

THE PROAR

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Ft. Myers, FL
Permit No. 478
POSTAL CUSTOMER OR
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

DECEMBER 2020
VOLUME 01
ISSUE 08

EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS

EASTLEENews.com FOR MORE | LET US HEAR FROM YOU! CONTACT US AT PRESS@EASTLEENews.com

THE VOICES OF LEHIGH

Happy Hanukkah! Merry Christmas! A Happy And Healthy New Year's Lehigh Acres and East Lee County!

By Mike Welch



Photo: Mike Welch
Let Us Hear From
You! Contact Us At:
voicesoflehigh@
gmail.com

At this writing the news is grim around our community, state and country as more of our citizens are falling ill to COVID19. These months leading up to a hopeful vaccine means that we as a community need to follow the CDC Guidelines, social distance, wear a mask for God sakes and remember that in order for us to live safely together we must all follow these guidelines. Watch for more announcements from the Lee Department of Health for testing sites. If you are one of those not wearing masks - please reconsider.

Several Lehigh Holiday Celebrations have been cancelled and curtailed this year. The Lehigh Town Centre has cancelled its Annual Holiday Celebrations, but the Holiday decorations and tree will go up as usual. The "season" will be different this year as many of our seasonal residents will not be returning this year as the Canadian border is closed and most countries in the European Union are discouraging travel this year.

The month's Voices of Lehigh offers some informative articles for your review. Dr. Joseph Torregrosso, Principal of the Donna J. Beasley Technical Academy writes that "DJB" is truly a best kept hidden secret in Lee County. I agree. The Academy is located on Bell Blvd. and is due for an expansion in the coming year. The Academy is well thought of by the Lee School District and one of our

Lee School Board Members Cathleen Morgan gives this great educational/vocational academy high marks. You can visit www.beasleytec.org or call 23-491-6822.

One of our Lee County Commissioners Ray Sandelli offers us an article on our County Government's work and attention to our East Lee County residents. Since his appointment to office by the Governor and his subsequent election, Ray is no stranger to Lehigh/East Lee County. His ongoing work for economic development, infrastructure improvements as well as his ongoing work over this pandemic is a true example of "servant leadership." Give Ray and his resourceful assistant Charlotte a call at 239-533-2223.

Our ever-capable Sheriff Carmine Marceno offers a great article that it is that time of year

to be very vigilant on "porch bandits" roaming the area for untended package deliveries. This kind of thievery has been on the rise for some time and has been accelerated due to the pandemic and the increased use of online shopping.

Wishing you and your loved ones the very best of the Holiday Season! Be safe! Wear a Mask! Smile when you can! Be kind to others!

Disclaimer: The newspaper does not necessarily agree with the opinions, ideas, beliefs or viewpoints expressed in the letters and op-ed pieces the newspaper publishes. The newspaper does not endorse the pieces, nor do they reflect the newspaper's viewpoints or official policies. The newspaper publishes the pieces as a public service to further public commentary and debate as space allows.

Best Quality
HEATING & COOLING OF SWFL

WWW.BESTQUALITYAIR.COM • INFO@BESTQUALITYAIR.COM

License #: CMC1250683

Residential & Commercial Specialist • 25+ Years Experience • 24/7 Response Service • Repairs • Installation • Maintenance • Duct Cleaning • Air Purification

(239) 887-0719

SERVICE CALL Only **\$19.95**

Valid through 12/31/2020. First time Customers Only. Cannot be combined with offers. Applies to service calls during normal business hours. Residential services only.

A/C TUNE-UP Only **\$29.95**

Valid through 12/31/2020. First time customers only. Cannot be combined with offers. Applies to appointments during normal business hours. Residential services only.

KEEPING YOUR FAMILY COOL AT YOUR PRICE!

zerorez

Before After

Guests Coming Over For The Holidays?

'Tis The Season To Transform
Your Tile With

zerorez

Premium Bathroom & Shower Tile
Combos

STARTING FROM **\$175**

Prices vary based on size of room and package chosen. Valid through 12/31/2020. Not to be combined with any other offer.

www.ZerorezSWFL.com

The **COIN SHOP**

ESTATE JEWELRY

COINS • JEWELRY • GOLD

Paying TOP DOLLAR
For Your Unwanted Valuables!

(239) 672-4003 • House Calls Available!

9230 Daniels Pkwy Suite 103 Fort Myers FL 33912

THE COINSHOP.NET

FENCE 1 CORP.

FREE ESTIMATES

- Vinyl
- Wood
- Ornamental
- Chain Link
- Metal Privacy
- And More!

Se Habla Español

We Accept

Licensed & Insured

Find us on

(239) 303-2624

modern services
A BECK COMPANY

AIR CONDITIONING & PLUMBING

Did you know Modern Services offers low monthly payments and FLEXIBLE FINANCING on qualifying purchases?

CELEBRATING

55

YEARS OF SERVICE

239-694-8300

www.ModernService.com

CMC1250815 - CFC1430532

the MERCHANT MARKETER



local deals. local news. since 1992.

Protect Yourself From Porch Pirates This Holiday Season

By Sheriff Carmine Marceno



Photo: Sheriff Carmine Marceno

The holidays are quickly approaching and that means you will likely be purchasing gifts online. Although it is convenient to buy products online and have them shipped directly to your front door, there is always the possibility your purchases could be stolen by "porch pirates" if left

unattended outside your home.

As you anxiously await for your treasures to be delivered this holiday season, I strongly encourage Lehigh residents to follow the tips below to protect your goods and keep porch pirates at bay:

- **OUTDOOR SECURITY CAMERAS.** For maximum theft deterrence, make sure your outdoor security cameras are highly visible and clearly pointed at the package drop-off area.

- **HAVE YOUR PACKAGE DELIVERED ELSEWHERE,** such as your place of employment, an Amazon delivery site, P.O. Box or FedEx/UPS location.
- **REQUEST THAT DELIVERIES REQUIRE A SIGNATURE.**
- **SUBSCRIBE TO DELIVERY ALERTS.** All major delivery services offer some kind of notification service for package updates.
- **ASK A TRUSTED NEIGHBOR** to keep an eye out for your delivery and secure

it for you until you get home.

If you capture a porch pirate on your security camera, call us at 239-477-1000 to report it.

I'm confident that by taking a few simple precautions and installing the right home security technology, you can make it much more difficult for thieves to do their dirty work in Lehigh. Let's work together to keep Lee County safe!

Happy Holidays And A Look Back At 2020

By Commissioner Ray Sandelli



Photo: Commissioner Ray Sandelli - Board of County Commissioners - District 3

As we head into the holiday season we typically think about the many events of the past year and start to anticipate what the New Year will bring. Fact is, almost nothing about 2020 was 'typical'!

The events of the year posed many challenges and answers seemed elusive at best. What exactly was this virus that came upon so quickly?

How were we to manage our personal and business lives through the financial pressures when the initial action was to shut down an economy that was flourish-

ing? Was there a responsible balance between caring for our health, providing for our families, and getting back to work?

In spite of all of this, we learned in this time of challenge a lot about our community and ourselves. Neighbors reached out and rallied to support each other. Public and private companies in many cases retooled to adapt their own businesses and to help. CARES Act funding through our county team directed resources to meet needs as we moved to re-open, seeking purpose in each day and a sense of 'normal'

I, along with my colleagues on the Board of County Commissioners are acutely aware of the needs and chal-

lenges of our communities in eastern Lee County - Lehigh Acres. COVID19 has brought so many dimensions of suffering, stress and even tragedy to our residents. In response, our Lee County Government continues mobilize and adjust. We will see this through together.

In the midst of all this, our county continues to grow as others seeks life in the Sunshine State. New residents create demand for housing, goods and services. Many existing firms are expanding as we welcome companies both within and from out of state who are looking to locate to SWFL. The residential market remains strong and we have a number of new commercial facilities either under construction or in design and permitting. With that we have nearly 3,000 jobs in

the fulfillment stages. There is light at the end of this tunnel!

So as we all look to turn the page on 2020, perhaps that old adage 'that we learn more from adversity than success' is in fact true. Lessons learned this year, no matter how hard, would in fact make us all stronger.

My family and I wish you and yours the very best for the forthcoming holidays and for the hope of good health and prosperity in the New Year!

If I can ever be of service, please contact my office at 239-533-2223 or dist3@leegov.com.

29 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. // ALL REPAIRS! MINOR TO MAJOR. // SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS. // LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED!

MV93177

Synthetic Blend Oil Change
includes 5 quarts of oil and a filter **\$35⁹⁹**
* Oil disposal additional cost

Full Synthetic Oil Change
includes 5 quarts of oil and a filter **\$65⁹⁹**
* Oil disposal additional cost

Pure Power
Automotive Diagnostics

OPEN
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Front or Rear Brake Job
CARS **\$205⁰⁰** TRUCKS, VANS, SUVs **\$235⁰⁰**
Excludes over 3/4 Ton or larger Trucks. Disc brakes only. Rotors included. Offer expires 12/31/20



Owner Michael Stanek

WE HAVE MOVED!

FIND OUT AT OUR NEW LOCATION: 210 Plaza Drive, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

239-851-5352

Why pay Dealership prices when you can get the same Quality and Workmanship for HALF THE PRICE!

DISCOVER LIFE AT

Meadows Edge

The Next Generation of Lehigh Acres Living • www.MeadowsEdgeLehigh.com

BRAND NEW HOMES!

- Quality New Construction
- 4 Bedroom/3 Bath Floor Plans
- Spacious Lots
- Builder Warranty
- Central Water & Sewer
- Home Owners Association

Completion Dates Under 45 Days

STARTING AT \$259,900

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE



649 Carrillon Ave S
658 Carrillon Ave S
653 Carrillon Ave S

PENDING
PENDING
PENDING

Only 9 Homes Remaining!

Join us at Meadows Edge, a new construction single-family home community located in Lehigh Acres, Florida. As we enter Phase II of construction, discover personalized home building solutions at affordable prices.

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS | SNOWBIRDS | INVESTORS

GOT THAT 'I WANT NEW HOME' FEELING?? NOT SURE HOW TO GO ABOUT IT?

START HERE!

1. Do you make less than \$103,050? Yes ___ No ___
2. Desired Purchase Price under \$294,600? Yes ___ No ___
3. Is your Credit Score OVER 660? Yes ___ No ___
4. Have you saved at least \$5,000? Yes ___ No ___

If you answered "YES" to all of the questions you may qualify for Special Financing to help you realize your DREAM!

Veterans there are awesome financing Programs available for you too with Rates Starting at 2.25%!!!

CALL TODAY!

Take Advantage of Historically Low Interest Rates and the Lee County Own a Home Opportunity Grant Program To Save.

*Rates Subject to Change.



Janice Robinson
Broker Associate
(239)-850-4610



Migdalia (Mikki) Rodriguez
Associate
(239)-887-1355

8950 Fontana Del Sol Way Naples, 34109

Donna J. Beasley Technical Academy (DJB): Best Hidden Secret In Lee County

By: Dr. Joseph Torregrassa



Photo: Donna J. Beasley Technical Academy Logo

About 9 years ago, a woman named Donna Beasley had a vision to open a school to offer a second chance to high school students. Ms. Beasley was the Executive Director of Tri-County Apprenticeship Academy (TCAA), an evening school where local trade companies send their employees for national certification. She wanted to provide a pathway for a diploma and a career in trades. Sadly, she passed away about a year prior to our opening. However, she would be proud of our students who attended these past years.

Our public charter high school grades 9-12 provides a pathway toward a high school diploma in a non-traditional format. This approach has had a positive effect on student achievement. Students who were unable to achieve in a traditional school has found our system conducive and has resulted in many graduations. Graduates have gone onto college, military and the work force.

There are seven non-traditional high schools in Lee County. Currently, we are the smallest in size, but we offer quite a bit for a young adult to have their best chance at success. We are the only non-traditional charter high school in Lee County providing school bus transportation. It is important to ensure our students are safe and can access our school. Once at the school, students will find a staff that is proac-

tive in following their progress. Normally, we offer multiple sessions, however, due to the COVID virus we have one session with teachers available until 10 pm to assist those working from home online.

Besides offering a small school setting, we provide direction for a career in trades. The adult night school TCAA that we partner with offers national certification in Electric, Plumbing, Air Conditioning, Welding, and Fire Sprinklers. Regardless of which career, all students must take a course called CORE. We offer that course CORE and Electrical. When a student graduates with their diploma and has taken CORE, we will present that graduate to TCAA and their affiliates. Students will be able to pursue any one of the five trades. Once hired on as full-time worker, the employers have offered

to pay any tuition and book costs for these individuals to continue their national certification. The end result is by the time they are about 23 years old they could be nationally certified in their chosen trade. A career that is not going overseas, no 20 year college loan, and regardless of the economy, electricians, plumbers, and air conditioning will always be working here in SW Florida.

Donna J. Beasley has a good working relationship with the School District of Lee County and received a Commendable grade, the highest rating from the state of Florida Board of Education. Our school is growing every year. Our home is right here in Lehigh Acres. We are locally owned and managed; we are not part of any chain. We provide the individual help that so many are looking for.



We Sell, Lease and Buy Commercial & Residential Properties

"We Are Lehigh"

25 Homestead Rd N. #11
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

Licensed Real Estate Broker

Phone: (239) 368-6080

e-mail: jack.morse36@gmail.com

Lehigh Showcase PROPERTIES, INC.
368-6080



Experienced Agent Wanted, Call Jack Morse @ 239-218-3618

INVEST MONEY WISELY...

Colonial Blvd, **LOWEST PRICE** (comparable) Five Acres +/-, CG Zoned at Challenger Intersection! Up to 125 Residential Units Possible! Free Standing RETAIL Possible. ALL Offers will be CONSIDERED! Call Robert Colyer @ 239-691-8702



Medical/Professional Building-8000 SF +/-, 100% Leased! 7% +CAP RATE! Must Sell to Settle Estate. Appraised at \$700,000.00! Possible Seller Finance! Call Jack Morse @ 239-218-3618



450 Feet Plus on LEE BLVD. Six Lots on Three Streets, Contiguous! Residential Zoned but could be Commercial Zoned. Do Not Let This Opportunity Get Away! Special Terms Available. Call Jack Morse @ 239-218-3618

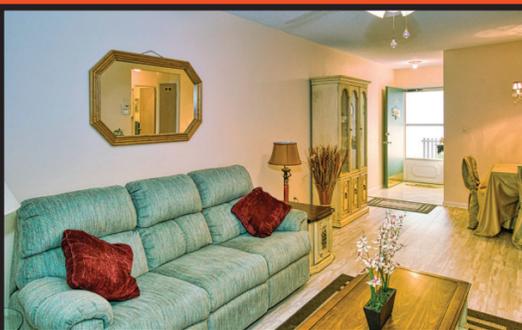


Commercial Development Sites: Three Multi-Lot Parcels on Immokalee Rd., across from Gateway! 3 to 5 lots per Parcel. Possible Seller Finance, \$60,000 to \$149,000. Call Jack Morse @ 239-218-3618



ONLY ONE!

CONDO-FURNISHED, 2ND FLOOR. ELEVATOR BUILDING.



Only Condo AVAILABLE in this well-run Condominium Community! Furnished 2nd Floor. ELEVATOR BUILDING. 2 Split BRs, 2 Upgraded Baths, ensuite Master Bath! Unique SUNROOM, Community PERGOLA, Wood-like Flooring and Tile for easy upkeep. Low Fees and Huge Community Pool! A Winter Home, a Seasonal Rental or Live Here All Year! Convenient Location!

Call Jack Morse @ 239-218-3618

SUPERLOT IN GREENBIAR FOR SALE!

1/3rd+ Acre, Greenbriar. Fan Shaped makes a Large Backyard on Canal with Privacy! Active Neighborhood, near to Shopping and Palm Beach Blvd. **\$7,199.00**

List with Lehigh Showcase for Great Exposure & Professional Photography to Drive Buyers to your Properties!

All properties offered are subject to prior lease, sale or withdrawal from the market. All dimensions and measurements are approximate.

Over 30 Fine Stores & Businesses

For Information Call (239) 368-6080

Lehigh Towne Centre

Directory Of Stores & Phone Numbers

Jan-Bo Chinese Restaurant.....	239-369-1188	Footnotes Dance Studio.....	239-369-4320
Complete Locksmith.....	239-634-1000	Choice Food Market.....	239-368-0703
Amigos Auto Insurance.....	239-491-6365	Grand Dental Center.....	239-368-4997
New Images Hair Salon.....	239-368-6881	Lehigh Nails, Inc.....	239-368-6446
Lehigh Showcase Properties, Inc.....	239-368-6080	L.A. Chamber of Commerce.....	239-369-3322
The Girls & Men of Fashion.....	239-368-3451	Salvation Army Office.....	239-278-1551
Star Smoke N Vape.....	239-896-6758	Joe's Café.....	239-369-6500
Dollar General Store.....	239-368-5551	Homestead Sports Pub.....	239-369-1331
Azucar Restaurant.....	239-674-7444	Check Cashing Store.....	239-368-4692
Fade' Em Up Barber.....	239-645-6594	Gulf Coast Cell Phones / MetroPCS.....	239-369-1244
Pizza Hut.....	239-368-6665	Ultra Care Medical Group, Inc.....	239-202-3026
Pool Keepers Plus.....	239-369-6717	The Medicine Shoppe.....	239-369-0141

25 HOMESTEAD ROAD NORTH LEHIGH ACRES

Located At The Intersection of Homestead Rd, Leeland Heights Blvd. & Alabama Rd.

COME SEE US!

In The Same Location Across From Bank Of America, Behind First Pawn

EXPRESS AUTO REPAIR



Towing Services Available
Prompt & Courteous Service

~ BRAKE SPECIAL ~

Includes new brake pads and rotors per axel (Trucks are Extra) **\$195**

\$49.99
A/C Tune-up
Special
Freon Additional
With this Ad

AC Repair & Service • Brakes & Rotors
Radiator Flush - Fills • New & Used Tires
Transmission Service & Rebuilds
Tune Ups • Oil Changes
Custom Wheels

1335 Homestead Rd. N.
Lehigh Acres

239-369-AUTO (2886)
*Following CDC Guidelines

Se Habla Español
Credit Cards Accepted

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SHIPPING STORE

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

YOUR HOLIDAY SHIPPING STORE



Notary Public • U-Haul Truck & Trailer Rental • Computer/Printer
Copy • Email • Fax Service • Office & Packing Supplies

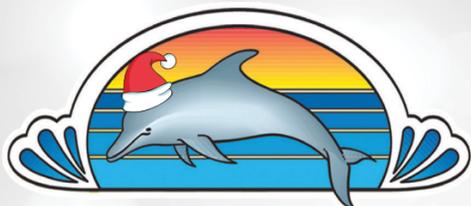
(239) 369-4343

1121 Homestead N
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936
(Winn Dixie Plaza)

packandshiplehighacres@gmail.com



YourNeighborhoodShippingStore.com



Happy Holidays

From Riverdale Dental Associates To You!

Riverdale Dental Associates Have Your Smile Ready For The Holidays

Riverdale Dental Associates

\$50 OFF

OR

\$99

Your Next Dental Treatment of \$200 or more

Healthy Adult/Child Cleaning, Exam & X-rays

Must present ad to receive offer. Limit one discount per person, per month. May not be combined with any other offer. No monetary value. Offer expires: December 31, 2020. The services included are codes D1110 or D1120, D0120 or D0150, and D0274. The patient or any other person responsible for payment has the right to refuse to pay, cancel payment, or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for free, discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment.

Mon - Wed: 8 am to 5 pm
Fri: 8 am to 12 pm (Noon)

Thurs: 8 am to 8:30 pm
Sat: 8 am to 2 pm

Make Your Appointment Today

(239) 303-2400

www.riverdaledentalonline.com

Se Habla Español

201 Plaza Dr. #1 Lehigh Acres, Florida 33936

華 CHINA STAR 星

★ Lunch Specials ★ Full Bar ★ Steaks ★ Seafood ★ Ribs ★
★ Wings ★ Dine-In ★ Take-Out ★ Delivery ★

MULTIPLE YEAR
AWARD WINNER
"Best of Lehigh"

We Offer a Full Bar!
The home of
the famous
"Scorpion Bowl"



HOURS:

Mon - Sat: 11am - 10pm

Sun & Holidays: 12 noon - 9pm

Free Delivery

Limited Area • \$15.00 Minimum Purchase

AMERICAN-CHINESE RESTAURANT

1111 HOMESTEAD ROAD N., Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

369-1110 ★ 369-7090

Gift Certificates
Available



MY PET'S VET of Lehigh Acres

Complete Care For Cats, Dogs, Birds, Reptiles, & Pocket Pets!

Dr. Ernest Y. Blum | Dr. Carlos Gonzalez



Monday 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Tuesday 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Friday 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

MISSION STATEMENT



To be the most reliable, responsible & respected providers of veterinary services to pets & their owners.

FULL GROOMING

\$5 off

Grooming service starts at \$40. Includes Hydrosurge bath/spa, nails trimmed, anal gland expressed and haircut.

One coupon per family. Must be present at time of service. Cannot be used in conjunction with other discount offers, over the counter products or pet food. Expires December 31, 2020.

PHYSICAL EXAM

\$20 off

Physical Exam (New Client Only)

One coupon per family. Must be present at time of service. Cannot be used in conjunction with other discount offers, over the counter products or pet food. Expires December 31, 2020.

239.368.8387

61 Bell Blvd N, Unit 2
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

In the Winn Dixie Plaza at the corner of Joel & Bell Blvd.



www.mypetsvet.net

Se Haba Español



Find us on

East Lee County Chamber's 1st Annual Count Your Blessing Lehigh Event

By Katrina Salokar

Twenty-one members of our Community in East Lee County, Lehigh Acres, Florida, gathered Thursday, November 19th, 2020, for the first annual Count Your Blessings Lehigh, Business Luncheon presented by City Green Environmental Fertilization, Lawn and Pest Control Services represented by Katherine and Sabrina Osborne.

Speakers included Michael Thompson of the SWFL Heroes Foundation, George Acosta of Healthy Harvest Community Farms, Butch Swank of Lehigh Commu-

nity Services, Gwyn Gittens of the Lee County District School Board, Chief DiLallo of the Lehigh Fire Department, Captain Mallard of the Lee County Sheriff's Office - Lehigh Acres Sub-Station, and Mike Jacobs of the East Lee County Chamber Board.

Additional Sponsors included East Lee County News: The ROAR, Goodlad & Swank, and Michael Welch of Building Industry Issues of SWFL, LLC.

Attendees include David Deetscreek of

Brower Accounting and Healthy Harvest Community Farms, Mary Mouritsen of Zererez SWFL, Alicia Dickerson Independent Beauty Rep Mary Kay, Teresa Gittemeier of Flashbanc, Mary Beck of Goodlad and Swank and ABWA Lehigh, Katie Heck with Lehigh Fire Department, Ann Kelly Crime Prevention Lehigh Sub Station, Stephane Larocque and William Ray of Cora Physical Therapy, Katrina Salokar, Steve Salokar, David Foetisch, and Amanda Mitrani.

The chamber would like to thank ev-

eryone who spoke and attended, and we would like to congratulate El Tarasco Mexican Restaurant at Quality Inn and Suites for the great food and service. El Tarasco opens for lunch, dinner, and drinks and is located at 1320 Business Way, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936.

Count Your Blessings Lehigh 2021 will be at 11:30 AM on November 18th, 2021, with a location to be announced at a later date. Call East Lee County Chamber of Commerce at 239-369-3322.



Photo: Alicia Dickerson Of Mary Kay & Katrina Salokar Of East Lee County News: The Roar



Photo: Count Your Blessing Lehigh Thanks To Our Sponsors Poster



Photo: Butch Swank Speaks As A Board Member Of Lehigh Community Services



Photo: City Green's Katherine Osborne and Sabrina Osbourn



Photo: Mary Mouritsen of Zererez



Photo: Alicia Dickerson of Mary Kay



Photo: Gwyn Gittens School District 5, Butch Swank with Goodlad and Swank, Mary Beck with Goodlad and Swank and American Business Women's Association of Lehigh



Photo: Lehigh Fire District's Katie Heck & Chief Robert DiLallo, Lee County Lehigh Substation Captain Mark Mallard with Ann Kelly from Crime Prevention



Photo: Food Donations Collected for Lehigh Community Services



Photo: William Ray and Stephane Larocque of Cora Physical Therapy Lehigh Acres Clinic

BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER!

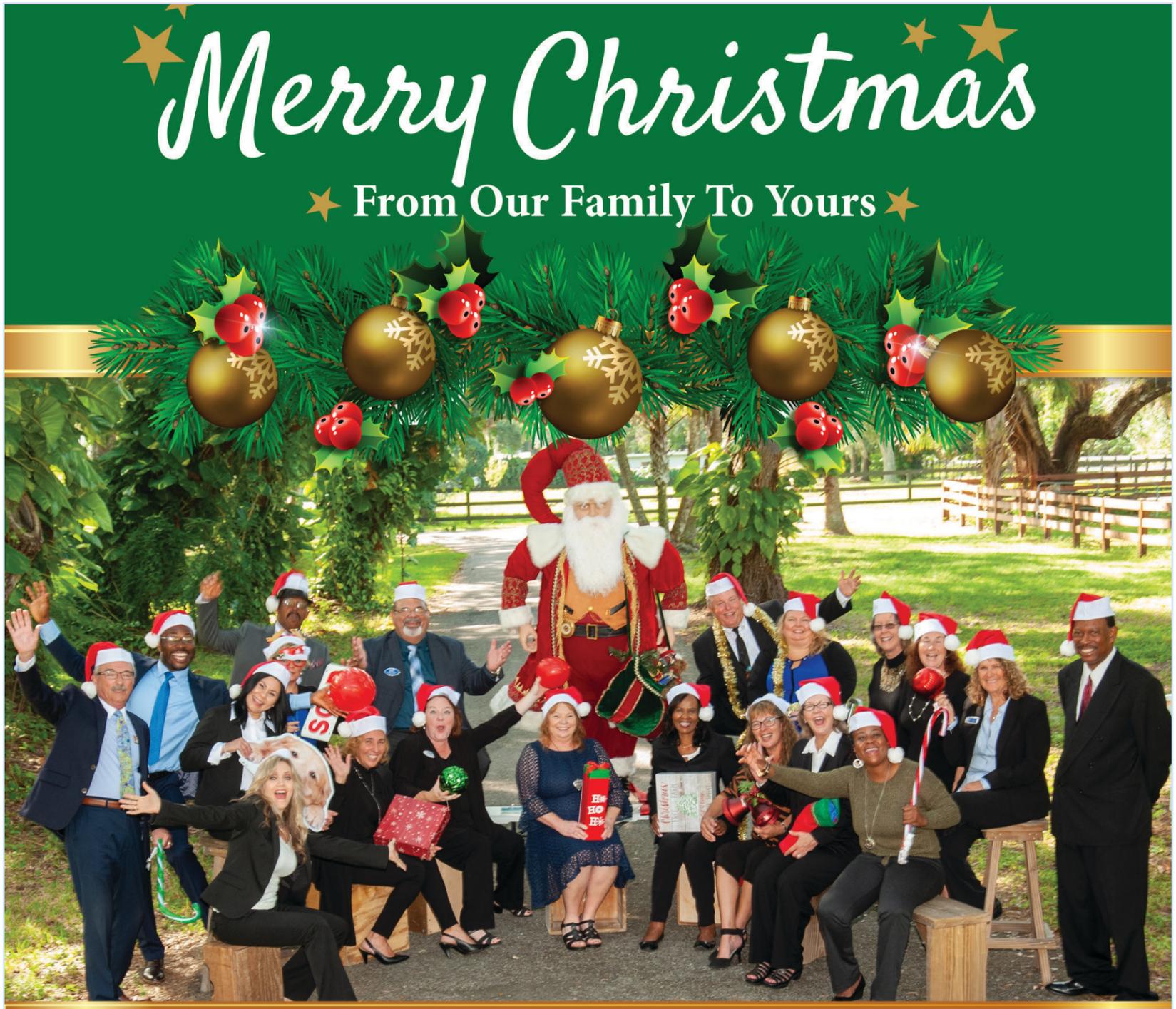


EAST LEE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
THE FUTURE IS HERE

- EXPAND REACH**
Increase visibility and promote your business through Chamber membership. Online and in person opportunities to expand marketing reach and enhance brand reputation.
- BUILD RELATIONSHIPS**
Develop professional relationships and build social capital through networking events, committees and groups.
- VOICE OF BUSINESS**
The Chamber is your voice for connecting business interest with government. We advocate for solutions on key business issues in our community, or city, and our state.

Invest in your business success...
JOIN THE CHAMBER TODAY!

ELCCOC.ORG • (239) 369-3322



Merry Christmas
From Our Family To Yours



COLDWELL BANKER
PREFERRED PROPERTIES INC.

(239) 369-6161
1400 Homestead Rd N.
Lehigh Acres, FL

THE CORRIDOR

Serving Daniels Parkway & South Fort Myers

Holiday Safety Tips: End 2020 On A Safe Note

Submitted By Jody Van Cooney

Making the year 2020 end on a happy note can be easy if the following safety tips, offered by the Injury Prevention Coalition of Lee County, are followed.

TRAVELING. If you are planning a trip by car, make sure it's ready for the trip. If you're heading up north, prepare the car for winter weather. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years have the highest fatality rates of any major form of transportation during holidays. Make sure everyone in the car is buckled up; put the cell phone away; practice defensive driving; and get a good night's sleep so you're not driving drowsy.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE. If purchasing a live tree, make sure it's watered daily; when the needles become dry, it's time to remove it! If purchasing an artificial tree, check to see that it's labeled "fire resistant."

DECORATING THE TREE. Get in the holiday mood by decorating the house—inside and outside; yes, in Florida, we decorate those gorgeous palm trees. Use lights labeled for indoors inside and lights labeled for outdoors outside. Check for frayed wires or loose connections. Never use more than three sets of lights on a single extension cord. Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. Remember to turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

CANDLES. Candles are a wonderful way to create a specific atmosphere—but they can be dangerous. Do not place them next to flammable items, for exam-

ple—curtains, furniture, or decorations. Place them where they can't be knocked down or blown over and out of reach of children. Do not leave them unattended.

KITCHEN SAFETY. Keep your holidays happy by handling food safely. Wash your hands frequently and keep raw meat away from fresh produce. Use a food thermometer to make sure meat is cooked to a safe temperature. Refrigerate hot or cold leftover food within two hours of being served. Keep hot liquids and foods away from the edges of counters and tables. Thaw meat in the refrigerator, never on the countertop or in the sink.

TOY SAFETY. Gifts and toys should inspire joy, not cause injuries. Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills, and interest level of the intended child. Avoid toys with small parts, which could pose a fatal choking hazard. Avoid toys that have sharp edges and points. Be a label reader; look for labels that give age and safety recommendations. Check instructions for clarity; they should be clear to you and appropriate or the child. Discard plastic wrappings before they become deadly playthings.

BIKES AND TRIKES. If purchasing a bicycle, scooter, in-line skates, or skateboards, purchase the safety equipment that goes with it—for example, a properly fitted bicycle helmet, kneepads, and bicycle reflectors. Don't buy items for the child to grow into.

members want you to have a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season. 2020 has been a difficult year and everyone is anxious to get back to normal. When families and friends gather together, remember to practice social distancing, washing hands, wearing face masks, and small groups.

ABOUT THE LEE COUNTY INJURY PREVENTION COALITION

The Lee County Injury Prevention Co-

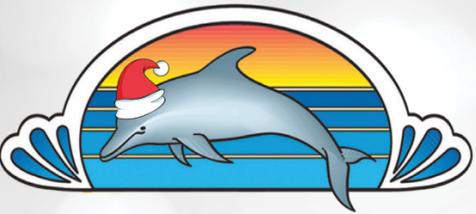
alition serves as a collaborative effort or partnership whose function is to facilitate partners' work and act as a catalyst for injury prevention initiatives. Its mission is to prevent injury, disability, and death through advocacy, education, legislation, and partnerships.

Additional information about the Injury Prevention Coalition or these holiday safety tips may contact Brian Raimondo at ipcleecounty@gmail.com or 239-330-2240.



Photo: Christmas Tree With Bright Lights.

The Injury Prevention Coalition's



Happy Holidays

From Gateway Dental Suites To You!

Have Your Smile Ready For The Holidays

Gateway Dental Suites

\$50 OFF

Your Next Dental Treatment of \$200 or more

OR

\$99

Healthy Adult/Child Cleaning, Exam & X-rays

Must present ad to receive offer. Limit one discount per person, per month. May not be combined with any other offer. No monetary value. Offer expires: December 31, 2020. The services included are codes D1110 or D1120, D0120 or D0150, and D0274. The patient or any other person responsible for payment has the right to refuse to pay, cancel payment, or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for free, discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment.

Mon-Thur: 8:00am to 5:00pm
Fri: 8:00am to 12pm (Noon)

Sat: 8:00am to 2:00pm
Se Habla Español

Make Your Appointment Today

(239) 561-0002

www.gatewaydentalsuites.com

11300 Lindbergh Blvd. #101 Fort Myers, Florida 33913



Tyler Smith, Agency Owner



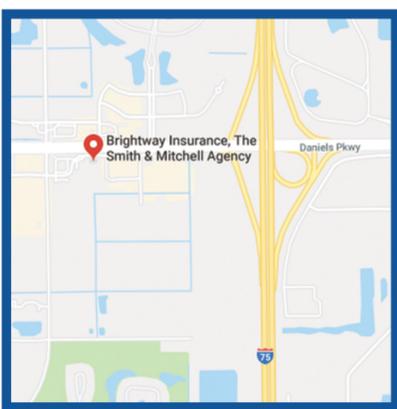
Chris Mitchell, Agency Owner



The insurance agency reinvented around you.®

Give us a call or visit us online for a **FREE** Quote on your Home, Auto, or Flood Insurance.

- Local, expert insurance counsel
- More choice in insurance companies
- True peace of mind
- Insurance the way it's supposed to be



All Your Insurance Needs Under One Roof

Home



Flood



Auto



Motorcycle



Boat



The Smith & Mitchell Agency

(239) 603-8200

www.brightwayondaniels.com



“Weight”ing For The Holidays

Did you know that the average person consumes over 3,000 calories and over 200 grams of fat during Thanksgiving meal? You'd have to walk 30 miles to walk that one off! And that's not including all the snacking that goes on during the day, which can add another 1,500 calories ... or more.

But wait- it gets worse.

According to the Calorie Control Council (CCC) from Thanksgiving through New Years day, the average person will gain 5-10 pounds!

Here are nine simple, common-sense tips to help you with those extra pounds this holiday season:

- 1.EAT LESS.** Pretty self-explanatory! Eat small portions and fewer calories. By cutting calories, you literally “force” your body to bum fat.
- 2.EAT MORE FREQUENTLY.** This is a very important step if you are trying to lose weight. The idea behind meal

frequency is to increase metabolism speed in an effort to burn fat. It's proven and it works!

- 3.EAT PLENTY OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.** Few calories, lots of fiber! The best fiber sources include spinach, greens, green beans, lettuce, cauliflower, and broccoli.
- 4.AVOID REFINED SUGARS.** And beware of how much sugar you are eating- its in most processed foods, not just soda, candy, cookies, and cake.
- 5.AVOID ALCOHOL.** Alcohol is nothing but “empty calories.” This is by far one of the biggest fat producing culprits.
- 6.AVOID LATE NIGHT EATING.** Your metabolism drops at night, storing calories instead of using them! One recent study found that one glass of water shuts down late night hunger pangs of 95% of dieters so ...
- 7.DRINK PLENTY OF WATER.** 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated. And in 73 % of people, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger. Even mild dehydration will slow down your metabo-

By Deanna Catalano, RPh

- lism as much as 3%. Drinking water also helps to reduce water retention from excess sodium.
- 8.AVOID COMPLEX CARBOHYDRATES.** Bread, pasta, potatoes, and rice are all complex carbohydrates. They aren't necessarily sweet, but when broken down by body proteins, they turn right into sugar.
 - 9.EXERCISE.** Get enough exercise to burn additional calories. A 20 minute walk is recommended or 30 minutes of slightly higher-level aerobic exercise every alternate day also works. Exercise is also good for your heart.

*Always consult your physician before you start any diet or exercise program.

We at Apothicare 360 are wishing everyone a safe & healthy Holiday Season.

ABOUT APOTHICARE 360

Apothicare 360 prides itself on being more than just a typical pharmacy.

In addition to doctor-prescribed and over-the-counter medications, Apothicare 360 is an integrative compounding pharmacy, meaning it creates customized pharmaceutical preparations to meet the unique needs of patients who have not found relief with commercial medicines. Their focus is on healthier lifestyles and alternative treatment options, offering personalized service with thousands of customized compounding formulas and the latest in preventative and restorative healthcare products and advice. For more information, please visit: www.apothicare360.com or call (239) 690-7700.

Disclaimer: PLEASE NOTE that prescription medications can be compounded and dispensed to patients only upon receipt of a valid patient-specific prescription. Apothicare 360 cannot compound any prescription medications without a valid patient-specific prescription.

From Hope To Opportunity: Early Childhood Education Brings Optimism To Immokalee

By Dawn Montecalvo

Guadalupe Center recently broke ground on an additional education campus, the second such ceremonial event in as many years. The Van Otterloo Family Campus for Learning will open in early 2022 and will accommodate up to 154 students in the Early Childhood Education Program, as well as 125 high school students in the college-preparatory Tutor Corps Program. In August, Guadalupe Center opened the Monaghan Family Early Childhood Education Campus, which can serve up to 64 students ages 6 weeks to 3 years old.

Once the new campuses are complete, Guadalupe Center will serve more than 1,800 students annually.

When a ribbon-cutting ceremony is held for the van Otterloo campus, Guadalupe Center will simultaneously be celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Early Childhood Education Program. Then, the program offered hope. Today, the program is offering opportunities and a rising sense of optimism.

Below is a look at notes from that board retreat:

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

- Then:* Recruiting was difficult because applicants had limited or no experience in child care, as well as limited education backgrounds.
- Now:* Educational staff have two- and four-year college degrees, and every teaching position is filled with an experienced instructor. Some employees are former Tutor Corps students at Guadalupe Center.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

- Then:* Few families recognized the long-term benefits of early childhood education and were reluctant to register their children, so Guadalupe Center relied on local churches for referrals.
- Now:* The popularity of Immokalee's only NAEYC-accredited program has led to a waiting list that exceeds 500 students.

ENROLLMENT

- Then:* Guadalupe Center initially averaged 34 students daily when the program started in 1996. An expansion raised the capacity to 85 children in the Early Childhood Education Pro-

grams and up to 20 in the After-school Program.

- Now:* With 371 students currently, the Early Childhood Education Program has grown tenfold. Once the van Otterloo campus opens, the program will be 14 times as large as it was in 1996.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

- Then:* Funding was tight and federal subsidies were not easy to obtain on behalf of students.
- Now:* Philanthropy accounts for almost 80% of the annual operating budget. “Guadalupe Center: 2020 & Beyond” nearly met its goal before the fundraising campaign was publicly announced.

As a soup kitchen in the 1980s, Guadalupe Center fed the body. As an education provider today, Guadalupe Center nourishes the mind and is giving energy to Immokalee. Supporters like Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo, along with hundreds of other generous individuals, couples and foundations, have helped create a culture of academic success in Immokalee.

“The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation is proud to support the great work accomplished through the Guadalupe Center,” said Mary Beth Geier, the foundation's Florida director. “Their expansion and continued commitment to early learning is greatly needed and will continue to make a profound impact on the families in Immokalee. We are grateful to have an opportunity to be a part of these life-changing moments in the community!”

The minutes from that board retreat in the late 1990s concluded that Guadalupe Center's quest to provide new educational opportunities to families “who make their home in Immokalee has been filled with the challenges and frustration that come with ‘hills and valleys, sunshine and rain.”

Today, even during these unprecedented times, Guadalupe Center is experiencing blue skies and brilliant sunshine. Generous supporters and hardworking staff are making certain that students receive a high-quality education that will propel them to endless possibilities and a brighter future.



Photo: Dawn Montecalvo, Linda Yost, Rose-Marie Van Otterloo, Joseph Baughman Standing In Front Of The Van Otterloo Family Campus For Learning Building Site.

CUSTOMIZING CARE THROUGH COMPOUNDING

PHARMACY • COMPOUNDING • HEALTH

More than just a Pharmacy!

Nosotros hablamos español.

Bio-Identical Hormone Replacement Therapy • Hormone Therapy For Men
Vitamins & Supplements • Veterinary Compounding • Discount Medication Program
Compounding • Natural Medicine • Pharmacy

Hours: Monday - Friday:
8:30am to 5:30pm

Mail Delivery and Curbside Pickup Available

Get \$5 Off Vitamins & Supplements
When You Spend \$20 or More

Taxes not included. Coupon can only be redeemed in-store. Not available for online purchases. Coupon can be present or mentioned at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limit 1 offer per customer. No Cash Value. Expires 12/31/20.

6631 ORION DRIVE, SUITE 112, FORT MYERS, FL 33912
239-690-7700 | WWW.APOTHICARE360.COM

Happy Holidays!

Pamper Your Loved One with Unbeatable Gift Card Pricing This Holiday Season!

Relaxing One Hour Massage \$57.00

Stress Relieving 1/2 Hour Back Neck & Shoulder Massage \$35.00

Refreshing Deep Cleaning Facial \$55.00

Call ahead to order your gift cards so we can have them ready for you with No Wait Time!

(239) 561-1150 • www.gatewayminispa.com
13120 West Links Terrace #9 | Fort Myers, FL 33913

Fountain Crest Retirement Community in Lehigh Acres, Among First Senior Living Communities to Enroll in CDC's Free COVID-19 Vaccination Program

Submitted By Denise Talt

Fountain Crest Retirement Community in Lehigh Acres, Florida, is among the first local senior living communities to enroll in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) national COVID-19 vaccine program. The CDC has partnered with CVS and Walgreens to provide free of charge, on-site vaccination clinics at senior living communities across the country as soon as a COVID-19 vaccine is approved and becomes available. Following all federal and state guidelines, Fountain Crest, which is operated by Oregon-based and family-owned Sunshine Retirement Living, has contracted with CVS and will offer each of its residents and staff members the option to receive the free vaccine at the community.

"Being among the first senior living companies to participate in this program provides us with anticipated early access to COVID-19 vaccinations and at no-cost to our residents; and is yet another example of our steadfast commitment to the safety and health of each of our residents and staff," said Luis Serrano, CEO, Sunshine Retirement Living. "Based on our partnership with CVS to pro-

vide flu vaccination clinics at our communities across the country, we know we are working with a credible and reliable provider to safely administer this program."

According to the CDC, "the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program provides end-to-end management of the COVID-19 vaccination process, including cold-chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements, to facilitate safe vaccination of this patient population, while reducing burden on long-term care facilities (LTCFs) and jurisdictional health departments." While a COVID-19 vaccination has yet to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the program has been developed to facilitate rapid deployment once a vaccine has been approved.

For more than 10 years, Sunshine Retirement Living has always made the health and safety of its residents and employees its highest priority. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and before federal and local mandates were put in place, the company proactively implemented strict infection prevention measures be-

yond what was recommended by the CDC and other local health agencies. Those heightened safety measures included being among the first senior living companies to purchase and administer FDA-approved tests for COVID-19 and 40 other respiratory diseases for residents and staff, who exhibit any symptoms, to help prevent and mitigate infection.

For more information, please visit www.FountainCrestRetirement.com.

ABOUT SUNSHINE RETIREMENT LIVING

Based in Bend, Ore., Sunshine Retirement Living manages 34 retirement communities across the United States, offering senior apartments, independent living, assisted living and memory care. A family-owned business, Sunshine Retirement Liv-

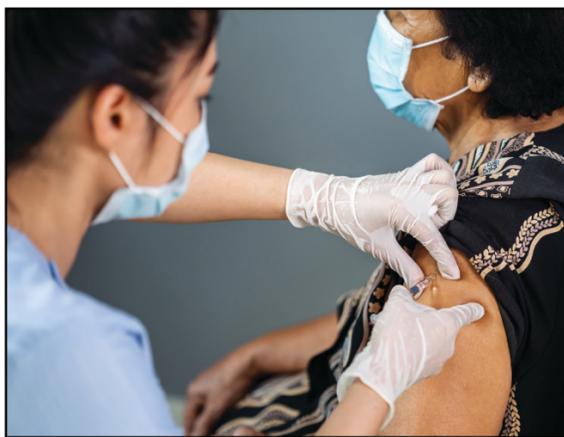


Photo: Doctor administering Vaccine to Senior

ing's mission is to be the preferred senior living provider offering value, choice and independence while promoting health and social interaction that exceeds residents' expectations and enriches the lives of both residents and staff. By providing meals, housekeeping, activities, transportation, utilities and in-house management staff, Sunshine Retirement Living continues to build an unparalleled community feeling in each property. For more information, visit www.SunshineRet.com or connect socially.



All-Inclusive Independent Senior Living

Proudly Announcing ZERO Confirmed Covid-19 Cases*

We are continuing to take every precaution necessary to keep our residents, employees, and touring parties safe.

Make your appointment today and enjoy a complimentary meal
(239) 674-6585

FOUNTAIN CREST
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

*At the time of this advertisement. We cannot guarantee that there are not asymptomatic cases in residents or employees.

1230 Taylor Lane, Lehigh Acres, FL | FountainCrest@SunshineRet.com | FountainCrestRet.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thank you to our valued clients! It has been a pleasure to serve you this year. We wish you a very happy and a prosperous new year!

CHRISTMAS IS HERE!
Find that *Perfect Gift* For Your Special Someone with **Gift Cards and Hair Products from Trendsetters!**

Trendsetters Hair Studio

hair | nails | waxing | packages | gift certificates

Amy | Debbie | Amanda | Brittany | Wendy

11300 Lindbergh Blvd, #108 (next to Norman Love)
www.trendsettersfl.com **239.768.6861**

2 Nice Guys, Inc.
Interior and Exterior Painting

Season's Greetings

Give your home a finished look.
A little paint equals *big* impact!

Beautifying Southwest Florida Since 2003.

Call Today For A Free Consultation
For Your Home Or Business.
Ask About Our Trim Division!

A Family Owned And Operated Business
Committed To Excellence In Craftsmanship
Mention Seeing Our Ad In The Corridor!

A DIVISION OF
2 NICE GUYS, INC.
EST. 2003
Residential and Commercial
Remodel, Trim, Paint

Painting with Unparalleled Quality, Value and Customer Service
2niceguys.net | (239) 690-1479
Licensed & Insured #CGC1526754

Winter Holiday Safety for Pets

The Winter Holidays can be a joyous time for the family. But it can be an extremely dangerous time for your pets. Cats with their curious nature and dogs with their strong sense of smell, cause them both to get into holiday decorations, food, drinks and other folly. Nothing spoils holiday cheer like a trip to your local veterinary emergency clinic during a holiday party or in the middle of the night.

Here are some holiday tips to help keep your pets safe and out of harms way during this holiday season.

1. Keep people food out of the reach of your pets and ask your guests to do the same.
2. Make sure your pet does not have access to foods or sweets, especially those containing chocolate, xylitol, grapes/raisins, onions or other toxic foods.
3. Don't leave your pet alone in the room with lit candles, a decorated tree or potpourri.
4. Keep holiday plants (especially Holly, Pointsettia, Armarylilis, Mistletoe, pine

needles and all Lillies) out of reach of pets.

5. Place lights, wires and batteries out of reach of your pets to avoid electrical shock and burn hazards from chewing on these items.
6. Consider leaving the tinsel off your tree if you have a cat.
7. Secure your Christmas tree to keep it from falling over just in case your dog bumps it or your cat decides to climb it. Hanging lemon-scented car air fresheners in the tree may deter your cat from climbing it.
8. Plan a pet safe holiday gathering by setting house rules for your guest in case they would like to give your pets a little extra attention (table food, treats, etc) and exercise.
9. Put all medications behind secured doors and ask your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away, too.
10. Provide a safe place for your pet(s) to escape the excitement and noise of holiday parties (such as a kennel, crate, perching place, scratching post shelf or hiding place in a quiet areas of the home) if you're entertaining guests. If your pet is excitable or scared, consider putting your pet in

By Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM



Photo: Group of Adorable Puppies Wearing Christmas Hats

another room with some toys and a comfortable bed to snuggle into.

11. Keep your veterinarian's phone number handy in case you have any questions about your pet(s) health during the holiday season or in the event of an emergency.

ABOUT DR. TILLMAN

Dr. Tillman is a 2002 graduate of

Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine. Her veterinary practice and work experience focuses on patients at emergency and critical care centers in Southwest Florida. She is the owner of Just 4 Pets Wellness Center and can be reached at 239-270-5721. For More Information visit: www.just4petsfl.vet

Pizza Shop Continues To Shine, Despite COVID-19 Drawbacks

Gateway's Own Fine Folk Pizza Launches Holiday Initiative

By David Piro

The brains are back at it again. With 2020 being a long year for all, the team knew it was time to bring Fort Myers some good old fashion cheer! Fine Folk Pizza is excited to announce that the 2020 Pizza Santagram is back.

Enter, the PIZZA SANTAGRAM.

"For the 2020 holiday season, our team felt the community needed a fun, creative and unique way to stay safe, but still deliver holiday cheer," said Mike DeNunzio, restaurant consultant and one of the owners of Fine Folk Pizza Fort Myers.

This season, Fine Folk Pizza aims to not just deliver wonderful and delicious award-winning New York-style thin crust pizza, but introduce our Make-At-Home-Pizza-Kit to the whole family! That's right, you can santagram a Pizza-Kit right to anyone this season.

Order a pie, share a special message for the recipient and then sit back and relax. A delivery driver will arrive at the recipient's home wearing a Santa hat and will play a special holiday tune on a festive kazoo before handing over a delicious pizza pie and a personalized holiday card with your message. The best part? A portion of the proceeds from each PIZZA SANTAGRAM will be donated directly to Harry Chapin Food Bank, the largest hunger-relief network in Southwest Florida.

ABOUT FINE FOLK PIZZA

Caputo Cup Champions for Top Non-Traditional Pizza in the USA and "Family Fun Place" featured on America's Funniest Home Videos, Fine Folk Pizza is a locally-owned and operated establishment in Gateway, Florida. Fine Folk Pizza is the sister shop of DeNunzio's Brick Oven Pizza & Grille in Sea Isle City, NJ,

and was established in October 2015 to share their famous New York-style thin crust pizza with the Southwest Florida community. Since opening, Fine Folk Pizza has continued to grow, impact the community, and has brought the National Pizza Trophy home for two years in a row. Fine Folk Pizza is a beloved local business offering free delivery and a famous interactive dough shows for all children dining on-site.

Fine Folk Pizza is available to cater your next event. Fine Folk Pizza offers pizza kits, vegan options, and more. Customers are invited to join the Fine Folk



Photo: Mike Preparing To Perform A Santagram

VIP Rewards Club to earn money back to use on future purchases. VIP's receive a \$10 sign up bonus, \$20 to spend on your birthday, and 1 point matched for every \$1.00 spent on your purchase. Sign up for free at www.finefolkpizza.com/rewards.



Just 4 Pets
WELLNESS CENTER

Promoting Wellness
WELLNESS & SICK PET EXAMS

DENTAL CLEANING AND SURGERY

IN-HOUSE DIAGNOSTICS

CAR SIDE OR IN CLINIC VISITS

COVID CONSCIOUS FULL SERVICE HOSPITAL

APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED TO MAINTAIN
"PHYSICAL DISTANCING"

EXAM ROOMS SANITIZED BETWEEN
APPOINTMENTS

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

December Blood Work Special

Mini Health Screen For Only **\$35**

(Total Value of \$100)

Blood work will evaluate the liver and kidneys and screen for diabetes.

One coupon per family. Must be present at time of service. Cannot be used in conjunction with other discount offers, over the counter products or pet food. Expires December 31, 2020.



Hours of Operation

Mon | Wed | Thurs | Fri : 8 AM to 6 PM

Open First Saturdays Of Every Month, 8am To 12pm

239-270-5721
www.Just4PetsFL.vet

8911 Daniels Parkway, Suite 7 | Fort Myers, FL 33912

USA CAPUTO CUP CHAMPIONS
1ST PLACE - "NON-TRADITIONAL" - TWICE!



Pizza Santagram + **Ho Ho Ho**
= CHEER

GIVE SOMEONE A HOLIDAY PIZZA DELIVERY THEY WON'T FORGET!
ORDER YOUR SANTAGRAM TODAY!

GIVE THE JOY OF PIZZA



There is No Better Gift Than Award Winning Pizza for the Holidays!



Swag GIFTS
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

BONUS: GET A \$5 GIFT CARD FOR EVERY T-SHIRT YOU BUY!
ADD A COPPER PUB CUP FOR ONLY \$7

239.313.5155 • FINEFOLKPIZZA.COM
11300 LINDBERGH BLVD, SUITE 114 • FORT MYERS

T I I S I R F R O S T M R E O U I F E L
 E D I L C E I L N A O F A S E O R Y H T
 S E E T E R S O C H R I S T M A S F A S
 A H B D O H W E O Y E T R H C E S I A O
 A E H H T S R C A H N R E S A A N H T I
 D D E R T P O Y E S S D S T E C S P K S
 O O E O H W D H A L T W N H C T E G R O
 I A R R E N I R L N E S E S N E T T I M
 I M V E I A E E T F W S I E D M C T P R
 L H T W H S B I L R S L E S O A A E D O
 B R S U I H T S L E D C E A C O L D A R
 R L T H G O E C A E L D N A C S A H H H
 E R A I C V I N O Z B O O T S A L H C O
 S B E N S E D E C E M B E R R O E B H P
 O L F T K L L E O L P E K A L F W O N S
 S L D R A E N I A D R A Z Z I L B T A H
 E I O L H E T T N N A T I S I M E N E U
 U H P S N O W P H T I R N A M W O N S S
 F C N O S A E S B P T A O G B D L R T R
 E C A L P E R I F G N R B N C E S E N O

WINTER - WORD SEARCH

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| BLANKET | FIREPLACE | SLED |
| BLIZZARD | FREEZE | SLEIGHBELLS |
| BOOTS | FROST | SNOW |
| CANDLE | HAT | SNOWFLAKE |
| CHILL | ICE | SNOWMAN |
| CHRISTMAS | MITTENS | SNOWSTORM |
| COAT | SCARF | SWEATER |
| COLD | SEASON | WINDY |
| DECEMBER | SHOVEL | |



More To Celebrate!

Dates & descriptions provided by www.holidayinsights.com

December 7 National Cotton Candy Day

Cotton Candy is a popular summertime treat. That being the case, why do we celebrate this day in the middle of December? Good question. The Cotton Candy machine was patented in 1899 by William Morrison and John C. Wharton. They brought it to the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, where it was quite popular. Cotton Candy is a favorite at amusement parks, circuses, fairs, and sports venues. We suggest you create a carnival atmosphere today, as you celebrate National Cotton Candy Day!

December 9 National Pastry Day

National Pastry Day is a fun day, created to encourage you to make, and of course eat, your favorite pastries. Celebrate this day by making pastries. Don't make just one. Creativity is big in the world of pastry making. Be sure to try your hand at creating a new pastry.

December 13 National Ice Cream Day

When you get the urge for a snack on a hot, humid summer night, what's the first thing that comes to your mind? That's right...Ice Cream! Therefore, it's only fitting that ice cream be given its own special day. On this day, we hope you enjoy an ice cream cone, a sundae, or a milk shake. Set the diet aside and splurge a little...have one of each!

December 21 Crossword Puzzle Day

Crossword Puzzle Day is today! We sure hope you find some time this busy holiday season, to complete a crossword puzzle today and every day. It just so happens that crossword puzzles were created and published on this day in 1913. It was published in the New York World newspaper. Arthur Wynne is credited with creating the modern crossword puzzle. These puzzles became so popular, that competitions were held, to see who was the fastest to complete them correctly. Did You Know? Doing crossword puzzles daily is good for memory and mind health.

December 28 Card Playing Day

Card Playing Day is the perfect time to spend an hour or so playing cards with family and friends. Spend the day playing cards with family and friends. If you have kids, make sure to play some age appropriate card games with them. You'll find its quality time with the kids that will create many warm memories. Happy Card Playing Day. Now "go fish", "hit me", "double", and "I'll raise you two!"

December 30 Bacon Day

Bacon Day celebrates crispy strips of salted pork...Bacon! This is a day to thoroughly enjoy bacon at every meal. Snack time, too. It is recommended that you enjoy bacon today in social gatherings. So, go ahead, and have a bacon party!!



Happy Holiday

MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR

From EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS: THE ROAR

Thank you to all our readers and advertisers for a wonderful year!
We look forward to bringing you more local news in 2021!

	4		2	6	9	7	5	
5	6			1	3	4	9	2
9	2				7	8		1
	1	4	5		6	9	8	7
6	8	5	7	9	2	1	3	
	3	9	1	8	4	5		6
8		6	3	4	1	2	7	9
3	7	1			8			5
4	9	2		7	5	3		

PUBLISHER
East Lee County News, LLC | 239-789-2588 | press@eastleenews.com

CONTRIBUTORS
Mike Welch | Sheriff Carmine Marceno | Commissioner Ray Sandelli
Dr. Joseph Torregrassa | Katrina Salokar | Jody Van Cooney | Deanna Catalano, RPH
Dawn Montecalvo | Denise Talt | Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM | David Piro

EDITORIAL BOARD
Katrina Salokar | David Foetisch | Marlene Asta

DISTRIBUTION
East Lee County News is a Direct Mail Publication. Additional copies may be picked up at Lifestyles Healthcare Group and Apothicare 360. Call us for a list of additional pick up locations or stop by our office at:
12801 Commerce Lake Dr, Suite #26, Fort Myers, FL 33913

PRODUCTION • DESIGN
Paradise Creative Group
Marlene Asta

CUSTOMER RELATIONS
David Foetisch

ADVERTISING INFORMATION
EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS, LLC | 239-789-2588
press@eastleenews.com | eastleenews.com

Want to be in The Roar?

If you're interested in contributing...
Ops-Eds // Press Releases // Recipes (Food or Beverage)
Please email press@eastleenews.com.

If you would like to advertise & have your business promoted to over 62k+ Residents email press@eastleenews.com.

The East Lee County News is a monthly publication for the residents in its distribution area. We utilize material contributed by the readers, organizations, and public relations professionals as a reporting service only. The East Lee County News is not responsible for inaccuracies or errors that may be contained in such material. Articles are printed in as timely a fashion as deadlines allow and on a space available basis. Goods or services advertised within this publication are not endorsed, warranted or guaranteed by the East Lee County News, LLC. Submissions: You may submit your piece to the newspaper to consider for publication. All submissions must be made in a modifiable computer file and emailed to: press@eastleenews.com and voicesoftehigh@gmail.com. The submissions must include your name, full residential address (no post office boxes), your telephone number, your occupation and a short description of your background. By transmitting your piece to press@eastleenews.com and voicesoftehigh@gmail.com you agree to the following Copyright Statement: I have not submitted this writing to any other publication. I have used my own words and ideas in this writing and agree that the newspaper may edit my writing for publication, redistribution and commercial rights to my writing without royalty or other compensation.

BUSINESS BILLBOARD

To place your ad in the Business Billboard call us at 239-789-2588



DELIVERY PICK-UP/TAKE-OUT
 Delivery Area Includes: Gateway, The Forum, Buckingham And Most Of Lehigh
(239) 491-2203
11:00am-10:00pm
 Tuesday-Sunday | Closed Mondays

4316 Lee Blvd, Unit 7 | Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 491-2203 | www.lehighyummy.com



PROFESSIONAL PRESSURE WASHING
 We Kill ALL the Mold!
 Ask About Our **\$99.00** Specials!!
 Owner **MATTHEW RYAN**
239 645-9834
 FREE ESTIMATES
 Quality Service Guaranteed • Licensed & Insured

CAMPION LANDSCAPING & GRADING
(239) 872-3228 • (239) 543-2288
 Top Soil • Fill Dirt • Grading
 Lot/Acreage Mowing
 Shell • Stone
 Erosion Control • Culvert Pipes
 Driveways/Roads
 Asphalt Patch/Seal
 Land Clearing
 Holes Along Seawalls
 Invasive & Exotic Removal
 Solutions to Pooling Water
SEALCOATING
ALWAYS FREE ESTIMATES!
WWW.CAMPIONLANDSCAPE.COM

Open the Door and see what **Cabinet Restylers** can do for you!
Dan Biggs
 Telephone **(239) 369-8859**
 Cell Phone **(239) 910-7081**
 Licensed & Insured
 Comp. # CB0000859

Ft. Myers Beef Jerky
239-791-8267
 12951 Metro Parkway #12
 Fort Myers, FL, 33966
 HOURS: **Mon - Fri: 10am - 6pm**
Sat: 10am - 4pm • Sun: Closed
SAVE \$1.00
 Off a Half Pound Package
 Offer Expires on 12/31/20
 Not to be combined with any other offers.

At-Home Fitness Services • Personal Training
 Small Group Training • Fitness Programming
HAMMERHEAD FITNESS SOLUTIONS
 Corporate Health & Fitness • Team Sports Performance
 Training • Fitness Consultation/Assessments

AIR & HEAT DYNAMICS
 AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING • POOL HEATING
 REPAIR • UPDATE • MAINTAIN
 WATER HEATER • HEAT RECOVERY
Yes, We Clean Dryer Vents! *Luis E.*
(239) 210-1688
 Lic. # CAC1815527 *Si Hablamos Español*

Get a FREE game of bowling at
 **Gator Lanes**
 239-939-0048
 1901 Crystal Drive
when you sign up to receive our e-Newspaper and get offers at eastlenews.com/deals.
 To redeem your Free Game you'll be invited to log in to Gator Lanes new Online Rewards Center. One Game per Person. Conditions apply.

"Make Old Concrete Look New Again"
 **Robert McGray**
 New Concrete Slabs as well as Resurfacing of Driveways, Pool Decks and Car Ports
 •Block Work •Texture Crete
 •Pavers •Spray Crete
 •Stucco •Acid Rains
Decorative Concrete & Design
 Serving the Lee County Area for 35 years **239-850-6722**
 Licensed & Insured | Lee Co#CW000059 | Cape Coral#04118

Lehigh Aluminum Inc.
CALL US FOR YOUR STORM REPLACEMENT NEEDS
Jim (239) 940-2074
 • Entryway
 • Screen Rooms
 • Pool Enclosures
 • Garage Screens
 • Soffits
 • Siding Gutters
 • Storm Protection
 LIC #AW000020
Quality Work and Affordable Prices
Serving Lehigh Acres Since 1989

Lic # CFC 1427448 Residential & Commercial
TPK INC Plumbing
Your Total Plumbing Company
 Faucets • Disposals • Water Heaters
 Drain/Sewer Stoppages
OFFICE: (239) 369-0404
TIM: (239) 910-1257
JOE: (239) 297-5730
STEVEN: (239) 464-1149
Tim P. Katz | TPKPlumbing@embarqmail.com

SCREEN MACHINE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
SCREEN REPAIR SPECIAL Tops are only... **\$60⁰⁰** each | Sides are only... **\$40⁰⁰** each
10% Discount on Complete Re-Screen!
 \$150 Minimum Job / 2 Year Warranty Included

CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
(239)898-3528
 Licensed & Insured
Bringing You 20 Years of Experience!

BRING Just A Little Magic TO YOUR NEXT EVENT!
 Enjoy affordable, family-friendly fun by inviting a charming character to entertain your party guests!
 PRINCESSES • SUPERHEROES
 UNICORNS • DINOS • FAIRIES
 SWIMMING MERMAIDS & MORE!
CALL TO BOOK TODAY!
239-264-3141
WWW.JUSTALITTLEMAGIC03.COM

V&M ROOFING SHINGLES • TILE METAL • FLAT ROOFS
 State Certified & Insured CCC1327350
HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE! Is Your Roof Ready?
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
Call Us Today For You FREE Roof Inspection
Victor (239)201-5108
Mike (239)810-1236

IS IT TIME TO REVIEW YOUR WEBSITE?

PARADISE Creative
OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE!
 Full-Service Marketing and Advertising on Sanibel, Ft. Myers Beach in Fort Myers & Lehigh Acres, FL
 12801 COMMERCE LAKES DR SUITE #26 FORT MYERS, FL 33913
239.908.4581
PARADISECREATIVEGROUP.COM

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

CONCRETE:	ALUMINUM:	REMODELING:	ROOFING:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PATIOS SPRAYCRETE DRIVEWAYS PAVERS DECK RESURFACING DECK STAINS PRESSURE CLEANING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCREEN ENCLOSURES INSULATED ROOFS ACRYLIC WINDOWS POOL ENCLOSURES SOFFIT & FASCIA GUTTERS STORM PANELS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KITCHENS BATHS FLOORING PAINTING WINDOWS DOORS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REPAIRS & RE-ROOFS TILE - METAL - SHINGLE TROPICAL ROOFING PRODUCTS SILICONE ROOF COATINGS

CALL RON (239) 872-2343

Turn Key Home Services, Inc.
 State Certified Contractor
 General CGC 061711 Roofing CCC057370
 VA APPROVED CONTRACTOR



Charlie Bonacolta

Broker/Salesman
"A House Sold Name"
239-994-1062

E-MAIL ADDRESS
Charlisold@gmail.com
www.charliesold.com



*Over 36 Years
Combined Experience!*

**Realty World
C. Bagans First
30 Colorado Road
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936**

BUYERS BEWARE: Some Realtors may be charging you transaction fees when you purchase your home. Realty World does not charge transaction fees. Please call Realty World and save some money at closing.

Nick Bonacolta



Salesman
E-MAIL ADDRESS
nbonacolta@gmail.com

Facebook.com/
NickBonacoltaRW

**(239)
887-0468**



2 Bedroom 2 Bath In East Greens 1690 Sq. Ft. Of Living Area

Popular East Greens Villa with common pool/spa just walking distance to the golf course. This end unit is 1690 square feet of living area with plenty of extra space, two family rooms, possible third bedroom or den, enclosed screened lanai, new roof in 2016, roll down storm shutters, ceramic tile and wood laminate floors throughout, extra large indoor laundry room with plenty of extra cabinets, laundry tub etc, breakfast bar and pantry in kitchen with all appliances, central water and sewer, covered carport parking. 55+ Community.

Offered At **\$130,000**

Charlie Bonacolta 239-994-1062 charlisold@gmail.com



Affordable 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Pool Home with A Den

One of the lowest priced pool homes in Lehigh! Updated 3 bedroom 2 bath + den with large below ground pool. Over 1,600 sq ft of living area! City water and city sewer, Upgrades galore with tile throughout the home, granite counter-tops, new soft close kitchen cabinets, re-tiled bathrooms, new AC in 2017, large shed with window unit AC that could be converted into living space, indoor laundry room with laundry tub, breakfast bar in kitchen, walk in closets in master bedroom with private bathroom, fenced backyard, large wooden deck in backyard for entertaining by the pool.

Offered At **\$224,900**

Nick Bonacolta 239-887-0468 nbonacolta@gmail.com



3 Bedroom 2 Bath In Country Club Estates 2066 Square Feet Of Living Area

2066 square feet of living area in this 3 bedroom 2 bath, beautifully landscaped yard in Country Club Estates with central water and sewer, large driveway with side entry oversized double garage, fenced backyard, screened lanai with hot tub, pocket sliding doors from the interior of the home and pool bath access, brand new front door with sidelight, formal living and dining room, wood plank tile floors, large family room with skylight and wet bar, new dimensional shingle roof in 2014, new electrical panel box in 2020, new water heater in 2020, granite tops and newer cabinets with soft close doors, drawers and lazy susan in kitchen with breakfast bar, pantry and Samsung stainless steel appliances, master bedroom with access to lanai, walk in closet and private bath with dual sinks, jacuzzi tub and separate shower with wood plank tile accents, extra large guest bedroom, indoor laundry room with washer and dryer, extra cabinets and countertops, excellent move in condition.

Offered At **\$235,000**

Charlie Bonacolta 239-994-1062 charlisold@gmail.com



Brand New Home In North of Oakwood Community

Brand New Home - Completely done and ready to move in located just north of the Oakwood Community behind Perkins, 3 bedroom 2 bath with den that may be used as 4th bedroom, French Doors to the den for privacy, CERAMIC TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE HOME, double door front entry with covered porch lead to large great room, cathedral ceilings, plant shelves, white shaker cabinets with soft close doors and drawers, granite tops in kitchen and baths, stainless steel appliance package, master bedroom with tray ceiling, walk in closet, private bath with dual sinks and tiled walk in shower, glass tile accents in bathrooms, excellent location on an oversized lot at the end of a dead end street overlooking the Able Canal. Minutes to I-75 and Ft Myers.

Offered At **\$249,900**

Charlie Bonacolta 239-994-1062 charlisold@gmail.com



The Real Estate Market has been VERY BUSY. We are SELLING OUT of existing inventory. If you are thinking about selling your home or condo, please call Charlie or Nick TODAY.

HONEST, DEPENDABLE & FRIENDLY SERVICE



Kevin Williamson



Nancy Williamson



Matthew Williamson

4 Bedroom Courtyard Pool Home with 3.5 Baths

Incredible 4 bedroom courtyard pool home with 3 and 1/2 baths. The salt water pool is electric heated. Pool cabana is connected to the outside kitchen with BBQ grill, fridge and bar and has it's own full bath and walk-in closet. As you enter the house by the front door you are greeted with the sound of waterfall at the pool and beauty of planters with native greenery. Entering the house itself, you walk into the beautiful living room with the formal dining area as well. The master bedroom is on the first floor with large walk-in closets, beautiful master bath with soaking tub and dual vanities. The island kitchen has tons of room, walk-in pantry, granite countertops, commercial sized built-in refrigerator and freezer, 2 wall ovens, electric cooktop and microwave. There is a room with stage and special lighting/sound right off of the kitchen and then the family room with high vaulted ceilings is next. All these rooms open right out to the screened pool area and tons of light comes in all day. Upstairs are two more bedrooms with private porches. The entire house has high ceilings, upgraded fixtures, remote lighting with dimmers, tall baseboards and the downstairs has crown molding.

Kevin Williamson 239-910-4487

email: kevnaninc@gmail.com

Great Price! \$729,900



2 Bedroom 2 Bath Home On Oversized Lot

Spacious 2 bedroom and 2 bath home on an oversized lot. Large living and dining rooms with an extra large pantry in kitchen with additional counter space. Beautiful wood floors and new carpet in both bedrooms. Separate work shop or crafting room that is under air. Two separate sheds in the back yard along with a small garden area and avocado tree. Plumbing and roof are inspected annually by these meticulous owners.

Matthew Williamson 239-910-5256

email: mwilliamsonrealtor@gmail.com

Great Price! \$149,900



SELLERS

Now is the time to Sell Your Home! Interest rates are at an all time low and the buyers are out there looking for a new home. Our professional team of REALTORS® is ready to get you the best dollar for your house. Then you can move up, move down or just move away.

CALL US TODAY!



C. Bagans First

**Nancy Williamson
(239) 910-4487
kevnaninc@gmail.com**

**Matthew Williamson
(239) 910-5256**

mwilliamsonrealtor@gmail.com

BUYERS

The interest rates are so incredibly low that you can afford to buy a home more than you can afford the rent. Please give us a call today to find out your home's value (free) or to set up appointments with lenders so we can find you your true dream home.

C. Bagans First • 30 Colorado Road • Lehigh Acres, FL 33936
View Our Listings On Line At: www.TheWilliamsonTeam.com

