

# WEST FLORIDA

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

JULY 2022  
VOLUME 03  
ISSUE 07

## EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS | DANIELS CORRIDOR

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

### Celebrating America!

By Butch Swank - butch@goodladandswank.com



Photo: Butch Swank, President of Southwest Florida Business Alliance; Owner of Goodlad & Swank Insurance, LLC

I love July 4th! It is my favorite holiday of the year. I know, I know – what about Christmas or Thanksgiving? Listen, I am a human too for the love of Pete! Of course, I love those other holidays. It is just something hard for me to define about the Fourth on why it's my favorite, but I will try. It's consistently raining again, and all the plants around Florida are green, happy, and blooming. Summer thunderstorms are beautiful, scary, impressive, and normally brief. Fish are biting left and right. My silly yellow lab, Bo, loves fireworks and literally tries to eat them. He insists that we have him outside with us when we're doing our little fireworks show and he must be on a leash. Why? I was not joking when I said he wants to eat flaming fireworks. My other dog, Humphrey, is a labradoodle that we got as a rescue when he was about three. Humphrey cowers under my bed like a normal

dog does during fireworks – but not Bo, he's out there with us and he's drooling. Memorial Day is still a bit of a somber day for me and, I am sure, lots of others. That day we, as a nation, pause to honor and remember those who died to ensure we can continue to enjoy our freedom. The Fourth of July on the other hand, is basically just a giant party celebrating the day our brave founders successfully won their war to pursue their own dreams and gave birth to the greatest nation on Earth. The Fourth offers so many positives, both looking backward with fond memories of the past and forward to what excitement lies ahead. We are so truly blessed to live in America, and I am filled with gratitude to live here with all my fellow Americans. And of course, so is Bo!

I wanted to share that I met with the Lee County Economic Development Office recently and learned about a helpful program that many small businesses can use. It has two components and is primarily aimed at businesses operating in lower-income areas. One part is a technical assistance

program that puts a business owner or manager together with an advisor. They review the business and look for specific ways to accelerate the growth of income, customers, and employees. The advisor then has the ability to recommend a grant (it is a grant and not a loan which means it is not repaid) to help the business and the grant amounts go up to \$20,000. So, this is a big deal and I hope local businesses take part. The other component of the program aims to help small businesses affected by Covid-19. They offer training and scholarships for programs heavily in demand in Southwest Florida like health care, real estate, construction, and technology. That is a very broad spectrum of businesses that can benefit from having a better-skilled workforce. One more thing, this one is a grant too, so I see nothing but upside for the businesses that pursue this. You can find out specifics by going to the Lee County Economic Development website which is www.leegov.com/arpa/workforce. You can also call their office at 239-338-3161 and ask for Tatum Walker.

I feel compelled to remind business owners and managers that our next Southwest Florida Business Alliance meeting is July 21st at Victory Church from 11 am to 1 pm. We have had to change venues because our meetings have gotten so large. What a cool problem to have! This meeting will be amazing because we have a real-life billionaire, George Schaeffer of OPI Nails, speaking about how he managed to grow a small dental filling company into the most successful nail polish company in the world. This is a remarkable chance to hear his challenges and triumphs and apply these lessons to your own business. We have a tremendous group of people attending these meetings and you will come away from it with great new friends and real-world knowledge to make yourself even more successful. You must register in advance for the meeting. To do so, please go to our website: www.swflbusinessalliance.com

I hope everyone has a fantastic Fourth of July and God Bless America!!!



### Celebrate the Fourth of July Safely

By Chief DiLallo

Every Fourth of July, your local first responders encourage you to leave dangerous fireworks to the professionals. While most public firework displays canceled, our message on safety remains the same. Fireworks are dangerous, and the increase in small displays at home this holiday weekend could lead to more injuries.

Even though we all feel familiar with firework safety and their use, they still represent one of the most dangerous holiday traditions in our country. The Consumer Product Safety Commission recently reported 2,600 fireworks-related emergency department visits occurred involving children around the Fourth of July.

Although fireworks that explode or shoot into the air also pose a significant danger, many of those 2,600 injuries were from "sparkler" fireworks that you can buy at the local grocery store. Sparklers can burn at temperatures of more than 1,000 degrees! Considering that these are often casually given to children to wave with little warning or instruction, it is easy to understand how these injuries occur. For young children, consider safer alternatives such as confetti poppers, glow sticks, or streamers.

The Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District understands the desire to celebrate the Fourth of July with family and friends. If choosing

to celebrate with fireworks, outdoor grills, or campfires, follow these safety tips:

- Light fireworks in a cleared area free of vegetation or dry debris
- Clear debris from around campfires, grills and all fire sources
- Remove debris from any location where fireworks could land
- Always have a water source available
- Aim fireworks away from people, homes and wooded areas
- Never use homemade fireworks
- Discard used fireworks in a

- bucket of water
- Store unused fireworks, matches, and lighters out of the sight and reach of children
- Never leave a fire unattended and ensure it is completely out before leaving it
- Report any fire immediately to 9-1-1.

Holiday weekends are a perfect opportunity to enjoy time with loved ones, but it is important to keep safety in mind to prevent an injury. If you plan to use fireworks during your celebration, use caution and be responsible. No amount of fun is worth the safety of your friends and family.



Pelicans Roost

THE PERFECT...ISLAND...BEACH...ESCAPE

GULF FRONT CONDO STAYCATION

• Security of Location • Private Pool  
• Lighted Tennis/Pickleball Courts  
**ONLY 20 UNITS!**

(239) 472-2996 | www.sanibelgulffrontcondos.com | 605 Donax St Sanibel, FL 33957

**GOODLAD & SWANK**  
INSURANCE, LLC

WHY NOT INSURE IT ALL UNDER ONE ROOF?

FLOOD

HOME

AUTO

LIFE

BUSINESS

BOAT

**Providing you with the highest levels of Customer Service in our Community.**

**The Goodlad & Swank Approach - 3 Steps of Service**

1. Ask great questions and listen closely to our clients.
2. Shop Florida's top insurance carriers for best rates and coverage.
3. Craft a comprehensive insurance plan to cover what matters most.

**Capability. Commitment. Community.**  
*Call for a Free Quote*

**239-674-7630 | www.goodladandswank.com**  
702 Leeland Heights Blvd W Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

The **COIN SHOP**  
ESTATE JEWELRY

Specializing in rare coins. Graded & Numismatic.

**COINS**

**GOLD**

**TOP DOLLAR For Coins & Gold**

**(239) 672-4003 • House Calls Available!**  
9230 Daniels Pkwy Suite 103 Fort Myers FL 33912

**THECOINSHOPSWFL.com**



# Smart Cities: Managing Garbage with Technology

By Terri Lewis



No matter what city we live in, people produce garbage. So how do we deal with it responsibly and cost effectively? That's where we again turn to technology, as part of Smart City strategies, to help responsibly and cost effectively manage waste.

Technology is positively helping to transform the management of waste. If we explore what's happening, let's start by thinking about waste by three different sources or value of waste:

Stuff you want to get rid of, but it might be worth something to someone else. This is the stuff you try to sell or donate. In the past, the avenues to connect with future buyers/users was through consignment shops, advertising in classified section of the local paper, garage sales, or donations to non-profits, churches, etc. While all of these options still exist, there has been exponential growth in new internet options like eBay, Amazon, Etsy, Craigslist, Meta (Facebook) Marketplace, etc.

eBay alone has a gross merchandise annual volume of over \$87+ Billion. For those wanting to donations, eBay started eBay Giving Works in 2003, raising over \$500M for charities. Not bad for a company started in 1995. While on-line

sales and donations of used goods is not a city government driven change, the internet has helped reduce the amount of waste going to local landfills.

Stuff that has no value to anyone, e.g your typical home or business garbage that the county provides services for pick-up and disposal. For Lee County, the major providers for pick-up services are Waste Pro and Waste Management. Waste Pro announced in June 2021 the addition of trucks to their fleets, loaded with technology like Advanced Driver-Assistance which has controls and software for correction of oversteering/understeering, rollover stability controls, forward collision warning, automatic emergency braking, blind spot detection, blind spot warnings.....wow (more tech than in many cars)! You'll notice too, the robotic arms on both companies' trucks, which pick up and dump garbage cans into the trucks. This replaces the one or two people who used to manually do this, riding around hanging on the back of the garbage truck. With a labor shortage in the industry, it's a great technology enhancement to replace physically demanding, very tough jobs. The waste industry has many examples of use of technology to improve safety and productivity of workers.

The last focus is on roadside trash. According to a 2020 study by Keep America Beautiful, litter in the US totaled about 50 billion pieces of litter, or about 152 items/person, and 2,000 pieces/mile. It's was comprised of over 800 million pieces of fast-food packaging, 2.6 billion food packing pieces, 350 million plastic bags, with twice as much of the beverage containers from alcoholic beverages than non-alcoholic. It's the litter that lines our streets, pollutes our beaches or blows into our yards. And it's expensive to clean up. It's sad to see this kind of garbage in a beautiful area like Lee County.

Keep Lee County Beautiful (KLCB) as Lee County's largest volunteer-based community action and education organization, is working to prevent roadside trash through education, but also in assisting in remediation. KLCB is embracing technology by encouraging the use of the Clean Swell app, developed with the Ocean Conservancy.

The app allows each of us to be part of the solution. You can record trash that you collect, share your results via social media (encouraging friends to help), see the total weight of the trash you've collected, and helps you be part of a global movement to keep beaches, waterways

and the ocean trash free. It allows community leaders to know exactly what is littering our community and where it's happening. Analyzing the data, government and community can take tangible action to help prevent it.

The other cool technology that KLCB is embracing is Be-Bot, the beach cleaning robot. Its 100% electric, remote controlled robot that sifts the sand at the surface level, collecting some of the toughest most littered garbage to collect; cigarette butts and bottle caps. Plans are to have the Be-Bot in Lee County in the fall.

Smart Cities are using technology to manage garbage more efficient, safer and at lower costs. Next time you see your waste professional making the rounds to collect your garbage, thank them. If you have something you want to get rid of, but not worn out, look at the different options available to sell or donate. There are many in the area who are in need. And lastly, as we approach the 4th of July, a day of pride of our country, download the Clean Swell app and take your kids or other family members on an adventure to help pick up some of the road waste. It can be a fun, educational, experience to help make Lee County a more beautiful place to live. 🐾

# Our Real Estate Market Is Changing

By Amy Admire

Have you ever noticed that real estate has always been a big topic of conversation? It really is interesting, isn't it? The next time you're in a public place like a restaurant or coffee shop...listen. You'll likely hear a conversation about real estate.

Think of everything we have witnessed over the years. We have watched the housing prices go up in 2005 then crash in 2007, plummeting home values to next to nothing. Who would have ever thought you could buy a single family home for \$30,000? Values slowly crept back up over the years and people began to get their equity back. Now we have watched the craziness of this sellers market with super low inventory which caused multiple offers which caused sky rocketing prices. Buyers were giving sellers almost anything to win the bid.

We haven't seen a market like this in a really long time.

Finally after 2 years in this crazy sellers market, things are changing. The crazy rate hikes kinda started it all, right? If the interest rates are higher, that means peoples mortgages are higher which means peoples buying power is lower. Whew that was a mouthful! Basically with these interest rate hikes, buyers can't afford the the same home today that they could just 4 months ago and because of this, homes are taking longer to sell and sellers are forced to decrease the prices get them sold.

We are seeing price reductions coming through everyday. Longer days on market and more homes are available. Sound familiar? Yep sounds like we are heading back to a buyers market. It's

happening. The market is beginning to turn. Great news for all the buyers who have been writing offer after offer, going against multiple offers every time and losing out.

There may be sellers out there that have been waiting to sell to see if the prices keep going up. There is no crystal ball to tell the exact future of what's ahead but we do know there are changes happening and there is still plenty of equity for sellers right now. If you're one of those sellers wondering.. give us a call. And to those of you who were waiting for the market to cool down to purchase your next home, it's safe to come out

## ABOUT SOUTHWEST FLORIDA HOMES TEAM

Amy Admire and Catherine Van Til are

the dynamic duo behind the Southwest Florida Homes Team within Coldwell Banker. You can visit the Southwest Florida Homes Team at the Coldwell Banker office at 7950 Dani Dr #125 Fort Myers, FL 33966 or online at: [www.SouthWestFloridaHomesTeam.com](http://www.SouthWestFloridaHomesTeam.com). Call (239) 990-2023, or email: [SouthwestFloridaHomesTeam@gmail.com](mailto:SouthwestFloridaHomesTeam@gmail.com).

Join the team at their special ribbon-cutting event on July 29th from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Coldwell Banker office 7950 Dani Dr #125 Fort Myers, FL 33966. In addition to the ribbon-cutting, the team will also be hosting a Business Before Breakfast Networking event on July 14th from 7:30 am to 9:30 am at Coldwell Banker office. 🐾

# Women's Montage Club

By Rita Artwohl

The Montage Women's Club is a social and philanthropic club open to all women residing in Lee County. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at The Landings Yacht, Golf, and Tennis Club (community entry off McGregor Blvd between Cypress Lake Drive and College Pkwy). Meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. with a short social period followed by lunch at Noon and normally an informative speaker program. Within the organization are various interest groups for members' participation. Membership is open to both year-round and seasonal residents. We welcome you to visit Montage for a luncheon.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 28, and our speaker will be Jessica Goodall from Eva's Closet. Jessica has a Master's degree in Social Work from Florida

Gulf Coast University (FGCU). Jessica founded Eva's Closet and Foundation in early 2016 which provides essential items and financial assistance at no cost to children and families in need in SWFL as well as case management and referral services. Eva's Closet aids, on average, 1,000 individuals each month. Jessica was awarded the FGCU Alumni of Distinction in 2019 and was recognized by Gulfshore Business for their under 40 Award.

Luncheon fee is \$28.00 per person and the planned menu will be Grilled Chicken Breast Salad with pecans and Vinaigrette dressing, rolls and butter, and Chef's choice of dessert. The optional plant-based/vegan menu will be Quinoa Bowl with roasted vegetables, and fresh fruit for dessert. 🐾



**SWFLBA**  
SWFL BUSINESS ALLIANCE

**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
SUMMER 2022

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER**  
**GEORGE W. SCHAEFFER**  
Founder of dominant global consumer brand OPI® Nails, and Chairman and CEO of People's Trust Insurance.

**THURSDAY, JULY 21ST**  
**11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

**VICTORY CONFERENCE CENTER**  
1201 Taylor Lane, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

**RSVP TO (239)470-5611 OR SIGN UP ONLINE!**

**SWFLBUSINESSALLIANCE.COM**

## Gateway Dental Suites

# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

We Are Here To Take Care Of ALL Your Dental Needs

Private practice taking care of Lee County Smiles for 39 years.

### GATEWAY DENTAL SUITES COUPON

**\$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: July 31, 2022  
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.

**Gateway Dental Suites**

**Make Your Appointment Today**

Mon-Thur: 8:00am to 5:00pm | Fri: 8:00am to 12:00pm (Noon)  
Sat: 8:00am to 2:00pm | Se Habla Español

**(239) 561-0002**

[www.gatewaydentalsuites.com](http://www.gatewaydentalsuites.com)

**11300 Lindbergh Blvd. #101 Fort Myers, Florida 33913**



# Bringing The Community Together With Love Lehigh By Charlene Golden

Last year's Easter Egg Hunt at Christ United Methodist Church sparked the formation of a whole new organization for the people and groups of Lehigh Acres.

Love Lehigh is now an organization for groups in the area to come together and share information on their events and programs, and even build off of what others are doing. It was found at the egg hunt that many groups had the same goals and were doing the same types of things with no knowledge of each other.

"We share what we are doing and how we can help each other," said the church's administrator Charlene Golden. "We didn't realize that we were all doing activities on the same day or duplicating activities. We are building on each other."

An example of this was groups such as churches, Kiwanis, Rotary, and Lehigh Community Services found that they were duplicating each other's ideas, and now can collab to make the events even stronger.

There are approximately 30 groups invited to Love Lehigh's meetings held February, May, and August to share their activities.

"We are here for the community, especially for families with children," said Golden. "Lehigh Acres is growing, and the community is not aware of what is available right here. Any other service organizations that want to join us, they are welcome to the next meeting."

At our last meeting, two young men

from Life Designers with the goal of starting up a financial help group came to see how they could fit into the community and how they can help. Pastor Nick Yantorn and his family ministry team from Rise Christian Church also attended. Pastor Nick is interested in collaborating with the organizations that have food pantries after finding out that many organizations offer this service in Lehigh Acres.

Goodwill, who is working on expanding their Job Link services, also has attended. They are working on helping with immigration papers and literacy classes for the community, according to Golden.

Another example of how meetings bring people together, Christ United Methodist Church is in the planning stages with the YMCA to provide an after-school program in the fall with the idea of possibly establishing a summer camp program as well.

Golden explained how she wanted to bring the sense of community back into Lehigh. She said when she first moved here 24 years ago, information about what was happening was easy to find, and she wants to bring that aspect back for the future of the community.

At the meetings, people can bring flyers, brochures, and business cards to give out and share. The most recent meeting lasted about two hours as people stayed to network with each other. "We had a really good time," Golden said.

One group involved in Love Lehigh, Lehigh Community Services attends the

meetings looking for assistance for their various projects, such as their backpack event in June. Other people caught the interest and decided to help out with the Rotary Club's Rock, Brews, and Blues event.

The Sheriff's Department and Lehigh Acres Fire Department had flyers on summer programs for youth that they

sponsor and summer safety tips.

Mark your calendars for the next Love Lehigh meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 9 at Christ United Methodist Church, 1430 Homestead Rd. N. Bring your list of activities from August through January, especially your fall and Christmas events. For more information, call (239) 369-1433 or email admin@christumclehigh.org. 🐾

**LIGHTHOUSE RESORT Inn & Suites**  
1051 Fifth Avenue | Fort Myers Beach, Florida

**WHERE LAZY DAYS Turn Into Epic Nights!**

In the heart of the exciting Times Square entertainment district, just steps from the Gulf of Mexico, fishing pier, shopping and dining.

LighthouseIslandResort.com | 239-463-9392 | 800-778-7748

**31 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 **\$40<sup>99</sup>**  
\* Oil disposal additional cost

**Full Synthetic Oil Change**  
includes 5 quarts of oil and a filter **\$70<sup>99</sup>**  
\* Oil disposal additional cost

**Pure Power Automotive Diagnostics**

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

**410 Leonard Blvd N. Unit 4  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971**

**239-851-5352**

**Front or Rear Brake Job**

**CARS \$235.00** **TRUCKS, VANS, SUVs \$275.00**

Excludes over 3/4 Ton or larger Trucks. Disc brakes only. Rotors Included. Offer expires 7/31/22

Owner Michael Stanek

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

We Sell, Lease and Buy Commercial & Residential Properties

**"We Are Lehigh"**

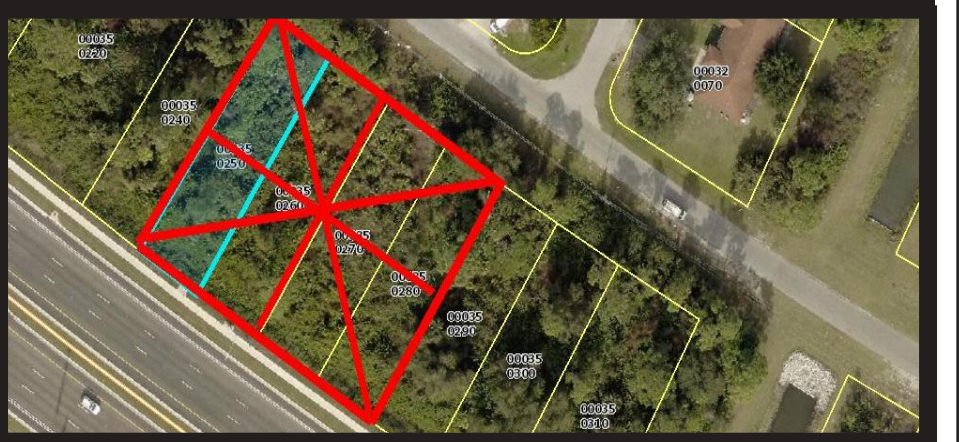
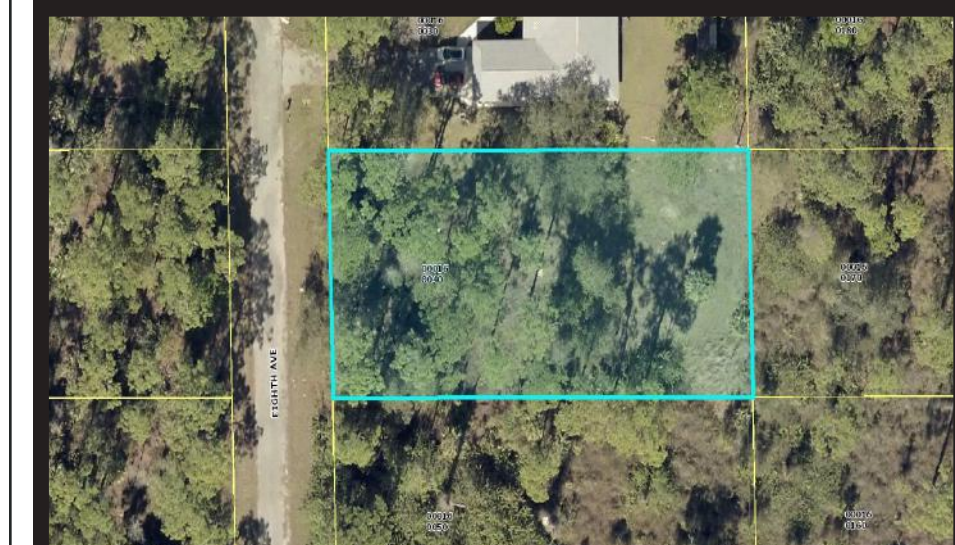
25 Homestead Rd N. #11  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

Licensed Real Estate Broker  
**Phone: (239) 368-6080**  
e-mail: jack.morse36@gmail.com

**Lehigh Showcase PROPERTIES, INC.**

**368-6080**

**DON'T LET JULY GO BY WITHOUT BUYING PROPERTY!**



**Half-Acre Lot on Eighth Avenue**  
near to Joel and Richmond.  
Next to Large Home. Quiet Street.

Call Jack Morse (239) 218-3618 For More Information

**5 lot Commercial Zoned PARCEL** Across from GATEWAY COMMUNITY- Only **\$149,900**. Great Location!

Call Jack Morse (239) 218-3618 For More Information

**GATEWAY Area: 4 LOT PARCEL** on Immokalee Rd. Only **\$99,000**.

Call Jack Morse (239) 218-3618 For More Information

**\$3.2 MILLION Plus CLOSED This YEAR!**

**WE get RESULTS! Call to see if YOUR properties can fit into our Programs!**

**CALL OR TEXT: 239-218-3618.**

**Room for one or two Experienced Residential AGENTS! Up to 90% Commissions. E & O Provided! Photography Included! No Desk Fees! Text, In Confidence, Jack Morse, Broker @ 239-218-3618**

**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.



PRESENTED BY  
**VICTORY TOWN CENTER**

SUPPORTED BY VICTORY CHURCH AND  
SWFL BUSINESS ALLIANCE - EAST LEE CHAPTER

2ND ANNUAL  
**4TH OF JULY**

**FIREWORK SHOW**

**FREEDOM FEST**

VICTORY TOWN CENTER & VICTORY CHURCH

MUSIC • FOOD • BEVERAGES • FOOD CONTESTS & AWARDS • VENDORS • ACTIVITIES

**TIME: 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

**FREE EVENT**

[WWW.VICTORYTOWNCENTER.COM](http://WWW.VICTORYTOWNCENTER.COM)

1201 TAYLOR LN EXT,  
LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936

(Behind the Burger King)



**A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!**

**SZELIGA IMAGERY**  
WE SEE YOU AS A WORK OF ART  
[www.szeligaimagery.com](http://www.szeligaimagery.com)  
(305) 303-8169

**GOODLAD & SWANK**  
INSURANCE, LLC  
A Member of State Insurance Group  
[GOODLADANDSWANK.COM](http://GOODLADANDSWANK.COM)  
239.674.7630

**FORT MYERS**  
DIGITAL  
[FORTMYERSDIGITAL.COM](http://FORTMYERSDIGITAL.COM)  
239.482.3086

**Gator Lanes**  
[GATORLANES.COM](http://GATORLANES.COM)  
239.939.0048

**FINEFOLK**  
HANDCRAFTED  
ARTISAN  
PIZZA  
[FINEFOLKPIZZA.COM](http://FINEFOLKPIZZA.COM)  
239.313-5155

**FORT MYERS**  
**PEST CONTROL**  
SERVING SW FLORIDA SINCE 1966  
[FORTMYERSPESTCONTROL.COM](http://FORTMYERSPESTCONTROL.COM)  
239.543.3100

**LIGHTHOUSE RESORT**  
Inn & Suites  
[LIGHTHOUSEISLANDRESORT.COM](http://LIGHTHOUSEISLANDRESORT.COM)  
239.463.9392

**ALLIED AIR SERVICES**  
HEATING - VENTILATING - AIR CONDITIONING  
Home of  
The Comfort Club!  
239.217.4111

**PERSONALIZED**  
PEST  
CONTROL INC.  
...THE SERVICE YOU DESERVE...  
[PERSONALIZEDPEST.COM](http://PERSONALIZEDPEST.COM)

**PREMIER**  
PROPERTIES  
SANIBEL ISLAND  
[PREMIERSANIBEL.COM](http://PREMIERSANIBEL.COM)

**RENOV8**  
Design Studio  
[RENOV8DESIGNSTUDIO.COM](http://RENOV8DESIGNSTUDIO.COM)

**ApothiCare**  
360  
[APOTHICARE360.COM](http://APOTHICARE360.COM)  
239.690.7700

**SCREEN MACHINE**  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
239.898.3528

**MARCO ESCAPES**  
MARCO ISLAND - NAPLES - VACATION RENTALS  
[MARCOESCAPES.COM](http://MARCOESCAPES.COM)

**LIFESTYLES**  
HEALTHCARE GROUP  
MEDICAL CHIROPRACTIC REHABILITATION  
[LIFESTYLESHEALTHCAREGROUP.COM](http://LIFESTYLESHEALTHCAREGROUP.COM)  
239.334.WELL

**Pelicans**  
Roost  
[SANIBELGULFFRONTCONDOS.COM](http://SANIBELGULFFRONTCONDOS.COM)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
FRED ELLIOTT  
239-369-6161 | CBPPI.COM

**LANDEX**  
ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT  
239-369-5848  
[INFO@LANDEXRESORTS.COM](mailto:INFO@LANDEXRESORTS.COM)

**South Florida Lift Stations, Inc.**  
3056 South Street, Ft. Myers, FL 33916  
SALES,  
SERVICE &  
MAINTENANCE  
239-332-0041

**SWFLBA**  
SWFL BUSINESS ALLIANCE  
[SWFLBUSINESSALLIANCE.COM](http://SWFLBUSINESSALLIANCE.COM)

**THE ROAR**  
EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS  
[EASTLEENEWS.COM](http://EASTLEENEWS.COM)



# Lehigh Acres 2nd Annual 4th of July Freedom Fest By Amanda Mitrani

At Victory, there's always something to do, eat, and explore. Victory Town Center encompasses close to 12 acres of land right in the heart of Lehigh Acres. Located between the two main roadways of our town, Lee Blvd. and Homestead Road, Victory Town Center is easily accessible to all the residents of Lehigh Acres.

This Independence Day, Victory Town Center is inviting you to Lehigh Acres to celebrate its 2nd Annual 4th of July Freedom Fest, supported by Victory Church and the Southwest Florida Business Alliance-East Lee Chapter.

The celebration will take place at 1201 Taylor Lane Ext, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936 (behind the Burger King) from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and is free for all to attend! This fun-tastic event includes live music, food, entertainment, and the star of the show: the patriotic fireworks display. The whole

community can come together at this special celebration and show their American pride.

Starting at 6 p.m. at the Center Stage, you can watch or compete in Lehigh Acres' first-ever Chili-Dog Eating Competition. 20 competitors will have 10 minutes to eat as many chili dogs as they can. The three top eaters will be awarded prizes. The entry fee is \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids.

Looking for something sweeter? Participate in another first! The Perkins Patriotic Pie Eating Contest starts at 7 p.m. at the Center Stage. Competitors will 'enjoy' as many Perkins fruit and cream pies as possible in just 5 minutes. Awards will be given to our first, second, and third place winners by our local celebrity judges. It's \$20 to enter for adults and \$10 for kids (only one person per family is allowed to enter). Only 16 competitors per class, so

send your hungriest competitor!

Enjoy a special appearance from our local heroes: the Lehigh Acres Fire Department. Get to know those who risk their lives for our community.

This special 4th of July event is bound to be the perfect place to spend your Independence Day with your family. Sponsorship Opportunities and display/space information are also available to those who want to help out the community at this event.

Contact Katrina Salokar at (239) 470-5611 to learn more about our sponsorship opportunities. You can also email [omar@victoryoflehigh.com](mailto:omar@victoryoflehigh.com).

Sign up to attend or sponsor the event online at [www.swflbusinessalliance.com](http://www.swflbusinessalliance.com) or [www.VictoryTownCenter.com](http://www.VictoryTownCenter.com)

## ABOUT VICTORY TOWN CENTER

Victory Town Center is honored to present this event to the residents and families of Lehigh Acres as a way to bring the community together. They already host a number of celebrations throughout the year, and have big plans for the future.

"We plan to add many more businesses, services, and open spaces for the residents and families of Lehigh Acres to enjoy, not only for special events, but every day. Other future plans for Victory Town Center include a possible hotel, ice cream shop, other restaurants, and other family-oriented businesses," said Pastor Larry Gregory.

Visit [www.SWFLBUSINESSALLIANCE.com](http://www.SWFLBUSINESSALLIANCE.com) or [www.VictoryTownCenter.com](http://www.VictoryTownCenter.com) for more info. 🐾



## YOUR FAMILY. YOUR LEGACY. OUR MISSION.

**GUARDIANSHIP | LIVING TRUSTS**  
**ESTATE PLANNING | WILLS | PROBATE**  
**FAMILY LAW | ASSET PROTECTION**



*ALINA GONZALEZ-DOCKERY, ESQUIRE*

239-789-2533 | [WWW.LIFELAWPLANNING.COM](http://WWW.LIFELAWPLANNING.COM) | 5237 SUMMERLIN COMMONS BLVD, SUITE 109, FORT MYERS, FL 33907

Lic #CAC1819379  
Insured



Live the **COOL LIFE!**

[WWW.ITSAKOOLLIFEAC.COM](http://WWW.ITSAKOOLLIFEAC.COM)

**Maintenance**  
**Repairs**  
**Heating**  
**Cooling**  
**New Systems**



Mention This Ad To Receive

# 10% off

OF A UNIT CHANGE OUT.

Call Today!

(239) 206-9342





## COLDWELL BANKER

### PREFERRED PROPERTIES

Join us on Facebook

★★★★★ CBPPI.com • 239-369-6161 • 800-320-8144 ★★★★★

 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$175,500</p> <p><b>2/2 CAMELOT GARDENS CONDO</b> Rarely available this second floor unit is nicely updated and super clean. The spacious screened lanai over looks the landscaped grounds.</p> <p><b>SANDRA ROMAN</b> <a href="mailto:SANDRAREALSALSAES@CS.COM">SANDRAREALSALSAES@CS.COM</a>      239-850-2018</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$359,900</p> <p><b>MARBLEBROOK 3/2</b> Eastham floorplan features split bedroom design, roomy kitchen, pantry, plenty of cabinets and counter space, Impact windows and covered porch with lake view</p> <p><b>LYNNE BRANTLEY</b> <a href="mailto:SCHIRMERS5@AOL.COM">SCHIRMERS5@AOL.COM</a>      239-491-3300</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$399,900</p> <p><b>ALL THE WOW YOU CAN FIT IN A HOME</b> 3 Bedroom/2 bath home. Very well maintained inside and out. City water and sewer. Close to shopping centers, restaurants, less than 10 minutes to the International Airport. See this one before it gets away!</p> <p><b>NIRVA DESIR</b> <a href="mailto:NIRVAKELOUZEB@GMAIL.COM">NIRVAKELOUZEB@GMAIL.COM</a>      239-246-1470</p>
 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$419,900</p> <p><b>SPACIOUS HOME WITH POOL</b> 4 Bedroom + den 2 bath pool home in W. Lehigh Acres. Screened lanai, walk in closet, vaulted ceiling, fully fenced back yard. Close to Buckingham Park, SR82, I-75, downtown Fort Myers and airport.</p> <p><b>AYO MICHAEL</b> <a href="mailto:SEYOMIDE2000@AOL.COM">SEYOMIDE2000@AOL.COM</a>      239-770-8523</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$495,000</p> <p><b>TURNKEY TREASURE</b> This one has it all! Just unpack your suitcase and enjoy your large 3 bedroom 2 bath pool home with an over sized fenced yard.</p> <p><b>MARY BRUZIK</b> <a href="mailto:MARYBSELLSHOUSES@GMAIL.COM">MARYBSELLSHOUSES@GMAIL.COM</a>      704-780-9528</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">\$629,900</p> <p><b>ONE OWNER CUSTOM BUILT HOME</b> Large 1.8 acre lot that includes ownership into middle of lake. 3 Bedrooms + den. Over 2800 sq ft of living area. Kitchen has double ovens, walk in pantry, island with extra sink. Truly a must see!</p> <p><b>ADELIA PIMENTEL</b> <a href="mailto:ADELIASWFL@GMAIL.COM">ADELIASWFL@GMAIL.COM</a>      239-462-4053</p>

<h2 style="margin: 0;">WE NEED RENTALS!</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">WE OFFER FULL SERVICE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TENANT PLACEMENT</li> <li>• ATTORNEY APPROVED LEASE</li> <li>• VENDOR MANAGEMENT</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; margin: 0;">CALL TODAY</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: x-large; margin: 0;">239-491-3300</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">THINKING OF SELLING?</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">WHAT IS YOUR HOUSE WORTH?</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">Contact us today for a <b>FREE</b> market analysis of your property. NO OBLIGATION.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: x-large; margin: 0;">CALL TODAY</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: x-large; margin: 0;">239-369-6161</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">AVAILABLE LOTS</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">1/4 ACRE LOTS FROM \$9,900</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1/2 ACRE LOTS FROM \$14,500</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large; margin: 0;">CALL TODAY</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: x-large; margin: 0;">239-369-6161</p>
---	--	---





# MY PET'S VET of Lehigh Acres

Complete Care For Cats and Dogs!

Dr. Rafael Cartelli | Dr. Ernest Y. Blum  
Dr. Carlos Gonzalez



Monday - Friday  
Saturday  
Sunday

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Closed

## Full Service Animal Hospital

- Examinations
- Vaccinations
- Surgery
- Comprehensive Dental Care
- Health Certificates
- In-House Laboratory
- Annual Wellness Packages
- Pharmacy
- Heartworm and Flea Prevention Products



Call us to schedule an appointment today!  
**(239) 368-8387**

### July Special

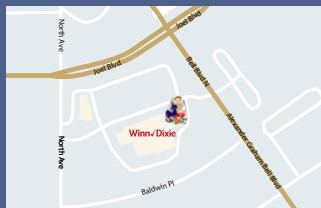
# 15% off

 Cat Credelio  
(While Supplies Last)

# 239.368.8387

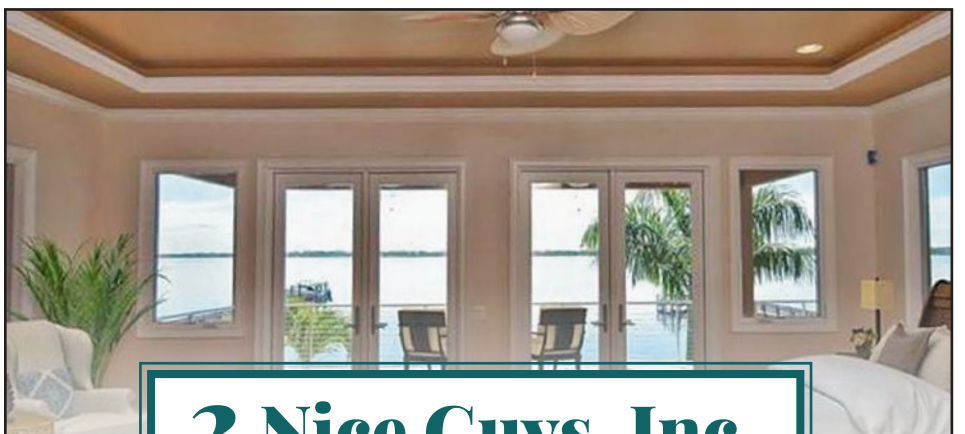
61 Bell Blvd N, Unit 2  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

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



[www.mypetsvet.net](http://www.mypetsvet.net)

Se Haba Español Find us on



## 2 Nice Guys, Inc.

Interior and Exterior Painting



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



Painting with Unparalleled Quality,  
Value and Customer Service

[2niceguys.net](http://2niceguys.net) | (239) 690-1479

Licensed & Insured #CGC1526754

# 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*

## THE POOL PARTY CONTINUES!



# PIZZA Party POOL SPECIALS

### ASK FOR THE "FEED THE FAMILY" SPECIAL

Get a 16" Cheese Pizza, 14" Specialty Pizza, 10 Classic Breadsticks with homemade marinara (Upgrade to specialty sticks for \$2), a House Salad with one dressing (Upgrade to a premium salad for \$1), and a 2 Liter of Soda or Lemonade. *Feeds A Party Of 4-6!*

### ASK FOR THE "FEED THE KIDS" SPECIAL

Get a 18" One Traditional Topping Pizza, 10 Classic Breadsticks with homemade marinara (Upgrade to specialty sticks for \$2) and a 2 Liter of soda or lemonade. *Feeds A Party Of 3-5!*

### ASK FOR THE "\$10 PERSONAL PIES" SPECIAL

With the purchase of 3 or more pies. 10" Specialty or Folk Art Pizza. Max of 4 toppings per pizza. *Upgrade to 14" Pizzas for \$5 and Vegan for \$2!*

## TAKE OUT AND FULL DELIVERY

Call It In OR Order Online

### CHECK OUT OUR LUNCH SPECIALS!

## GREAT WAY TO TRY THE PIES

Fresh Slices And Lunch Specials  
Everday From 11:00 AM To 4:00 PM

239.313.5155 • [FINEFOLKPIZZA.COM](http://FINEFOLKPIZZA.COM)  
11300 LINDBERGH BLVD, SUITE 114 • FORT MYERS



# What Constitutes a Pet Emergency? By Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM

Almost every pet will experience a veterinary emergency in their lifetime. These can range from simple illnesses to more critical conditions. These situations can be overwhelming for you and your pet. When faced with these situations, the typical response would be to run to your cell phone or a computer and look up your pet's symptoms on Google (Bing, etc.). Unfortunately, without a veterinary diagnosis, you will likely get a long list of possible (and impossible) causes of your pet's condition. So, how do you determine what needs to be seen right away and what can wait until tomorrow? Consider the list of common pet medical emergencies below to help guide your decision.

- **REPEATED VOMITING AND DIARRHEA:** Repeated vomiting and diarrhea are veterinary emergencies since your pet may become dehydrated from the loss of fluid. These symptoms may indicate that you pet has a serious underlying problem. If your pet develops additional serious symptoms alongside vomiting and diarrhea, such as lethargy, collapsing, or if blood presents in the stool or vomit, it's important to call your veterinarian immediately.
- **BLEEDING:** Your pet may have been hit by a car, bitten by another animal, or otherwise injured and is bleeding.

Traumatic injuries are not always apparent initially. But can result in serious internal injuries. The extent of bite wounds can be hidden under the fur. Always use caution when handling an injured pet as they may bite reflexively when they are in pain. Do not give your pet over-the-counter pain medications.

- **DIFFICULTY BREATHING:** Loud or unusual breathing can signal a serious emergency for your pet. Excessive panting or sudden onset of continuous coughing, open mouth breathing, pale or blue gums is a cause for serious concern. Your pet may not be getting enough oxygen and could collapse and faint. A pet that has fainted or collapsed should be taken to the nearest emergency clinic immediately.
- **SEIZURE:** A seizure is an electrical disturbance in the brain and may have numerous causes. If your pet has never had a seizure before, has a seizure lasting for longer than two minutes, or multiple seizures in one day, they need emergency medical treatment. During your pet's seizure, speak to them calmly and keep your hands away from their mouth, because their uncontrolled muscle contractions and disorientation could cause them to accidentally bite.
- **EYE INJURIES:** Eye injuries and diseases are not only painful but can

also rapidly result in loss of vision. Eyes are extremely sensitive, and any injuries can be an emergency. If your pet is squinting or pawing at their eye, tearing excessively, or the eye is bulging outward or has suddenly become cloudy, they should be evaluated immediately.

- **STRAINING TO URINATE OR DEFECATE:** Obstructions to urine flow or fecal output are not only extremely painful, but often life-threatening. A pet who is having trouble urinating can indicate a urinary tract infection, inflammation, or a blockage with urinary stones, and is an emergency. If urine outflow is completely blocked, the urinary bladder can rupture, while an infection can cause severe discomfort. If your pet is posturing as if they need to urinate or defecate but cannot produce anything, contact the emergency hospital immediately.

Here are some other situations that may require immediate veterinary attention. If your pet:

- Is in pain with signs such as whimpering, groaning, trembling, or hunching over
- Experiencing and allergic reaction with swelling of the face, hives over the body, difficulty breathing or collapse from anaphylaxis
- Is suffering from heat exhaustion



Photo: Vet Preparing Cat For Surgery

- Has been bitten by a snake
- Is pregnant, and has been in labor for more than 30 minutes without delivering a puppy or kitten

If you're uncertain whether your pet is experiencing an emergency, contact our Just 4 Pets Wellness Center team for guidance on your pet's condition. We are happy to advise you on what next steps you should take.

### ABOUT DR. VEJA TILLMAN, DVM

Dr. Tillman is a 2002 graduate of Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine. Her veterinary practice and work experience focuses on health and wellness of pets in Southwest Florida. She is the owner of Just 4 Pets Wellness Center and can be reached at 239-270-5721. 🐾

HVAC SERVICE • DIAGNOSTICS • REPAIRS • REPLACEMENTS | COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS • RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS



**WWW.ALLIEDAIR.BIZ**

**REQUEST SERVICE**

**CALL US AT (239) 217-4111**

OR EMAIL US AT [INFO@ALLIEDAIR.BIZ](mailto:INFO@ALLIEDAIR.BIZ)

**FAST SERVICE**

**COMFORT CLUB**

**34 YEARS EXPERIENCE**

**COMPETITIVE PRICING**

**CALL FOR A MAINTENANCE CHECK ON YOUR AC TODAY!**



**Trendsetters Hair Studio**

hair | nails | waxing | packages | gift certificates

Amy | Debbie | Brandy | Brittany

11300 Lindbergh Blvd, #108 (next to Norman Love)

[www.trendsettersfl.com](http://www.trendsettersfl.com) **239.768.6861**



**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!**



**Hours of Operation**

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

Tues : By Appointment Only

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

**239-270-5721**

[www.Just4PetsFL.net](http://www.Just4PetsFL.net)

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



# East Lee Remembers Commissioner Frank Mann (1941–2022)

By Mike Welch



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

Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann passed away on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at his home in Alva after a battle with pancreatic cancer. All who met Frank knew him for his gregarious personality. Our condolences go out to his wife of 61 years Mary Lee and his family.

A lifelong resident of Lee County, he began his service in public office in 1974 as a member of the Florida House of Representatives for 8 years and a member of the Florida Senate for four years. In 1986 he was his party's nominee for Lt. Governor of Florida. Over his many years of service on the Board of County Commissioners he had served as Chairman of the Board. His main priority during his time on the Board has been the preservation of our environment in the face of growth. Commission-

er Mann represented District 5 that included Lehigh Acres and parts of East Lee.

Frank was a rare personality and yet he was part of a generation that remembers Fort Myers and Lee County at a time when small communities dotted the landscape. Heritage and traditions of this great generation remind us of a time of pioneers and our gratitude goes to Frank, the Mann family and those "old timers" that have helped shape our past and our lives today. Rest in peace Frank! 🐾



Photo: Frank Mann, Lee County Commissioner

## The Lehigh Acres Senior Center Offers So Much For Our Seniors Every Month!

By Lehigh Acres Senior Center



**Photo: Jo Walker, July Artist of the Month**

We are offering several dance and fitness programs ranging from beginner to intermediate.

Dancercise is where Aerobics meets line dancing and is for all dance levels. We have a high energy leader who is willing to help with any questions or

concerns you might have with modifications that best suit your needs. All moves can be modified for your comfort level.

The Art groups meet every Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Lehigh Acres Senior Center hosted by Jo Walker. After retiring in 2018, Jo joined the Art group at the Lehigh Acres Senior Center in 2019. Since

joining the group, she has found new friends and fun with art. She is currently learning watercolor techniques with LaVerne Evans, who is the newest teacher to the Art group. Many of the craft classes have 1 or 2 projects included with your annual membership. With the Art group, you get to do watercolor and acrylic.

If you are interested in becoming a

member of the Lehigh Acres Senior Center, Please contact Mary Vance at 239-369-5355 Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm or feel free to stop by the facility for a tour to see if we can meet your needs. The Senior Center is located at 219 Plaza Drive Lehigh Acres, FL 33936. You must be 50 years of age or older to become a member with a low annual membership of only \$30. 🐾

# Red, White & Boom Celebration!

## THURSDAY, JULY 7<sup>th</sup> | 2:00pm

DONNA SUE DELISLE will be singing all the classic patriotic tunes to honor our Independence. This is a complimentary celebration, fun for the whole family. Enjoy Refreshments, 50/50 raffle and door prizes!

Let Us Know You're Coming (239) 674-6585

1230 Taylor Lane, Lehigh Acres, FL |

FountainCrestRet.com |

239-674-6585

FOUNTAIN CREST  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

## Do you have an amazing Pediatrician?

# Physicians' Primary Care

OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Learn more →

PPC Pediatrics

# OPEN 365

days a year!

- Well-child checkups
- Same day sick appointments
- Newborn care
- Lactation consultant

## (239) 481-5437

Lehigh Acres, Fort Myers, Cape Coral

ppcswfl.com

“ Let Our Family Take Care Of Your Family ”



# The Salvation Army: A Letter from Major Lane

By Major Brenda Lane

Dear Friends and Community Family,

I hope this note finds each of you well and enjoying the Summer weather we are having, and yes, the rain, we need the rain. June brings us to the halfway mark for the year 2022!! Can you believe how fast it is passing with each day. Before you know it, we will be putting up Christmas decorations!!

I don't need to remind you that we are all facing some pretty rough times as it relates to everyday living and the daily increase in the cost of food, gas, rent and so much more. We are seeing so many more families in our office who are facing the

loss of jobs because they can't afford the cost of gas to get back and forth. We are seeing families who are facing eviction due to the extreme rise in rent and mortgage. I fear it is only going to continue to get worse. We are assisting more families than usual with Emergency Food. Again, this is due to the loss of jobs and the rise in rents and overall cost of living.

We here at The Salvation Army stand ready to assist in any way we can. However, we can't do it alone, it takes a village!! We need your help. There are so many ways in which you can help us help those coming to us for assistance every day. We need canned goods and nonparishable-food items to replenish our Emer-

gency Food. We are getting requests for tarps, ponchos, help to pay for Medication, help with gas and so many other necessities. Because of the wonderful people in our community of Lehigh Acres, who support us, we continue to have the resources to serve those who come to us with various needs. Our resources are running low and we don't want to turn anyone away if they have a legitimate need. We need your help...

If you are in a position to help with any of the things I have mentioned, or perhaps, you are able to make a monetary donation (tax-deductible), be assured your support will go a long way in allowing us to fill the needs and requests of those who are

not able to provide for their families at this time. If you would like more information on ways to help us continue serving and providing for the needs of those who are struggling to make it day to day, please feel free to give us a call or stop by our office Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (closed 12:00 to 1:00)

We are located at 25 Homestead Rd. N #42 (33936) - next to The Chamber of Commerce in the Lehigh Town Center Mall. Our phone # is 239-491-6071

We look forward to meeting you and sharing with you the services offered through our office. 🐾

# Million Orchid Progress Report

By Butch Swank - butch@goodladandswank.com

In late May, our office had a visitor. Jason Downing, the lead orchid biologist from the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, drove from Miami with hundreds of orchids. He had a variety of orchids from both Florida and from all over the world. Dr. Downing leads the Million Orchid Project, which aims to bring back the orchid population to what it was in the 1800s. Back then, orchids could be found in a wide variety of trees but were collected to the point they could no longer sustain themselves. Today, the only place you see orchids is at Publix or Lowes.

Back to the hundreds of orchids at my office. We worked for hours putting these orchids high up into the trees. Orchids naturally live on the bark of trees and do not harm the tree. They live off sunlight, rain, and morning dew. Orchids also use moss and al-

gae to help them eat, which is why you, in the future, will begin to see orchids growing on the north side of trees - that is where the moss and algae grow! We got so many orchids because the denser the orchids are, the more seeds they can disperse to the neighborhood. Orchid seed pods produce many thousands of teeny, tiny seeds that blow in the wind. They must land on the right location of the right tree, with the right mold or algae, the right amount of shade, with the right amount of moisture... you get the point. So, by having a large number of orchids, we massively increase their ability to reproduce around the neighborhood. An interesting fact is that Florida has become the home of orchids blown here from Cuba and the Bahamas. Big storms can really stir up the atmosphere, and that can bring us all kinds of different seeds. Again, these seeds are tiny,

so even under normal Florida weather conditions, the seeds could be disbursed for miles around our office.

Back to the different species around our office. Dr. Downing and his team selected some Florida natives so we could begin growing our population back up here on Florida's west coast. They also selected orchids from other areas because they wanted us to be able to show off orchid blooms throughout the year. I thought that was a stellar idea! How cool would it be to walk around the office regardless of the season and be able to see some gorgeous flowers? If you have any interest in seeing our



Photo: Spider Orchid, Brassia caudata

orchids, I encourage you to come by the office. If I can, and I darn sure will try, I will show you around personally and show you all the different types. It is just beginning and is already very compelling to see. I cannot wait to see what all these orchids will look like in the future when they mature and really start cranking out the flowers. 🐾

## Riverdale Dental Associates



# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

We Are Here To Take Care Of ALL Your Dental Needs

• Private practice taking care of Lee County Smiles for 39 years.

### RIVERDALE DENTAL COUPON

## \$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: July 31, 2022  
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.



**Riverdale Dental Associates**

Se Habla Español

Make Your Appointment Today

Mon - Wed: 8 am to 5 pm    Thurs: 8 am to 8:30 pm  
Fri: 8 am to 12 pm (Noon)    Sat: 8 am to 2 pm

(239) 303-2400

www.riverdaledentalonline.com

201 Plaza Dr. #1 Lehigh Acres, Florida 33936




# Brightway® INSURANCE

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






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

**ALL ABOUT THE USA - WORD SEARCH**

- |               |                |                      |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| AMERICAN FLAG | HARVARD        | SINATRA              |
| APPLE PIE     | HAWAII         | STANFORD             |
| BALD EAGLE    | HOLLYWOOD      | STAR SPANGLED BANNER |
| BASEBALL      | HOOVER DAM     | STATUE OF LIBERTY    |
| BASKETBALL    | MARK TWAIN     | SUPERBOWL            |
| BULK          | MCDONALDS      | SUPER SIZE           |
| DIVERSITY     | MOUNT RUSHMORE | TWINKIES             |
| DOLLAR        | PATRIOTISM     | WALMART              |
| FRIED CHICKEN | PICKUP TRUCK   |                      |

**MORE TO CELEBRATE!**

Dates & descriptions provided by [www.holidayinsights.com](http://www.holidayinsights.com)

**July 6 International Kissing Day**

Ahhh, it's Kissing Day. The objective of this very special day, is to appreciate and enjoy a kiss. So, go ahead and swap some spit today. Pucker up and give out a big, juicy kiss to anyone and everyone.

**July 7 Chocolate Day**

Chocolate Day is the perfect opportunity to eat you favorite chocolates in ample portions. Do you really need another excuse to over indulge with your favorite food treat?

**July 11 Cheer up the Lonely Day**

Cheer Up the Lonely Day is an opportunity to make a lonely person happy. Any time you can make someone happy, you've done a good thing, and should be proud of yourself.

**July 13 Embrace Your Geekness Day**

Embrace Your Geekness Day is a great day to be a Geek. Or, to know a Geek. Spend plenty of time with your computer. Talk computer lingo and jargon. If you are a geek, stand tall and proud.

**July 17 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! On this day, we hope you enjoy an ice cream cone, a sundae, or a milk shake.

**July 21 National Junk Food Day**

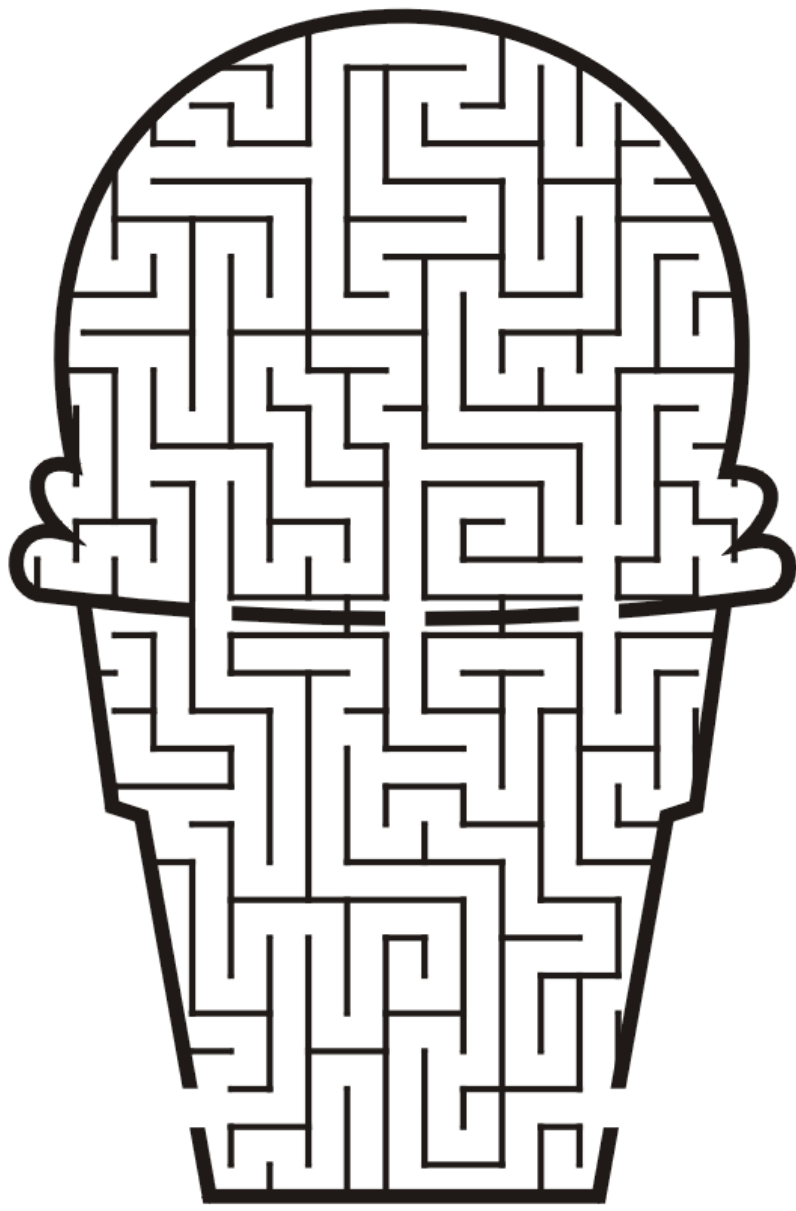
For some of us, every day is Junk Food Day. For the rest of us, National Junk Food Day is an opportunity to guiltlessly eat your favorite junk food. You get to eat anything you want. Eat any amounts that you want, too.

**July 24 Parent's Day**

National Parents Day is a special day to honor your mother and father. And, its a time to celebrate the family structure and family values. The family unit is an important structure for the health of children, and the nation. That structure, and those values, are established and nurtured by your parents. The best way to mark this day is by spending time with your parents doing something fun. Its also important that you let them how much they are loved and appreciated.

**July 30 National Cheesecake Day**

Despite being a rich, high calorie, and cholesterol filled, cheesecake is a very popular dessert. Why? Because it tastes so good. Enjoy the day with a piece of cheesecake, along with your favorite topping.



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

HAPPY  
**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY**  
 INDEPENDENCE DAY

ANSWER KEY  
 JULY 2022

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

Hair • Massage • Facial • Nails • Waxing • And More

**(239) 561-1150**  
[www.gatewayminispa.com](http://www.gatewayminispa.com)  
 13120 Westlinks Terrace  
 Suite #9  
 Fort Myers, FL 33913

*Gateway*  
 MINI SPA & SALON  
 THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE CENTER, LLC

**REJUVENATE YOUR BODY & SOUL**

**THE ROAR**  
 EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS

**PUBLISHER**  
 East Lee County News, LLC | 239-908-4581 | [press@eastleenews.com](mailto:press@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](mailto:press@eastleenews.com).

If you would like to advertise & have your business promoted to over 62k+ Residents email [press@eastleenews.com](mailto:press@eastleenews.com).

**CONTRIBUTORS**  
 Butch Swank | Chief DiLallo | Terri Lewis | Amy Admire  
 Rita Artwohl | Charlene Golden | Amanda Mitrani  
 Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM | Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM  
 Lehigh Acres Senior Center | Major Brenda Lane

**PRODUCTION • DESIGN**  
 Paradise Creative Group  
 Marlene Asta

**CUSTOMER RELATIONS**  
 David Foetisch

**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

**ADVERTISING INFORMATION**  
 EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS, LLC | 239-908-4581  
[press@eastleenews.com](mailto:press@eastleenews.com) | [eastleenews.com](http://eastleenews.com)

**EDITORIAL BOARD**  
 Katrina Salokar | David Foetisch | Marlene Asta

*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](mailto:press@eastleenews.com) and [voicesoftehigh@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:press@eastleenews.com) and [voicesoftehigh@gmail.com](mailto: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) 470-5611

**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*

**SWFL BUSINESS NETWORK**  
 CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY  
**YOU'RE INVITED!**

Join us for **FREE** networking!  
**2 Opportunities a Week!**

Form and maintain strong relationships with other local businesses, and get quality referrals from one another.

Optional \$10/month and \$30/month memberships available.

**WEDNESDAYS** 12:00pm-1:00pm  
 Torched Bar and Grill  
 2409 Surfside Blvd,  
 Cape Coral 33991

**FRIDAYS** 8:00am-9:30am  
 Metro Deli & Cafe  
 12951 Metro Pkwy # 11  
 Fort Myers, FL 33966

Arrive and depart anytime.

**LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?**

Get what you're looking for at  
**LIFEBASICQUESTIONS.COM**

**PRESSURE PROS**  
 Quality Service Guaranteed

**HANDYMAN HOME SERVICES**  
 Licensed & Insured

Ask About Our **\$99** Specials!  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

**MATTHEW RYAN**  
 Owner  
**(239) 645-9834**

**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*

**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](http://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.

**SCREEN MACHINE**  
 OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

SCREEN REPAIR SPECIAL **\$75<sup>00</sup>** each | Sides are only... **\$50<sup>00</sup>** each

Materials In-Stock **GUARANTEED!**

**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!

 **Ter-tinis**  
**Music & Event Hall**

*"Classy, Not Costly, In Everything We Do."*

**Dinner Shows • Private Events**  
**Seminars • Banquets**  
**Holiday Events • Weddings**

**www.Ter-Tinis.com**  
**239-344-6147**  
 1901 Crystal Drive, Fort Myers, FL, 33907

Pedro Fuentes Owner *Se habla Espanol*

**FENCE 1 CORP.**

- CHAIN LINK
- WOOD
- METAL/PRIVACY
- ORNAMENTAL
- VINYL

Licensed & Insured  
 239-303-2624  
 FENCE\_1@AOL.COM

 **Yummy**  
 CHINESE RESTAURANT

**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**

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**

**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  
**239.908.4581**

12801 COMMERCE LAKES DR SUITE #26  
 FORT MYERS, FL 33913

**PARADISECREATIVEGROUP.COM**

 **FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES OF FLORIDA**  
 WEALTH | INVESTMENTS | FREEDOM

**HOW WE CAN HELP YOU:**

- PERSONALIZED SERVICE
- LONG TERM SUPPORT
- EXPERT MARKETING SERVICES
- BUY OR SELL WITH CONFIDENCE
- EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISOR TOOLS
- ACCESS TO INDUSTRY DATA

**YOUR GOALS ARE OUR GOALS.**  
 Acquire Or Build Your Own Franchise To Gain Unlimited Earning Potential.  
 "We will match you with a franchise that works for you and guide you through the steps to achieve your goals, from the purchasing phase to marketing."  
 -Katrina Salokar, Broker, Developer, Consultant

**CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION!**  
**(239) 470-5611 | FRANCHISEINFLORIDA.COM**  
**INFO@FRANCHISEOPPORTUNITIESFL.COM**

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS**

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

**CALL RON (239) 872-2343**

 **Turn Key Home Services, Inc.**  
 Serving SW Florida Since 1979  
 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.

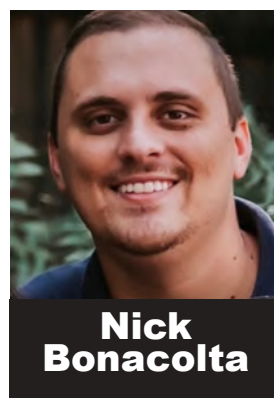
# Nick Bonacolta

Salesman

E-MAIL ADDRESS  
nbonacolta@gmail.com

Facebook.com/  
NickBonacoltaRW

(239)  
887-0468



Nick Bonacolta



## DON'T LIST YOUR HOME WITH JUST ANYONE IN THIS CRAZY MARKET!

You need the **RIGHT** agent with the experience, knowledge of **TODAY'S** current market and the contacts and connections to get you through to closing as smoothly as possible. You need someone that knows how to orchestrate the frenzy of back to back showings and multiple offers. You need someone that can help you pick the right offer that is going to get to closing based on their experience and market knowledge. The right agents will actually get you more money in your pocket.

Please give **CHARLIE** or **NICK** a call today. We have the experience, market knowledge and contacts and connections to get it done right the first time.

### CHARLIE BONACOLTA

239-994-1062

charlisold@gmail.com

### NICK BONACOLTA

239-887-0468

nbonacolta@gmail.com



#### 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.

Realty World International  
#1 OFFICE



Realty World C. Bagans First

239-369-5841

Serving the Lehigh Acres Real Estate community since 1979.  
Se Habla Español

#### 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME ON A DOUBLE LOT WITH A 30X50 DETACHED GARAGE



Three bedroom two bath home on a double lot with a 30 X 50 detached garage with access from the street in the rear, detached garage has it's own 200 amp electrical panel and water heater, oversized doors, two guest rooms with two bathrooms and an efficiency kitchen, 50 AMP electrical hook up for RV, new dimensional shingles on roof in 2017, new central heat and air in 2019, solar panels just installed for electric-average electric bills run around \$10.00 per month, bamboo wood floors throughout with tile in wet areas, cathedral ceilings, French doors to two lanais, separate screened lanai from master bedroom, pavers on open patio with paver walkway to the detached garage, master bedroom with walk in closet and private bath with dual sinks and walk in shower, breakfast bar and pantry in kitchen, main garage is currently being used for storage, excellent location just minutes to I-75 and Ft Myers, perfect for owner operated business from home.

Offered At .....\$400,000

Charlie Bonacolta (239) 369-0659 charlisold@gmail.com

#### NEW CONSTRUCTION 4 BEDROOM 3 BATH



Welcome home to this MAGNIFICENT BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION 4 bedroom 3 bath nestled away in the highly desirable WEST side of Lehigh Acres with a quick commute to Fort Myers. This astounding floor plan spotlights attractive PORCELAIN TILE throughout, vast open 10ft ceilings with GRAND 8FT DOORS & trays throughout, a separate living & spacious family room, and two bedrooms with private baths including the master presenting dual sinks, an inviting SOAKING TUB, an oversized tiled shower, and an ENORMOUS WALK-IN CLOSET. It also highlights enticing LEVEL 3 GRANITE, an awarding island with farm sink, glass tiled backsplash, pendant lighting, stainless steel appliances, and a screened back lanai. It also features recessed lighting, crown molding, custom mirrors, and IMPACT WINDOWS AND DOORS. Schedule your showing today! Please note the property has video surveillance.

Offered At .....\$470,000

David Mulligan (239) 878-3702 dmulls2000@gmail.com

#### RIVERFRONT PARADISE! 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH WATERFRONT PROPERTY ON ALMOST 2 ACRES



Riverfront Paradise! Enjoy the view with over 150 feet of direct Caloosahatchee river frontage providing access to both the Gulf and Atlantic through the Okeechobee Waterway. There is a Private boat and jet ski ramp along with the covered electric boat lift. Boat lift has recently been updated with reinforced concrete pilings and a new wooden deck. Your property has 1.85 acres and 3 outbuildings including a 2 car garage, large workshop with overhead door and the water equipment shed with extra storage space. Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with newer Bamboo flooring in main living areas, brand new carpet in each bedroom and new tile floor in both baths. Large living room has triple slider leading to large screened lanai with panoramic view of the water. Kitchen has solid surface counters and all appliances are newer. Master suite has sliders to rear lanai and a private bath with large walk in closet. Guest bath has also been completely remodeled. Open concept dining room with sitting area including a wood burning fireplace. Oversized solar heated pool with large under roof area overlooking the river. Amazing riverfront property with private gated entrance.

Offered At .....\$949,000

Matt Jackson (574) 302-5628 mjackson08@msn.com

- Shellie has the expertise to market your rental property.
- A property management attorney prepared lease that works for you.
- Licensed and insured vendors ready to do repairs at reasonable rates - No surcharges.
- A management program that provides you with monthly statements and checks.
- End of year income statements and quarterly inspections.



Shellie Marchsteiner  
Property Manager



30 Colorado Road, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

Telephone (239) 369-5892

RW.Rentals.SM@gmail.com

Looking for a professional full service property management company?

Call us today to learn what our 40+ years of trusted property management can do for you.

239-369-5892

WE HAVE WELL QUALIFIED TENANTS  
READY TO MOVE IN TODAY!