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On the RIVER

Connecting ALVA Florida NEIGHBORS and NEIGHBORHOODS

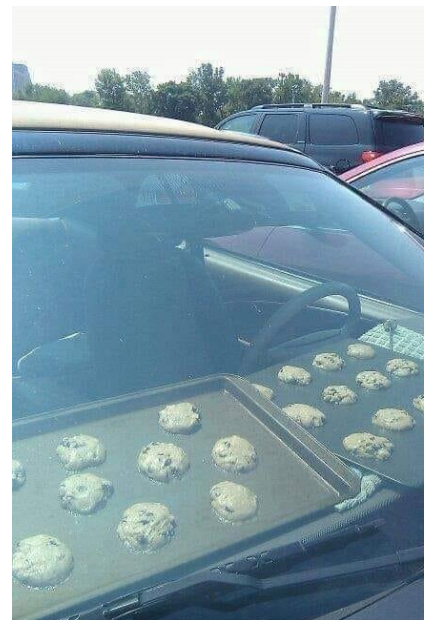
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FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL Alva area news: Frank Mann has passed away
- LOCAL land development news: Riverdale Expansion
- LOCAL history: One business's change over time
- LOCAL Community services: New 20/20 growth
- LOCAL club and organization news: Rotary grows
- LOCAL recipes and health tips: Newest from Maggie
- LOCAL safety & health information: Where to get help
- LOCAL sport: Expanded sports at Lehigh Acres Park

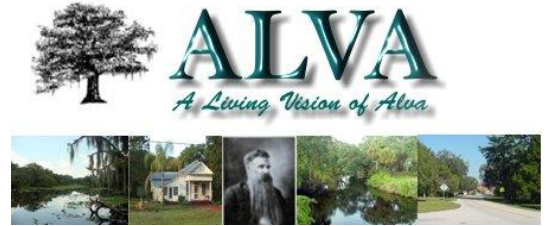


ALVA INC, At the Alva Community Center.

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 meeting NOTES of June 14

(TY Connie Dennis)

It happened again!!! We couldn't get into the Alva Community Center for our meeting. We have been assured by Lee County Parks and Recreation that someone will be at the Center to let us in for sure every second Tuesday.

George Austin rescued us by offering the Alva Museum to hold our Board meeting and we took him up on the offer. George Austin suggested that we might want to have future meetings at the Museum if we wanted to and there was board approval.

Treasurer Roxanne reported a current balance of \$1,801.09 in our treasury.

-New event venue on Packing House Road

Roxanne Gause reported how she and Connie went door-to-door to meet and talk to the neighbors on Packinghouse Rd about the proposed zoning change for the former Woodmen of the World building on Packinghouse Road. We talked to 7 of the 9 neighbors whose property is within the 500-foot allowance for alcoholic beverages. Everyone one of the seven is vehemently opposed to having it zoned commercial and adding a large building for weddings and family events. They fear the possible noise from the parties as well as problems resulting from alcohol consumption. They are also concerned about the traffic and parking problems.

Roxanne is going to speak for these neighbors at the BOCC meeting on June 22. Roxanne reported there were three major deviations from the original report that needed to be addressed. They needed 5 more parking spaces, or had to change the building size. So, it is now 3400 square feet, instead of 3600 at a 60% reduction from the original plan. She also discussed how the property was never really commercial. Having an outdoor barbecue with invited guests seemed to make it commercial.

Another important issue is the noise level. The rules are that the noise level has to be 65 decibels or below for normal circumstances. However, dance music is normally 80 decibels. Weddings and special events usually take place on the weekends when there is no code enforcement available. Neighbors

would be encouraged to take meticulous notes to complain to the county. Alva Inc. is dedicated to preserving the tranquility and beauty of Alva.

Roxanne stressed to the group that when we relate our objections to the commissioners about rezoning the Packinghouse Road property that we should divide them up so we don't keep saying the same thing. She is going to do a PowerPoint focusing on the neighbors and their objections and proximity to the location of the event center. Denise agreed to tackle the parking situation, and Paul went through a long list of problems with the application, one being that one fourth of the property is rural and the rest urban. He knows that the county rescinded that designation shortly after they made it due to objections from the residents.

-New huge development on Alico Road

A new development is up for approval by the BOCC that includes 6,000 acres that would include 10,000 rooftops. The location is Alico Road and Highway 82, meeting at Sunshine Blvd. This is not near Alva, but tells us what the future can bring if we are not vigilant.

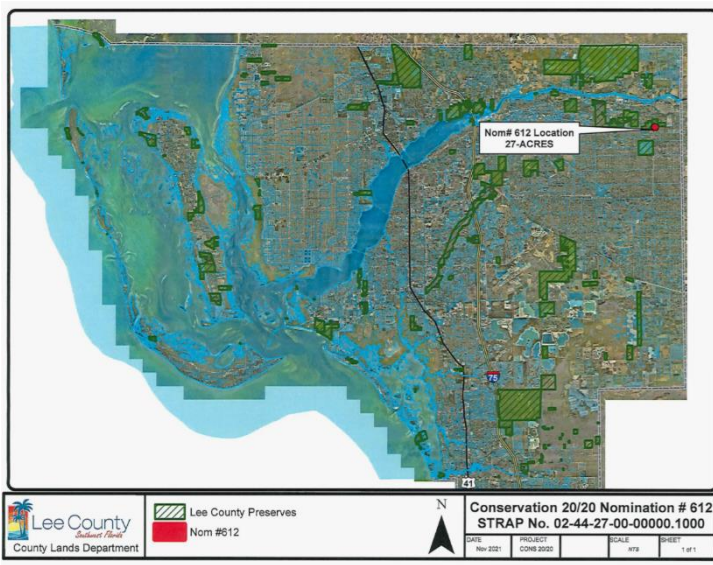
-The Alva Village 777 Arcade

Denise reported on the 777 Arcade. They marked off seven parking spaces in front of the building, two may be in the right of way. They have had 2-3 violations, one for working on the air conditioning without a permit. Since then, they got the permit for the air conditioning but no others. They need an occupancy permit.

-River Hall Rte 80 entrance intersection

Roxanne saw in the paper that timing at the light at River Hall has been adjusted to meet the traffic flow from Highway 80 and Buckingham Road. Hopefully this will prevent future tragedies!!!

Lee County announces an enlargement of ALVA SCRUB preservation land 20/20



The Lee Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, June 21, approved the purchase of about 27 acres of conservation land in proximity to Alva Scrub Preserve and adjacent to the Joel Agri-Eco Park.

The property, located at 2360 Joel Boulevard in Alva, is predominantly uplands with gopher tortoise habitat. Conservation Land Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee (CLASAC) recommended approval of this purchase agreement by unanimous vote.

Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann passes away

(TY WINK NEWS-edited)



It was just a couple of months ago that Frank Mann visited two ALVA INC meetings to share his grief at the death of their long-time leader Ruby Daniels and to advise the NEW Alva INC leadership how to organize for what he called, "A time of needed vigilance" for wise and correct development.

His advice helped ALVA INC search out new members, develop an active board, and grow attendance to 20-30 at each monthly meeting this Spring. TY Frank. You always tried to be fair and true to your Alva neighbors.

Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann died at 80 years old on Tuesday morning, June 14th. This morning the Lee County Commissioner's meeting started with a prayer and a moment of silence for Mann. In his honor, they voted to rename an east Lee County Conservation 20/20 preserve the Frank Mann Preserve.

Commissioner Frank Mann was a lifelong resident of Lee County and received his degree in political science from Vanderbilt University in 1964. Mann's career in public service began in 1974. He served eight years in the Florida House of Representatives and four years in the Florida Senate, representing Lee, Charlotte, and Collier counties. In 1986 he was his party's nominee for Lt. Governor of Florida.



During his 14 years of service on the Commission, he has served as chairman of the Lee County Commission, the Lee County Port Authority, and the Tourist Development Council.

Fellow Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman posted about Mann's death on Facebook: *Commissioner Frank Mann passed away this morning surrounded by his family. I will miss him dearly. Here are some thoughts I have as I reflect on our time serving together. To the Commissioner from the Fifth District, thank you sir for your decades of public service to Lee County. It's been an honor to work with you for nearly 9 years. I admired you long before that, because as we often joke you've been in office almost my entire life.*

The night I cast my first presidential vote you were there. I was a rookie cameraman working your camera for election night coverage at WINK news. You were our local political expert and you broke my heart when you told me George W. would not win. What a crazy week it was after that as the election was settled. The morning I made my first vote as a County Commissioner you were there. Initially, there was talk about having me take the Oath of Office in private, prior to the meeting. But you made sure

that my swearing-in took place in the chambers and you even helped us all recognize the significance of the moment saying, "we don't do this every day."

We didn't always vote the same, but I respect how much you loved fighting for your beliefs and earning the nickname 4-1 Frank. I learned a lot from you and I know I am a better commissioner for having worked with you. I will miss your sermonettes as you called them. I will miss your warm smile, your firm handshake and your big southern voice. I'm glad to know you shared the same faith in our Lord Jesus and one day I'll see you again in that big legislature in the sky. Rest in peace my friend.

The 625-acre preserve being named for Frank Mann was formerly called Greenbriar Swamp or "Section 10." Currently, the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement is getting the land ready by reconfiguring the mine lake into a filter marsh for stormwater treatment and a storage reservoir for flood control. The preserve has a paddle craft launch into a lake for kayakers and paddlers. It also has options for fishers and bird-watchers. In the future, there will also be hiking trails, pavilions and picnic tables. The park hours are from dawn to dusk.

Chairman Cecil Pendergrass made the suggestion of changing the name of the preserve.

"Commissioner Mann was a tireless advocate for the people of east Lee County and for recreational opportunities, amenities and open spaces in District 5," said Pendergrass. "Frank was instrumental in both the creation of the preserve and the opening earlier this year of part of the site for fishing and kayaking."

Lehigh Acres Veterans Park Expands services



Soon, Lehigh Acres Park will be undergoing some exciting expansions to meet the increased public demand.

This expansion will include 3 football fields with lighting, permanent restroom facilities, a disc golf course, concession building, locker rooms, paved parking lot, pavilions and nature trails. The existing park will also undergo an upgrade with the addition of 4 pickleball courts, relocation of the batting cage and construction of a covered maintenance building. The estimated construction completion date is December 2023.

Mike Greenwell running for Lee County Commission seat

(TY WINK News-JOEY PELLEGRINO)



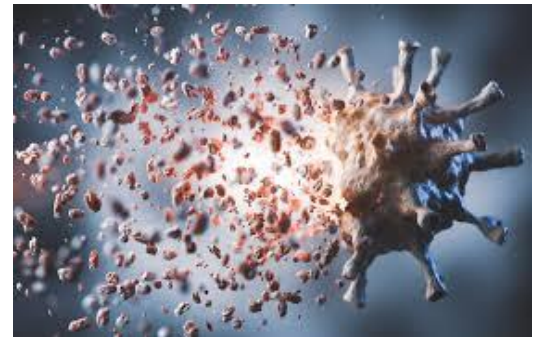
Former baseball star Mike Greenwell is running for the late Frank Mann's seat on the Lee County Commission. Greenwell, who owns and runs a farm in Lee County and was once a left-fielder for the Boston Red Sox, filed papers to run Tuesday afternoon. He spoke to WINK News about why he decided to run and his plans if he wins.

"Lived pretty much my whole life here, and living out there in District 5, I've watched the growth and I've watched how much we're expanding, and I just felt like it'd mean a lot to me because I think I have a voice people would listen to," Greenwell said. "I felt like it was my time to serve and jump in and hopefully help our community out there."

Real estate agent John Albion, who served as a Lee County commissioner between 1992 and 2006 is also running for District 5, along with Joseph R. Gambino. Angela R Chenaille is a write-in candidate with no listed party affiliation. Small business owner Matthew Wood from Lehigh Acres is the sole Democrat running.

I was supposed to avoid COVID, and for more than two years, I did. Then everything changed

(TY News-Press & Amy Bennett-Williams, June 3, 2022)



Not to give away the ending or anything, but COVID-19 didn't kill me. Nor did it get anyone in my family. Here's where the story takes a turn, though: It could have. Easily. And that's what still gives me the 2 a.m. horrors. I wasn't even supposed to have a COVID story, because the plan was to avoid it.

Our nuclear Florida family, which includes Roger and our young adult kids, is dependably healthy, but we share a house with Roger's 94-year-old mother, while my own 81-year-old mom who lives nearby is on heavy-duty immunosuppressive drugs. We knew it would likely be very bad news if one of them got it, so we were going to see to it that they didn't.



My little family in the before times, from left: D.P., my mom Cynthia, Roger (in the hat), Nash (in stripes), me, Roger's mom Ellen, Rachel

What's the bright side of coronavirus? How about grain alcohol perfume?

From 2021: One year after COVID-19 pandemic began, many are still coping

I'm one of those sheeple who pretty much trusts the medical establishment. Now, I know the whole profit-motivated pharmaceutical-industrial complex is problematic, but still, as a doctor's granddaughter with some medic friends, I don't have the sense that the healthcare system is out to kill me.

Because we wanted to protect our truly frail elders, before the vaccine was available, we started masking and sanitizing. We'd even mask at family gatherings. It was weird and uncomfortable, but it was for the greater good. Soon as we could, we all got the shots and then got boosted. We preferred to err on the side of caution, so we kept masking. I could never forgive myself if I carelessly brought the virus to one of the moms.

We live in rural Alva, the land of the free, so you can imagine the side-eye when I showed up in Tractor Supply with my face diaper. The stares as I was loading horse feed weren't always friendly. I'm pretty sure I heard a couple of muttered masker slurs, but I would just think about our older ladies and keep loading.

The masking went on. And on. And on. Even though the CDC said we could relax if we were vaxxed and boosted, we stayed cautious. Then, after more than two years of sticking close to home, we took our first sort-of vacation.

In early May, we headed to Cayo Costa for a few days, something we'd planned since the year before. Because we couldn't find anyone to do overnight shifts with Roger's mom, our son Nash and I went to the island to stay, and Roger came out to visit us one of the days.

On the ferry over, he didn't wear his mask. He was vaccinated, He was boosted. He was outside on a boat in the sunshine and salt breezes. Should be safe, right? But – and here's where the hindsight kicks in – the boat was full of day trippers from Kentucky and New Jersey.

I'm sure you know where this is going. A few days after the trip, Roger started feeling pretty rough, took the test: positive. My mother-in-law, Nash and I were negative.

My mom lives alone and doesn't drive, so my sister and I take turns visiting her, bringing groceries, taking her to appointments, doing whatever little chores she needs around the house. It was nothing but dumb scheduling luck that I didn't visit her between the time we got back from the island and Roger's positive test.

For a few days, I felt confidently smug that I wouldn't get it. After all, I am strong like an ox, with a robust immune system. Much as we tried, an 864-square-foot house is no place to isolate. Even though Roger slept on the couch, we still had to use the same bathroom, and though he was gloved and masked around his mom, pretty soon, the rest of us started to feel rough too.

On Mother's Day, I took another test. This time, it was positive. The next day, I went to one of the Florida Department of Health's designated test-to-treat sites, which happened to be the

Lehigh Acres CVS. There, I got my home test lab confirmed, and walked out with a prescription for Paxlovid, a five-day course of antivirals that are supposed to really help.

And maybe they did. But of all the people in my little household (we all eventually tested positive), I was by far the sickest. Even my mother-in-law was less affected by COVID than she was by a bout of bronchial pneumonia a few weeks earlier.

To be honest, I was a little embarrassed: I, the ox-woman of the robust immune system was utterly flattened by COVID. Now here's where my inner bright-sider starts jumping up and down to remind me that I didn't have to be hospitalized or intubated. I survived, so I really shouldn't complain.

OK, I'm not, but hear mine as a cautionary tale. I lost almost three weeks to this damned virus.

The first stretch was marked by howling headaches. Advil would take the edge off, but not completely. Ringing ears, full body aches, a fever that hovered around 100 degrees. Oh, and I threw up for a while. No cough at all though. And at first, I kept my sense of smell.











About a week in, the headaches and fever had mostly stopped, but where was my energy? It wasn't just that my sleep stank – like COVID brain fog, COVID insomnia is a thing – I was utterly wiped out.

I've never been someone comfortable lounging or napping, but the virus compelled both. Long after the others were feeling better, I was lagging, drooping, flopping and moping through day after ridiculous wasted day as my to-do list swelled nightmarishly. Dog Dell kept me company as I rested. And rested. And rested.

In 30-plus years at The News-Press, I'd never taken as much sick time, (which was its own low-key panic). I despaired as stories I desperately wanted to cover flashed before my eyes: algae blooms, construction near (or on, some worried) historic burial sites, threats to mangroves and waterways ... it was supremely frustrating, but there was nothing to be done.

On about day nine, I lost my sense of smell. Living around farm animals as I do, you might think it would be a nice break. But, since I wasn't out doing chores, it didn't much matter. Besides, I like most animal scents anyway. What did matter – to me at least – was how much of the springtime I was missing: my freshly turned garden, the new sprays of fiddlewood blossoms, the Meyer lemon flowers, the confederate jasmine.

I hated not being able to see my mom, but at least we could still text and do the NYT Spelling Bee together. Also on the positive side: I discovered Artle, read all 600 pages of John Steinbeck's "East of Eden" in 72 hours and practiced a LOT of Italian (io sono malata, I am

Symptoms	Coronavirus <small>Symptoms range from mild to severe</small>	Cold <small>Gradual onset of symptoms</small>	Flu <small>Abrupt onset of symptoms</small>
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Cough	Common* (usually dry)	Mild	Common* (usually dry)
 Sneezing	No	Common	No
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

PLEASE WEAR A MASK & STOP THE SPREAD



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



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



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



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

Source: World Health Organization

sick). There was sun to bask in, glorious scrub surrounding me, faithful critters to loll with and an incredible resident musician. I did get pretty good at the Spelling Bee.

Social media was a mixed blessing. My friends were so kind, so encouraging, yet some of them shared experiences that were truly scary. As one who'd rather know than not, I was grateful for all of it, as well as heart-sickened by a fact news outlets began reporting near the end of my second struggling week: More than a million Americans have succumbed to the virus so far, which means millions more, their family members and close friends, have been shattered by it.

Then finally, I started feeling like myself again. My home test was negative. I went back to work last Thursday. Negative, at last. And yet, I'm still not 100%.

The ringing in my ears hasn't entirely gone away, and while I'm functional, I definitely don't have all my energy back. As anyone who's raised babies can tell you, it's possible to power through when your tank is low. (Never mind it's been

20 years since I had babies, it's like riding a bicycle.)

Still, I'm not tearing it up as I'd like. That'll come, I tell myself. I'm alive and well and so are my loved ones.

But please, be careful. Stay careful. Our moms – and millions of others – are counting on you.



CALUSA WATERKEEPER IN THE NEWS

Wednesday morning June 8, 2022 Governor Ron DeSantis announced his decision to veto Senate Bill 2508 and held multiple press conferences in Fort Myers and West Palm Beach.



Calusa Waterkeeper, along with many environmental partners, have been advocating for a veto of this damaging bill since it passed the state legislature. SB 2508 was easily one of the worst water related bills we've seen since 2016, and we should all be very grateful it will not become law.

Given this is an election year, it is important you remember the representatives that enabled this damaging legislation. Remember that Senate leaders Ben Albritton and Wilton Simpson spearheaded this bad bill. Remember that none of our Southwest Florida representatives in Tallahassee voted in opposition of this bad bill. Remember that voting is one of the most important things you can do to help our water quality.

Thank you again for your support of this important advocacy initiative. There is always more work to be done, but this is a win worth celebrating.

Calusa Waterkeeper is grateful to partner closely with several other organizations in an effort to see SB 2508 vetoed by our Governor. A special thanks to James Evans, Chief Executive Officer of the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF), Eve Samples, Executive Director for Friends of the Everglades, and Nicole Johnson, Director of Environmental Policy with the *Conservancy* of Southwest Florida who have been conferencing regularly with Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani on this and other issues.



Waterkeeper Alliance and Cyclopure to Test more than 130 American Waterways for PFAS Contamination

NEW YORK, June 06, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Waterkeeper Alliance and Cyclopure today announced the launch of an unprecedented nationwide initiative to test American waterbodies for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a group of emerging contaminants linked to harmful effects to public health and the environment.

Widely used in manufacturing since the 1940s, PFAS are often referred to as 'forever chemicals' because they do not break down and they accumulate in people, wildlife, aquatic life, and the environment over time. Present in surface water, air, soil, food, and many commercial materials and products, PFAS are also found in groundwater, which provides nearly 50% of U.S. drinking water and is a major source for crop irrigation and agricultural production.



Paul Asfour, one of the spokespersons for the River Hall Residents opposed to the expansion plan of the owners of River Hall has asked that the issue be kept before all residents of the Caloosahatchee River Valley (I know, but we really do live in a topographically official, though only several foot high, valley).

RIVER HALL SUGGESTED DENSITY INCREASE TALKING POINTS

1. Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA2012-01), passed in 2015, stated that the residential dwelling units would not exceed 2,695. Residents considered that a promise not to exceed that number. Brian Hamman and Cecil Pendergrass voted for that plan. They should NOT be willing to exceed that number.
2. CPA2021-16 adds 489 more dwelling units for a total of 3,184 units, an approximate 18 percent increase over the 2,695 units. That will increase congestion throughout the community.
3. The total of 3,184 units is an increase of approximately 60% over the original number of units proposed for River Hall, 1,999.
4. Residents moving into River Hall had an expectation of a certain number of residential units. Those increases are unfair to those who expected a lower density community.
5. Adding apartments near the Palm Beach Blvd. River Hall Parkway intersection will increase traffic at an already dangerous intersection. Two people died recently.
6. The apartments will house transients. Those transients will be living near an elementary school. That poses a possible risk to the safety of those children.
7. Adding apartments and building smaller houses on smaller lots will change the character of the River Hall community.
8. Houses on 40-foot lots could lower property values of surrounding, larger homes on larger lots.
9. There will be a negative impact on our water supply, i.e., more people drawing from the aquifer.
10. Increased time to evacuate River Hall residents since most people will leave through the Palm Beach Blvd. exit.
11. River Hall residents are constituents of the county commissioners, which means our concerns should be taken into consideration before any dramatic change is made to our standard of living.
12. THE INCREASE IN UNITS WILL NOT BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF RIVER HALL IN ANY WAY.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONTACT INFORMATION

District 1 – Kevin Ruane – dist1@leegov.com

District 2 – Cecil Pendergrass – dist2@leegov.com

District 3 – Ray Sandelli – dist3@leegov.com

District 4 – Brian Hamman – dist4@leegov.com

District 5 – Frank Mann – dist5@leegov.com

Full Lee County Records on River Hall plans <https://results.leegov.com/Home/index/compplan/CPA2021-00016>



'I don't relish the idea of a subdivision', say Alva area farmers

(TY NEWS-PRESS)

The catastrophe didn't take Alva citrus grower Frank Green by surprise. The end of the story, which started in the 1890s, was foreshadowed years ago. But a slow-motion disaster is still a disaster. Maybe it's even worse, because it unfolds without the protective mechanism of shock. Instead, you watch, year after year, as fruit fouls, prices drop and the end looms.

The Green family's citrus operation, which once provided a comfortable living and sent two boys through college, is no longer profitable. A third of their 100 acres are now stripped of trees and Green expects the rest will be gone within five years.

It's one family's saga, but it's representative of many others. Florida citrus production has plummeted in recent decades. The reasons are many, but heading the list is greening, an incurable bacterial infection carried by a tiny Asian insect that first appeared in the early 2000s and is now found in 90% of the state's trees.

'We're probably not going to be in business. Greening has devastated the state's citrus crops, leaving growers reeling.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts this citrus season's crop of 40.2 million boxes to be the smallest since before World War II when, in the 1937-38 season, 40.87 million boxes were harvested.

Yields have steadily dropped. Over the past decade, 59% of Florida's citrus jobs have disappeared as the industry has taken an estimated \$2 billion hit, according to the University of Florida.



Twenty years ago, the state yielded 287.2 million boxes of citrus. The U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts this citrus season's crop of 40.2 million boxes to be the smallest since before World War II when, in the 1937-38 season, 40.87 million boxes were harvested (box weights depend on variety, but each weighs between 85 and 95 pounds).

"That tells you what's going on," said Hendry County grower Wayne Simmons, past president of the Gulf Citrus Growers Association and a board member of Florida Gulf Coast University's Center for Agribusiness' Advisory Committee.

"Greening is just wreaking havoc. And growers are trying new things but really nothing is working. There are increased production costs, production per acre is going down, our quality is going down, and that adds up," Simmons said. "It all means less money."

So much less money that growers like Green and the neighboring English Brothers groves have begun their retreat. "Our family's had citrus over there for about hundred years or more," said Joe English, "and it's just gotten to the point where you can't make a big enough crop anymore, with the costs of the inputs, to make a profit."

They're not the only ones.



The signs are visible all-over northeast Lee County, the remaining stronghold of a once-thriving citrus industry. Tidy plantings became "ghost groves" – scraggly ruins, where smilax and rosary pea vines rose to choke slumped and dying citrus trees.

Now, even the ghost groves are disappearing, as owners bulldoze the trees into piles, shred them into mulch or set them ablaze. In many places, grass replaces the gold-studded rows that once stretched to the horizon, and on some tracts, cattle graze.

This despite feverish work by scientists and universities to find a cure. Proposed so far: antibiotic dosing, gene splicing, bagging baby trees and covering whole plots with screen houses.

"It's not that money's not being spent for research or we're not trying," Simmons said. "Over the last 15 years, we've spent close to \$1 billion in research, and we're certainly closer than we were and we're probably living with it a little better, but it's still not enough."

Getting growers to adopt unproven, expensive fixes can be a tough sell. "I don't know that they're infecting us with their optimism," said Joe English. "That's all just an additional cost, and those things aren't cheap (so) we've just chosen to wait and see. If they come up with something, we may decide to plant some more, but right now, I don't think that's an option."

Like Green, his family operation is scraping once fruitful trees from their land and burning them. "In Alva, we've taken out roughly 200 acres," English said, "and we still probably have roughly 75 acres," which eventually will be cleared as well, he says. "I imagine we're going to wind up with cows on it ... the economics of it just don't work."

'A tipping point'

With a third of Green's 100 acres gone, "we're probably going to be out the citrus industry altogether within the next few years," said the Alva native, delivered 79 years ago by a midwife into the family-homesteaded grove he's now watching die.

"This past season was kind of a tipping point for us," he said. One block of Hamlin oranges went from producing upwards of 7,000 boxes to 2,000. "We just felt like we couldn't keep up the production costs on it and make ends meet. The production costs just keep going up, and the income stays the same."



Retired Lee County School District administrator Jeff McCullers grew up in his family's grove in Estero, where growth – not greening – pretty much ended the industry there: "One day, I picked the last orange I would ever pick from my family's orange grove. I didn't know then it was the last one. I just never went back to do it again. That's how things vanish most of the time.

"Florida citrus has had a 50-yearlong sunset, and we are seeing the absolute last faint glimmer of twilight. A few moments from now, the glow will finally fade away." 'You have to look back on the good times'

But Alva's Frank Green is not complaining.

"It's a sad situation (but) you have to look back on the good times," he said. "We raised two boys and put them through college off the little bit of grove that we had and caretaking other people's groves – these small little blocks of groves all around Alva which no longer exist," he said. "It was our total livelihood."

And then it wasn't. "It's just within the last couple, three years that we're realizing it's not going to be here. I don't think five years ago, we even thought about it – that's how fast this has come on us, and how devastating it is to the industry."

"We're not the only ones in this pickle here. A lot of growers are in this situation." To the east, in Hendry County, Simmons hasn't had to tear up any trees, "but one more year like this year and I probably will," he said. "You can't afford to keep losing money."

As for his land's next crop, it may well be homes. "A lot of growers are taking advantage in the increase of houses being planted," Simmons said. "If you get an opportunity to sell your property in this kind of market, you're not going to think twice – you're going to do it. And that's happening across the state."



David Outerbridge, who directs Lee County's University of Florida Extension Service office, seconds that. "Urban sprawl keeps moving out," he said, and for growers, "Development values are just more appealing."

Yet in Alva, English and Green say rows of duplexes are not in the plans. "Well, we've owned this land for 100 years and we're not ready to give it up yet," English said. "It's always an alternative, but it's not anything we're considering. We've had opportunities, of course, to sell it, but we chose not to and don't have any plans to."

Green feels the same way. "I don't relish the idea of a subdivision at all. I anticipate this to stay in cattle," he says, and his sons, who are mostly managing the groves now, are like-minded. Neither depends on citrus the way he and his wife Nancy once did. One is a certified public accountant; the other manages rental properties.

All of them are clear-eyed about the future. "Thirty years ago, if you'd have told me this, when we were in our prime and the grove was going good, if you'd taken it away from us like this, I'd have been in deep sorrow, because that was our way of living."



Now, he says, "Citrus has been good to us; I can't squawk too much. "I've lived long enough – through the good times and the bad times – and I'm accepting it." McCullers feels that realism – and even some optimism.

"Every place on this Earth is losing some time-honored way of life, some once-booming industry, some family business. At this moment and in this place, we are losing orange groves. The sorrow we feel is sorrow felt round the world. The healing ahead of us isn't clear, but surely it will come. Surely something else can be good and true and beautiful."



Photo from 2021

Blue-green algae toxins present in Franklin Lock

(TY WINK NEWS-Paul Dolan)

The Florida Department of Health in Lee County issued a Health Alert due to blue-green algae, according to a report from the Florida Department of Health. This comes in response to a water sample taken on June 1, 2022.

Residents and visitors are advised to take the following precautions:

Do not drink, swim, wade, use personal watercraft, water ski or boat in waters where there is a visible bloom.

Wash your skin and clothing with soap and water if you have contact with algae or discolored or smelly water.

Keep pets away from the area. Waters where there are algae blooms are not safe for animals. Pets and livestock should have a different source of water when algae blooms are present.

Do not cook or clean dishes with water contaminated by algae blooms. Boiling the water will not eliminate the toxins.

Eating fillets from healthy fish caught in freshwater lakes experiencing blooms is safe. Rinse fish fillets with tap or bottled water, throw out the guts and cook fish well.

Do not eat shellfish in waters with algae blooms.

Blue-green algae are a type of bacteria common in Florida's freshwater environments. Blooms occur when the rapid growth of algae then leads to an accumulation of individual cells. These cells discolor water and often produce floating mats that emit unpleasant odors.

Some environmental factors that contribute to blue-green algae blooms are sunny days, warm water temperatures, still water conditions, and excess nutrients. Blooms can appear year-round. Although, they are more frequent in summer and fall. Many types of blue-green algae can produce toxins.

Blue-green algae blooms can impact human health and ecosystems, including fish and other aquatic animals.

If you see an algal bloom, you can report it to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. To report a bloom to DEP, call the toll-free hotline at 855-305-3903.

Contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute to report fish kills at 1-800-636-0511.

Report symptoms from exposure to a harmful algal bloom or any aquatic toxin to the Florida Poison Information Center, call 1-800-222-1222 to speak to a poison specialist immediately.

Contact your veterinarian if you believe your pet has become ill after consuming or having contact with blue-green algae-contaminated water.

Steve Brodkin, CONCERNED CITIZENS OF BAYSHORE COMMUNITY re: Owl Creek Rezoning

6/23/2022

RE: DCI2021-00011

Owl Creek RPD

Lee County Hearing Examiner,

We oppose the Owl Creek rezoning for the following reasons:

1. Approval of the Owl Creek RPD would result in a 70% increase in dwelling units for the property within the Rural land use category. Under the current Lee Plan the applicant would be allowed a maximum of 223 d/u assuming consistency with the rest of the Lee Plan (which we believe their plan is not). The plan would allow an increase of 157 d/u for a total of 380 d/u., a 70% increase. Since the original Lee Plan in the 1980's, the Rural land use category has never allowed more than 1 dwelling unit per acre. The Lee Plan defines rural as low density residential, etc. as shown below.

POLICY 1.4.1: The Rural areas are to remain predominantly rural – that is, low density residential, agricultural uses, and minimal non-residential land uses that are needed to serve the rural community

This case would set a precedent for huge increases in residential density and the demise of the remaining rural areas, and is therefore not consistent with the Lee Plan.

2. Almost all of the property lies within the Coastal High Hazard Flood Zone, and all of the property lies within the Category 1 Storm Surge Zone. In addition, according to a study paid for by Lee County, almost all of the property lies within the existing and future flood plain map for stormwater flooding coming down Owl and Trout creeks.

Lee Plan policy 5.1.2 states: "Prohibit residential development where physical constraints or hazards exist, or require the density and design to be adjusted accordingly. Such constraints or hazards include but are not limited to flood, storm, or hurricane hazards; unstable soil or geologic conditions; environmental limitations; aircraft noise; or other characteristics that may endanger the residential community."

Increasing the residential density is not consistent with prohibiting development or adjusting the density and design accordingly for areas prone to flooding and hurricane hazards as stated in policy 5.1.2. The policy doesn't say "require the density or design to be adjusted accordingly". It says "require the density and design to be adjusted accordingly". Staff says they've adjusted the design by placing housing in the uplands (which seems like an insufficient adjustment since the uplands are still in the Coastal High Hazard Flood Zone), but they haven't adjusted the density as required by the policy. They've increased the density by 70%. The applicant has not shown consistency with policy 5.1.2, unnecessarily increasing the number of people who will be in danger, need to evacuate and not stay in place, during a hurricane or other flooding event.

3. The applicant's plan is not consistent with policy 128.4.7 which states:

"Boat access facilities, including multi-slip docking facilities and boat ramps which would disturb or destroy wetlands or grassbeds must demonstrate a pressing need for the proposed facility and must provide for continued use by the general public."

Dredging will be required for the marina, and the applicant has not demonstrated a pressing need for a private marina and the private marina does not provide for continued use by the general public. They try to get around this by providing a paddle board launch open to the general public. But the paddle board launch is not located near the private marina and dredging

is not needed for the launch. So the dredging is only for the private marina which does not provide use to the general public.

4. Traffic congestion is an increasing problem. N. River Road (CR 78) is not currently on the Lee MPO needs or financially feasible maps and there are more developments planned for the area. The Lee County MPO lists CR 78 as a constrained road (as shown on the attached map), defined as “roads not eligible for widening based on environmental impacts, impacts to existing neighborhoods and businesses, and limitations of the existing rights-of-way”,. Increasing density in rural areas adds to the burden.

5. Development directly along the river allows insufficient opportunity to clean runoff during storm events. These developments are typically lush and green, requiring a lot of fertilizer and use of pesticides. The development, as proposed, will add to the pollution of the river.

We ask that you recommend against approval of the Owl Creek RPD rezoning considering the issues above in order to keep our rural areas rural as intended in the Lee Plan. Reducing residential density in the Coastal High Hazard Flood Zone and Hurricane Evacuation Zone 1 would be in the public interest.

Thank you,
Steve Brodtkin
CCBC (Concerned Citizens of Bayshore Community)
Also Representing WFBL





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

OUR MISSION

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

COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE

HOW YOU CAN HELP: DONATE so that we can continue purchasing food to distribute at our Mobile Pantries. HOST A FOOD DRIVE and collect non-perishable food items to stock our shelves.

VOLUNTEER in the Community Cafe, at a Mobile Pantry, or as a Meals on Wheels Driver. Call (239) 332-7687

For more information on future Becoming Cosmopolitan events, contact Tami@communitycooperative.com or call 239-332-7687, ext. 125.



**School's Out,
Hunger's Not!**

**Ready to make a difference this summer? Join us for our School's Out,
Hunger's Not campaign to make sure families stay fed.**



**South Florida Wildlands
Association**

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

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

The Alva Garden Club

We are on hiatus for the summer. Nonetheless, we are still working behind the scenes to start the new year off to a bang in October. Each month, there will be an interesting and informative presentation given by a knowledgeable person in the field of gardening, conservation or other topics of interest. In addition, there will be several field trips to various environmental areas and beautiful gardens in the southwest Florida area. We will also be discussing and implementing several new civic projects that will make a difference to our community.

Our first meeting is scheduled for 1:00 on Tuesday, October 18th at the fellowship hall of the Alva United Methodist Church. There will first be a half-hour social time for a few snacks and to enable everyone to say hello to one another, the featured presentation will follow and finally, the club business meeting. More to come about the topic of the presentation in the coming months.

Please consider coming to a meeting and joining our group of friends and gardeners. We would love to meet you! No gardening experience required! Men are welcome too!



Here is a picture of our namesake plant, the Alva Flower, also more formally known as *Sabatia brevifolia*, or somewhat more commonly called Shortleaf Rose Gentian, Shortleaf Rose-gentian, Narrowleaf Sabatia, White March-pink, and White Sabatia. The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center says that it has round, branching stems of 8-20 inches tall. The star-like annual flowers are composed of five white petals, each with a pointed tip. It blooms August - October in wet pinelands, perfect for southwest Florida at that time of year. There are about 70 genera and 1.100 species of this plant that occur in many different habitats in temperate and subtropical regions. Club members know that the founder of Alva, Captain Peter Nelson,

named his homestead plot after this flower which was widespread throughout the area and reminded him of his youth in Denmark. In recent times, it became much harder to find the Alva Flower due to development.

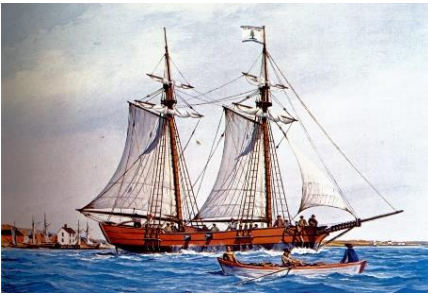
If you happen to have the Alva Flower in your garden, please send us an email at: alvagardenclub@gmail.com. Club members would be thrilled to attempt to cultivate some!

Visit our website at: www.alvagardenclub.org Submitted by: Pamela Relyea, Club President



BARRON LIBRARY

at the LaBelle Caloosahatchee Dock
Park



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



USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida

We would like your help to be sure we honor all veterans buried at Alva Cemetery. You can contact me and let me know a name and I will check my list and make sure the person is listed. If you know the location of the grave, section and row, that is also helpful. Some gravestones don't have an indication of military service. Thank you for helping us honor all of Alva's veterans. Georgette Lundquist, jglundy7@gmail.com

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





FORT MYERS EAST ROTARY CLUB

NEW LOCATION!

We now 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

Our newest member Bobby Rewis, Assistant Chief at Fort Myers Shores Fire Department. He was sponsored by Chief Chris Dowaliby, and installed by President Jerry Demming and President-Elect Greg Adkins.





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).

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.



JOB-LINK



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

Give TIME. Give MONEY.
Give FOOD.

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



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

www.harrychapinfoodbank.org



www.RichAndLaurieInSouthFlorida.com

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

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



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.

Goodwill 
Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. goodwill

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENT COORDINATOR
Información de contacto para los coordinadores
Enfomasyon sou kontak pou Koodonate

Charleston Park Neighborhood Outreach

LaShay Russ
2541 Charleston Park Dr.
Alva, FL 33920
Call for Appointment
Llama para cita / Apel pou randevou
Office: (239) 728-8895 / Fax: (239) 728-2063
Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



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>



Where to find free summer meals for Southwest Florida children

(TY WINK NEWS)

Children in Lee, Collier and Charlotte counties will still be able to get free food from schools this summer, but they will no longer be able to take the food off-campus as they could for the last two years.

Leaders in Lee County will be offering food to children at 85 locations this summer, including community centers, parks, schools and churches. In Charlotte County, there are five brick-and-mortar locations where children can get food until July 29. They also have a mobile bus that will run during that time and bring food to three locations in the county. Children under 18 accompanied by a parent can get free food.

“Last year, we served breakfast, lunches and snacks... we served around 120,000 last summer,” said Amy Carroll, coordinator of special projects and student wellness for the School District of Lee County. “We’re expecting that to potentially double this year, because you have to remember last year that many camps were closed down, there were so many COVID [-19] restrictions that it was very, very limited. Where this year, it’s pretty much back to normal, like it was summer of 2019.”

To find a summer BreakSpot site and serving times for breakfast and lunch, you can dial 2-1-1, text “FoodFL” to 304-304 or visit the summer BreakSpot website.

firehouse
community theatre
inc.

Information & Tickets available at
Ticket Hotline (863) 675-3066 *(leave message)*

Show Times:

WEEK 1: Thurs., Fri. & Sat. - 7:00 pm • Sun. - 2:00 pm

WEEK 2: Thurs., Fri. & Sat. - 7:00 pm • Sun. - 2:00 pm

TROUBLE IN
Paradise Junction
by
TODD WALLINGER

Pioneer
DRAMA SERVICE

July 22, 23 & 24, 2022



TICKETS:

CALL: 863-675-3066

LEAVE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER AND SOMEONE WILL CALL YOU BACK

241 North Bridge Street
LaBelle, Florida



firehouse
community theatre
inc.

NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED **TRIBUTE ARTIST MATT STONE** STARS AS



THE FIREHOUSE COMMUNITY THEATER



LABELLE, FL - NOVEMBER 12TH - 8PM

CALL 863-675-3066 FOR TICKETS OR VISIT THE LINK ABOVE

A bit of ALVA History

Alva Village Broadway Street Retail Center

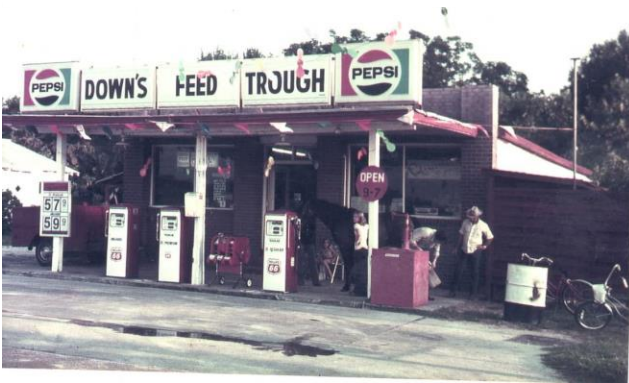
CHANGES



NO GAS



REALLY OLD GAS



SOMEWHAT NEWER GAS



NEWEST GAS



BACK TO NO GAS OR BAIT north of the river



Making your SWFL garden care-less can help you enjoy it more

(TY Daily Journal-Felder Rushing, abridged)

Getting steamy, time to explore ways to reduce effort, expenses, and task-time – lose some of the “beholden” part of gardening.

Other than living in a woodland or pasture— picking through poison ivy or sawgrass — there is no such thing as a landscape that takes care of itself. But a little redesigning and choosing good plants for the right spots can dramatically reduce unnecessary, expensive, time-consuming maintenance.

Neil Odenwald, my beloved landscape professor at LSU, showed me how piling limbs and blowing leaves into neat rows to connect trees and shrubs lessened his hauling time while creating rich soil for planting ferns and other shade plants. It broke his wall-to-wall carpet of unused lawn into open pools of green connected with wide, grassy walks, while cutting his mowing time by more than 50%. And it all still looked good.

So last year I modified two big, necessarily open areas by covering them with materials that cost less than a new mower and now need nearly zero maintenance. One was covered with landscape fabric and topped with flat, chipped slate (could have used crushed limestone) which is weedless and easy to walk on year-round; the shaded area out back is now beautiful, practical flagstone; in both areas, 60 seconds with a leaf blower and I am done. I use smooth river rocks and metal edging strips along walks and flowerbeds to further define them and make trimming easier and neater, and to help keep grass out and mulch in.

I group all my plants, even those in containers, according to size, tolerance of sun or shade, easy maintenance, and use. Fighting the urge to personally own every flower I fancy, I rarely succumb to the allure eye-popping looks without first checking on if they will be the right size down the road, and if they will end up needing coddling, pruning, spraying, or regular replacing. If a plant in my yard becomes troublesome, or looks bad part of the year, I simply ditch it, and walk around to admire it in someone else’s garden, at their expense.

By the way, forget “plant zones” which are based entirely on average low winter temperatures. Our plants also need to tolerate torrential rains, prolonged drought, insufferably hot muggy summer nights, and bad soils. And our inability or lack of desire to provide much attention in the summer.

I look for trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, flowers, vegetables, and even potted plants from among the countless tried and true species we understand thrive here, both native and proven imports.

Prune as needed, a little as you desire. Oh, and I weed a little regularly, not all in one big huff.

A huge biggie: Stop struggling for a perfect lawn; just mow what grows, enjoy a little clover. If a HOA forces you into expensive, environmentally unfriendly chores, just hire it out.

Bottom lines, other than not starting and getting disheartened over half a dozen or more unfinished projects going at once: Less grass, mow what grows, lose plants that need coddling, group and mulch the rest in interesting combinations.

Making your garden care-less, can help you enjoy more.



Reducing Hunger, Improving Lives
Worldwide

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,

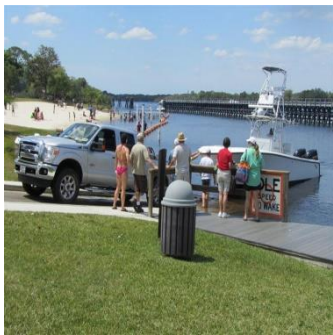
Alva, FL 33920



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



ALVA FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE SERVICE

2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920

(239) 728-2223

Thank a first Responder every time you see them.



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>



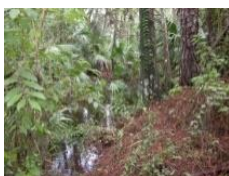
Lee County Conservation 20/20 manages over 50 preserves spread throughout Lee County, including within the boundaries of most cities. These preserves combined total nearly 30,000 acres.

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



Aerial View of Oak Hammock Preserve
Oak hammock



Alva Scrub Preserve



Telegraph Creek Preserve



ALVA, GS-10 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

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 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

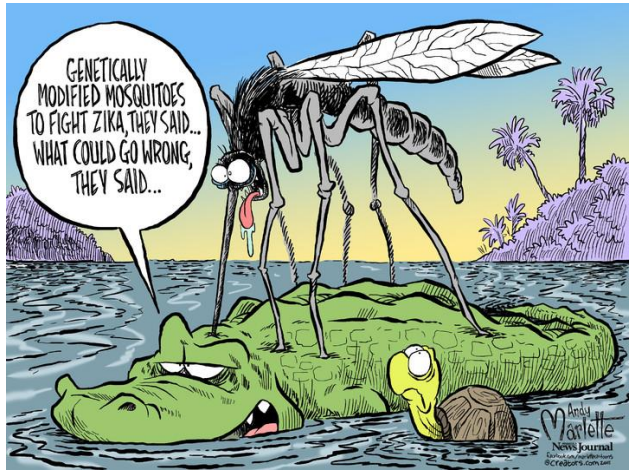
Volunteer Florida strengthens Florida's communities through national service, fostering volunteerism and leveraging resources.



<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.



Southwest Florida Cooking by

MAGGIE McMann

of Oak Park, Alva

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



Alva Lemon Meringue Pie

Ingredients:

-Homemade Pie Crust (your own recipe) -5 large egg yolks (use the whites in the meringue below)

-1 and 1/3 cups -water -1 cup sugar -1/3 cup cornstarch -1/4 teaspoon salt -1 Tablespoon lemon zest

-2 1/2 lemons (1/2 c) fresh squeezed lemon juice -2 Tablespoons butter, softened to room temperature

Meringue Ingredients:

-5 large egg whites -1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar

-1/2 cup sugar -1/8 teaspoon salt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Partially bake your pie crust in a 9-inch pie dish 10 minutes at 375 then remove and set aside. You may want the piecrust to be warm when you add the filling? *Up to you!*

Reduce oven temperature to 350°F.

Whisk the egg yolks together in a medium bowl and set aside.

Whisk the water, granulated sugar, cornstarch, salt, lemon juice, and lemon zest together in a medium saucepan over medium heat (mixture will be thin and cloudy) it will begin thickening and getting bubbling after about 6 minutes. Once thickened, give it a whisk and reduce heat to low.

VERY slowly stream a few tablespoonfuls of warm lemon mixture into the beaten egg yolks. Then, in a very slow stream, whisk the egg yolk mixture into the saucepan. Turn heat up to medium. Cook until the mixture is thick and big bubbles begin showing on the surface. Remove the pan from the heat and whisk in the butter. Spread filling into the warm partially baked pie crust. Set aside.

Prepare the meringue. (Don't let the filling cool down too much as you want a warm filling when you top with the meringue).





<https://calusawaterkeeper.org/>

The Safe Waterways Act (SB 604) did not get out of committee in the Florida State Senate in 2021-22

However, we expect it to be reintroduced and win bipartisan support in 2022-23.

Become a Certified Calusa Waterkeeper Ranger!

Floridians have the **RIGHT TO KNOW.**

Do the waters you play in have **fecal pollution?**

The state of Florida isn't always saying.

Unsafe Levels of fecal indicator bacteria (FDEP verified impaired)

1 million acres of coastal estuaries

9,000 miles of rivers & streams

Missing in Action

That may sound like a lot, but many waterbodies in Florida are not even being monitored for fecal indicator bacteria (FIB).

For waters that are monitored and verified as contaminated, warnings are only being posted at a small number of public access points.

Ineffective

State restoration plans are working too slowly or not at all.

There is a Solution

The Safe Waterways Act addresses this issue to provide more consistent public health advisories.

Please contact your Florida legislators!

right2knowfl.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/>

Hot summer - Cool FREE fun

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

9:00AM-12:30PM Ages 3-exiting 5th grade

Here's the line up:

- 6/7 - "Horsing Around": animals
- 6/14 - "911-What's Your Emergency": 1st responders
- 6/21 - "Put Your Whole Self In": mind, body, & soul
- 6/28 - "Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead": cool science stuff
- 7/5 - "Wet-n-Wild": water day
- 7/12 - "Get It Together": mosaics, puzzles, & blocks
- 7/19 - "Nailed It!": woodworking
- 7/26 - "Going Green": ECHO and planting

Registration required:
egracechurch.com/TerrificTuesdays

Find us on Facebook:
Grace Church, Fort Myers Shores Campus
14036 Maranzas Dr. (239) 694-2797



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

Kids Programs in June and July at the Alva Community Center:

Fort Myers, FL, May 23, 2022 – The Lee County Library System is happy to announce that while the Riverdale Branch Library is closed for renovations, library staff will offer limited public service from the main room at the Alva Park and Community Center, 21471 North River Road in Alva.

Family Story Times, Friday, June 17, 24, July 1, 15, 22, 29, 10:30am

This fun and engaging story time promotes and reinforces early literacy skills and language development through stories, music, movement and activities. Parents and caregivers participate with their children while learning helpful early literacy strategies and tips to continue at home.

June 13 - July 29,

Stop by each week to pick up an ocean themed craft kit while supplies last.

Tuesday, June 14 and Thursday, June 16, 2pm,

Pirates! Join us for pirate crafts and activities and walk the plank for treasure.

Tuesday, June 20 and Thursday, June 23, 2pm

Shark Week! Make a shark sun catcher or bracelet.

Tuesday, June 28, 2pm

Mythical Sea Creatures, Create a mermaid bracelet or bookmark.

Thursday, June 30, 2pm

Sea Creatures, Design your own sea horse or a narwhal headband.

Tuesday, July 12, 2pm,

Something Fishy at the Library. Create a colorful rainbow fish.

Thursday, July 14, 2pm

Something Fishy at the Library. Make a rainbow fish magnet.

Tuesday, July 19, 2pm

Jellies, Stars, and Octopi, Oh My! Make a paper jellyfish, octopus craft, or sandpaper starfish.

Thursday, July 21, 2pm

Out of My Hands Juggling and Illusions. Enjoy a high-energy juggling and illusion show with music and light effects.

Tuesday, July 26, 2pm

Beach Week! Create your own piece of paradise with a beach in a jar.

Thursday, July 28, 2pm

Magic with Joey Evans

This Master Magician is back to tickle our funny bones with magic, mystery and fun. Prepare to be amazed and inspired by his illusions, puppets and tricks. It's a show you don't want to miss!



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

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

LCSO vs. PCSO 'Battle of the Badges Softball Game'

Battle of the Badges!

Hammond Stadium – 14100 6 Mile Cypress Pkwy, Fort Myers, FL 33912

For the first time ever the Lee County Sheriff's Office will take on the Polk County Sheriff's Office in a softball game at Hammond Stadium at 4 PM.



Catch the action prior to the Mighty Mussels game as they battle the Clearwater Threshers at 7 PM.

The first 1,000 fans through the gates will receive a Sheriff Marceno/Sheriff Judd bobblehead.

Plus, post-game FIREWORKS!

"MALL MUTT" PROGRAM AIMS TO INTRODUCE ADOPTABLE DOGS TO SHOPPERS

Bringing adoptable canines out into the community greatly improves their chances of being seen and, ultimately, adopted. Often overlooked at the shelters, senior dogs prancing around the local malls tend to attract potential adopters and, additionally, provides the canines with an opportunity to interact with new people.



Monthly, the Lee County Sheriff's Office and Gulf Coast Humane Society walk the grounds at the Miromar Outlets, introducing adoptable

pets to shoppers and storekeepers.



Interested in adopting a dog, cat or domestic animal?

Gulf Coast Humane Society, 2010 Arcadia Street, Fort Myers (239) 332-0364

Cape Coral Animal Shelter, 325 SW 2nd Avenue, Cape Coral (239) 573-2002

Lee County Domestic Animal Services, 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers (239) 533-7387

Muttly Paws Rescue muttlypawsrescue.org
(561) 891-8589.

Big Hearts for Big Dogs bigheartstbigdogs.com
(239) 200-1150.

Doghouse Rescue Academy doghouserescueacademy.org

Paws Crossed Inc. pawscrossed.dog

Helping Paws Animal Sanctuary
helpingpawsanimalsanctuary.com/



TALENT AND VOLUNTEERS ARE BEING SOUGHT BY THE PLAYERS CIRCLE THEATRE

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

July 1-3. Broadway & Beyond. Theater favorites Natalie Brouwer and Matt Michael are joined with Brian Gurl in a musical smorgasbord of Broadway now and then, plus patriotic songs.

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

A green poster with a wood-grain sign in the center. The sign says "Rainforest Explorers" in large, yellow, bubbly letters with a black outline. Below that, it says "Jesus Leads the Way" in a smaller, white, serif font, followed by a white cross symbol. The background of the poster is green with faint silhouettes of people and leaves.

Save the Date

Rainforest Explorers

Jesus Leads the Way
+

VBS 2022

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14531 Old Olga Road

July 18-22, 9-12AM

Free program, call 239-694-3878 for Info

SAVE THE DATE. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Permission granted for purchase to make copies for the year the VBS program is purchased.



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Phone Scams

How to recognize, and what to do when YOU are scammed.

The telephone, whether it is a landline or a mobile phone, is a scammer's favorite tool for breaking into a potential victim's life. Studies have shown that 36% of fraud complaints in which a contact method was identified began with a telephone call. According to data from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the median loss in scams that start with a call is \$1,200, higher than for any other method of contact. The driving purpose for all phone scams, which can also include text messages, is to get your money or your personal information to commit identity theft. Don't give them what they want.



Hallmarks of a Phone Scam

Phone scams come in all shapes and sizes, but they all tend to have similar characteristics. Here are a few red flags that may indicate the caller or texter is running a scam:

You've won a lottery. The caller may say you've been selected at random to win a special offer or a cash prize, but there are a few fees that you must pay before your prize can be delivered to you. If you have to pay to get the prize, it's not a prize.

Law enforcement is on their way to pick you up. Scammers will impersonate law enforcement or a federal agency, and they can be convincing. Their goal is to scare you into paying a fee, fine, debt or tax with the threat that you will be arrested and/or have your Social Security number or credit/bank accounts frozen. Real law enforcement and federal agencies will not call and threaten you.

You don't have time to think about it or call a friend. Scammers will tell you that time is of the essence and that you have to take action right then. Take time to think over the offer and request written information about it before you commit to anything. Don't get pressured into making a decision on the spot.

You must pay with cash, a cash equivalent or a gift card. Scammers want you to pay in a way that makes it easy for them to get their hands on your money, and electronic money transfers, gift cards, prepaid cash or cash reload cards, and money transfer apps make it difficult, if not impossible, for you to get your money back. Anyone who asks you to pay with one of these methods is a scammer.

The person who called you needs you to provide your personally identifying information (PII). It's never a good idea to give out your Social Security number, account numbers or other PII to someone who calls you unexpectedly.

Common Forms of Phone Scams

Imposter scams: A scammer pretends to be someone you trust. It might be a government agency like the Social Security Administration, or the Internal Revenue Service, a family member, a love interest, someone you do business with like your bank, credit card company, or even Amazon, or someone claiming there is a problem with your computer. The scammer can have a fake name or number show up on your caller ID to convince you.

Debt relief or credit repair scams: For a small fee, scammers will promise to lower your credit card interest rates, fix you credit, or get your student loans forgiven. Chances are you will lose your money and end up making your credit problems worse.

Business and investment scams: Promises of big profits with their help to start your own business using their foolproof model and with their business coaching turn in to huge financial losses and ruined credit.

Charity scams: Scammers especially like to capitalize on current events and disasters to make you feel like you should donate right then. Don't feel pressured to give immediately and always use the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Check-a-Charity tool to verify the charity is properly registered in Florida.

Extended car warranties: Scammers may give the impression that they represent your car dealer or manufacturer, and they may use phrases like "Final Warranty Notice" or "Notice of Interruption" to pressure you into buying a service contract or extended warranty. Really what they want is your personal information and possibly a down payment on a contract they won't be around to honor.

"Free" trials: These scams are often just a way to get you signed up for a service that delivers products and bills you for them every month, and it is often difficult to get the service canceled.

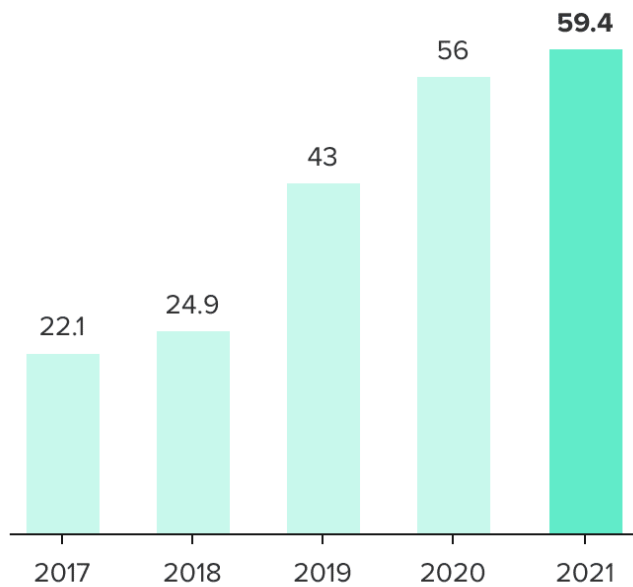
Loan scams: Scammers target people with poor credit histories and guarantee loans or credit cards for an up-front fee. Legitimate lenders don't make guarantees like that, especially if you have bad credit, no credit, or a bankruptcy.



Prize and lottery scams: These prizes may come with a list of taxes, registration fees, legal fees, or shipping charges that you must pay before you can claim the prize. If you have to pay for it, it's not a prize.

Travel scams and timeshare scams: Up-front fees, hidden charges, and booking challenges are common characteristics of these scams. Have You Been Scammed? Scammers are not going to make it easy for you to get your money back, but no matter how you paid, the sooner you act, the better.

Total Americans who lost money to scam calls (in millions)



Source: Truecaller



FTC makes the following recommendations

If you paid a scammer with a credit or debit card, you may be able to stop the transaction. Contact your credit card company or bank right away. Tell them what happened and ask for a “chargeback” to reverse the charges.

If you paid a scammer with a gift card, prepaid card, or cash reload card, contact the company that issued the card right away. Tell them you paid a scammer with the card and ask if they can refund your money. The sooner you contact them, the better the chance they’ll be able to get your money back. Learn more about gift card scams.

If you paid a scammer by wiring money through companies like Western Union or MoneyGram, call the company immediately to report the fraud and file a complaint. Contact MoneyGram at 1-800-MONEYGRAM

(1-800-666-3947). Contact Western Union at 1-800-325-6000. Ask for the wire transfer to be reversed. It’s unlikely to happen, but it’s important to ask.

If you paid a scammer using a money transfer app, contact the company behind the app. If the app is linked to a credit card or debit card, contact your credit card company or bank first. See more tips for using peer-to-peer payment systems and apps.

If you gave a scammer remote access to your computer, update your computer’s security software. Then run a scan and delete anything it identifies as a problem. Learn more about protecting your personal information and data.

If you gave your username and password to a scammer, change your password right away. If you use the same password for other accounts or sites, change it there, too. Create a new password that is strong. Learn more about protecting your personal information and data.

If you gave a scammer your Social Security number (SSN), visit [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov) to learn how to monitor your credit report to see if your SSN is being misused.

If someone calls and offers to “help” you recover money you have already lost, don’t give them money or personal information. You’re probably dealing with a fake refund scam.





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

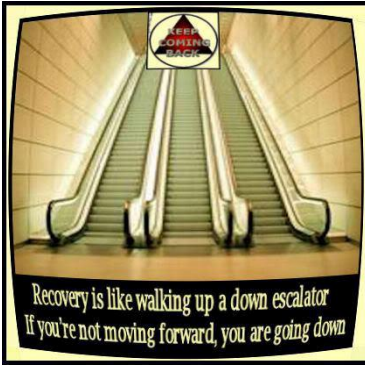
2364 South Olga Drive

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)



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	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/

Manatee & Eco River Tours

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

www.ManateeAndEcoRiverTours.com

Advanced Reservations Are Required!



March through November join us for an ECO RIVER TOUR and play "ECO BINGO[®]" for fabulous prizes!

SUNSET CRUISES includes appetizers and assorted soda/water.

You are always welcome to bring your own festive beverage of choice

ECO RIVER TOUR				
B	I	N	G	O
				
				
				



Late December through mid-February join us for MANATEE TOURS along the Caloosahatchee and Orange Rivers!

We also book private tours, team building excursions, birthday parties, small group meetings, lunch and learn, and classroom on the water just to name a few. Give us a call to schedule your next adventure on the river!

It's more than just a boat ride!



Captain John C. Cookman and Kathy J. Cookman - Owners

Paid Advertisement 7-7/22

WE WRITE ALL HOMES INCLUDING OLDER HOMES!!

INTEGRITY INSURANCE AGENCY
128 W. Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950



INTEGRITY INSURANCE AGENCY The Trusted Choice®

Integrity Insurance Agency has been serving all of Florida for over 20 years. The majority of our business is right here in SW Florida. A team of agents, with over 100 years of total experience, we are dedicated to the service we provide to all our clients. We can handle any insurance situation you may have. We provide coverage and service for all items listed below.

Auto, Homeowners, Renters, Condo, Manufactured Homes, Casitas, Flood, Motorcycle, RV, Boats, Golf Carts, General Liability, Commercial Package, Commercial Auto, Workers Comp, Bonds, Liquor Liability, Special Events, Life Insurance, Health Insurance, Long Term Care, Medicare Products, and Professional Liability.

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

Paid Advertisement 7-11/23

LS Tractor
Matt Miller Tractors
239-693-0305
7261 WSR 80 Labelle Fl 33905

Free Loader. Zero Down.

Low Interest for 84 Months.

ON ALL MODELS

**Financing Available 0 Down 0 %
Free Local Delivery
Package Deals Available**

Paid Advertisement 7-5/23

PATTY WALKER
REALTOR®
239-340-3904

Cell
239-340-3904

Office
239-693-1959

Email
PattyWalkerREMAX@gmail.com

Web
GulfCoastLivingPatty.com

Address
12928 Palm Beach Blvd., Ste A
Fort Myers, FL 33905

Each Office Independently Owned & Operated

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

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

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

Advertising rates per month :

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

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

½ Page... one issue: \$45.00, six issues: \$35.00, twelve issues: \$30.00

Full Page... one issue: \$75.00, six issues: \$60.00, twelve issues: \$50.00

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

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