

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

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

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

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FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S OTR:

- LOCAL Alva area news: New RV Park?
- LOCAL history: Alva Museum open for appointment tours.
- LOCAL Community services: Library in Alva Park
- LOCAL club and organization news: Alva Community New Year's EVE Cookout & Bonfire
- LOCAL recipe: Alva Sunday Shrimp
- LOCAL Sports: Ross Chastain has quite a year!



ISSUE 48, Dec 2023, 1700+ subscribers. Archives & MORE at www.ontheriver.org Ken DeWalt, pub.

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

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's December 13 meeting shared some BIG news



First, the BIG news about the 777 Arcade that WAS planned for the building next to the post office on Broadway Street at the river. Yes, it WAS planned. Denise Eberle reported that the project has been canned by the owners of all the 777 Arcade mini-casinos going up all over Florida.

Denise shared that once she and others reported its construction to the county, and the county found out how many permits had not been sought, including a basic 'new business' permit, it became too challenging for the 777 people to go forward. The fact that parking would have been near impossible was also a major factor.

Denise has also learned that a man named Travis (no last name given), owner of "Title Tracker" in Buckingham would like to open a snack, bait, ice cream store and kayak rental shop there. I hope he rents ocean kayaks. The waves some of our larger boats kick up can swamp a canoe or river kayak.

Linda Bush from the Alva Library-Museum Board shared that the board is offering the building inside and out as a venue for parties, any kind of book, game, etc clubs to meet at a reasonable cost.

She is also available herself to give guided tours through the museum by appointment at no cost. See the sign on the front door for contact information.



Steve Brodtkin shared that the Bayshore Village Rezoning on Bayshore Road east of I-75 in North Fort Myers, if approved, would allow for twice the projects planned retail space (61k sq. ft. to 125k sq. ft.)

and a four-story hotel with traffic dumping onto Wells Road and then onto an already very busy Bayshore.

A petition against the re-zoning increase may be signed at Pam's Feed and Supply, 9670 Bayshore Rd, North Fort Myers, FL. (Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PamsFeed/>). (239) 543-3121.

Alexis Crespo shared that the expected Seven-Eleven store and gas station proposed for Rte 80 and Broadway Street across from the Alva Diner has been dropped by the developer, or at least placed on a long hold. No reason was given by the owners of the franchise.



However, the BIGGEST news at the meeting was shared by Ms. Crespo for the developers of a planned 400 + premier Motor Coach Resort on the south side of Rte 80 at the intersection with Bateman Road.

Currently called CALOOSA 80 MPD, this would be a resort on the order of Riverbend allowing only high-end Class A motor coaches, busses, really. Nothing smaller would be permitted. The sites might have space for Casitas or stylish storage units and all

would be adjacent to several small ponds built into the landscaping. A large portion of the property will remain or be landscaped naturally to keep a country feel. The site will have swimming, other outdoor sport, and a private clubhouse.

Alexis shared that a portion of the 192-acre property was previously zoned for homes at 6 units per acre, but that project fell through though the zoning still holds. Other portions of the desired property will need to be re-zoned to allow for up to 2 units per acre. Although the owner would like to consider enlarging the project in the future to over 700 units that would amount to approximately 3.65 units per acre, not counting the commercial portion.

Riverbend and River Landing Resorts farther east on Rte 80 total 381-unit sites together at this time, according to Ms. Crespo.

The owner shared that with a 40-foot natural buffer along Bateman and Rte 80 the resort would be virtually invisible from either road, except for two new access roads onto Rte 80, perhaps with traffic lights. Rte 80 entrance and exit lanes might also be possible.





Required in this plan is public sewer and water coming east from Riverdale and Fort Myers. If there is sufficient supply the county could allow other owners along the south side of Rte 80 to connect to these lines. A major question raised by the attendees of the meeting is whether or not the city and county can supply enough water for all the developments now being planned closer and closer to Alva, Buckingham, and Lehigh Acres. Time will tell.

The first official meetings with the county will begin in fall of 2023 but the owners wanted Alva residents to be able to share their thoughts about the project first. They heard a few.

-There is a large RV park being built now to the east of Alva in Hendry County that looks like it will hold several hundred up-scale sites. Will this area support a fourth large resort?

-Traffic. Even if lanes and lights are put in, will rte 80 and current Alva area drivers be safe with this much added traffic?

-Alva is supposed to be RURAL, and landscaped rural look-like forest around the coaches and towed trailers and cars isn't very rural.

-And of course, some simply do not want more construction anywhere around Alva, and fear this kind of growth will bring retail stores, restaurants, and a Riverdale look to Palm Beach Boulevard.

- Stan, the owner, said he originally offered the whole property, but the county wanted only a corner of it. Is that going to happen?

For now, Alva INC will wait and work to keep the community aware.

Meanwhile the Wedding venue on Packinghouse Road appears to be moving forward slowly for the owner. The Alva Assisted Living Center across from the Alva Village Market is being roofed and interior work begins soon. Many flooded Hurricane Ian homeowners and renters are being helped by churches, businesses and neighbors even as their insurance companies and FEMA create many frustrations, some that will only be resolved if people move completely out of the new FEMA declared flood zones.

The Alva area is beautiful. Its what attracted many of us to live here in the first place. But the changes our 4th, 5th, 6th and older generation pioneer neighbors have seen in the last 50 years bring tears to some of their eyes. Change, even for the best of reasons, is always hard.



Water quality experts talk swimming, exposure to bacteria during Q and A session

(TY WINK NEWS and Chad Gillis)

Hurricane Ian and a red tide bloom combined to create dangerous conditions in coastal waters in Lee and Collier counties this year, and some water quality experts say they still would avoid swimming at many local beaches. Ian made landfall on Sept. 28, crushing the Fort Myers-Naples area with powerful winds and raging storm surge. Cars were washed into canals, commercial seafaring boats were pushed a quarter-mile inland, and many water treatment plants were compromised.



The aftermath meant local waters were contaminated with chemicals and other pollutants, and there is still a lot of flotsam in many rivers, canals and bays. Bacteria from sewage and septic systems as well as red tide (*Karenia brevis*) caused health officials to issue swim advisories, most of which have been lifted in recent weeks.

But with many questions remaining about Southwest Florida's water quality, it can be difficult to decide whether or not to dip your toes into the Gulf of Mexico over the holidays and into the new year.

So, we asked two water quality scientists with decades of experience in Southwest Florida if they would enter local waters, fish or paddle, where would you?

Q. Would you swim in the Gulf of Mexico right now?

A. "No," said Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani. "I would not swim in the Gulf of Mexico at this time."

Q. What exactly are you concerned about?

A. "The post Ian rainfall runoff and storm surge produced considerable loading of organic debris, sewage and other chemical contaminants such as petroleum products," Cassani continued. "The heavy loading of organics continues to fuel extensive microbial growth including fecal bacteria and harmful algae, which can cause serious health risks."

Q. What do you expect to see between now and the next hurricane season?

"I expect more of what has occurred over the past 22 years that has led to rampant statewide impairment of Florida's waters," Cassani said. "Lax regulatory enforcement on agriculture and urban growth and development has allowed the rate of impairment to accelerate."

Health officials lift swim advisory for toxic red tide on Bonita Beach, Fort Myers Beach. We posed the similar questions to Jim Beever, a retired biologist and climate change expert.

Q. Where is it safe to swim in Southwest Florida?

A. "It's real place-based to whether it's ok to get in the water or not," Beever said. "From a beach perspective, there are some beaches we know are safe and some places are not. If you're going out to Cayo Costa (State Park), I think you're fine. I still wouldn't go off Fort Myers Beach and there's some questions about Sanibel, particularly by the Lighthouse. I wouldn't do any Naples beaches but in the Ten Thousand Islands, you're ok."

Q. Would you go fishing in Matlacha or any areas near the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River? Strong cold front to drop temps in the 30s to Southwest Florida for Christmas

A. "I wouldn't fish Matlacha," Beever said. "I'd feel more confident in northern Pine Island Sound and Charlotte Harbor proper. I know people take fish from polluted waters on a regular bases and they don't get deathly sick but it can bioaccumulate over time."

Beever said bacteria and red tide conditions should continue to improve with the coming cold fronts.

A comment from your publisher and editor, Ken DeWalt:

I'm not a fisherperson and gave up the kayak when our backs made it too hard to get in and out of one. My wife Mona and I both really miss those jungle creek kayak floats.

However, I am aware of what the regular monitoring by Calusa Waterkeeper tells us all, and know that a majority of the boaters and fishers I know scoff at dangers like the ones mentioned above. And our government officials, much like those iconic politicians in the 1965 movie JAWS, care for their voting constituents, but also want customers of their business owner constituents and those resulting tax dollars too.

My suggestion? If the scientists, who have no monetary or political axe to grind, say don't eat the fish, or don't put your toes in the water, just don't.

And if you heard what I heard a father of three children under 10 say on Fort Myers Beach this past Thanksgiving, you might agree that some folks just won't listen to reality, "Danger? I don't see any danger. The sand is soft, the water is clear, and the temperature is perfect."

Don't be one of those, for your kids and grandkids sake.

Soft, clear and perfect. Except for the feces, sharp nails, and airborne toxins.

Stay safe, dear readers of ON THE RIVER. Even way up by Alva the river can hide danger beyond gators and poisonous snakes.

Bayshore Village Rezoning



Bayshore Village is the 8.75-acre property at the NE corner of Bayshore Rd. and Wells Rd. (currently vacant). The property was rezoned in 2006 to allow for 61,000 sq. ft. of commercial space, limited to 25-foot 1 story buildings. A 75' buffer and 8' wall was required along the north property line to separate the commercial development from the residences to the north.

The current owner has applied for a rezoning to allow for 125,000 sq. ft. of commercial space including a 48' four story hotel, with no buffer wall. The main entrance/exit will be onto Wells Rd.

Residents are extremely concerned about the high volume of traffic the development will add on top of the already increasing traffic on Bayshore Rd. Access out of Wells Rd. is already very difficult. In addition, there are concerns about impacts to the rural nature of Bayshore and to nearby residential neighbors. The commercial square footage far exceeds county guidelines for commercial intensity on a property of that size.

If you share any of these concerns, please consider signing the online petition at:

[https://www.petitions.net/oppose the re-zone of bayshore village dci2022-00032](https://www.petitions.net/oppose%20the%20re-zone%20of%20bayshore%20village%20dci2022-00032)

You can also email county staff reviewer Adam Mendez at AMendez@leegov.com with your comments.

Thank you, Concerned Citizens of Bayshore Community



For Ross Chastain, no final watermelon, but a year to remember — and build on

(TY Atlantic)

AVONDALE, Ariz. — Inside the Trackhouse Racing hauler for

Ross Chastain's No. 1 team, a watermelon sits in a padded crate on a countertop. Hauler driver Roy Miller purchased it from a family-owned produce stand in Salisbury, N.C., earlier in the week as it is Miller's task to make sure a watermelon is accessible so that Chastain, an eighth-generation watermelon farmer, can perform his trademark celebration where he smashes a watermelon anytime he wins.

However, even though his 2022 efforts did not bring him the Top Spot, he has won...

The Athletics' NASCAR Person of the Year

He pulled off a miracle move at Martinsville and nearly won a surprising title. Ross Chastain is our 2022 NASCAR Person of the Year!



Alva United Methodist Church

Sponsored TOY TOWN again this Christmas

(TY Helen Katz-Smith)

Toy Town happens every year at Alva United Methodist Church to benefit the families of our year-round food pantry. This year we had over 200 families signed up to receive donated NEW toys.

Twas' the night before Toy Town and all through the church no one was moving, too tired to disburse. The toys all placed in the social room for display, awaiting the arrival of parents on Wednesday. The church and community have come together again to bring to the children a mighty big grin. Donations have poured in from so many people, they know that giving has no equal. The blessing of Christmas has come alive and will live, thanks to all who have helped and decided to give. Special thanks to Lynn Hawkins and all of her elves.

A reservoir the size of Naples is coming to Hendry County to help Florida's water woes

(TY WINK NEWS)



What used to be a citrus grove will one day be a massive reservoir. The goal is to keep water cleaner and with less blue-green algae. Between too much water in the wet season and not enough in the dry season, Southwest Florida is no stranger to water woes.

The C-43 Reservoir project is happening in Hendry County, west of LaBelle. Part of the solution will come from the more than 10,000-acre C-43 reservoir. The reservoir will be about the size of the City of Naples. It's expected to be completed in 2023 but

will start taking wet season flows in 2024. The price tag for the project is \$1 billion, which will come from both state and federal funds.

"The C-43 reservoir is supposed to catch the wet season flows from Lake Okeechobee and the basin and C-43, store them and then discharge them back to the river in the dry season," said Shawn Waldeck, site manager at the C-43 reservoir project.



The site will store 55 billion gallons of water when it's full, divided into two cells. It's so big, the dam surrounding the reservoir will be the tallest point in Hendry County. "We're planning a water quality treatment facility associated with the reservoir by injecting an alum chemical to reduce the nutrient loads as well as to polish that flow on the discharge back to the river," Waldeck said.

Once it's done, visitors will be able to take in the view of the massive water body.

"So, the reservoir has boat ramps for public access to each cell, to each 5000-acre cell. We have lots of canoeing and hiking and equestrian facilities planned as well," Waldeck said.



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

Caloosa Humane Center 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle

OUR MISSION

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



**South Florida Wildlands
Association**

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

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



BARRON LIBRARY

at the LaBelle Caloosahatchee Dock Park



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



USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida, <https://usshannahnsdar.org/>

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



FORT MYERS EAST ROTARY CLUB

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.



Alva United Methodist Church

21440 Pearl St, Alva, FL 33920, 239-728-2277

INVITES the ALVA COMMUNITY to join them for a

Community NEW YEARS EVE

Bonfire and potluck COOKOUT

On the church lawn across from the worship center and education building.

Saturday, December 31, 2022, 5:30pm

Bring lawn chairs and a cold dish or snack food to share.

EVERYONE WELCOME!





**The Alva Library
Museum**
**21420 Pearl St, Alva, FL
33920**



Public Library, Alva

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

The library-museum Board is making the building available as small group venue for parties, clubs, etc.

THE LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR FREE TOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

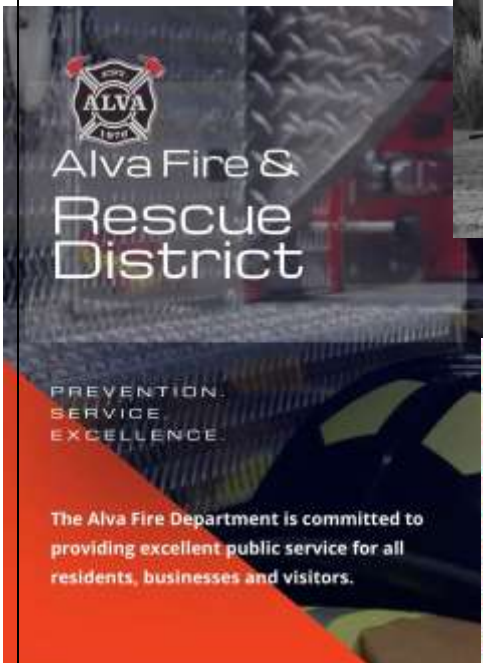
For information on renting or touring please contact Linda Bush from the Alva library-museum Board.

The phone number is posted on the front door of the library building.

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



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



- *Donate***
- *Volunteer***
- *Serve***



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.

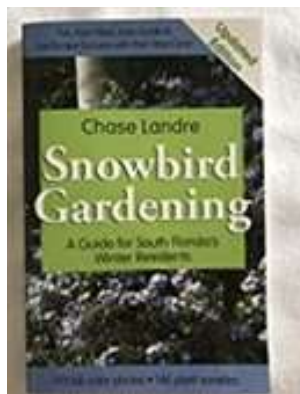
Membership in the Alva Garden Club is still only \$10 per person.

We meet in the Alva United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1 pm.

Everyone is welcomed to join or simply attend the meetings as guests!

The Alva Garden Club is engaged in a variety of community projects in December and January including:

- The club will plant a tree at The Alva School in January in recognition of Arbor Day. The event is not open to the public.
- The club is in the process this month of planning and planting a garden in the courtyard at The Alva School to recognize Charlotte Lippincott who is retiring after 50 years of teaching service at the school.
- The club donated a number of Wreaths to the Hannah Chapter of the daughters of the American Revolution graveside wreath project. The wreaths were placed on veterans' graves at Alva Cemetery on December 17th.
- The Tuesday January 17 meeting at 1:00pm will feature Master Gardener and Floral Show Judge Paula Novander talking about "Taking the Mystery Out of Flower Shows." They meet at Alva United Methodist Church. Guests are welcome to attend.



**A book many of us should consider
purchasing**

The Alva USS HANNAH BRANCH of the Daughters of the American Revolution...

...sponsored once again the very meaningful tribute to all American veterans Wreaths Across America for Northeast Lee County.

On Saturday, December 17, 2022 about 100 persons, including spectators, DAR presenters, Lee County Mounted Police and Honor Guard, Riverdale High School ROTC, and others laid Balsam Fir wreaths on 141 veterans graves at the Alva Cemetery, just north of North River Road (Rte 78) on Cemetery Road.

Wreath's Across America has over 4,000 groups across the United States offering this same tribute at as many and more cemeteries, military of all kinds, public, church, and even private family plots.

This year a branch of the service not especially honored in the past is America's new Space Force. Though no particular veteran of this service was noted in the Alva Cemetery we remembered the astronauts, technicians and visionaries who have passed on before in the civilian, Army, and Air Force branches to bring about this new defense arm.

You may contact the Alva DAR to participate in next year's Christmas memorial or find out how to become a daughter, or son, of the American revolution yourself.

USS Hannah Chapter, Alva, Florida

<https://usshannahnsdar.org/>



SCORE Southwest Florida

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

If you are dreaming of starting your own business, or needing to grow your current business, the local 30 plus SCORE volunteers and personal certified mentors are waiting for your call or email. And remember, our services are completely FREE. We volunteer to serve so YOU can succeed.

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

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

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

Life-Long Learning Made Easy

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

Free Resources

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

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



JOB-LINK



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

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



Charleston Park Neighborhood Association

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

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



The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail

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

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



www.RichAndLaurieInSouthFlorida.com

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

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

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

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

The 30th Season includes the following shows:

"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

**7pm Sat.,
Jan. 28th** **TWO SHOWS!** **2pm Sun.,
Jan. 29th**

**Amazing
1-Man Show!** *A Tribute to* **TICKETS
Just \$30**

**ROY
ORBISON**

*by
David K*

Opening Set: Buddy Holly Favorites
David K 1st shares a quick warm up of Buddy's biggest hits!

firehouse
community theatre
inc.

FOR TICKETS, CALL: 863-675-3066
241 North Bridge Street, LaBelle, FL

A bit of ALVA History

An Old Grove in Buckingham

(TY Joanne Iwinski Miller and Malorie Saccomani)

Today at the Southwest Florida Historical Society Hank Hendry reviewed old blueprints of the Harris Grove in Buckingham. Later it became the Kingston Grove on another blueprint. Thanks to Pason Gaddis we can see an early hand sketched survey of the grove.



W. F. HARRIS IN HIS YOUNG GRAPEFRUIT GROVE.

It appears that Walter F Harris (1844-1930) from New Jersey and president of the Newark Rivet Works spent his winters in Fort Myers. He owned a grapefruit grove he named Harris Grove in Buckingham from approx. 1912-1925.

It was in Section 5 which borders Orange River Road and Buckingham Road. (Old hand drawn map is amazing)



Apparently, he sold it to George Kingston (1863-1946) after 1925. Kingston had a blue print with his name on the map drawn up. (See blueprint)



Who owns the property today at 13651 Orange River Blvd? Buckingham resident and researcher Missy Nault-Flint suggested it is owned by

Rosbough Enterprise and it is grazing land today. I wonder if any of the old grove trees still exist on the property?

You can see the current area by going to LeePa.org and typing in the address.

Old Time Winter Resident Is Dead

News of the death of Walter F. Harris, 81, at his home in Madison, New Jersey, last night was contained in a telegram received this morning by F. C. Alderman, a friend of the family, from the Harris children.

Mr. Harris had wintered in Fort Myers for the past thirty years, stopping at the Royal Palm hotel. He was the owner of a large citrus grove at Twelve Mile creek on Orange river, and also was the owner of other large holdings in Lee and Glades counties. He had been ill for some months prior to his death.

Mr. Harris is survived by his widow, and by a son and five daughters.



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



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



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

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



Six Mile Cypress Slough, Lee County Park

7751 Penzance Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33966

A mile of wonder 30 minutes away from Alva.



Manatee Park

10901 Palm Beach Blvd,

Fort Myers, FL 33905

239 690 5030



Olga Community Park

2325 S Olga Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33905

(239) 533-7275



Hickey's Creek Mitigation Park

17980 Palm Beach Blvd, Alva, FL, 33920

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



ALVA BOAT RAMP PARK

21580 Pearl St,

Alva, FL 33920



W.P. Franklin Lock & Dam South Recreation Area

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



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

W.P Franklin Lock & Dam CAMPGROUND

Camp by reservation only



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

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



Alva Community Center PARK

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

Shady lawns & baseball field



Telegraph Creek: Unspoiled kayak trail

out-of-the-way, uncrowded, scenic, quiet and full of wildlife.





Caloosahatchee Regional Park

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

EMAIL: leeparks@leegov.com

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



NORTH FORT MYERS Recreation Park

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

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

Veterans Park Recreation Center

55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936



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

<https://babcockranchecotours.com/>



Alva Angel's



Giving back to the families of our community

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

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



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 MANUAL AND FOR MORE

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

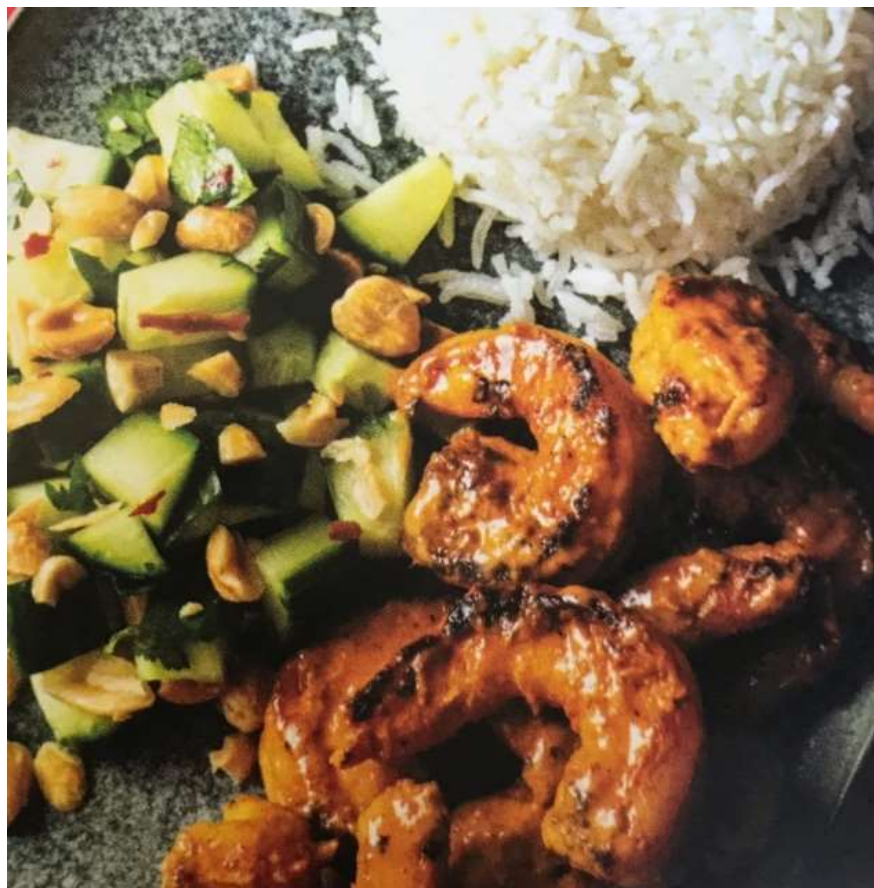


ALVA SUNDAY SHRIMP

with Coconut Rice and Cucumber Relish

Ingredients-

- 1 1/2 c jasmine rice
- 1 1/2 c water
- 1 1/4 c + 2 Tbsp canned coconut milk, divided
- 2 Tbsp + 1 tsp sugar, divided
- 2 1/4 tsp salt, divided
- 1/4 c white vinegar
- 1/4 tsp red pepper flakes
- 1 English cucumber cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 1/2 c salted dry roasted peanuts coarse chopped
- 2 Tbsp chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 Tbsp red curry paste
- 1 1/2 pounds jumbo local shrimp, peeled/tails removed



Directions-

Combine rice, water, one cup of coconut milk. Add 1 tablespoon sugar and 3/4 teaspoon salt in a large sauce pan. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium to maintain a simmer. Cover and cook until liquid is absorbed (about 20 minutes). Remove sauce pan from heat and let sit covered for 10 minutes. Mix rice gently with rubber spatula.

Whisk vinegar, pepper flakes, one tablespoon sugar and 1 teaspoon salt in bowl until dissolved. Add cucumber, peanuts, cilantro and toss to combine. Let stand until ready to serve tossing occasionally.

Cook curry paste with 1 tablespoon coconut milk, 1 teaspoon sugar and remaining half teaspoon of salt in a 12 inch (nonstick) skillet over medium high heat until mixture is dry (or about three minutes). Add shrimp and cook stirring occasionally until shrimp are opaque throughout (about 4 minutes). Stir in remaining five tablespoons coconut milk. Bring to a simmer then remove from heat. Serve shrimp with coconut rice and cucumber relish. Enjoy!



Become a Certified Calusa Waterkeeper Ranger!

<https://calusawaterkeeper.org/>

All of us in Southwest Florida have been impacted to some degree by Hurricane Ian. The catastrophic damage left in its wake after making landfall on September 28 has been life changing. The disastrous effects on our families, our livelihoods and our community are far reaching and will be felt for weeks and months to come.

We at Calusa Waterkeeper will continue to work to make certain our water is safe and to keep you informed during these difficult times. Our hearts go out to everyone impacted by this devastating event and on behalf of the Calusa Waterkeeper Board of Directors and staff, we wish you well. Remember, we are all in this together. Stay strong.



Major William M. Footman Sons of Confederate Veterans

Camp 1950, Fort Myers, FL



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/>



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



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



Lee/Hendry County
Office

8280 College
Parkway, Suite 201
Fort Myers, FL 33919

(239) 288-4224



CALL NUMBER AT LEFT FOR CORRECT ZOOM LINK



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.

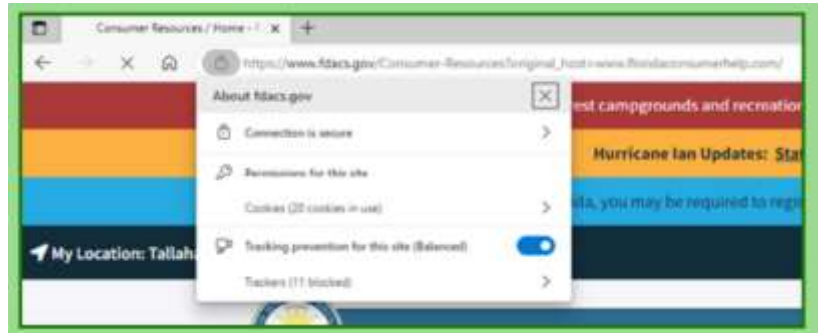
All programs are free and open to the public. Sign language interpreter available with five business days' notice to library staff. While attending library programs, visitors may be photographed by library staff. Photos become library property and may be used in library promotions. Individuals who do 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



AVOID FAKE ONLINE STORES

As easy as it is to shop online, it's even easier to get scammed by fake online stores, and the major concern is not even about losing your money on a single purchase. The real danger is identity theft, which often is the ultimate goal of a fake retail website.



Craig Johnson, writing for clark.com, recently shared six tips for spotting a fake online store.

1. Examine the URL. Some fraudulent sites have URLs that look just like those of legitimate websites, until you look a little closer. Scammers may set up sites using graphics and logos that look like the real thing, but the URL may be off by one letter or have a dash that's not supposed to be there. Make sure you are on the webpage you truly wanted.
2. Click on the lock icon in the address bar. clicking on the lock icon will take you to a dropdown that provides security information about the site. However, this is not foolproof because some scammers have been able to replicate the icon and legitimate sites get hacked
3. Use an online verification service. These website checkers allow the user to enter a website's URL and then return a report on the safety of the website and any warning signs that may pop up.
4. Keep your browser updated. Turn on automatic updates for all devices, applications, and operating systems. If a "Not Secure" warning pops up on your screen, back out of the site or close the screen.
5. Look for a Trust Seal. The Better Business Bureau, PayPal, and Google will issue trust seals to sites that meet certain criteria. These seals tell users they can feel secure making transactions, but don't let a trust seal be the only reason you trust a site. You still need to thoroughly research a site before you provide your personal information.
6. Read the reviews. Don't just rely on the reviews posted on the website. Check multiple sources and use web review sites that let you see what real customers have to say about websites, products, and services. Scammers are always developing new ways to trick even the best safety measures. Make sure you follow all cybersecurity protocols and trust your instincts if something doesn't feel right



Babcock Ranch Art Show

MARCH 11 & 12, 2023



Save the Date

Event by ArtFest Fort Myers

42850 Crescent Loop, Babcock Ranch-Punta Gorda, FL 33982

Join us at the Babcock Ranch Art Show! The Art Show is once again a FREE, non-gated event for all members of the Southwest Florida Community. On the second weekend in March, Babcock ranch will have exceptional art by more than 60 select artists. Against the backdrop of beautiful Lake Babcock, the alfresco event in downtown Founder's Square will showcase watercolor, oil and acrylic painting, sculpture, photography, metalwork, jewelry, ceramics, and wood and fiber art. Guests also can enjoy fare from a selection of Southwest Florida's favorite food trucks stationed along Lake Babcock Drive, along with refreshments from Babcock Ranch's Square Scoops, Slater's, Cup A Joe at Curry Creek Outfitters, and the new Lakehouse Kitchen & Bar.

A Builder Expo area in Founder's Square will offer information from Babcock Ranch's team of eight homebuilders about available home designs and the more than two dozen model homes now open or underway in the town's seven neighborhoods. In the newly redesigned Discovery Center in Woodlea Hall, Town Ambassadors will be on hand to answer questions about the sustainable vision behind America's first solar-powered town and its welcoming lifestyle.

For more information about Southwest Florida's new hometown, located just northeast of Fort Myers off Babcock Ranch Road/State Road 31, visit the Woodlea Hall Discovery Center at 42850 Crescent Loop in Babcock Ranch, or visit www.BabcockRanch.com.

Celebrate CREATIVITY at the Babcock Ranch Art Show!

The Babcock Ranch Art Show is produced in cooperation with ArtFest Fort Myers.

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

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

For Food pickup locations:

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



Eight Ways To Propagate Plants

(Presentation by Roxanne Sprehe at the December Alva Garden Club Meeting)

1. Propagation by seeds:

Propagation by seeds is the easiest way to obtain many plants economically. Most annuals in the garden are propagated by seeds. Examples are pansies, petunias, and marigolds.

Starting the seeds indoors:

Starting the seeds indoors gives the seedlings a head start before they are planted. Seeds are sown in a sterile rooting medium in a tray or individual containers. The depth of sowing should equal to double the size of the seed. Keep in shade until seedlings emerge. Fine seeds like lettuce are sprinkled on the surface as they need light for germination.

Sowing seeds directly If weather conditions permit, sowing the seeds directly where they are to grow in the open ground saves a lot of time and labor. In fact, peas and root vegetables, like carrots, do best when sown directly in the soil. Some self-sowing plants are milkweed, scorpion-tail, salvia (Tropical sage), and monarda.

Overcoming difficulties in seed germination:

Certain seeds do not sprout unless they are subjected to extremes of temperature. Tough seed coats may prevent germination in some cases. Seeds may require special treatments to overcome these blocks. They include:

- Pre-soaking in warm water or soak your seeds in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes. Rinse the seeds several times with water before planting and plant them as usual. Doing this breaks down the hard outer covering of the seeds and kills any pathogen present on them.
- Scarification or bruising the seed coat of sweet peas and morning glories
- Stratification or imitating the winter in the refrigerator or heat in the case of some pine trees.

2. Vegetative propagation:

Simply dividing large clumps or rooting cuttings of various plant parts can produce several baby plants. Obtaining true-to-type plants is the main advantage of vegetative propagation, especially in the case of hybridized plant varieties such as daylilies and iris. Bromeliads, hens n' chickens, and aloes sprout offsets from the main stem. Cut them off with a sharp knife pot in the garden or into pots.

3. Propagating from leaves:

Many rosette-forming succulents are propagated from whole leaves. Remove the lower leaves by gently twisting them off the stem. Allow them to dry out for a few days before laying them on a tray with cactus soil. Keep the medium nearly dry to prevent the fleshy leaves from rotting. Roots grow into the soil from the base of the leaves, followed by tiny plantlets. Pot up the new plants when they have developed a good root system.

Leaf Cuttings:

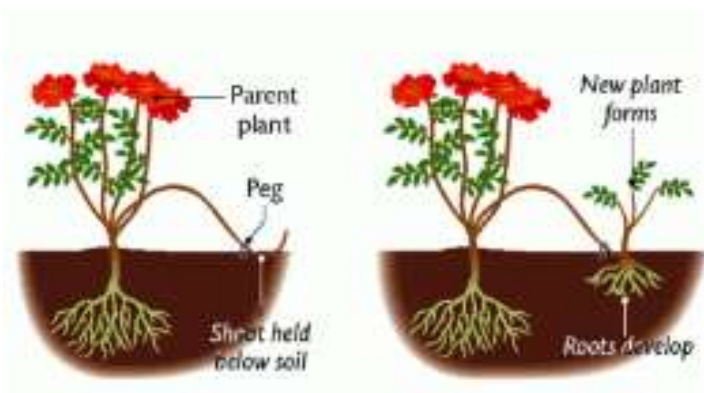
- To propagate sedums, African violets, and peperomias, cut out a mature leaf with an inch and a half of petiole attached to it. Insert the cut end of the petiole into a sterile rooting medium. Plantlets can be potted when they are big enough.
- A single leaf of the snake plant, *Sansevieria*, can be cut into several two-inch sections and the base end of each can be inserted vertically into the rooting media. The cut sections may also be started in water. The resulting plantlets may not have the same variegation though.
- New plants can be grown from a Rubber tree leaf if the veins on the underside are cut with a sharp blade before laying the leaf right side up on the surface of rooting medium. Sections containing portions of the vein can be planted vertically too.

4. Propagating from stem:

Soft stem cuttings with the growing terminal buds can be rooted at any time, while woody stem cuttings are best taken during the period of dormancy. After removing the cutting from the parent plant, dip its base end in rooting hormone powder before inserting into the moist rooting medium. Keep it in a bright place away from direct sun. Enclosing the cuttings in clear plastic will provide the right humidity.

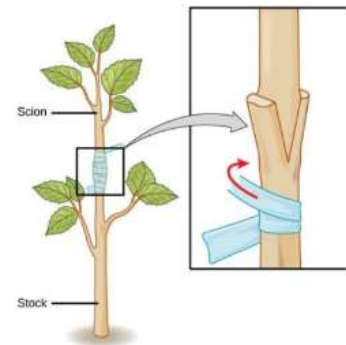
Layering:

The stem is first rooted before cutting it from the parent. Bend lower branches of shrubs and cover a portion with soil after bruising the area to promote rooting. In mound layering, soil is heaped onto the base of a multi-branched shrub so that several branches will develop roots. Air layering involves removing a portion of the bark on a branch and covering the area with a pack of moist sphagnum moss. When roots develop, the branch is cut off below the layered area and potted up.



5. Budding and grafting:

Single buds or small branches of a good variety fruit trees are grafted on to rootstocks to get superior plants. Remove a bud with a small portion of the surrounding tissue with a sharp blade and place it on the stock plant after removing a similar portion from its stem. Bind it tightly with grafting tape and remove the stem of the rootstock above the graft to promote the growth of the bud.



6. Dividing underground stems:

Bulbs, corms and rhizomes are modified stems that grow underground. Separate the bulblets and corms that grow around the main bulb to make new plants. Propagate ginger, horseradish, and rhizomatous begonia by digging up the underground stems and cutting them up into sections with one or more growing tips.

7. Propagating from root:

Plants like lilac and passionflower are propagated by root division. Dig near the plant to expose a healthy root and cut it out. Make several sections and plant the base end of each division. Two-inch pieces of smaller roots can be planted horizontally in the medium. Keep the containers in a dark place until buds begin to appear. Move to a bright spot as the shoots develop.

8. Propagation by spores:

Lower plants like mosses and ferns produce spores. To propagate this way:

Cut out a spore-bearing leaf and place it in a paper bag to collect the brown spores. Prepare a moist, sterile, media in a tray and sprinkle the spores on it.

1. Cover it with a clear plastic sheet or glass to retain the moisture.
2. Place in a bright place away from direct sun.
3. The heart-shaped prothalli that appear after several weeks or even months will eventually produce baby ferns.

Once they put out a few true leaves, transplant them into several containers.



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@embargmail.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.blcefm.org 239-694-3878

Olga Baptist Church

2364 South Olga Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

www.olgabaptist.org 239-694-2012

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

-Al Anon- AFG - THURSDAY 7PM

138 Ford Ave, Labelle

(888) 425-2666

-AA-THURSDAY 7PM

138 Ford Ave, Labelle

(239) 275-5111

-AA-MEETING AT THE INN - WEDNESDAY 7:15PM

Port LaBelle Inn, 1568 Oxbow Dr, Labelle

(239) 275-5111

NOT TODAY - MONDAY 6:00PM

133 N Bridge St, Labelle

(866) 819-5346

IF you know of any other 12 step or non-12 step recovery group in the Alva area (From Hendry County Line to Fort Myers Shores, north and south of our river) please let me know its name, location and the phone number for information to list here. Thank you! kendewalt@ontheriver.org



Who We Are

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

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

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

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



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

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

Paid Advertisement 1-4/23



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

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

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

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

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



LaBelle Entertainment

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

<https://www.labelleentertainment.com>

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

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

Important Alva Area Lee County Phone Numbers & Websites

(as of December, 2022)

ANY immediate life-threatening emergency

911

Important Phone Numbers & Websites

Font Size: [Share & Bookmark](#) [Feedback](#) Print

AGENCY	NORMAL BUSINESS	EMERGENCY
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	
Cape Coral Emergency Management	239-573-3022	911
Cape Coral Police Department (non-emergency)	239-574-3223	911
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	
Fort Myers Police Department	239-321-7700	911
Lee County Animal Services	239-533-7387	239-533-7387
Lee County Emergency Information Hotline / United Way 211	239-433-2000	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	239-477-1000	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
Sanibel Police Department	239-472-3111	911
Traffic Conditions in Florida (Current)	511	511
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades & Okeechobee Counties	239-433-2000	211

AGENCY	WEB ADDRESS
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)	www.ready.gov/cert
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.fihsmv.gov/mobilehome
American Sign Language Preparedness Videos	www.lee.gov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan
StormReady	www.weather.gov/stormready/

Manatee & Eco River Tours = More Than Just A Boat Ride!



Manatee's travel into the Orange River when the waters of the Gulf of Mexico fall below 70 degrees.



All manatee tours leave from Sweetwater Landing Marina and cruise down the Caloosahatchee into the Orange River where we have an opportunity to observe the manatee in their natural habitat.

Generally, 400-500 manatees visit the area each winter.

Advanced reservations are required! Visit our website at: www.ManateeAndEcoRiverTours.com to see the available dates and times for tours and to schedule your adventure! A fun time for all ages!



Captain John Cookman & Kathy Cookman look forward to seeing you onboard the River Queen II. (Blankets are available for cold mornings!)

Palm trees wave, are you listenin'?
In the pool, water's glistenin',
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Livin' in a FLORIDA Wonderland.

Gone away is the blizzard,
Here to stay is the lizard,
A warm sunny day, we like it that way,
Livin' in a FLORIDA Wonderland.

On the beach we will have a picnic,
Turtles, sand and seagulls and sun.
Christmas dinner is an old tradition,
It's Grouper and Stone Crabs by the ton.

Later on, we'll perspire,
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ON THE RIVER Alva Area Newsletter Advertising Rates (current since January 17, 2020)

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

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

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