place before development can begin. It's my understanding that Lee County could require road concurrency, but they do not.

One public speaker complained about the extremely narrow lot widths.

It was explained that in 2021 there was an administrative approval for smaller lot widths in River Hall.

The LPA decided on a 5-minute time limit for speaking, but most comments were not long and no one was cut off.

Grady Miars, president of GreenPointe was in the audience.



### **The conclusion**

James Ink of the LPA said their committee is only charged with considering whether an application is consistent with the Lee Plan. However, in the past LPA members have often voted against proposals without citing inconsistencies with the Lee Plan. Also, individuals on Lee County committees often interpret the Lee Plan differently, and the county and LPA have sometimes ignored elements of the Lee Plan.

The LPA voted 4-0 to recommend approval.

The audience was generally angry as they left





## Sons Of Confederate Veterans Clean up the Buckingham Cemetery

On October 15<sup>th</sup> Sean McFall and others for Lee County's Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) worked to clear up debris from Hurricane IAN in one of our county's oldest rural cemeteries.

Mr. McFall shared these and more photos of the day on the 'Preserve Buckingham' Facebook page.

These Sons of Veterans serve often at our Alva area cemeteries to clean up the graves and keep the flags over all veterans of all wars flying.



Most recently they have volunteered along with the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to support the annual WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA program at the Alva Cemetery off North River Road.

Thank you all for your hard work, and service to our community.



## NASCAR Power Rankings: Ross Chastain rises to the top at the exact right time

(TY CBS SPORTS)

There was a period late in the summer, and a little into the fall, where everyone was wondering what happened to Ross Chastain.

Throughout the first half of the 2022 season, Chastain, (Alva Florida's WATERMELON MAN) looked to be every bit a match for Chase Elliott in a breakout campaign that elevated him from promising Cup upstart to one of the best in the Cup Series. But after finishing second to Elliott at Atlanta in July and running eighth the next week at New Hampshire, Chastain went through a spell where he didn't score a single finish better than 18th all the way up to Kansas in September.

But in the Round of 8, Chastain has rediscovered his early season form at exactly the right time. With two second-place finishes at Las Vegas and Homestead and comfortable points gap over the Championship 4 cut line, Chastain has taken the lead in the CBS Sports NASCAR Power Rankings for the first time since early in the season. Chastain gained two spots to move up to first, but Homestead winner Kyle Larson led all drivers in spots gained with eight. Meanwhile, Chase Briscoe and Austin Cindric would lose that many spots, making them the biggest losers of the weekend along with Tyler Reddick (-6) and Erik Jones (-6).





## Bayshore Village, North Fort Myers, requests Doubling of its commercial space and 2 story homes

(TY Steve Brodtkin, Contributing Reporter)

A public meeting was held on 10/26/2022 at the New Hope Christian Church in Bayshore for Bayshore Village, a commercial planned development, regarding a zoning change for the property (application DCI2022-00032). The property, 8.75 acres on the NE corner of Bayshore Rd. and Wells Rd., is located within the General Interchange Zone on the east side of I-75. The property was approved in 2006 for 61,000 sq. ft. of commercial space, 1 story (max. 25 ft.), and included a 75 foot buffer with an 8' wall along the northern boundary to separate the development from a residential area.

About 75 local residents attended the meeting, and a presentation was made by Ron Inge from LSI Companies assisted by Jennifer Sapen from Barraco and Associates, representing the property owner. The application requests an increase to 150,000 sq. ft. of commercial space and 2 story (max. 35 ft.) buildings. The application maintains a buffer on the north side but eliminates the wall. They also want to expand the schedule of uses to include more intense commercial uses. Mr. Inge said possible uses could include fast food, hotel/motel, restaurant, car wash, gas station, department store, or anything listed in the schedule of uses, which is extensive.

Many from the public asked questions or made comments. One of the biggest issues was traffic congestion. Traffic on Bayshore Rd. has increased significantly in recent years, and while plans are being made by the state to widen Bayshore Rd., construction is not currently funded in the 5-year work program. The PD&E study is not yet complete, and will be followed by right-of-way acquisition, design and construction. Ron Inge said that, if approved, Bayshore Village could start construction in 2 years. He said the development would not change Bayshore Road's level of service, but he didn't know what the current level of service is. Residents were not convinced that 150,000 sq. ft. of commercial space would not change or impact the level of service. Residents were very concerned that travelers from I-75, turning left into the development, would cause a backup on Bayshore Rd. There is also the current problem of vehicles wanting to turn out of Wells Rd. We've heard that the intersection is too close to the traffic light at Nalle Road to put in another light. Many residents passionately stated that developments like this are destroying the rural lifestyle they moved here for, and would add to the congestion they're trying to escape.



Residents also raised the issue of flooding (the subject property flooded from storm surge during Ian), and how every time a property is raised or bermed off, it redirects sheet flow onto others. Residents protested how the development could be much more intense, the building heights raised, and the previously required wall could be omitted. The application states: "The proposed site plan will provide buffers comparable to the currently approved MCP (Master Concept Plan)", but residents were not convinced this would be so.



Ron Inge said the earlier zoning had not produced entitlements attractive enough for a developer, so rezoning to a greater intensity is needed to attract development. Throughout the meeting he took notes as issues were raised.

This reporter told the audience that the county is seeking more information from the developer, but once the application is found sufficient, a county reviewer will write a report recommending approval, denial, or approval with conditions. Residents can send their comments to senior planner Adam Mendez:

[AMendez@leegov.com](mailto:AMendez@leegov.com). Reference Bayshore Village and/or DCI2022-00032. It's best to comment soon, before the application

is found sufficient, and before the staff report is written, so your comments can be considered by county staff. Ask that your comments be included in the record. thanked Ron Inge and his team for coming, answering questions, and taking our input.



## LaBelle: Two Bridges meeting the FDOT Workshop has been rescheduled from 10/26 to 11/30

The in-person meeting will now take place on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 5 p.m. at the original location – LaBelle Civic Center, 481 W. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida 33935, and the virtual meeting will now take place on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at 6 p.m. The public meeting was originally scheduled in-person for

Wednesday, October 26, 2022, and virtually on Thursday, October 27, 2022. Meetings for this project are being rescheduled due to Hurricane Ian.

The purpose of this PD&E Study Re-evaluation is to improve traffic operations, access, and mobility along SR 29. FDOT anticipates this project will also enhance safety along the project corridor; improve emergency evacuation; and improve access between Hendry and Glades Counties. The project will widen sidewalks along the corridor and look at improvements at the intersections of SR 29 and Cowboy Way, SR 80 at Main Street and Bridge Street, and Park Avenue at Main Street and Bridge Street. The no-build alternative, where no improvements other than routine maintenance are made to SR 29, will remain viable throughout the remainder of this study. The PD&E Study Re-evaluation Workshop is being held to present information regarding the proposed design to SR 29 and to gather feedback from the public. You can participate in the workshop live online or in-person. The same materials will be displayed at both the online and in-person events, and will also be posted by November 23, 2022 on the project website.



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SHELTER (863) 675-0997    CLINIC (863) 675-7387    [info@caloosahumanesociety.org](mailto: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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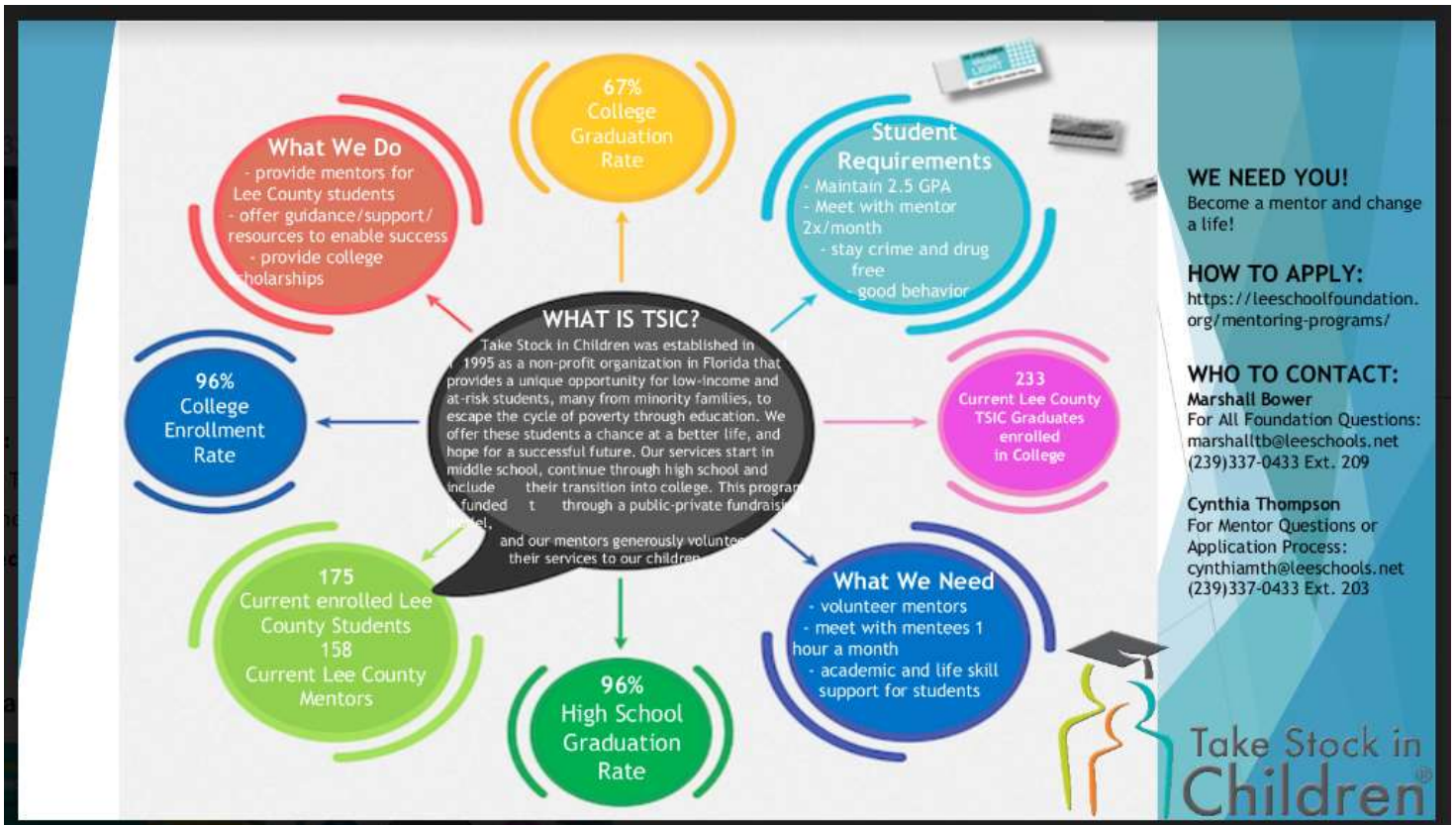
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## BARRON LIBRARY

at the LaBelle Caloosahatchee Dock  
Park



*Your friends at*

*Alva United Methodist Church*

'Tis the season to spread Jesus and happiness to the needy children of the Alva community.



We are collecting new or gently used toys or monetary donations for the ToyTown ministry here at Alva United Methodist Church.

Toys can be dropped off at the church office, monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Be sure to label your envelope or check ToyTown please.

If you know of a family in need or would like to sign up to help in this event please contact Lynn Hawkins: 239-980-2718. Distribution day is Wednesday, December 14th, 9am til noonish?

*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](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/FL0533P).

Cutoff date to purchase is November 28th.

Any questions can be directed to Georgette Lundquist at [jglundy7@gmail.com](mailto: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**



## Annual Turkey Shoot Fundraising Event

Saturday  
November 5th  
10 AM – 2 PM

Lee County Posse Arena  
17401 Palm Creek Drive

### SPONSORSHIPS:

- GOLD:** Lane sponsorship sign, logo on advertising materials, display your banner at event \$500
- SILVER:** Lane sponsorship sign, logo on advertising materials \$250
- BRONZE:** Lane sponsorship sign \$100



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Supporting our local schools & 4H Program through Student Scholarships and Literacy Projects

Have Questions? Email [FTMERotary@gmail.com](mailto:FTMERotary@gmail.com)



## The Alva Library Museum

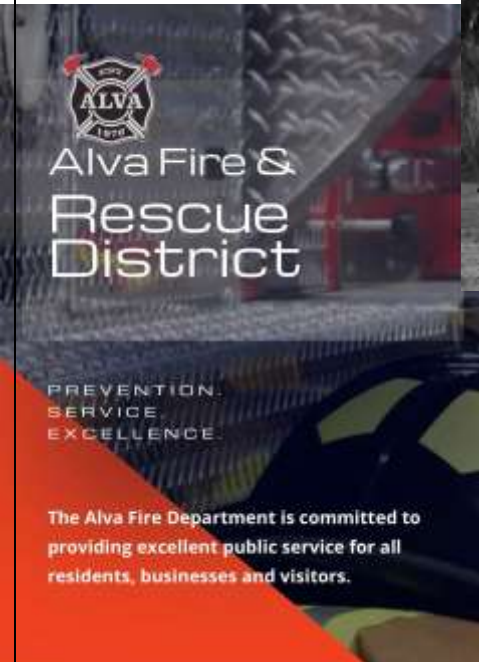
NOW OPEN EVERY SATURDAY  
2-4 PM!!



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).



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# The ALVA GARDEN CLUB

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.

We will be meeting in the Alva United Methodist Church Fellowship

Hall the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1 pm.

**Everyone is welcomed to join!**



## First meeting of the season in their new DIGS

On Tuesday October 18, 2022

To hear details about all the new projects the growing club is planning you need to join and attend. And at

\$10.00 a year and one meeting (with home made refreshments) a month that's not a bad deal.

However, suffice it to say that without all the former museum expenses the club had to bear, including hours of docent and landscaping time, these hard working, plant loving, Alva area members are looking at a veritable BEVY of new ways to beautify and serve their community.

New standing committees are forming, such as Public Relations, Riverdale High School and Alva Elementary/Middle School partnering, and MORE.

Nonetheless, this club has been very sorry to leave their connection to the Alva Library/Museum Board after almost 50 years of connection. The strong desire of all the clubs members is that a new group of interested ALVANIANS will be able to open the library/museum again to the public.

# SCORE Southwest Florida

**3650 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966, (239) 931-9807,  
[swflscore@gmail.com](mailto: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

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<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](mailto: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](http://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

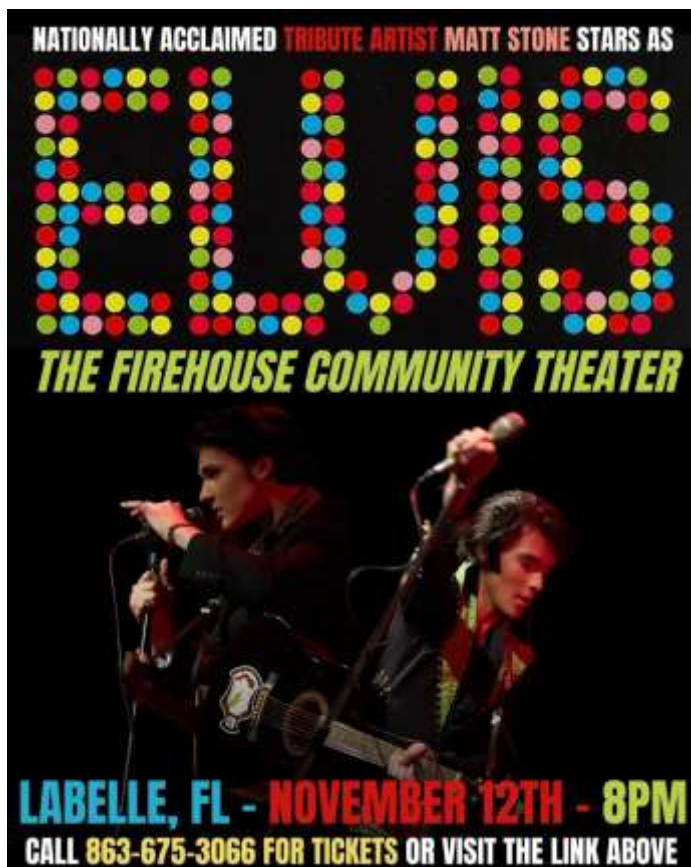
"The Elves and the Shoemaker" (Musical) December 2, 3, 4, & 9, 10, 11

"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



(TY News-Press, Amy Bennet-Williams, July 29, 2017, abridged)

### The CAPTAIN

Rumor had it — rumor fanned by Nelson himself — he was the illegitimate son of the king of Denmark. True or not, he had the means to buy and lay out the land that eventually became Alva. The town's museum now sits on a parcel he donated, and that museum contains a singular biography charting Nelson's rise and fall from grace: "The Benevolent Dane," written in 1992 by the late Charles Edgar Foster, who grew up in Nelson's town.

The "modern" history of Alva began with the vision of this Danish sea captain. Peter was a colorful character that homesteaded a vast area, platted and laid out a village, earmarking plots for schools, parks, churches, even the first library in South Florida. He called his town "Alva," naming it after the profusion of small white flowers growing along the bank of the same name. Captain Nelson was instrumental in the forming of Lee County, and served as one of its first County Commissioners.

Charles had once told the story of how when his wife, Margaret, was a girl, she was playing piano in a hotel here in Alva where Capt. Nelson was a guest. After listening to little Margaret banging away for a while, the captain got up, walked to the piano, reached into his pocket and pulled out a pearl-and-diamond brooch, which he gave her.



Now, whether it was because that captain liked Margaret's playing or whether he wanted to distract her so she'd stop, Charles never knew. But he always wondered if that brooch was the remnant of Peter Nelson's royal fortune.

Rae Ann Wessel, natural resource policy director for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, corrected this story later by sending Amy Bennet-Williams an email.



Actually, she wrote, "It was given to Charles' mother, not his wife Margaret and it was a single diamond, not a brooch. Charles' father many years later had the diamond set with pearls to simulate the little white flower of Alva that drew the captain to the land he named Alva."

Late in life Captain Nelson moved out to Pine Island, and is buried at the remote Cayo Costa Cemetery where the original residents of the island buried their relatives in the 1800's.

The etching on his memorial is:

*NELSON, Capt. Peter, b. No Date d. Sep 7 1919, "Age 80 Years", "Founder of Alva, FL", "Native of Denmark", "Charlotte Harbor ship pilot"*

# ALVA history continued...

## Charleston Park | History

(By Re' Joyce Neal-Baskin)

### Community Advocate-Mother Nettie Roundtree

Mrs. Nettie Roundtree was a strong tower in the community. She had such a great impact on the future of the Charleston Park Community that she earned her name on one of the community streets called Roundtree Lane. In the mid to late 1900's, Mrs. Roundtree was the spokeswoman for Charleston Park. She insisted on the community receiving needed support to clean up the neighborhoods and reduce crime in the "barley-thriving-at-the-time" community.



During Mrs. Roundtree's years in Charleston Park, she witnessed crimes committed by generational children that were inexcusable. She began to demand protection and guidance. With her community leadership abilities, she recruited involvement from several other prominent members of the community such as: Melvin Lawson, Christine Outlaw, Alice Washington, Frank Neal, Janie Whitney, Emma Smith and a host of others who are still actively involved in community improvement. This led to the establishment of the Charleston Park Community Board.







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



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



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](mailto:leeparks@leegov.com)

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



## NORTH FORT MYERS Recreation Park

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

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

Veterans Park Recreation Center



55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936



**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.

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





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

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

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



*Bob Janes Preserve*



*Daniel's Preserve at Spanish Creek*



*Carter's Lane*



*Buckingham Trails Preserve*



*Olga Shores Preserve*



*Oak hammock*



*Alva Scrub Preserve*



*Telegraph Creek Preserve*



*Frank Mann Preserve*



***Preserve Democracy***

**VOTE**



**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 FREE TIP SHEET AND FORMS

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.**

**First Baptist Church of Alva**

*2790 Joel Blvd, Alva*

*Where Bounce Houses are FREE and Face Painting too*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2022 AT 3 PM – 6 PM**



*Southwest Florida Cooking by*

*MAGGIE McMann*

*of Oak Park, Alva*

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



## “THANKSGIVING EGG ROLLS”

... the KEY is to have some GRAVY to dip these in because that really does make them EXTRA YUMMY.

Here is all you do... there is really no recipe:

- \*Place an egg roll wrapper on your work surface on the diagonal.
- \*Spread on a layer of cranberry sauce... don't get too close to the edge because you have to fold them in.
- \*Add a layer of mashed potatoes. We tried two varieties... one with mashed potatoes and one with hashed brown casserole and the hashed brown casserole was THE BEST!
- \*Add a layer of dressing/stuffing.
- \*Add a few small slices of turkey. Remember not to add too much of everything because you have to roll all of this up!!!

Now moisten the edges of the egg roll wrapper with water. This will help to seal the edges.

Fold the bottom edge over all of the filling and tuck it under everything. Now fold the two side ends toward the middle and gently press down to seal in place. Now begin to roll it all forward (toward the top) and seal it all together. Set aside and keep making them until you run out of leftovers.

In a large frying pan heat vegetable oil that is about 1" deep to about 350-375 degrees. Gently place each stuffed egg roll into the hot oil with tongs. Fry on each side for a minute or two until they are golden brown. Remember that everything inside the egg roll is already cooked so you are just trying to get a golden-brown crispy egg roll!!!! Remove to a plate lined with paper towels to cool slightly. Serve with warmed gravy for dipping.







## 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](http://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!

# 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.

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## 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

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Sign up for the Riverdale Branch Library Program and Events Newsletter at [leelibrary.net/subscribe](https://leelibrary.net/subscribe) for service updates.



Visit [leelibrary.net](https://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





# AFTER THE STORM

Even if you have an excellent disaster plan in place, dealing with the aftermath of a severe weather event is never easy. Here are a few tips you need to know to help with the recovery process after the storm passes by.

**Auto Damage:** The Florida Motor Vehicle Repair Act requires anyone who is paid to repair motor vehicles owned by other individuals to register with FDACS. The act applies to dealers of new and used cars, trucks and motorcycles; garages; service stations; self-employed persons; truck stops; and paint, body, brake, muffler, transmission, mobile repair and glass shops. The act establishes requirements for estimates and invoices. Review estimates and contracts carefully for language that may assign your insurance policy benefits directly to the repair shop. Click Motor Vehicle Repair for more information.

**Charities:** Give wisely! All charities soliciting within the state of Florida (excluding religious, educational, political and governmental agencies) are required to register and file financial information with FDACS. Call 1-800-HELP-FLA or 1-800-FLAYUDA en Español or use our online Check-A-Charity tool to find out if a charity is properly registered. You can also find out how much the charity is spending on administration and fundraising and how much money goes to actual programming.

**Contractors:** Check the license and complaint history of contractors before signing a contract or agreeing to have anyone do work for you. Call the Department of Business and Professional Regulation at (850) 487-1395 or go to MyFloridaLicense.com. Do not sign an "Assignment of Benefits" form for a contractor if you have not been instructed to do so by your insurance company.

**File a Complaint:** Do you have a complaint about a business? FDACS can help, regardless of whether we regulate the specific industry. Call 1-800-HELP-FLA or click File a Complaint for assistance.

**Insurance:** Don't respond to robocalls, text messages, or emails regarding your insurance premiums or coverage. Call your local insurance agent or the company's customer service number listed on your policy or insurance card to verify any messages you receive about your insurance.

**Food Safety:** Discard perishable food that has been stored in temperatures above 41° F for four or more hours. Dispose of any food that has an unusual odor, color or texture or feels warm to the touch. If in doubt, throw it out! Inspect canned foods for damage. Damaged canned food shows swelling, leaking, punctures, holes, fractures, deep rusting, crushing or denting. If flooding occurs, discard any food not in a waterproof container that has come into contact with flood water. Contact your county Department of Health if you suspect that your well may be contaminated.

**Fuel:** The potential for water contaminated fuel incidents increase after a considerable storm. If you witness flooding at a station during or immediately following a storm report it to the department so we can have an inspector check the storage tanks for water contamination. Always keep the receipt of purchase and report any possible contaminated fuel incidents to the department's Division of Consumer Services at 1-800-HELP-FLA or 1-800-FL-AYUDA en Español.

**Generators:** Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning device inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Keep these devices outdoors and away from doors, windows, and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors.

**Landlord/Tenant:** If you live in a rental property that was damaged by the storm, you need to know your rights and responsibilities and those of your landlord. Visit Landlord/Tenant Law for more information or refer to Florida's Landlord/Tenant Law, Chapter 83, Part II, Florida Statutes.

**Price Gouging:** Anyone who suspects price gouging should call the Office of the Attorney General at (866) 9NO-SCAM or file a complaint online at MyFloridaLegal.com.

**Skimmers:** Thieves will take advantage of the power outages to install skimming devices. Always check for security measures on the pump and be aware of your surroundings. Look around for possible cameras, or any suspicious equipment that doesn't belong on the pump. Please remember not all pumps require Security Tape. Some pump systems have internal security, if in doubt ask the store personnel about the pump security. Report any evident signs of tampering or unauthorized access to fuel dispensers to the department's Division of Consumer Services at 1-800-HELPFLA or 1-800-FL-AYUDA en Español.







<https://www.facebook.com/sherifflee/fl/> / [www.sherifflee.fl.org/](http://www.sherifflee.fl.org/)

Hurricane IAN, what YOU can do

## To volunteer or provide supplies:

United Way:

Website:

[volunteer.unitedwaylee.org](http://volunteer.unitedwaylee.org)

Phone: 239-433-3900 or 211  
(if local)

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SWFL Emergency Relief Fund

Website:

<https://collaboratory.org/>

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Florida Disaster Fund Website:

<https://www.volunteerflorida.org/donatefdf/>

Phone: text DISASTER to 20222

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American Red Cross

Website: <https://www.redcross.org/>

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# 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.



Give TIME. Give MONEY. Give FOOD.

To make a donation, **call (239) 334-7007** or visit  
[www.harrychapinfoodbank.org](http://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:

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

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# 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

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday at 10am-1pm

## ALVA UMC

Food Pantry @ Bethany House

Food Pantry: 9am-12pm 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.stvincentftmyers.org) 239-693-0818

Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St. P.O Box 96

Alva, FL 33920

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

[www.ouralvachurch.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:CalvaryChurchSwfl@yahoo.com)

[www.calvarynations.org](http://www.calvarynations.org) 239-728-5566

First Baptist Church of Alva

2790 Joel Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

[www.alvabaptist.com](http://www.alvabaptist.com) 239-728-2034

Grace United Methodist Church, Ft Myers Shores

14036 Matanzas Drive, Ft Myers, Florida 33905

[www.egracechurch.com](http://www.egracechurch.com) 239-694-2797

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14531 Old Olga Road,

Fort Myers, FL 33905

[www.blcefml.org](http://www.blcefml.org) 239-694-3878

Olga Baptist Church

2364 South Olga Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

[www.olgabaptist.org](http://www.olgabaptist.org) 239-694-2012

[olgabapch1@embarqmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:intake@stmatthewshouse.org).

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

## FORT MYERS SHORES:

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

-AA 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](mailto: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 11-4/23



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 16<sup>th</sup> with a Christmas Show.

# Important Alva Area Lee County Phone Numbers & Websites

(as of August 1, 2020)

Agency	Normal Business	Emergency
<b>ANY immediate life-threatening emergency</b>		<b>911</b>
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	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)	<a href="http://www.ready.gov/citizen-corps">www.ready.gov/citizen-corps</a>
Department of Financial Services (Insurance)	<a href="http://www.myfloridacfo.com">www.myfloridacfo.com</a>
Department of Homeland Security	<a href="http://www.dhs.gov/">www.dhs.gov/</a>
Florida Lightning Safety	<a href="http://www.weather.gov/safety/lightning">www.weather.gov/safety/lightning</a>
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	<a href="http://www.flhsmv.gov/mobilehome">www.flhsmv.gov/mobilehome</a>
American Sign Language Preparedness Videos	<a href="http://www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan">www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan</a>
Storm Ready	<a href="http://www.weather.gov/stormready/">www.weather.gov/stormready/</a>



# ***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](http://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](http://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.**



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CONTACT: Ken DeWalt, publisher, with any questions. [kendewalt@ontheriver.org](mailto:kendewalt@ontheriver.org)

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