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> **MAY 2022 VOLUME 03** ISSUE 05

EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS | DANIELS CORRIDOR

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It's Go Time For Lehigh Acres And East Lee!



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

Not everyone will like hearing this, but I am okay with that. Sometimes a person can go their entire life with a glaring but easy to solve problem that everyone in their life sees. It is obvious. However, no one ever mentions this glaring problem because "everyone" seems to think someone else should say it, or even worse, they don't want to hurt feelings. So, instead of having this burden lifted because someone sat them down and said: "Look, this thing you do is hurting you. You can't see it, but everyone else can. Let's talk about it and see what can be done." Hard conversations are, by definition, hard to have. You are uncomfortable leading up to it, it's painful when it's happening, but something remarkable happens afterward. It's all out there now! Whatever this dirty secret, terrible habit, or unsavory behavior was, it's out there and can be talked about in the open. That means you embraced the hard part first, so you can now begin the good part, which is the solution. Life is hard. Why make it harder

Everyone struggles at first when we try something new. We've all seen a pro golfer or baseball player swing, and it looks so amazingly easy, right? We never pay any thought to what their very first swings looked like. Listen, they were aw-

by ignoring obvious problems?

ful! Truly. Even the most gifted athletes must start somewhere. Another saying comes to mind: The master was once a fool. To me, that means the master knew early on there is no progress without struggle, pain, and discomfort. Comfort and inaction get you nowhere. However, embracing discomfort and struggle can lead to remarkable improvement. You just have to get started.

Why do I say all of this? I say it because it's become clear to me that all of the communities surrounding Lehigh Acres and East Lee have had fierce advocates for years and years. We currently have a few but need many more. I ask everyone reading this to please consider how or what you can do to help become an advocate. Tiny bits of help in large numbers can become an unstoppable force. After all, there are over 130,000 of us now! Nobody wants to face something focused and relentless. Nobody.

Here's a concrete example of what I mean. As of last fall, the Lee County School District was slated to begin construction on a \$90 million school in Estero. Let me share a fascinating statistic. The School District has a tool they use to measure how many students per 100 households the different communities of Lee County produce. Guess how many kids per 100 households Estero produces. What did you guess? 50? 25? 60? Well, the actual number is 7.

This number I share next deserves its

very own paragraph. Guess how many kids Lehigh Acres produces. Also, keep in mind we have 1,991 kids in portables out here. Ok, the big reveal is that we produce 71 kids per 100 households. Now ask yourself: How on God's green Earth can Estero get a brand new \$90 million school when we in East Lee must fight

even to get our portables patched up?

The answer is simple: Advocacy. Estero does a much better job representing themselves on the other side of I-75 than we do. It really is that simple. So, come back to my earlier point about the person struggling through life with a fixable problem while no one that cares about him will take the time to point it out to him. It's fixable, but nobody says a word. We are all that unfortunate dude's friends and family in this scenario. In general, Lehigh Acres and East Lee have too many Dollar Generals, auto parts stores, and not enough restaurants and fun things to do. Wouldn't it be nice if you could stay in town to go on a date night? How about taking the kids or grandkids right down the street to HeadPinz? Wouldn't it be nice to have a whole range of major retailers right here? Also, we don't have enough job opportunities here for our teenagers or adults. A slew of new businesses here would mean more job opportunities and more things for us to collectively do. Not to belabor the point, but that would also mean way less driving back and forth, which means we'd all have to spend less on gas and tires.

By Butch Swank

By our own inaction, we deny ourselves this positive change. That needs to end. I ask that you find out how to contact our county commissioners and give them hell. Call them, email them, or even better, schedule an in-person meeting so they can listen to your concerns face to face. If you don't like the fact that our Lehigh schools are overcrowded and understaffed, contact the School District and give them hell, too. It's well past the time for action. I know making that first contact will make you feel like the fool spoke of earlier. Trust me, after a few interactions, your game will get better. One more point, be insistent but always polite! Our outreach to these officials is literally something new to them. We have not advocated for ourselves, and these officials are human, just like us. They simply cannot fix problems they know nothing about. So, let's act in good faith and let them all know how we feel.

Now listen, we won't all become masters, but that is not the point – the point is that we become the masters of our own community instead of others making the decisions without us. If a good portion of our fellow 130,000 took a tiny bit of time and started fighting to advocate for the things WE want and need, our entire community would change so much for the better. Your voice counts! Stop being silent and wishing for better. Start taking control of what happens in your neighborhood, and you will be amazed at how quickly the positive change we all want becomes a reality.



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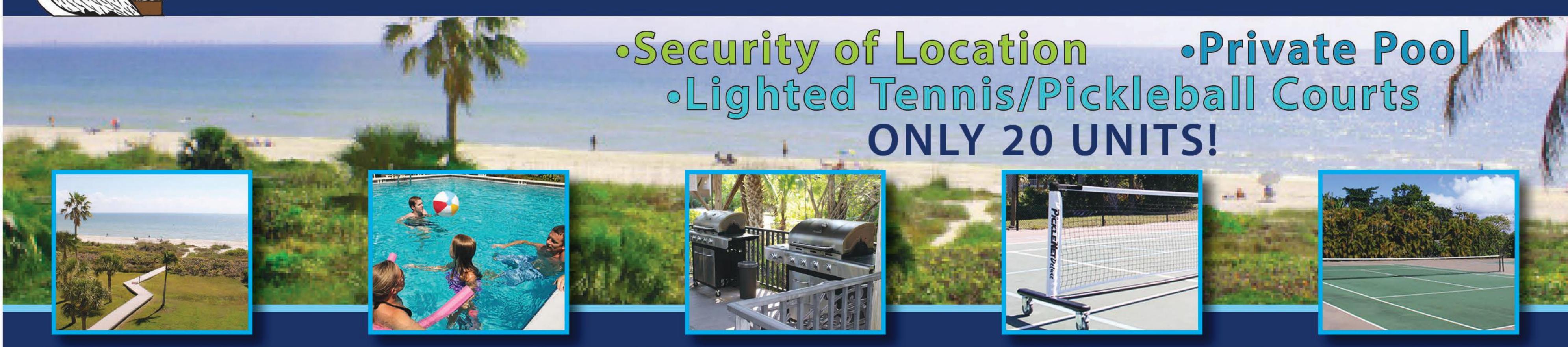
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Take Care Of Today For A Better Tomorrow



Photo: Dr. Darin W. Stokke, DC, currently of LifestylesHealthcare

Group. As a kid growing up I remember visiting my Grandpa and watching him work so hard at everything he did. When

I asked him why he worked so hard he told me he worked hard so he could one day retire and enjoy fishing every day for the rest of his life. As the years went by, my Grandpa began to have some health issues and a visible limp began to form as he walked. He rarely complained but he also didn't take great care of himself. I noticed him struggle more and more to get out of his recliner each time I visited and watched as his breathing would get more labored with even short walks. By the time my Grandpa hit retirement age he could barely bend his knees to squat down and had to fall back into his chair to sit. Unfortunately, his dream of fishing everyday for the rest of his life never materialized. Just months after retiring my Grandpa sold his boat. His emphysema had worsened and his knees degenerated to the point that making even a short walk to his mailbox a difficult journey. My Grandpa lived another 13 years after retirement but I watched as he never really "lived" the remaining years out as he

had once dreamed of doing.

Sadly, most of us don't fully appreciate what we have. We often put off for tomorrow that which we should do today. We assume health and wellness are things we will always have...but then comes age, accidents, falls, injuries, bad posture, unexpected illnesses and bad habits. We never know what tomorrow will bring but we can take a few steps today to make our chances for a quality and healthy tomorrow better.

First, be grateful! Gratitude is healing to our mind, body and spirit. Grateful people experience fewer aches and pains and they report feeling healthier than other people. Not surprisingly, grateful people are also more likely to take care of their health. They exercise more often and are more likely to attend regular check-ups with their doctors, which is likely to contribute to further longevity.

Second, move your body often! It's no secret: Human life has become structured in a way that makes it very easy to avoid movement. We sit in cars on the way to work. At work we sit at our desks for much of the day. Then we come home and sit down to relax. That's not what our bodies are built for, so creaky knees, stiff backs, and "I can't keep up with my toddler!" have become the norm. Sure, if you can't move well, it may be a sign that you aren't as healthy as you could be. But the quality and quantity of your daily movement — your strength and agility — are actually markers for something much more important... Your Quality of Life!

Third, eat well! Forget all the fad diets that are here today and gone tomorrow. It's really simple: Eat more unprocessed foods including fruits and vegetables, grass-feed meats, and healthy oils and less white sugar, white bread, white rice, white flour, dairy, and artificial sweeteners and flavorings. Eat during a 5 to 7 hour window each day. And drink plenty of filtered water!

Fourth, embrace healthy relationships. Research shows that being in positive relationships is linked to less production of the stress hormone cortisol. Research also shows that having loving people in your life can improve your survival after heart surgery by three times. Find loving, supportive and positive people to surround yourself with!

By Dr. Darin Stokke, DC

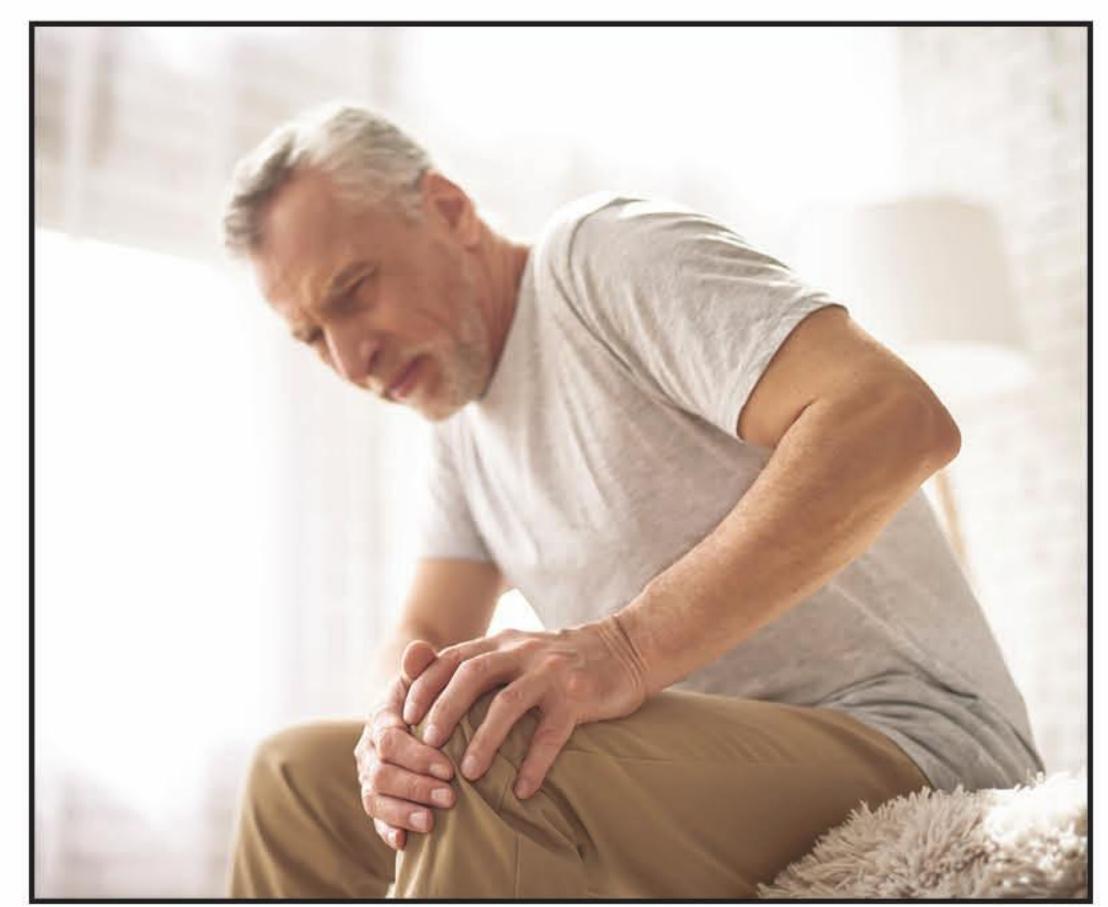


Photo: Man Suffering From Joint Knee Pain

Finally, keep your spine and joints aligned and healthy. Like our cars, our body needs regular check-ups to ensure our joints are aligned and moving in optimal ranges of motion. When any joint is misaligned, it creates increased wear and tear. If the wear and tear becomes too great, you can visit our office where there are may treatments excellent option but sometimes, when it gets bad enough, the solutions are joint replacements and walkers.

Be grateful for what you have today and take care of yourself so you increase your chances of having a healthy and high quality of living the life you desire into the future!

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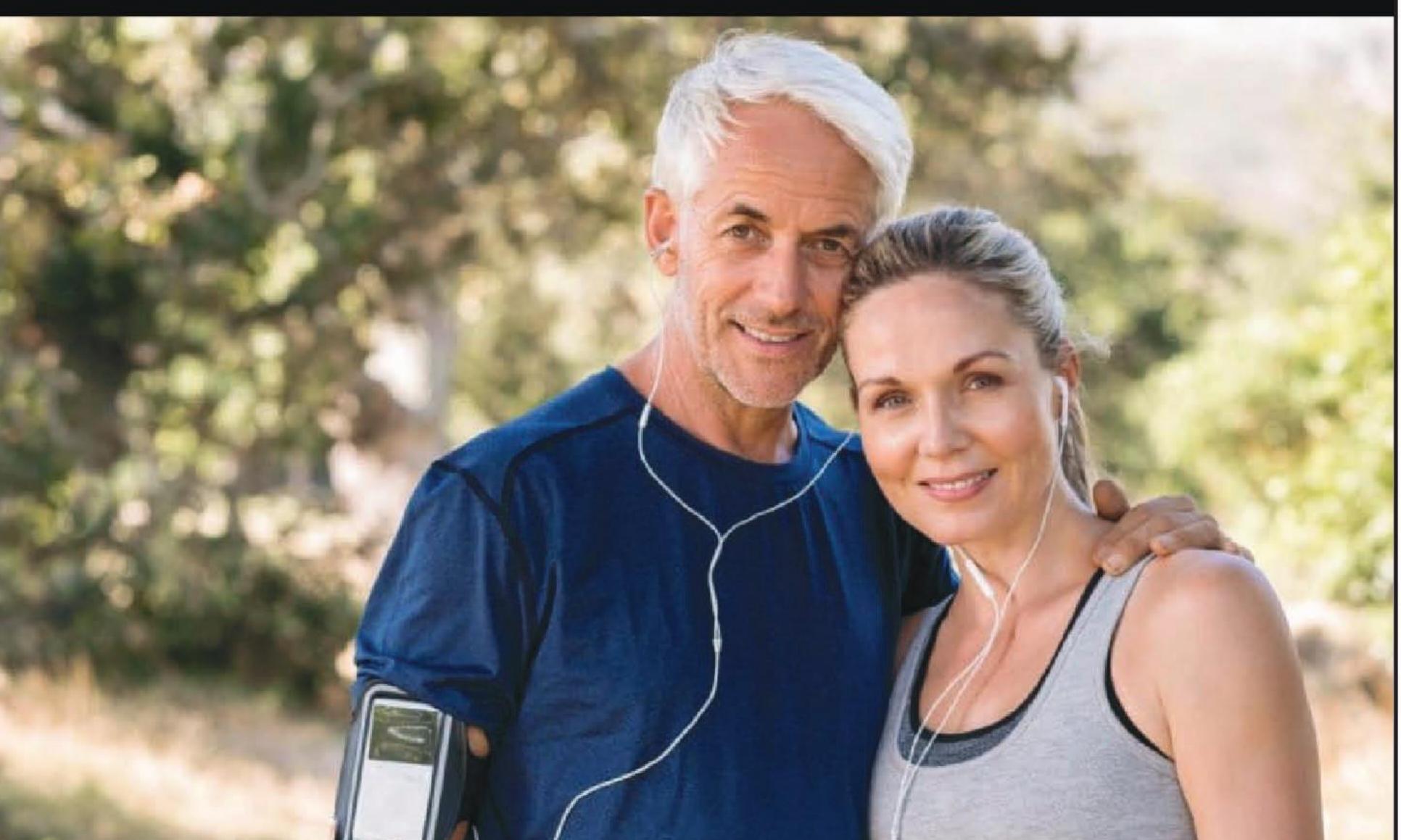
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Local Organizations Come Together to Host Second Annual Workforce Signing Day **Submitted By Jenny Parrish**

"It's not all about college. It's not the only way to succeed in life." said Marissa Brown, a 2021 graduate of Ida Baker. Brown was celebrated last year at Workforce Signing Day, an event championed by Bill Daubmann of MY Shower Door. Workforce Signing Day recognized the high school seniors of Lee County that entered the workforce post-graduation.

Now, Workforce Signing Day is entering its second year and looking forward to celebrating this year's graduating class of seniors that are entering the workforce. Workforce Signing Day 2022 is cohosted by SWFL Inc., The Lee County School District, Lee County Economic Development Office, MY Shower Door and D3 Glass.

"Employers are having a difficult time hiring people," Daubmann said. "This is a way to match employees with employers. The students going into the workforce are part of the community and are establishing roots in Southwest Florida."

While some students are bypassing secondary education and going into the workforce, some who attend the singing day will be working and going to college or receiving specialized training.

"The School District of Lee County is committed to encouraging our students to follow their individual passions and career pathways. We also recognize that successful workforce development requires community collaboration. We are grateful to our business partners, sponsors and local organizations for supporting and celebrating students who have made a plan and are entering directly into the workforce after high school," said Kelly Thawley, Career Specialist with the Lee County School District.

Rita Davis, Director of Adult and Career Education at the Lee Country School District added, "According to an April 2021 economic news release by the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, 67.2% of recent high school graduates not enrolled in college entered the workforce.

"Lee County understands the value of workforce entry post-graduation and we are proud to honor students who choose this path. We are also very grateful for the commitment of our business community to promote and support initiatives that celebrate our workforce-ready graduates."

Workforce Signing Day will be hosted on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at the School District of Lee County's Board Room. Check-in begins at 6:00 p.m. and the event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Supporters can RSVP for the limited capacity event by visit-



Photo: Danyella Orjuela was one of the seniors celebrated for entering the workforce postgraduation in 2021 at Workforce Signing Day. The event will be hosted again this year on Thursday, May 12.

ing SWFLInc.com/events/workforcesigning-day.

Various sponsorship opportunities are available for local businesses and individuals looking to support the incoming workforce or celebrate seniors they've already hired. For more information, contact Charles Stance at Charles@SWFLInc.com.

ABOUT SWFL INC.

SWFL Inc. is a regional chamber of commerce serving the Southwest Florida business community. It connects businesses to a regional net-

work of customers, offers educational resources to help them grow in a modern economy, and actively works to solve regional issues that impact the business community. At SWFL Inc., membership is free and open to all businesses to create (inc)lusive opportunities for all.

Ranked among the top one percent of chambers nationwide, SWFL Inc. produces exceptional business resources and programs to serve the business community, promote a region where business can grow and prosper and enhance the quality of life in Southwest Florida. 🤽

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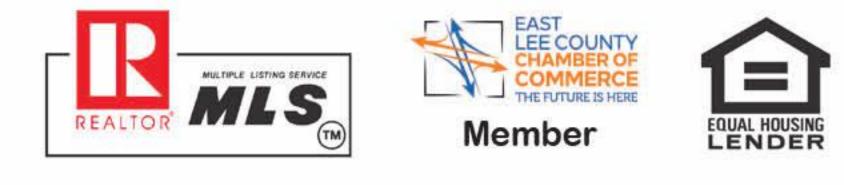
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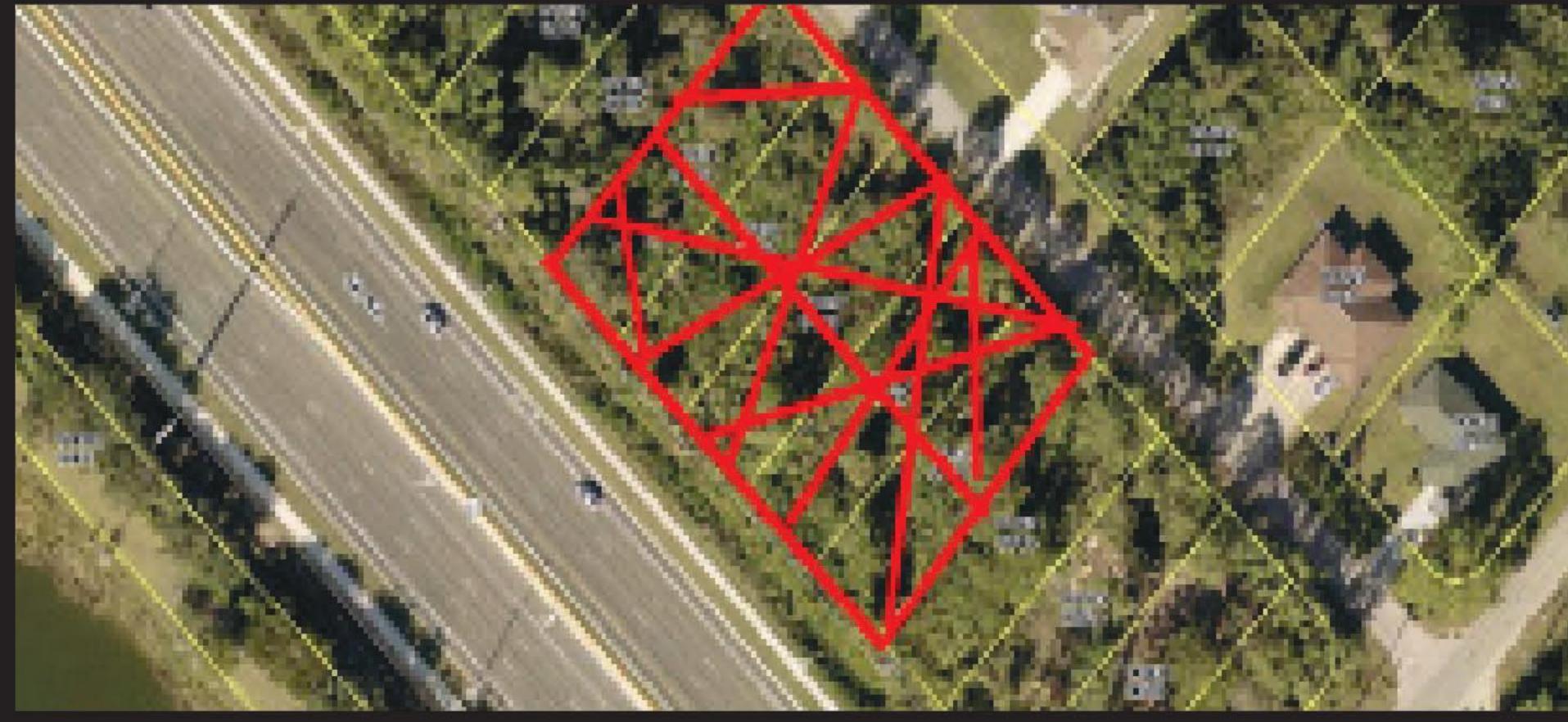


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Scott Fischer Charities Presents \$30,000 To Blessings In A Backpack Of Southwest Florida To Feed Children

Funds Were Raised At The 25th Annual Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational Submitted By Josh Milton

Scott Fischer Charities is proud to Southwest Florida with a check for \$30,000 to feed children every weekend during the school year when kids often go without food. The money was raised through the generosity of sponsors and golfers at the 25th Annual Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational organized each year by Scott Fischer and Lisa Farrell-Sands. Fischer and Farrell-Sands presented the check to Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida's Executive Director Cecilia St. Arnold at Villas Elementary School in Fort Myers with several students and administrators in attendance.

"We were so humbled by the continued generosity of Slaw Dog Invitational sponsors and golfers at our 25th annual event," said Fischer, founder of Scott Fischer Charities and owner of Scott Fischer Enterprises. "Together, we raised more than we ever have in the event's history, which allows us to make an even greater community impact."

Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida currently provides 201,400 meals to 5,900 children at 27 schools across Southwest Florida on weekends for an entire school year so they can return to class every Monday morning with a full stomach and an eager mind.

"With more and more families facing food insecurity, generous donations from the tournament help provide tens of thousands of meals to local children in need," said St. Arnold. "No child should have to go hungry."

This cause is near and dear to Fischer's heart. As a founding member of the Board of Directors for Blessings in a Backpack Southwest Florida, Fischer hopes to continue to raise money to feed more and more children each year.

Fischer and Farrell-Sands have carried on the invitational tournament in memory of Paul Sands and his legacy impact on the community. What started on a whim as two close friends reflected on the upcoming holidays after a round of golf, has grown into one of the most highly anticipated annual charity golf tournaments. The first Slaw Dog Invitational raised \$5,000, and by 2021, \$106,000 was raised in its 25th year.

Generous donations have helped schools, test scores, reading skills, present Blessings in a Backpack of to consecutively surpass the event's positive behavior, general health, and annual fundraising goals. David and school attendance have improved Charlyn Veracka, representing the dramatically due in part to students ingsinabackpack.org/. To make a taxentire Rockstar Harley-Davidson family, upped the game by donating \$50,000, in 2020, and committed to matching up to the first \$50,000 raised in 2021 hoping to help the event set another record.

> The 25th Annual Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational was held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at the Cypress Lake Country

SCOTT FISCHER CHARITIES

Scott Fischer Charities is a 501(c) (3) organization founded by Scott Fischer in 2007 out of his passion for his community. The organization has raised and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to support causes and organizations such as Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Any Soldier, REIS Scholarship Fund, Junior Achievement, United Way, PACE Center for Girls, as well as countless other groups supporting veterans, children and the disabled.

ABOUT THE ANNUAL PAUL SANDS MEMORIAL SLAW **DOG INVITATIONAL**

The Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational is an annual tournament held every December at the beautiful Cypress Lake Country Club in Fort Myers to benefit youth charities in Southwest Florida. Paul Sands, a prominent community figure and successful commercial real estate broker with a love for slaw dogs, initiated the tournament with a desire to help local youth around the holidays. Today, his dear friends Scott Fischer and Lisa Farrell-Sands continue the event in his memory. It has since grown to be one of the most impactful and highly anticipated tournaments in the area, raising nearly \$400,000 since its inception in 1996. For more information about the Slaw Dog Invitational, visit https://www. sfe-us.com/slaw-dog-invitational/.

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Animal Refuge Center To Officially Open The Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Clinic Submitted By Wayne Leinen

The Animal Refuge Center is excited to hold a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for the Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Clinic on Saturday, May 14th. The Critter Clinic is a state-of-the-art medical center that will benefit all the dogs and cats ARC takes in, who through no fault of their own, find themselves homeless, injured, or abandoned.

"Sharon Bodenhafer's legacy is one of love, rescue, generosity, and caring," says Animal Refuge Center Board President Wayne Leinen. "To say that Sharon was an animal lover, is an understatement. With the donation made by her husband in her honor, her legacy will now forever change the course of ours, and we are truly grateful."

The Critter Clinic is a 2,500 square foot intake and medical facility that replaces a much smaller and older building. The clinic has a digital xray machine and a digital dental lab to help trained staff diagnose any health issues when animals are accepted into the shelter. ARC routinely performs surgeries of different types on its property. The excellent medical staff performs everything from spays and neuters, to dentals and mass removals. These efforts will further be helped by the addition of a new anesthesia machine.

"Sharon had been rescuing dogs and cats her whole life, so many I could not count," says her husband Chuck Bodenhafer. "If she could not keep them, she found forever homes for them. I am proud to partner with

the Animal Refuge and honor her with the Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Clinic so that she can continue to save the lives of countless animals."

The ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony will take place at 12:00pm on Saturday, May 14th. The Animal Refuge Center is located at 18011 Old Bayshore Rd. in North Fort Myers.

ABOUT ANIMAL REFUGE CENTER (ARC)

The Animal Refuge Center is the largest no-kill shelter/sanctuary in Southwest Florida, providing interim

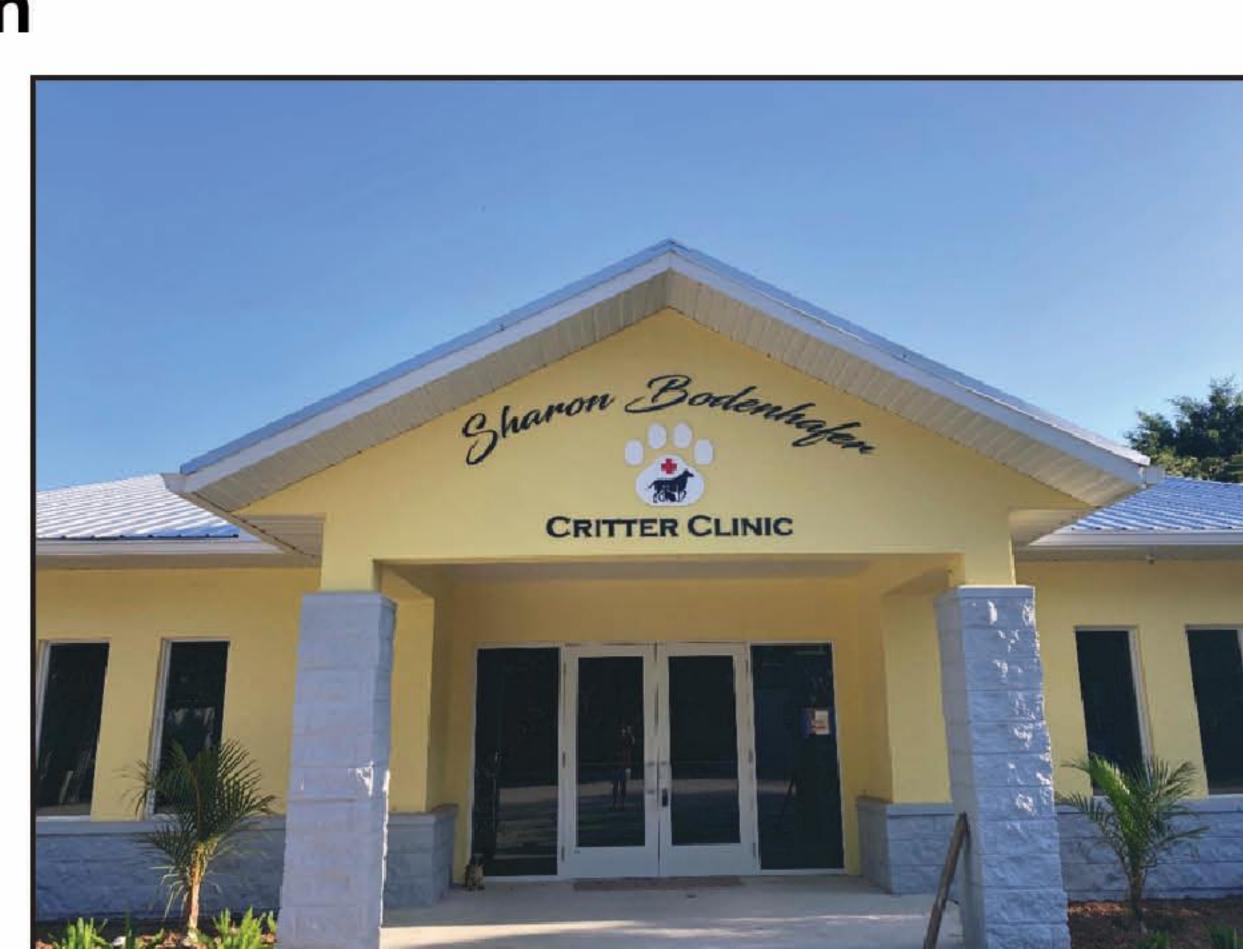


Photo: The New Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Clinic

shelter and medical care to cats and dogs placed in its care. The shelter's philosophy avows that once an animal is accepted in, it will not be destroyed to make room for another. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, ARC is entirely dependent on the support of public donations.

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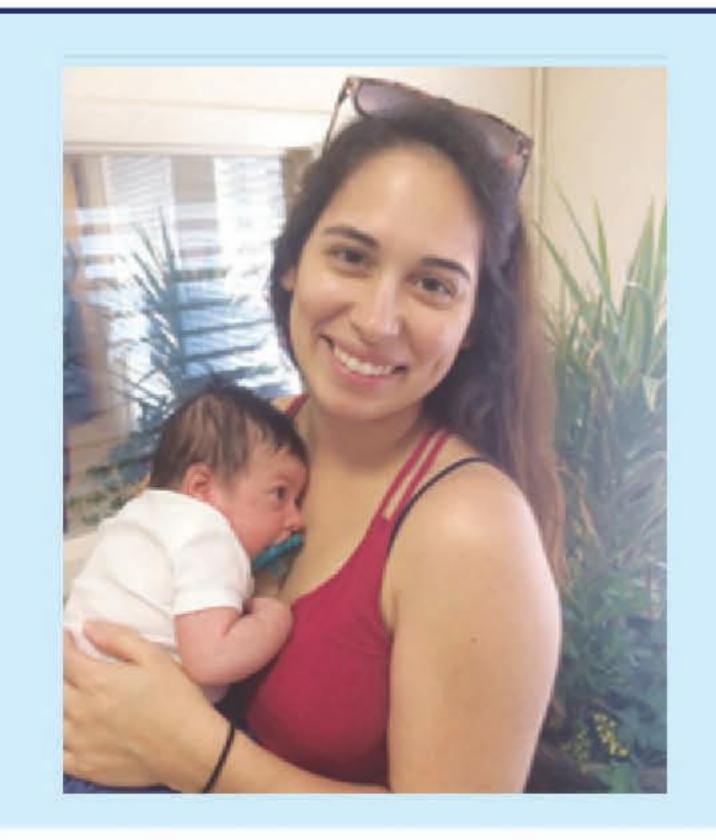
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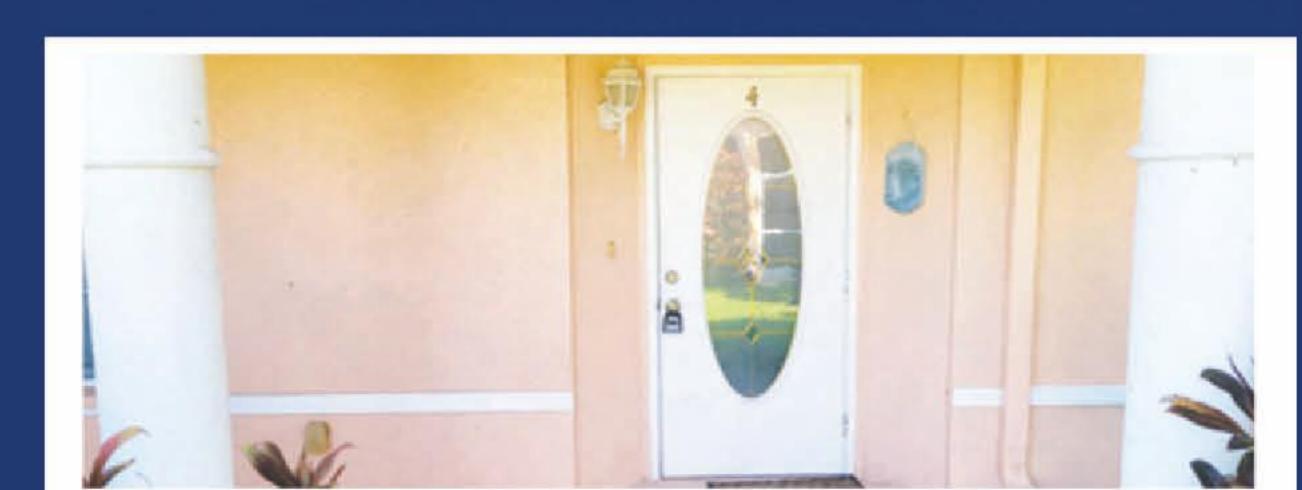
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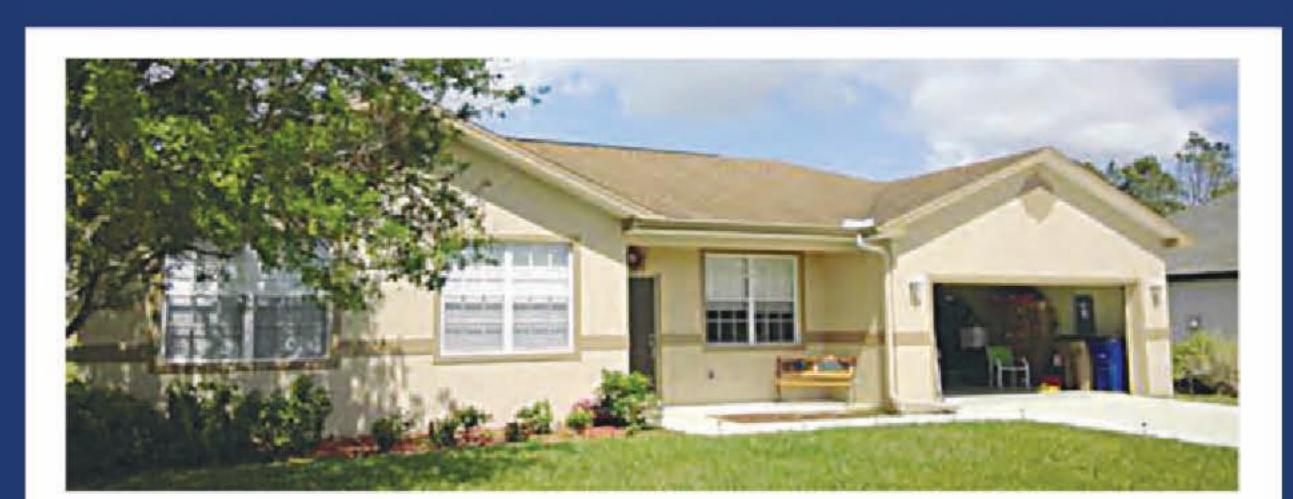


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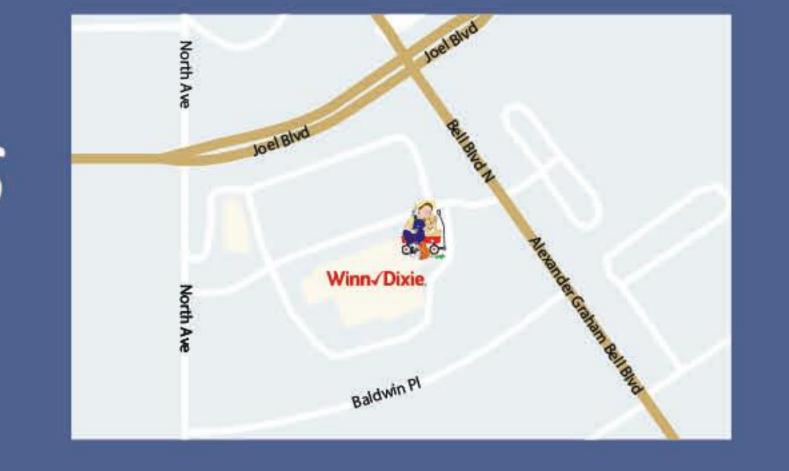
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Pet Allergies

WHAT IS AN ALLERGY?

An allergy occurs when the immune system overreacts and produces antibodies to substances that it would normally tolerate. This excessive response is considered and allergic or hypersensitive reaction. Allergies can develop to any substance that a pet is exposed to. Food, fleas, seasonal environmental allergens (grasses or pollens) or indoor allergens (dust mites and molds).

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

The immune system's job is to keep you healthy by fighting harmful pathogens. It does this by attacking anything it thinks could put your body in danger. Depending on the allergy, this response may involve inflammation, or a host of other symptoms.

The most common symptom associated with allergies is localized (in one area) or generalized (all over the body) itching of the skin and ears. In some pets, licking or chewing the feet, limbs or belly may lead to skin infections or recurrent ear infections. In some cases, the symptoms involve the respiratory system, with coughing, sneezing, and/or wheezing. Sometimes, there may be runny discharge from the eyes or nose. In the case of food allergies, the digestive sys-

By Dr. Veja Tillman, DVM

tem may be affected, resulting in vomiting, diarrhea, or chronic anal gland issues.

HOW COMMON ARE ALLERGIES?

Allergies are very common and often occur after the age of 6 months. They are more commonly seen around the age of 1-2 years old. This is because it takes time for the body to become sensitized to the substance the pet is allergic to. Common pet allergies include contact allergies, food allergies, environmental allergies (or a more severe form termed Atopic Dermatitis) and flea allergies.

DIAGNOSING ALLERGIES

Diagnosing allergies can sometimes be difficult. Especially since the signs of allergies can be confused with other disorders, or they can occur simultaneously. Be prepared for your pet to receive a full diagnostic evaluation to rule out other causes of itching and skin problems. Your veterinarian will also discuss allergy testing either by a blood test or skin test. In some instances, biopsies of the skin may be required.

TREATMENT OF ALLERGIES

Because there is no one size fits all treatment for allergies, there are many allergy

or wheezing. Sometimes, there may be

Montage Women's 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, May 26th, and our speaker will be Jan Fifer from Special Equestrians (a therapeutic riding center that offers equine-assisted

activities and other therapies). Special Equestrians is a non-profit agency who serves both children and adults with disabilities in Southwest Florida. They are located in the Buckingham area of Fort Myers. Luncheon fee is \$25.00 per person and the planned menu will be turkey, fresh asparagus and Parmesan crepes with sundried tomato cream, harvested wild rice, rolls and butter, and Chef's choice of dessert. There is always an optional plant-based/vegan menu entrée with fresh fruit for dessert available.

If you would like to attend a Montage meeting, need further information, or would like to make a reservation, please call Rita Artwohl at (239) 703-7787. Reservations cut-off to attend this meeting is Noon, Thursday, May 19th.

treatments available for pets. Allergy treatment and control may take several months of trial and error to find a protocol that best controls your pets' signs effectively

Common treatments for allergies include:

- Anti-itch therapy: Use of daily oral or injectable medications that block itching and inflammation.
- Medicated shampoos which help keep the skin barrier healthy and prevent secondary infections
- Antihistamines aid in reducing sneezing and watery eyes.
- Special Diets which help pets avoid food allergens and help strengthen the skins barrier.
- Hyposensitization: Allergy shots which contain very small doses of allergens, given daily to desensitize the immune system.
- Antibiotics and Topical ear medi-

cations: Sometimes used to treat secondary infections to help control allergy symptoms.

There is no cure for allergies. The goal of allergy treatment is to control the clinical signs and keep your pet happy and healthy. It is important to maintain contact with your veterinarian to adjust treatments for your pet based on their response.

If you suspect that your pet may have allergies, make an appointment to have them evaluated by your veterinarian today.

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 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.



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Lee County Commissioner Ray Sandelli: "East Lee County... Our Time" By Mike Welch

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Lee County Com-

missioner Ray Sandelli in this month's Voices of Lehigh section makes some thoughtful remarks about East Lee County/Lehigh as "Our Time." Of course, he is so right about that as eyes turn to the east as we experience rapid growth as more people move into our region. Ray is no stranger to our communities in the East. Beginning with his appointment by Governor DeSantis to the County Commission, Ray has focused on infrastructure and economic growth for the communities of the East. I hope you enjoy his article. Feel free to contact him at dist3@ leegov.com or call 239.533-2223.

Sheriff Carmine Marceno touches on a topic of grave concern for us and for our citizens in Eastern Lee County -Aggressive Driving and Road Rage. I do not have to tell you of the heartbreaking and deadly road accidents that are occurring all too often on our roads. I also do not have to tell you of the reckless and thoughtless "few" that cause a number of these tragedies due to reckless, rageful and bullying driving that is going on. It almost seems that Lee Blvd. and SR82 have become dangerous drag strips that are now venues of life changing tragedies. I hope you read the Sheriff's article. Call 911 if you feel unsafe and threatened.



Photo: East Lee County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors/staff (Doris Moore - center)

A FOND FAREWELL!

The East Lee Chamber of Commerce bid a farewell and best wishes for a great retirement for our financial di-

rector - Mrs. Doris Moore. Chamber Directors and staff gathered at our April 2022 Board Meeting to wish Doris the best! Thank you for everything Doris!

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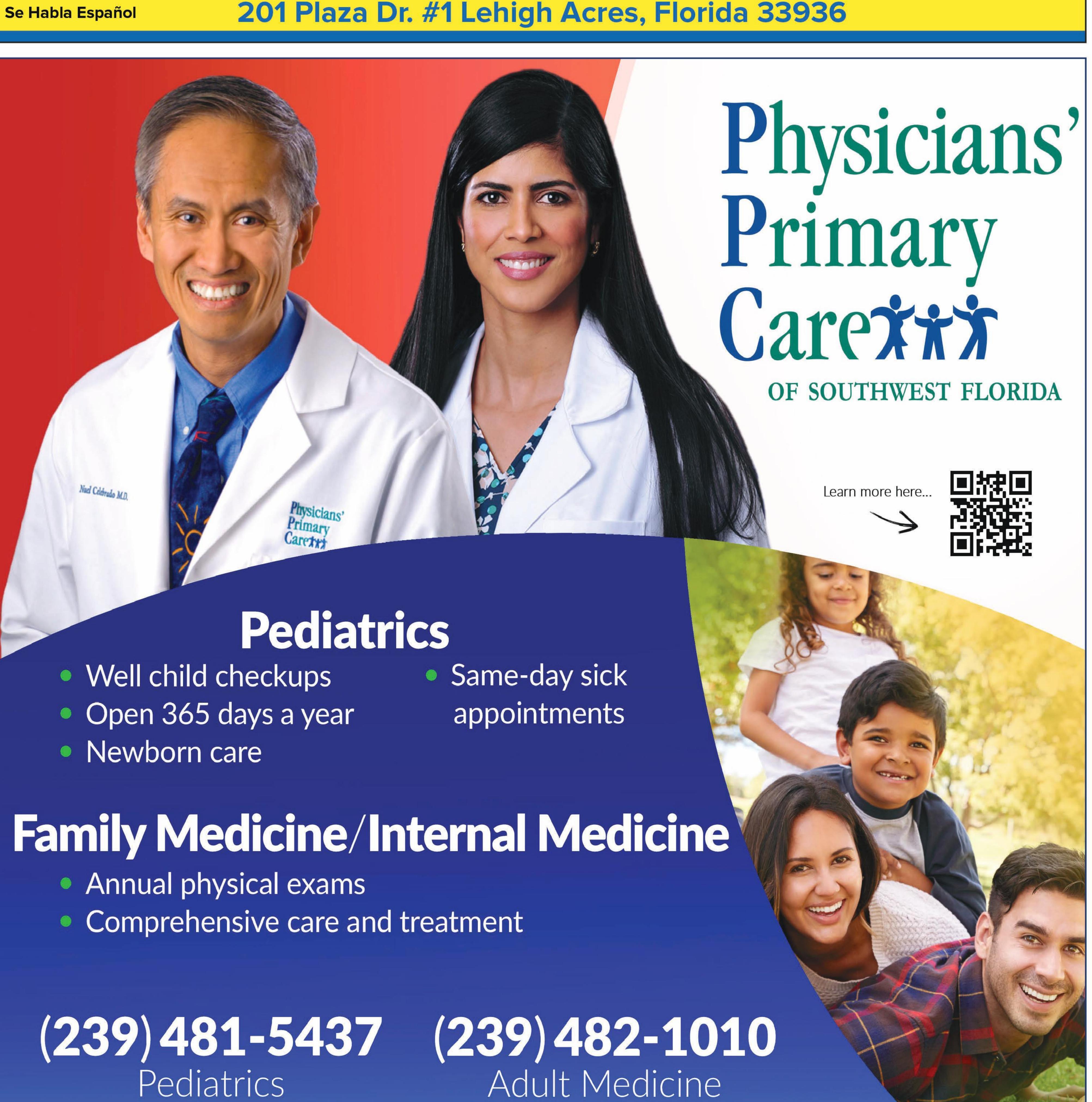
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East Lee County... "Our Time"



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

In one of my very first calls when I assumed my role as a County Commis-

sioner in 2019, I asked not where we were as a county, but where are we going? It was evident growth was coming our way and those with thoughtful insight offered that East Lee County would play an important

part in the way forward. The question was when?

In 2020, the unexpected challenges of the pandemic did not create new trends but rather accelerated existing ones. The "move' was occurring prior to the pandemic, already spurred by geographic, demographic and consumer shifts throughout the United States.

The real estate industry is equal

sive, careless and unsafe operation

of their vehicle. Behaviors such

as speeding, tailgating, weaving

through traffic, horn-honking and

abrupt lane-changing prompt "high-

anger drivers" to react poorly to this

Many of these incidents can be

Changing lanes when being tail-

gated. While tailgating is unsafe

and a ticketable offense, you need

not allow it to escalate into an in-

By Commissioner Ray Sandelli

parts local, regional, and national yet are tied together by such common factors as the availability of labor, cost of materials, and available land. Add to that rising inflation, cost of financing, and the challenges increase. Which leads to the key factor of sustainable and affordable workforce housing. In essence we have more demand than supply, which pushes cost up.

By adding to the supply side we

keep our workforce employed, work to get housing stock up, and create new communities which brings people together to work and play. The "template" of ample or usable green space, protection of our precious waters, wildlife and smart housing does exist, however there is more work to do.

So where are we going? East...and no question the timing is now!

Aggressive Driving, Road Rage On The Rise

manner of driving.

avoided. Consider:



Photo: Sheriff Carmine Marceno, Lee County Sheriff

The growth of population and the increased traffic that accompanies such growth appears to

generate a rise in patterns of driver frustration. Sprinkle in the additional stressors of a pandemic, inflation and other the other tensions that most of us experience and you have a recipe for "road rage."

Some drivers engage in aggres-

cident.

- Allowing others to pass.
- If another driver uses inappropriate finger gestures, ignore them.
- Avoid eye contact. Many reports indicate that eye contact escalates these "ragers."
- Attempt to remain behind angry drivers. You are far less likely to be injured if you do so.
- Never exit your vehicle to confront another driver.
- Pull off of the road, if necessary. When doing so, utilize well-lit, populated areas. Create space be-

tween your vehicle and theirs by allowing them to leave the scene.

By Sheriff Carmine Marceno

 Contact the Lee County Sheriff's Office or local law enforcement should you feel threatened or unsafe.

These incidents will continue to occur. A simple driving error may prompt anger and violence. However, calm and non-antagonistic behavior can usually deescalate an incident. Be courteous, non-confrontational and mature while operating your vehicle. 🤽



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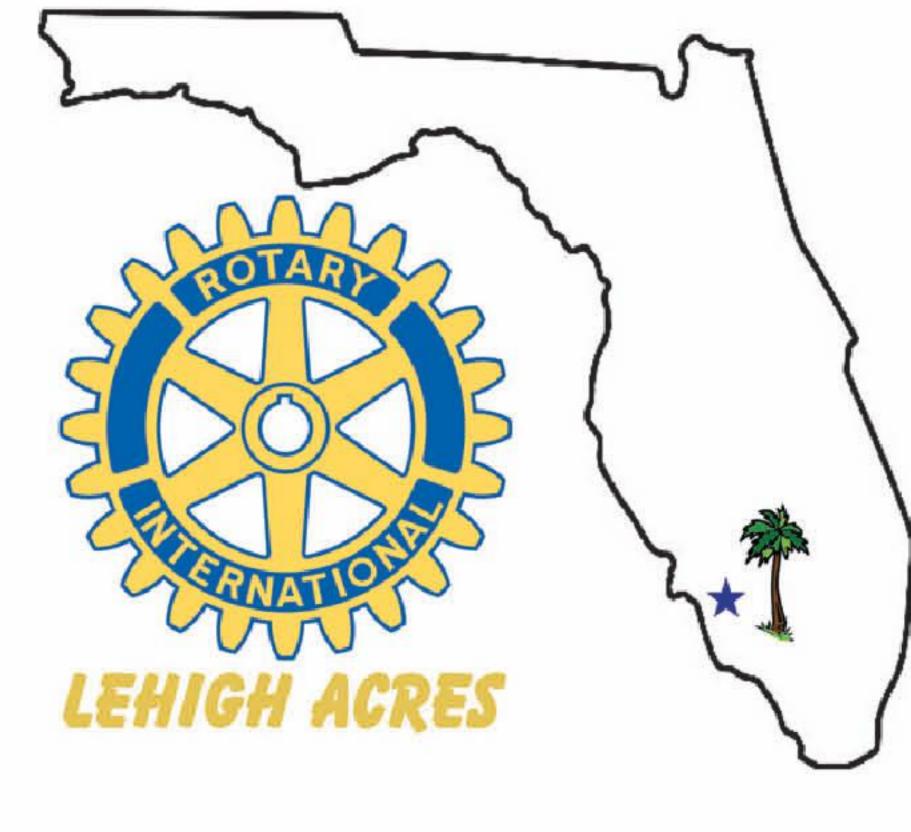
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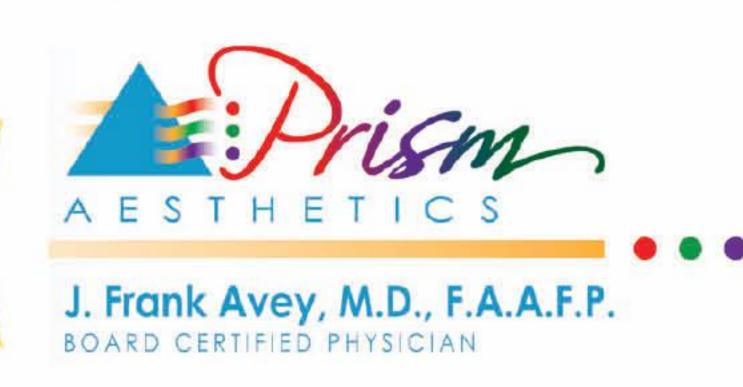


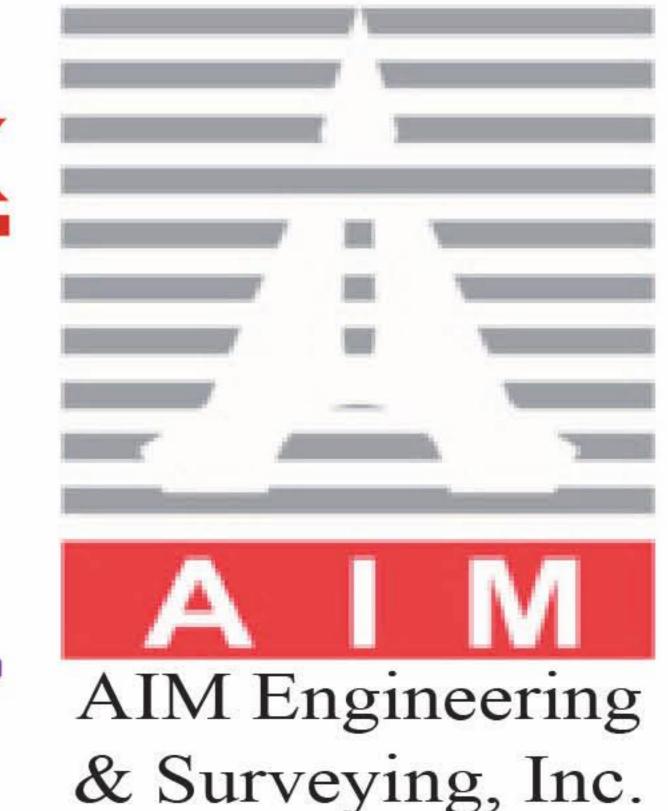


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MOTHER'S DAY - WORD SEARCH

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May 8

No Socks Day

It's time to get out your sandals and flip flops. For today is No Socks Day. Go ahead..... free your toes of the confines of socks and stockings. Give those toes of yours a breath of fresh air. The creators of this day also profess that No Socks Day will reduce your laundry load, and therefore, is healthy for the environment. It's easy to participate in No Socks Day. Just leave your socks and stocking off, and let your toes enjoy a moment in the sun! Note: While washing your feet prior to participating in No Socks Day is a requirement, painting your toe nails is completely optional.

May 11

Eat What You Want Day

What would you like to have to eat today? Okay, great.....health permitting, go ahead and have any and all of your favorite foods and snacks. Because today is Eat What You Want Day. Eat What You Want Day is definitely not a day for diets. It is one single, solitary day in the year to go off your diet and eat something you really enjoy, Today, you can set aside your dietary "No-No" list. Today, you can splurge. Tomorrow, it's back to the diet. It is important to note that today is not intended to eat as much as you want. Rather, the goal is to eat something you otherwise wouldn't have. If you are watching carbs or calories, simply keep within your limits by eating just a small amount of that favorite treat. Caution: People with allergies and/or medical conditions, may not be able to fully participate in this day. Simply said: Do not risk your health to participate in this day.

May 14

Dance Like a Chicken Day

Dance Like a Chicken Day is for those who like to do the "Chicken Dance". All 'ya gotta do is dance like a chicken. While any dance song will do, there's no dance like the Chicken dance. It's tradition at every wedding reception to play and to dance the Chicken Dance. It gets people of all ages up dancing and mingling. It puts a smile on everyone's face. The Chicken Dance is not limited to weddings. It is also played at other social events where there is a band and dancing. The only problem is that events are way too frequent for a chicken dance lover. Therefore, today exists to provide you with another opportunity to dance like a chicken. So, don't pass up this priceless opportunity.

May 25

National Wine Day

Tap the keg. Crack open a bottle. Today is National Wine Day. People have been drinking wine since the early days of man (and woman). There

are plenty of references to wine in the Bible. Wine has thankfully been around for thousands of years. There are many varieties of grapes, giving us the opportunity to make and enjoy, hundreds of different varieties of wines. Made from fermented grapes, wine is easy to make. As a result, there are many home vintners among us. While you don't have to drink wine today to celebrate this day, it certainly would not be as much fun.

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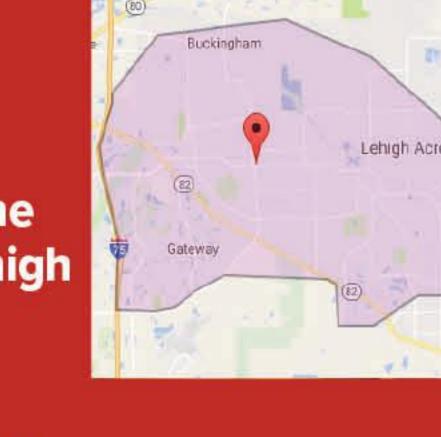
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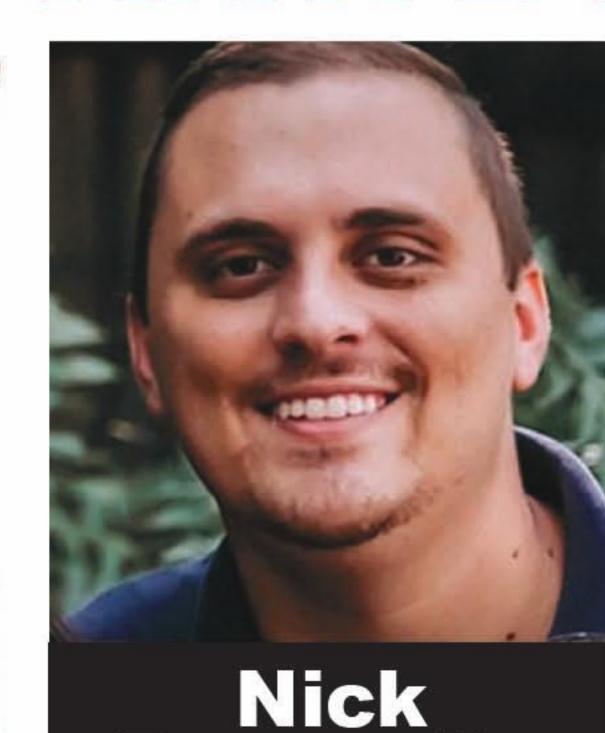
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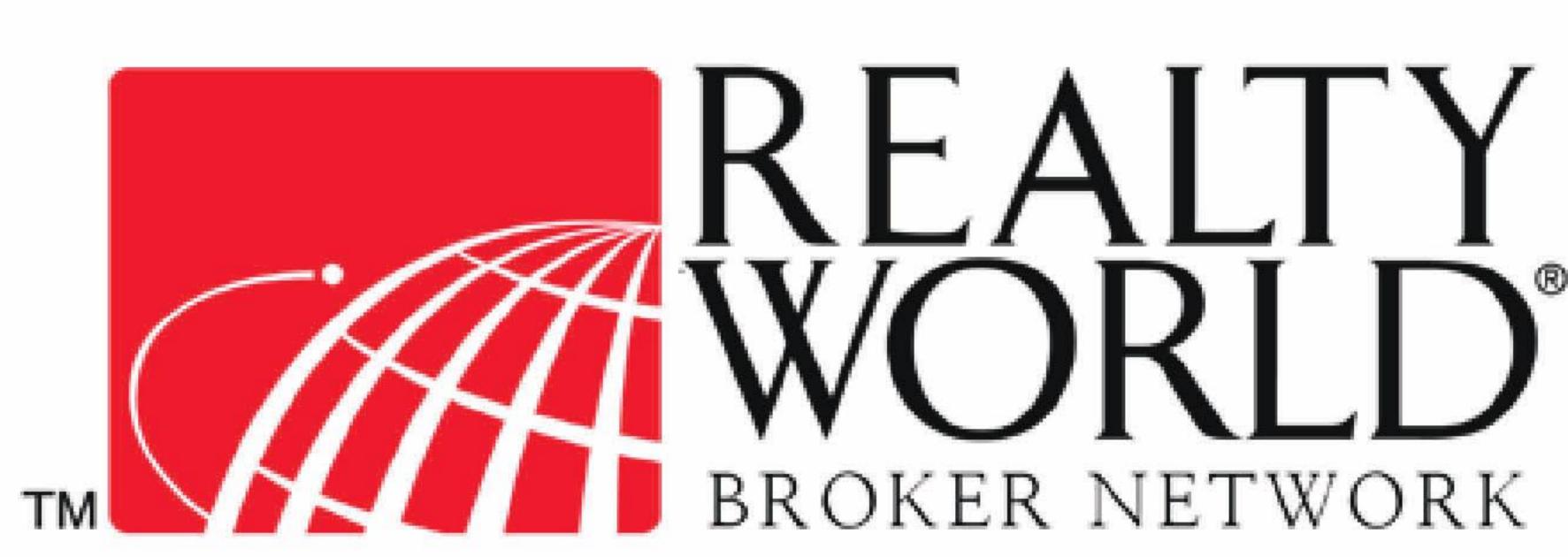
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