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EAST LEE COUNTY NEWS | DANIELS CORRIDOR

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Exciting News: Potential New YMCA Facility

Butch Swank | butch@goodladandswank.com | President, SWFL Business Alliance & Owner, Goodlad & Swank Insurance, LLC



I've got some cool news to share. First, though, I want you to know a survey is involved, and we must get as many people as possible to complete it. I have a QR code and the link further below. Ok, back to the cool news. I imagine you remember Gwyn Gittens, former District 5 Lee County School Board member, being very active during her time there. Well, you won't be surprised to hear she keeps busy serving our community by being on the YMCA's Executive Board of Directors. She's been advocating for us to get our own Y for over two years. Just like her time on the School Board, she's been very effective on the Board of the YMCA. Gwyn's work has brought us to the point that the YMCA is considering establishing a brand-new facility right in Lehigh Acres. The potential new center could offer many different options, and it's up to us to let the YMCA know what we need. So, again, I really would like it if you could scan the QR Code below and fill out that survey. The YMCA has, in the past, put community surveys out in other areas only to get very few responses. The YMCA correctly decided against moving forward with a new facility there because it was clear that the community had little interest.

Personally, I think we desperately need a YMCA. This proposed facility could feature a crazy amount of amenities and programs tailored to meet the different needs of our growing community. What amenities are you talking about, Butch? Great question! They're considering after-school care to give our kids extra help with educational activities after school hours. There could also be youth programs that we need so much to keep our young people in a positive and enriching environment. I spent a lot of time at the Y as a kid, and looking back, I know it helped me a lot. First, it helped keep me out of trouble and second, I got to be

around some truly great people that helped shape who I am today. The Y is even where I had my first job, which was as a lifeguard. Man, I remember feeling so cool putting that lanyard with a whistle around my neck. I was drunk with lifeguard power, and on top of that, the Y even paid me to do it! Great, great memories. I'm pretty sure I spent every penny I earned on plastic worms, hooks, and fishing line, but I stand by that decision and have no regrets.

The facility could also offer a swimming pool for lessons, aquatic exercise, lane time for athletes and triathletes, and a basketball court providing a space for other sports and fitness activities.

Finally, the new YMCA could create opportunities for our senior citizens to stay active and connected through different engaging activities for older people. Also, we currently have no real spaces for people to gather, and the Y could also provide a place for gatherings, events, and meetings. We definitely could use that!

Participating in the YMCA's survey is essential for this fantastic opportunity to become a reality. The survey does two things: if they get enough responses, it will let the YMCA know that our community desperately needs a facility here and also tell them what we lack and what we want. Your response is crucial because it will directly influence the YMCA's planning and development of this project so it can best serve the needs and desires of our community.

For the gazillionth time, please fill out the dangd survey. Yes, we're getting some new restaurants (Holy cow, did you know we're getting a Chick-fil-A? Woo-hoo!!!), but facilities like this are not anywhere on the horizon, and the YMCA wants to step up and make this happen. I am grateful for all the Y has done for me, and I would love to see the same opportunity for our kids and community in general. QR or click away, please! 🐾

TAKE OUR SURVEY

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

the

TAKE OUR ONLINE SURVEY

A Message From the Lee County Supervisor of Elections

The Honorable Tommy Doyle | Lee County Supervisor of Elections



As your Supervisor of Elections, it is my duty to ensure you are well-informed and prepared for all elections. We are now entering the final stretch toward the November 5th General Election, and I would like to provide you with essential information to make sure you have a positive voting experience.

If you have not registered to vote, the deadline is Monday, October 7th. You can register to vote at www.registerto-voteflorida.gov.

If you have recently moved, please update your address with our office. As a Lee County voter, it is your responsibility to keep your voter information current, which is crucial when it comes to voting. Your address determines where you vote and the contests that appear on your ballot.

How long has it been since you updated your signature? Whether voting by mail or casting a Provisional Ballot, your signature is critical to ensuring your vote is counted.

Under the Florida Election Code, the signature on your Vote-by-Mail or Provisional Ballot must match the one my office has on file.

Updating is easy—fill out a Florida Voter Registration Application and return it to any Lee County Elections Office. For a list of office locations, visit the Lee County Elections website, LEE.VOTE.

VOTING BY MAIL

If you still need to do so, consider requesting a Vote-by-Mail Ballot. It's the most convenient way to vote and the return postage is paid. Think of it as an insurance

policy against unexpected life events that could prevent you from going to the polls. The hurricane season is not over. Cast your ballot securely, no matter what happens.

The deadline to request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is 5:00 pm. Thursday, October 24th. Request your Vote-by-Mail Ballot on our website.

EARLY VOTING

I anticipate a high voter turnout for the upcoming November 5th General Election. If you prefer to vote in person, you do not have to wait until Election Day. Take advantage of the Early Voting period, Monday, October 21st, through Saturday, November 2nd.

Early Voting allows you to vote at any of the 12 available locations, open from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Visit our website for a list of locations and live wait times.

ELECTION DAY

On Election Day, you can only vote in your assigned precinct. The polls open at 7:00 am and close at 7:00 pm. You must be in line by 7:00 pm to vote!

To save time at the polls, read through and mark your sample ballot before heading out to vote. You can access your sample ballot on the Lee County Elections website.

My staff and I continue to work diligently to protect the security of your vote and ensure that elections in Lee County remain accurate, safe, and transparent. The Supervisor of Elections Office is your trusted source for election information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to my dedicated staff and me at 239-LEE-VOTE (533-8386) or elections@lee.vote. 🐾

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The Sand Dollar



Kevin Karnes | Lee County Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

You work hard for your money. As a taxpayer, you deserve to know that your tax dollars are being protected.

As Lee County's Comptroller, I serve as the county's auditor, recorder and custodian of funds. This is a very important part of my job, as I am responsible for managing and investing nearly \$2 billion of Lee County's tax dollars.

Serving as the Comptroller essentially means I am Lee County's Chief Financial Officer. My goal is to promote transparency and shine a light on how your tax dollars are being managed and spent—while also ensuring a system of checks and balances.

A big part of this effort includes the financial report my office produces each year titled The Sand Dollar. It is a free report that can be downloaded at www.leeclerk.org/thesanddollar. I strongly encourage you to read it and learn exactly how your tax dollars are being used. It goes into great detail about Lee County's finances and key economic factors impacting county residents.

The Sand Dollar is an easy-to-read guide that outlines trends in county property taxes, housing, employment, and major construction projects impacting residents. Information about tourism revenue, investments, debt, and Hurricane Ian relief and expenditures are also featured.

It has extremely valuable data on the county's economic and fiscal health, which

has a profound effect on all of our personal bottom lines.

Highlights of this year's The Sand Dollar include:

- During the last fiscal year, the county incurred approximately \$190.7 million in Hurricane Ian-related expenses, received \$71.9 million in stat, and federal grant funds and received \$12.7 million in insurance reimbursements.
- Lee County is home to one of the fastest-growing populations in the country, increasing by 24.5% since 2014.
- The median single-family home sales price decreased 3.6% over the last fiscal year while total home sales decreased by 10.5%.
- Property tax collections increased 87.4% over the past decade. In fiscal year 2023, Lee County hit a new record, with more than \$506.6 million in property taxes collected.
- Impact fees grew to \$39,603,671. Impact fees ensure that new developments help pay for the increased transportation, parks, schools, fire protection, and emergency medical services that are needed by that development.

You can learn more about county finances and the financial reports available from our office by visiting www.leeclerk.org/finances.

It is an honor and privilege to serve you and Lee County. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at kkarnes@leeclerk.org. 🐾

The Principled Philosophy Behind Cryptocurrency

Trey English

This month marks 16 years since the release of the nine-page Bitcoin Whitepaper (<https://bitcoin.org/bitcoin.pdf>) and through it the conceptual invention of cryptocurrency. In that time, cryptocurrency has grown from nothing to be worth over \$2 Trillion, following roughly a power-law curve. Most fads unfold differently and last for a shorter time, making cryptocurrency look like a trend. So, you might ask, what drives this? Why does cryptocurrency exist, and why now? Should I do something?

Money and its meaning underpin these questions. Money is a special pervasive good that holds value and can be traded for anything. It endures and can be exchanged over distances. Many types of money have been tried: precious metals, shells, beads, carved stones, cocoa beans, feathers, coins, paper bills, and careful records (on media from clay tablets to computers), to name some. For a form of money to be good, it must be mutually desired and hard to create. People have to want it, and if it is too easy to make more, inflation undermines it as society becomes flooded.

The Bitcoin breakthrough came in 2008 from a still-anonymous person or group going by the name Satoshi Nakamoto. The Whitepaper outlined a new money that was digital for modern needs and hard to duplicate through its very nature. By design, no one can make more than what is prescribed by the system's rules, taking money-creation out of human hands. The technology behind cryptocurrency is quite complex, meriting its own articles and books, but that doesn't matter for a high-level understanding. You just need to know that—when functioning properly—compelling incentives, math, and computer algorithms keep people from making more than is intended.

The other key ingredient of money, that it be wanted, wasn't certain when the Bitcoin Whitepaper was written, but has turned out to be true. Hundreds of millions of people worldwide choose to own it and have given it enormous value. Part of that value comes from speculation, part from utility, and part from principled philosophical appeal.

A cornerstone of cryptocurrency's principled philosophy is that governments should not have the power to create money—that we are better served by separation of money and state, if you will. Today around 160 national currencies exist, all over time suffering inflation from new money creation. Some—like Sudan's—have triple-digit inflation, some—like Egypt's—double-digit, and some—like the US's—single-digit. With time, this takes away almost everything. A dollar bill from 50 years ago holds just 16% of its original value (<https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/>). If you owned one of those, now it's gone and you're left with just a bad tip.

The Cantillon Effect explains that when a government creates new money, it enriches the privileged close to the government. Value is taken from the people and given to bankers and other powerful government-aligned individuals. This causes strife with obscure origin for the general population, bringing a sense that things are going wrong and they are getting cheated by the rich and well connected. It also funds government warmaking and other harmful actions in ways and to degrees not wanted by the people. Advocates motivated by its principled philosophy see cryptocurrency as a tool to fix this money-creation problem and with it many of society's ills.

A heroic analogy comes from The Lord of the Rings trilogy (movies worth watching based on a book worth reading). In this story, the villain Sauron makes a magi-

cal ring to force his rule over the fictional world called Middle-earth. This evil ring, like the power to arbitrarily create money, corrupts all who come into contact with it. It twists the simplest of folk (Hobbits, in the story), and drives the more sophisticated (Humans, Elves, Dwarves, and others) to crazed evil. Many cryptocurrency advocates see themselves as fighting a similar malevolent force.

And they see this era as special. Governments increasingly apply new technology to surveil citizens, like the growing Eye of Sauron in the story. And with artificial intelligence a government can now manufacture policy-enforcing agents separate from its own citizens, like the story's unnatural mass production of Orc soldiers in pits in Isengard. Permissionless rules-following cryptocurrency resists this pattern and shifts power away from expanding governments. Cryptocurrency advocates tend to believe in limiting centralized authority and strengthening individuals.

To continue the analogy, like the many creature types of Middle-earth, there are now diverse cryptocurrency communities striving for change. CoinMarketCap (<https://coinmarketcap.com/>) lists thousands of cryptocurrencies, each with its own community. Like the Humans, Elves, Dwarves, Hobbits, and other denizens of Middle-earth, these communities bring different cultures and ideals. Among them lies a place for almost anyone.

A taste of this diversity comes by sampling just three: Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Monero. Bitcoin, as touched on above, was the first, and remains the largest. With a limit of 21 million Bitcoins set to ever exist, its community argues for the soundest possible noninflationary money. The no-frills case for Bitcoin is much like the case for gold. Ethereum, on the other hand, was the first major cryptocurrency to enable general user-created software to execute as part of its core security. This software, called smart contracts, allows purposeful computer processes to be guaranteed to run and automatically move money. The Ethereum community seeks new uses for digital money. The cryptocurrency Monero applies cryptography to hide its own transactions. You cannot just look at the public record and see who owns what or has sent how much to whom. Its community advocates for personal privacy as a fundamental right.

You can see how these example communities differ. The principled philosophy that aligns them, and most of the thousands of other cryptocurrencies, is a belief in finding a better way than traditional government money. And this brings us to where analogy with The Lord of the Rings stops. In the story, the characters know that the evil ring can be destroyed in only one way: in lava in the volcano Mount Doom. In our world, it isn't clear which approach—Bitcoin, Ethereum, Monero, one of the thousands of other cryptocurrencies, or something yet to come—might end government money creation and control. Individual cryptocurrencies can rise and fall while the principled philosophy behind them remains.

Money represents all of life's material goods and more: even glory, vanquishing rivals, and power can often be purchased. The Cantillon Effect tells us we should fix government money as it exists because the wrong people get enormous benefit while others get hurt. How and if we do this forms an important milestone on humanity's winding path ahead, through forests, rivers, and misty mountains. At 16, the cryptocurrency movement is young. If any of these philosophical points resonate with you, you might want to investigate and see if you should follow and encourage it, or even if, like a Lord of the Rings character, you have a personal role to play in the unfolding story. 🐾

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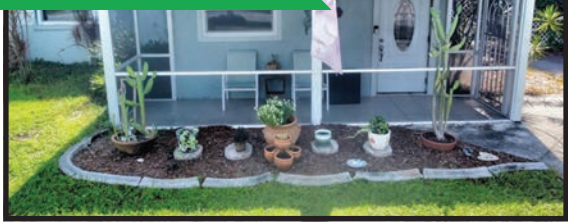


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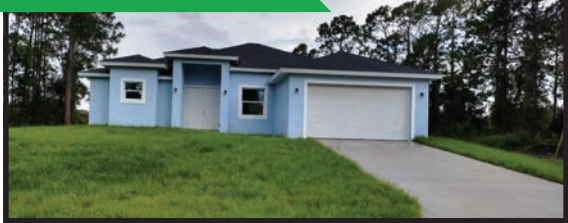


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What To Do—and in What Order—When Your Home Floods

Resident of Lee County

I didn't lose my home, but I lost everything inside when Hurricane Ian flooded it with three feet of filthy canal water and septic waste on September 28, 2022. Walking in the next morning, the smell was overwhelming—dead fish and sewage. My furniture was tossed, and everything below four feet was covered in a greasy, infectious sludge. The wood furniture and cabinets were already warping, and most of my clothes were ruined. I had virtually nothing left.

Despite the devastation, I considered myself lucky—so many lost so much more.

To complicate things, I had just signed a contract to sell the house two weeks earlier. My buyers, who had sold their home and were renting locally, had three options: back out, renegotiate the price, or let me restore the home to its pre-Ian condition. They chose the third option, and we agreed to close on October 31, with the understanding that repairs might not be complete. Thankfully, they loved the home, and by December 14, all repairs were finished.

I learned valuable lessons about flood recovery and saved money by acting quickly. Some neighbors, who waited, had more damage and higher costs due to mold and rot setting in.

Here are those lessons. My top advice: ACT NOW, MOURN LATER. The busyness can be therapeutic.

BEFORE A FLOOD THREAT

Stopping several feet of water from entering your home is nearly impossible, so instead, focus on evacuating early. Take yourself, loved ones, pets, critical items (e.g., prescriptions, important documents, valuables), and your vehicles out of the area before the storm hits. This simple step can save your car from flood damage, as many auto insurance policies won't cover vehicles left in a predicted flood zone. Even if insurance covers it, replacement delays can hinder your recovery process.

Be cautious about insurance advocates. While they may seem helpful, ensure you get referrals from those with good experiences. Some prefer managing claims directly

without middlemen to avoid added complexity.

AFTER A FLOOD

1. Apply for FEMA Help Early: Submit an estimate of your losses as soon as possible since FEMA assistance often operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Even if you have no idea what the total loss is, do your best to guesstimate and apply for help. After receiving funds, avoid further involvement if possible. Stay at your property and monitor the recovery process closely.
2. Dry Everything Out: Remove all flood-damaged items (furniture, rugs, papers, etc.) immediately. If the power is not restored within a day or two, rent or buy a gas or diesel-powered generator. Don't try to save anything if the water is dirty. Buy (rent, or borrow) one or more constant-drain dehumidifiers, a hose for each one long enough to reach out through your garage or another suitable, lockable door, and get them running as soon as possible. If/once your A/C is intact and you have power, run the A/C too. Keep the dehumidifiers running throughout the entire process and steps described here. You will be glad you did.
3. Start Lining Up Help: Hire help for heavy lifting, teardown, and rebuild. Get references, compare quotes, and break payments into thirds. Act quickly, as contractors and supplies will be in high demand.
4. Salvage What You Can: Save reusable items like countertops or fixtures, but replace what's damaged. Some choices will be based on necessity, others on preference.
5. Order Supplies Early: Supplies will run out fast, so order critical items like generators, dehumidifiers, bleach, drywall, and any rebuilding materials as soon as possible.
6. Clean Out Your Garage: Use it as a staging area for new materials and a secure storage space.
7. Set Up a Simple Work Area: A small table and chairs in the garage will be handy for paperwork and breaks during the rebuild. 🐾

Consider an Electric Vehicle in Your Hurricane Prep

Terri Lewis | Director, Planet Connected

As we head full into the hurricane season, an electrical vehicle (EV) might be a good option in the case of loss of power. There are many reasons why people buy EV's in Florida; fun to drive, reduced maintenance costs, no emissions, etc. One added reason is that an EV can provide backup power in the case of power outages. After Ian, about 98% of the population of Lee County had lost power, with some lasting for days. As we all get ready for hurricane season, here are some aspects to consider for incorporating EV's into your hurricane preparedness plan.

VEHICLE-TO-LOAD (V2L)

For EV's, there are two important technologies to consider; vehicle-to-load (V2L) and vehicle-to-home (V2H). "Having a car that is V2L capable means that you can connect your car's batteries to provide power to appliances, like refrigerators, freezers, fans, etc. With tens of kilowatts of power, most cars can power critical appliances for days.

VEHICLE-TO-HOME (V2H)

With a V2H capable EV it means that your car can be incorporated directly into your home's power network. In the case of a power outage, your car's batteries provide power to your whole home. If your home or business has the ability to generate power, as when paired with roof-top solar, your home becomes a "micro-grid" with a disconnect until the power is resumed from the utility.

For storm prep, the primary benefit is powering homes during power outages. It is not any different than a generator, except that when combined with solar, V2H EV's can help reduce your utility bill every day, storing solar energy during the day to be used during the night. Generators are only used when the power is out. When comparing the financial investment in a car, the average car usage is ~ 10% of the time, sitting 90% of the time parked. EV's with V2H aren't then used just during a storm, or just to and from work, but all the time.

Utility companies are also becoming interested in V2H, especially as working with customers, the available stored energy helps them manage demand peaks, reducing the investments needed, especially in areas with growing populations like Florida.

DRAWBACKS

Limited Availability—V2L and V2H technology is still new. If you ask your local car salesperson, they tend to look at you like you're speaking another language. Almost

all automotive companies have plans for V2L/V2H, and many have a few models. GM is probably the automotive company currently with the largest variety of available models. Many trucks, like Ford F150, Rivian, and others have V2L available to provide power on worksites. Best to do your homework online before car shopping.

Costs—Chargers for V2L are the same as for a regular EV with options available online or from big box stores like Costco at approximately \$600-800. Bidirectional chargers, which are required for V2H, are more expensive and may require additional electrical equipment, such as a smart meter or a home energy management system. The utility and local permitting rules vary, so best to consult a licensed installer/electrician.

TRENDS

Price Reductions—While EV sales have slowed recently, they are becoming more common, and prices, especially for used EVs, are coming down. With the growing interest in V2H, investments are generating innovations that improve efficiencies. One very interesting technological advance is V2H systems that automatically optimize energy usage based on demand and availability.

Utilities/Government/Business Interest—For utilities like FP&L, the availability of V2H basically expands the grid, without them needing to invest. This extra energy helps them manage the demand and improve efficiencies during peak periods, relieving resources needed to manage outages. Schools are seeing the benefits of V2H with school bus fleets as a significant power source in the case of an outage, especially when schools are designated shelters. Any other business with large fleets of vehicles is leveraging the investments as a power source for their operations or part of their resiliency plans.

SUMMARY

EVs with V2L and V2H technology can help increase energy resilience during power outages. They are a power option for hurricane preparedness. The V2H technology helps to reduce emissions. When combined with rooftop solar, it helps integrate renewable energy into the grid and helps utilities manage the grid more efficiently during power outages. 🐾

Terri Lewis, BSEE, MBA, is Director of Planet Connected, an Industrial Technology Consulting organization based in Fort Myers. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Science in Civil Engineering—Smart Cities from the University of Central Florida.






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Vote For Derek Felder, Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District, Board of Commissioners Seat 4, General Election

Maggie Cooper

Derek Felder is running for the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District, Board of Commissioners Seat 4. Derek regularly attends the LAFCRD Board of Commissioners meetings. Derek's motivation and main goal has always been to get Lehigh Acres the proper services that it needs and deserves. He wants the public informed with as much information as possible regarding things going on in the community. Derek is involved and informed in Lee County government offices and Lehigh Acres community organizations. Derek created "Lehigh Acres Past, Present, and Future Community Projects and Events" Facebook group and "Lee County Civic Engagement Group" on the "Meet Up App" to inform and encourage more Lehigh Acres community involvement.

The Lehigh organizations that Derek is currently a member of are the Lehigh Acres Street Lighting MSTBU Committee, the Lehigh Acres Architectural, Planning and Zoning Review Board, the Lehigh Acres Community Council, the Unite Lehigh organization, the Lehigh Acres Rotary Club and the East Lee Wildlife Stewardship Group. Derek is also a member of the Lee County Metropolitan

Planning Organization Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board and also the Lee County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Other meetings that Derek regularly attends, follows and shares information for are the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District, Love Lehigh meetings, Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee, FDOT meetings, Alva, Inc. meetings, North Olga Planning meetings, Bayshore Concerned Citizens meetings, Lee County Commissioner Board meetings, Lee County Commissioner Zoning meetings, Lee County Hearing Examiner meetings, Lee County School Board meetings, and Lee County Port Authority meetings.

If you have any questions for Derek, his email address is derekfelder87@gmail.com. 🐾



The Everglade Snail Kite: The Ultimate Comeback Kid!

Kara Tyler-Julian

If you were around South Florida in 2007 and were into birding, a sighting of the Everglade snail kite would have been at the top of your checklist. I was a young college kid at the time, dabbling in the birding world along with a group of wildlife enthusiasts. We made many trips to the Everglades and Big Cypress National Park hoping to catch a glimpse of these and other uncommon birds. At that time in 2007, the population of the Everglade snail kite had fallen to less than 800 birds so a sighting of this species would have been rare indeed, and something to celebrate. This species, scientific name of *Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus*, has been federally listed as endangered since 1967.

The population decline of this unique raptor was due to several possible causes, but the main cause was believed to be loss and degradation of their natural habitat, wetland areas. Specifically, drainage of the Everglades was believed to be a major cause of their decline. In 2004, the arrival and rapid spread of an exotic apple snail species was feared by biologists to be another threat to the survival of the snail kite. The Everglade snail kite is unique for its specialized diet, it evolved to feed only on native Florida apple snails thanks to a specialized beak, curved at just the right shape and angle to remove the native snails from their shells. Initially, biologists feared that the exotic species of apple snail would be too large for the snail kites to effectively remove and consume, and as the invasive species spread and outcompeted the native snail species, biologists became very concerned for the survival of the snail kite.

However, something completely unexpected happened. The Everglade snail kite population began to increase as the exotic snails increased and spread, instead of declining further. The populations seem to be evolving, with snail kites beginning to have longer beaks which enable them to effectively handle the exotic snail species. As of 2022, the snail kite population had rebounded to more than

3,000 birds. I have seen the growth of their population firsthand. In 2007, during our many outings, we never achieved a sighting of a snail kite. Two years later in 2009 I caught a few unplanned sightings of them along canals in Lehigh Acres where they hunted their snail prey. Then in 2013-2015 while working on farms all around southwest Florida, I regularly spotted the birds hunting along the irrigation canals and nesting in pockets of wetlands around the farms. Now in 2024 my personal observations of these unique predators have become even more frequent and expanded from the canals and filter marshes of Lehigh to regular sightings of them hunting the ditches along state road 82 and this summer they have been regulars along Daniels Parkway.

If you would like to catch a sighting of these interesting predators, keep an eye out for them around shallow bodies of water that contain the snails. Some of the best places to see them are ditches, canals, and filter marshes. Harns Marsh in Lehigh Acres is a great place to visit for an almost guaranteed sighting of the kites. Look for a medium-sized raptor gracefully floating in the air low over the water searching for snails, or perched on vegetation near the water watching for their prey. Their nests will be found in trees in the middle of wetlands, where they are protected from predators. The females and juveniles have mottled brown and buff coloration whereas the males are a slate gray. Both males and females have a noticeable white band at the base of the tail that is a striking identification characteristic.

To support the continued growth of their population, we must support efforts to preserve and restore wetland areas while protecting the water quality in wetlands. With any luck, the combination of those efforts with the snail kite's consumption of the invasive apple snail might start to assist in the recovery of the populations of our native apple snails as well. 🐾

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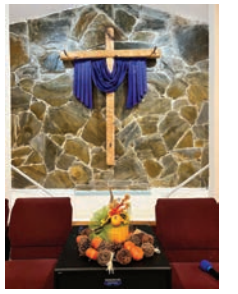
It is hard to determine what is real and what is not. Jesus told us, "If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father." John 14:9. Are you looking for what is real? Genuine? Something that is tangible? Something you can see? Something you can grasp hold of? Believe in? This real Jesus is the real thing. He is not a plastic Jesus seen in many manger scenes at Christmas He is living-breathing-touchable and attainable. He goes way beyond that plastic Jesus image.

He grew, gave His life, and rose again so we may experience real life.

St. John tells us, "In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men." John 1:4.

Jesus is more than a storybook character. More than just a moment in History. He is real, alive, just wanting and waiting to become part of your life.

He wants to give us hope, in a world where few have any. Joy where sadness seems commonplace. Peace, where turmoil appears to be the order of the day. All the



anxieties and stress this life has caused can be washed away simply by allowing Him to have control.

Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Rest, not just sleep. Rest in our minds. Peace that is hard to understand until you've experienced it. In a life full of hustle and bustle, where everyone is always in a hurry, this fast-paced existence can be exchanged for a life of peace and joy. This comes with the genuine relationship that only Christ can give.

I still believe in the Wonder Working Power of God in our World today. Why not take a chance and give Jesus, the real one, a try. You will be surprised when Jesus replaces worry and doubt at the center of your life.

In a world of fakes and computer generated realities, why not look to the one who made it all. Allow Him to give you a reality check. Try and trust Him to give you what you're really looking for. You will not be disappointed. 🐾

Trusted Nonpartisan Resources to Vote Informed This Nov 5

Sandy Frank

The League of Women Voters of Lee County, Inc. urges voters to vote informed in the November 5, 2024 election. Every eligible voter should exercise their right to vote and make their voice heard at the ballot box.

Local, state, and US elected leaders make the decisions that affect the economy, healthcare, energy, environment, water quality, education, arts, recreation, and more. Six proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution will be on every Florida ballot.

Trusted Nonpartisan Resources for Voters include:

VOTE411

www.Vote411.org by the League of Women Voters Education Fund, with local, state, and federal candidate information, proposed Florida Constitutional Amendments, and other nonpartisan election information.

LWVFL 2024 NONPARTISAN VOTER GUIDE

With information on statewide candidates, proposed constitutional amendments, and significant changes in Florida's voting laws. The Guide is available on-line in English: bit.ly/3TKMX7t, Spanish: bit.ly/3TJgDS8, and Creole: bit.ly/3BI94Lb.

LEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

www.lee.vote, 239-533-8683 to Register to Vote by October 7, 2024, request your VoteByMail Ballot by October 24, 2024, view your Sample Ballot, and check your voting location for Lee County Early Voting October 21 to November 2, 2024, and for Election Day November 5th voting.

ELECTION PROTECTION

<https://protectthevote.net> for voting questions or issues. 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)—English language hotline. 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)—Spanish language hotline.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION ASSISTANCE

www.VoteRiders.org 866-432-8683.

RETURNING CITIZENS VOTING RIGHTS RESTORATION

Information and assistance available from League of Women Voters of Florida. Call 407-710-5496 or email canivote@lwvfl.org.

League of Women Voters' Publications, printable PDFs, visit the links below or view on www.lwvlee.org:

- The Do's and Don'ts of Election Disinformation
- Florida Proposed Amendments General Election—November 5th, 2024
- Amendment 4 to Limit Government Interference with Abortion
- Partisan vs Nonpartisan School Board Elections
- Choosing Candidates in Florida
- Voting for School Board Members/A Checklist for Making Smart Choices

Visit www.LWVLee.org for more election information and to sign up for email updates.

The League of Women Voters of Lee County, Inc. encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates and/or political parties.

Information on the programs and issues of the League of Women Voters is available on the web at www.lwv.org, www.lwvfl.org, www.lwvlee.org or call 239-278-1032. 🐾

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEE COUNTY

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Cultivating Leadership: My Experience in 4-H

Taylor Whitney

I joined the Goats R Us 4-H Club (now known as Alva Livestock 4-H Club) as a Cloverbud when I was 5. It was then that I first experienced the magic of 4-H. It was somewhere I always felt I “fit in” and could balance my love for animals, making friends, and learning about leadership and other life skills. When I became a Senior member, I joined a second club, Lee County Teen Leadership 4-H Club, where I continued to grow and learn new life skills.

As I got older, I had the opportunity to hold officer positions in both of my 4-H clubs, learning leadership, communication, and teamwork skills. I was often responsible for making meeting agendas and running club meetings. Sometimes, I needed to make flyers and brochures or write speeches or articles pertaining to my projects. I have also attended club, county, district, state, and regional events, including 4-H University, Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference, and 4-H Day at the Capitol. I have hosted workshops, promoted 4-H to the community, and participated in various 4-H projects, including citrus, leadership, and mindfulness.

My main project area in 4-H was goats. It was my first project, and I stuck with it throughout my 4-H career. I started with two goats showing at the county fair, and now I’ve competed with my goats from the county to the national level. Throughout this project, I learned how to keep breeding and medical records on each of my goats to better care for them. I have even given presentations about my goat project at the club, county, and state levels. I have helped many other youth get started with Pygmy goats and mentored them throughout their project. One

of my favorite parts is when one of the younger kids I work with comes out of the show ring. They will always run up to me and give me a hug or a high five because they are so excited and proud of themselves.

The most memorable opportunity I’ve had in 4-H was being on the iLEAD committee this year, interacting with and being a role model to some of the younger members in 4-H. I was able to work with others to lead a group where I practiced my teamwork and public speaking skills. I enjoyed facilitating some of the activities we did, and I know when I was their age, I always looked up to the senior members and would have loved the opportunity to interact with them more.

My advice to other 4-H members is to be involved in any way you can. Try out a new project or take a chance on a new opportunity, even if you aren’t sure you’ll like it. You may be surprised! Don’t be afraid to go to a workshop or state event just because you don’t know anyone else going. You’ll make many new friends before you walk in the door.

My thirteen years in 4-H have shaped me into who I am today and taught me the marketable life skills needed to be workforce-ready and successful in any career I choose. I have learned essential interpersonal skills required in the workforce, including communication, teamwork, and leadership. I have acquired crucial hard skills like graphic design, public speaking, and writing. I have also developed essential values such as motivation, determination, and adaptability. I am grateful that I was able to be a part of this amazing organization as a youth of Lee County. With what I have learned in 4-H, I will be prepared for wherever life takes me. 🐾

Just Say, “No!” to Clusia Hedges

Marlene Roda | Native Plant Society

Clusia hedges have been popping up all over the area in recent years. People seem to be happy with them, so what’s the problem?

The problem is that we can do so much better!

First, hedges of a single species are always an issue if a pathogen or invasive insect attacks it. Your entire hedge could be gone, leaving you feeling rather exposed. A better decision is to plant a hedgerow of mixed species. They can be grouped by species or by repeating a planting pattern.

Next, the clusia hedges that are being planted are not Florida native plants. Many landscapers think they are native and might even tell you so. They are wrong. They are simply readily available, cheap plants that provide little to no value to our native wildlife.

There is a clusia (Clusia rosea) that is native to Florida, but that one is rarely used in a hedgerow and seldom planted. Most landscapers likely are not familiar with it.

Furthermore, the non-native clusia hedges do not hold up well during hurricanes and are susceptible to breakage. Not only that, but they are generally trimmed with hedge trimmers that cut the thick leaves. It’s not the best look.

Finally, there are too many fabulous native plants that will look better and provide a lot of food and habitat for our native creatures. So, what are they?

Spanish stoppers or Eugenia foetida are fantastic plants that grow very well in sun

or part sun. When they bloom, they attract a variety of pollinators. Then, once the blooms turn to berries, birds and other wildlife flock to the shrubs. Best of all, Spanish stoppers are rather slender and generally only grow to 8-10 feet tall. That means they can be minimally trimmed, which saves you money! They are beautiful and they hold up well in hurricanes.

Shiny leaf wild coffee or Psychotria nervosa are great for shadier locations. They grow 4-8 feet tall as they produce flowers for pollinators such as atala, great southern white, Julia and other butterflies. Many other pollinators love them as well. The long-lasting berries are adored by mockingbirds and more.

Peppering in the native firebush or Hamelia patens var. patens could bring hummingbirds and more. Just make sure you get the native firebush that stays much smaller than the “dwarf” that grows to about 18 feet!

Adding a native hedge will provide so much more benefit to the environment over a non-native hedge. The flowers and fruits will bring an assortment of insects and creatures that support the local food chain. There are more options than we have space in this column.

If you are thinking about adding a hedge, ask your landscaper to use Florida native plants and don’t settle for clusia. Consult your local native nurseries for more information or visit The Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society’s website at www.FNPScoccoloba.org. 🐾

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The **OCTOBER EVENTS**
CALENDAR

Planetarium Grand Reopening

Kalyn Lady, Bloody Bride of the Haunted Hike

Friday, September 27th, the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium held an official ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by our Executive Director, Eric Raddatz, for the Grand Reopening of our Planetarium followed by short screenings throughout the day with an exclusive filming inside the dome for VIP guests and patrons of our non-profit.

Starting the first weekend in October, Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium will be holding its 61st Annual Haunted Walk organized by Todd Sherman. Todd has been the organizer of the Haunted Walk for a number of years and always makes sure the event is spooktastic! Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. All proceeds of the Haunted Walk will go towards paying off the Planetarium's renovation and taking care of the special animal residents living at Calusa Nature Center. The Haunted Walk starts at 7:30 pm and is available to enter every half hour until 10:30 pm every weekend in October. We encourage visitors to donate any old Christmas lights they no longer need so that Todd may get to work creating a dazzling Holiday Lights event this coming December! Holiday Lights will be available every weekend in December just as the Haunted Walk is every weekend in October.

Check out the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium at calusanature.org. For more information email k.lynlady@gmail.com or call 239-275-3435, and visit us at 3450 Ortiz Avenue in Fort Myers. 🐾

Lehigh General Woman's Club

Connie Puzevic

The General Woman's Club of Lehigh Acres, Florida will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, October 18th at 1 pm at The Rise Christian Church, 50 Bell Boulevard in North Lehigh Acres. Our speaker will be Butch Swan and he will update us on all the happenings in Lehigh Acres. Our club feels very fortunate to have Butch as our speaker, and we hope all club members will attend to hear this enlightening speaker.

Anyone interested in joining the General Woman's Club or learning more about the club is welcome to attend one of our monthly meetings. Our mission is to unite women of diverse backgrounds and provide opportunities to help themselves, and others grow through humanitarian and social events. All proceeds from our fundraisers go back into our Lehigh Acres Community. 🐾

Montage Women's Club

Rita Artwohl | President & Publicity Chair, Montage Women's Club

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 am

with a short social period, lunch at Noon, an informative speaker program, and a short business meeting. 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, October 24th. Our speaker will be Robert Cacioppi, Artistic Director, Players Circle Theater in Fort Myers. In the spirit of the season, we are also planning a Halloween costume contest and will award prizes for the Best, Worst, Most Unique Costumes. If you prefer not to participate in the contest, we still ask you to wear a Halloween-themed shirt or orange and black clothing!

The luncheon fee is being increased to \$34.00, and you always have a choice between either a regular menu entree and/or a vegan/plant-based entree. If you would like to attend a Montage meeting, need further information, or want to make a reservation, please call Rita Artwohl at 239-703-7787. The reservation cut-off to attend this meeting is Noon, Thursday, October 17th. 🐾

Turkey Shoot Fundraiser

Olivia Lloyd | Club Secretary, Fort Myers East Rotary Club

On Saturday, November 2nd from 10:00 am-2:00 pm held at Lee County Pose Arena, 17401 Palm Creek Drive in North Fort Myers. Fort Myers East Rotary Club is holding a family friendly, community fundraiser event. Families can enjoy a turkey shoot with food concessions, silent auction, gun raffle, 50/50, local vendors, team competitions, and more. Come win a turkey for the holidays! Fundraiser proceeds support our local youth services such as student scholarships, and 4-H and Future Farmers of America youth clubs.

Check out the Fort Myers East Rotary Club at www.fmeastroty.com/ and follow at www.facebook.com/rotaryfortmyerseast/. 🐾

Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron Forming

Lieutenant Jesse Spencer

The Civil Air Patrol will host a formation meeting for those interested in joining the new Lee County Composite Squadron. We are looking for adults ages 19+ with no age limit and young adults 12-18 interested in becoming members. Non-pilot, pilot, drone, communications, and many other opportunities are available. All training is provided, and no military experience is required. Whatever skill or interest you have, there is a place for you in the Civil Air Patrol. As an all-volunteer auxiliary and Total Force partner of the US Air Force, the Civil Air Patrol operates the world's largest fleet of single-engine air-search, rescue, disaster relief, training, and education. The Civil Air Patrol is America's communications and shaping futures. The dedicated to serving nities, saving lives,



Check out the Civil Air Patrol at www.gocivilairpatrol.com. For more information email jesse.spencer@flwgcap.us or call 239-788-7820. The formation meeting will take place at Base Operations 5200 Captain Channing Page Drive in Fort Myers on Saturday, December 7th from 10:00 am-12:00 pm. 🐾

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East Lee Co Chamber Gala

Mike Welch

At this writing Hurricane Helene churns into the Gulf with a target on Florida's Big Bend near the Capitol and a swipe to our Southwest Florida counties. After Ian two years ago we have learned the hard way on the power of these storms and the risk of living in "hurricane alley". Our eastern communities of Lee County while far inland takes nothing for chance.

As our seasonal visitors begin arriving once again the Sheriff reminds us of scams for all of our residents and reminds up of vigilance even with QR Codes. Take a look at the sheriff's article and hope you find it informative.

The annual Chamber of Commerce Gala Awards will take place on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at the Plantation GCC. Information and invitations will be sent out at the beginning of the year. 🐾

Safer Streets For All

Matthew Maher PE, PTOE, RSP21
Senior Associate & Traffic Engineer, Stantec

Within the past five years, Lee County, Florida has averaged over 100 fatal and 600 serious injury crashes on an annual basis. This roughly translates to billions of dollars in societal costs per year. The Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is currently developing a Safety Action Plan for all state, county, and city roadways within Lee County to identify projects and policies that have a track record of reducing these fatal and serious injury crash events. The MPO would like to hear from you on roadways that you would like us to focus on as far as safety improvements are concerned. We are also interested in hearing your ideas on how we can improve roadway safety. Provided below is a QR code to our project survey for you to provide feedback to inform our study.

Also, please SAVE THE DATE for our upcoming Public Meeting on Monday, December 9th from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn Fort Myers Airport/FGCU, 16410 Corporate Commerce Way in Fort Myers. The purpose of this meeting is to gather safety issue feedback and present potential improvements to address the high crash areas. MPO staff and consultants will be available at the meeting to answer questions and provide a brief presentation. We highly appreciate your ongoing involvement in this study to address this urgent public safety health crisis. 🐾

ENGLISH

ESPAÑOL

CREOLE



Mine Rezoning Request on CR78

Ashlynn K. Dunn

The ROAR East Lee County News has recently been updated about a project in Hendry County on CR 78 that will negatively impact any driver or resident that traverses or lives on/near North River Road in Lee County.

The 267-acre property located at 7800 CR 78 is in the process of being rezoned from General Agriculture (A-2) to Planned Unit Development (PUD). The applicant states that the purpose of the rezone is to mine spoil material out over the length of four years.

Dump trucks coming to and from this facility from Lee County would be forced to traverse all of North River Road from SR 31 due to weight restrictions on the Alva Bridge as well as the Fort Denaud Historic Swing Bridge. This project will damage and destroy ALL of North River Road in Lee County. This project will put our students at the Alva School and any Lee County bus stops along North River Road and drivers in general in grave danger.

Representatives of the Alva School have noted that they have at least one hundred students who walk to school every day. Please make our students safety the top priority by making your voices heard at the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners meeting.

ABOUT THE PROPERTY/OWNER OF RECORD

The applicant has/currently owned mining operations in the past at which they received numerous code enforcement violations which led to the mine being shut down (this is Crescent Acres in Glades County). Code enforcement violations included damage to the roadway, dump trucks traveling at high rates of speed, operating outside of County noise ordinances and ignoring the stipulations of the agreement with the county.

The subject property is located less than 700 feet to the east and less than a half mile to the west of two Hendry County bus stops, which pick up our youth at 6:12 am and 6:16 am, respectively.

In addition, this property owner has illegally mined this exact property and the only reason they are applying for a rezone is in response to their code enforcement violations as stated in the LPA packet.

Residents near this property also fear for environmental impacts as well. According to the LPA packet, it is stated that there will be NO wildlife implications as well as NO drainage implications. The dirt that will be mined off of this property will cause the surrounding swampy properties to drain south, flooding several property owners as well as CR 78. Panther sightings have been noted in years past in this area by the Florida Wildlife Commission, as well as a large gopher tortoise population in the surrounding areas.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP? LEARN MORE & ATTEND!

Read the Hendry County LPA Packet for the project located here: <https://hendryfla.civicweb.net/document/95441>. Give us a follow on our Facebook page and keep up with new developments: facebook.com/SayNoToMining/

Alva Inc. Community Meeting on Tuesday, October 8th at 7 pm at the Alva Community Center located at 21471 North River Road in Alva. Attend this meeting as a resident of Alva/Lee County to learn more about this project.

Hendry County Board of County Commissioners Meeting on Tuesday, October 22nd at 6 pm at the Hendry County Courthouse, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue in Labelle. Attend this meeting to PACK THE HOUSE! This meeting will be where the ultimate decision is made. You do NOT have to be a Hendry County resident to attend.

Sign and share our petition: <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/no-mine-in-fort-denaud>. For any questions not answered in this article, please email stopthemineinfordenaud@gmail.com. 🐾

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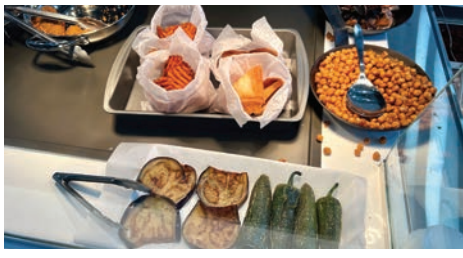
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Welcome to the new Hummus Republic in the Gulf Coast Town Center, 9903 Gulf Coast Main Street in Fort Myers. Hummus Republic is open Monday through Sunday from 10:30 am to 11:00 pm. Call 239-689-5662.

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Congratulations, Baer Family!

Trevor and Savanah Baer welcomed Emerson Baer on August 12th this summer. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20 inches long. Congratulations to the entire family at Roosters Fresh Farm Produce on State Road 80. 🐾



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Beware of QR Code Scams

Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno



QR Codes, "Quick Response Codes," are all around us. These square, black and white boxes allow businesses to quickly direct you to their web site, can track product information in a supply chain, link us to applications as well as store financial information. The uses for these codes are nearly limitless as they store a great deal of data in a very small space.

Our smartphones scan the pattern simply by pointing the phone's camera at the code.

As is often the case, criminals and scammers find methods to steal personal data and money using these very same technologies.

Nationwide, law enforcement agencies are receiving numerous calls regarding altered QR Codes designed to illegally obtain a victim's banking information, credit card information and/or personal data stored on their smartphone.

Scammers are always searching for ways to separate you from your money and they have discovered that the use of fraudulent QR Codes is an effective way to do so.

For example, QR Code scams involving parking fees have been reported across the nation. "Scan to Pay" stickers are placed on parking meters and around public parking locations. Most of us are in a hurry to get to our destination and pay little attention to where our parking fees are being sent.

Many reports have been received regarding fraudulent discount coupons being sent via email or text messaging. By copying a legitimate ad from a reputable retailer, scammers then cut and paste their QR Code over the legitimate one. By doing so, you are redirected to a phishing website capable of stealing credit card and personal information.

Please consider the following methods of prevention:

- Do not scan a randomly found QR Code. Be selective!
- Look for QR Code tampering such a sticker placed over an existing QR Code. Some scammers are physically pasting bogus codes over legitimate ones. If it looks as though a code has been tampered with at your local bar or restaurant, don't use it. This applies to legitimate ads you obtain or receive in the mail.
- Be suspicious if, after scanning a QR Code, the site asks for a password or login info.
- Do not scan QR Codes received in emails unless you know they are legitimate. Call the sender to confirm.
- Carefully review the destination page.

Should you be victimized by a fraudulent QR Code, please contact the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov or call your FBI local office. Fraud can also be reported to the Federal Trade Commission by visiting www.report-fraud.ftc.gov. 🐾

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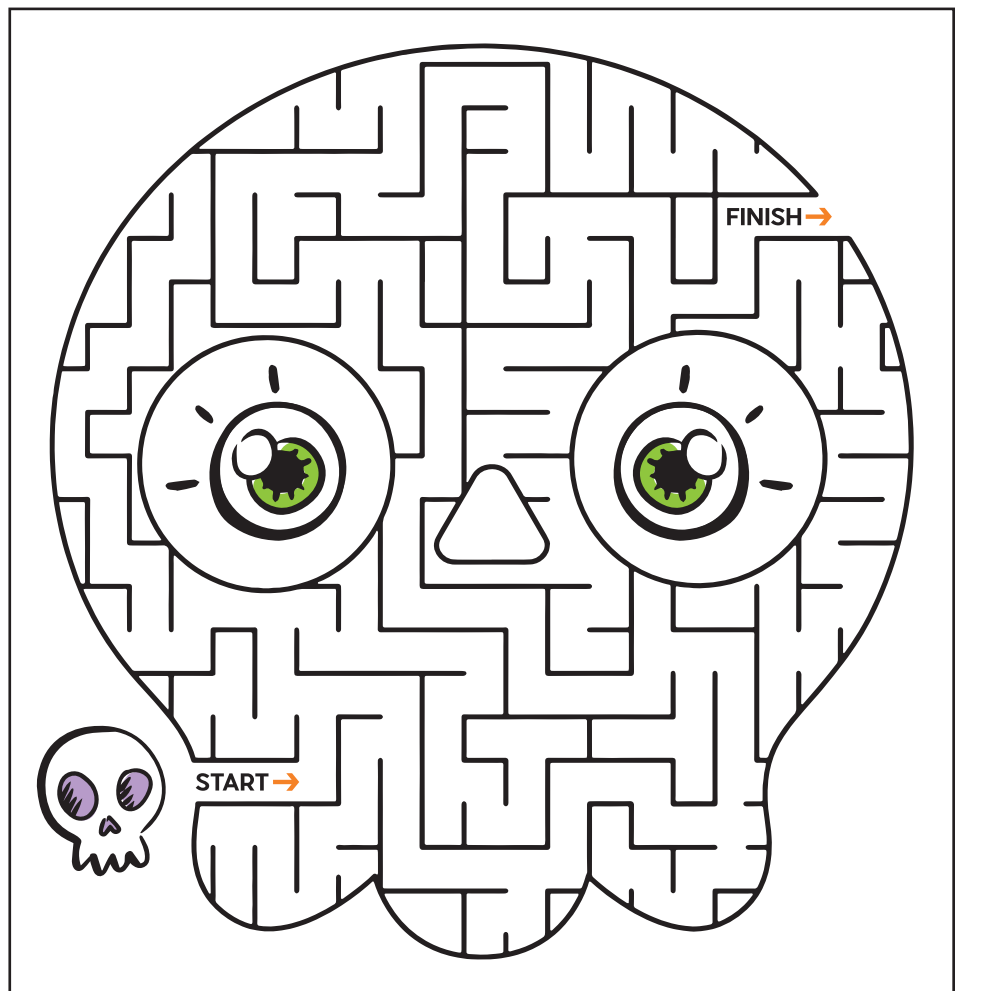
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5	2	3	9	8	1	6	4	7
7	8	9	6	4	5	1	2	3
2	9	8	4	3	6	7	5	1
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3	6	2	5	1	8	9	7	4
9	7	1	2	6	4	3	8	5
8	5	4	7	9	3	2	1	6

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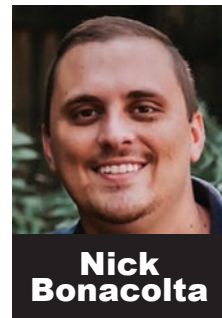
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2 BR/2 BA PINWOOD CONDO WITH CARPORT



Two bedroom two bath Pinewood Condo with carport, OVERSIZED 24 X 12 ENCLOSED SCREENED LANAI with direct access from the kitchen to the lanai, two screen doors one on the front from the carport and one to the side of the property, double driveway with parking for three cars, newer insulated windows and doors throughout, tile

floors on the screened lanai with Florida screen for privacy and weatherproofing on the back, open park like setting area to the side allows plenty of privacy and room in between units, updated kitchen cabinets and countertops with plenty of extra cabinets and countertop space on both sides, tile backsplash, newer dishwasher and French door refrigerator, ceramic tile floors throughout with wood like vinyl plank floors in the bedrooms, updated bathrooms with newer vanities with granite tops, brushed nickel fixtures, indoor laundry area with stack washer and dryer and extra shelving, NEW WATER HEATER IN 2024, textured ceilings, newer light fixtures, walk in closet, 55+ community, walking distance to the stores etc., pets OK. **Offered At\$144,900**

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

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH POOL HOME IN MARBLEBROOK



THREE BEDROOM TWO BATH POOL HOME BUILT IN 2019, located in an excellent neighborhood atmosphere of Marble Brook, Very low HOA fees \$110 per month, CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, sidewalks, secure gated entry, walking distance to common clubhouse with resort style pool, fitness center and playground, Private Pool on the home was built in 2020 with spacious open deck with light grey pavers, electric heat pump, salt water system and Baja deck in pool for sunning, BUILT IN FIREPIT overlooks the FENCED BACKYARD with excellent views of the lake in the backyard as well as plenty of privacy by not having another home in the yard, HEDGES ARE ALLOWED ALONG THE FENCE

LINE FOR PRIVACY, pavers in double driveway and walkways, NEWLY REMODELED KITCHEN WITH GRANITE TOPS, breakfast bar, BARNYARD DOOR over pantry with custom built in shelving and drawers, SAMSUNG STAINLESS STEEL KITCHEN APPLIANCES, decorative stone tile wall accents on the kitchen wall, backsplash, under breakfast bar and around entry way, spacious living room with decorative wood accent wall overlooks the pool area, ceramic tile floors throughout with newer LUXURY VINYL FLOORS IN THE BEDROOMS with 5 inch baseboards, CROWN MOLDING, master bedroom located in the rear of the home with pool and lake views, private ensuite master bath with walk in closet, separate water closet, dual sinks and walk in shower, guest bedrooms located in the front of the home with upgraded vanity and fixtures in the guest bath, indoor laundry room with accent wall, built in cabinets and shelving with full size washer/dryer, double garage with auto opener, storm panels for openings, quiet low traffic street. The home is located near schools, Veteran's park and minutes to Downtown Lehigh for shopping etc. yet minutes to I-75, SR 82, Ft Myers and the airport. NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED HERE. HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. **Offered At\$380,000**

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3 BEDROOM 3 BATH 2-STORY POOL HOME UPGRADES GALORE



UPGRADES GALORE IN THIS 3 BEDROOM 3 BATH TWO STORY POOL HOME with 2715 SQUARE FEET OF LIVING AREA, NEW CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR IN 2021, ceramic tile and real wood floors, porcelain wood plank tile floors in the den and family room, crown molding throughout, five inch baseboards, formal living room and dining area plus den that could be a possible 4th and 5th bedroom with use of the spacious loft on the second floor with built in shelving, spacious kitchen with granite countertops, island counter, plenty of cabinet and counter space with decorative plant shelving above the cabinets, large pantry, stainless steel appliances, wine rack, guest bath on first floor with granite tops in all

bathrooms, indoor laundry room with plenty of cabinets and built in laundry sink, SOARING HIGH CEILINGS, wooden stair case lead upstairs with Roth iron/wood railing, master bedroom with walk in closet and in suite bathroom with dual sinks, separate garden tub and walk in shower, all guest bedrooms are extra spacious with walk in closets, guest bath on second floor as well with tub/shower, screen enclosed in ground heated pool/spa with electric heat pump, plenty of covered and open deck space for entertaining, beautifully landscaped for privacy, pavers on the pool deck as well as the front driveway and walkway leading to the side entry double garage, covered front porch, elegant lighting throughout, quiet gated community with CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, very low monthly HOA fees of \$110 per month covers the use of the community's expansive amenities including a large swimming pool, fully-equipped exercise room, playground and interconnected sidewalks throughout the neighborhood. Ideally situated minutes away from Veterans' Park, grocery stores, shopping/dining, and schools, convenience is at your doorstep. A definite must see in excellent move in condition. **Offered At\$499,900**

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3 BEDROOM 2 BATH + DEN- FULLY FENCED



Meticulously maintained 3 bedroom 2 bath home with a den, great location close to stores and easy access to Ft. Myers and I-75. This home has been well maintained and boasts a Newer roof in 2018, Newer central heat and air, New water heater, 4 new impact resistant windows, and newer well equipment. Updated stainless steel kitchen appliances, large breakfast bar, and a pass through window from the kitchen to the den. Cathedral ceilings make the home feel more spacious and inviting, tile floors throughout with wood laminate floors in the bedrooms, indoor laundry room with washer and dryer included, updated vanities in both bathrooms, large walk in closets in all 3 bedrooms, oversized 2 car garage with built in cabinets and counterspace, pull down stairs to the attic, inviting screened front porch, fully fenced backyard for privacy, home is located on an oversized lot with vacant lots to the left and behind the property. NO FLOOD INSURANCE NEEDED! **Offered At\$304,900**

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3 BEDROOM 2 BATH HOME - NEW ROOF 2022



NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2022. NEW CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR IN 2022, OVERSIZED FENCED BACKYARD on a quiet low traffic street with wide streets and curbs, Three bedroom two bath with oversized double garage with extra long driveway with plenty of parking, CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, nicely landscaped with irrigation system in place, LUXURY VINYL PLANK FLOORS THROUGHOUT, NEWER INSULATED WINDOWS, newer window coverings, freshly painted interior, NEW MAYTAG APPLIANCE PACKAGE IN 2022, stainless steel appliances in eat in kitchen, spacious primary bedroom with dual closets, new closet panel doors, private bathroom with walk in shower, newer vanity, sink and fixtures, nice size guest bedroom with newer closet panel doors, guest bathroom also has a newer vanity, sink and fixtures, newer light fixtures in the entry, dining room and kitchen, newer electrical panel box, newer wind rated garage door and auto opener in 2019, full size washer and dryer, screened front entryway plus a 19 X 10 screened lanai with tile floors overlooking the oversized backyard, excellent neighborhood atmosphere located just minutes to I-75 and Ft Myers. No flood insurance required here. Highest elevation in Lee County. **Offered At\$295,000**

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POOL HOME OVERLOOKING THE GOLF COURSE



Affordable POOL HOME overlooking the GOLF COURSE. Pay as you play. NO HOA FEES OR MEMBERSHIPS HERE. NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2015, NEW CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR IN 2023, NEW POOL PUMP AND EQUIPMENT IN 2023, NEW WATER HEATER IN 2023, NEW STAINLESS STEEL APPLIANCES IN 2023, freshly painted interior, ceramic tile floors throughout, skylights in the formal dining area with mirrored wall, eat in kitchen with nook area and pantry, PRIVATE IN GROUND POOL WITH GREAT VIEWS OF THE GOLF COURSE, roll down storm shutters, NEW SCREENS ON POOL CAGE, master bedroom with access to the pool area, private bath with dual sinks, shower and walk in closet, enclosed porch with tile floors may be used for a den or office, vaulted ceilings in the living room, quiet low traffic street with CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER. **Offered At\$269,900**

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GROUND FLOOR 2/2 CONDO IN GATEWAY



Convenient ground floor 2 bedroom 2 bath Condo located on the 5th hole of Gateway Greens Championship golf course. Located right next to the community pool and mailboxes, Just Minutes to JetBlue Park and SWFL International airport! Breakfast bar in the kitchen as well as a nook for a table, split bedroom layout for privacy. The master bedroom has a beautiful golf course view with access to the lanai, large walk in closet, dual sinks in master bathroom, indoor laundry room with washer and dryer included, newer water heater in 2021, Summerwind has the luxury of being close to Daniels Pkwy by utilizing the Westlinks Dr Entrance. Gateway is a beautiful serene gated community and offers a soccer park, dog park, bike and jog path, and more. Included in HOA fee: Comcast cable, High-Speed WIFI, Water, Sewer, Garbage, Landscaping, Exterior Pest Control, Roof & Paint Reserves, Building Insurance, access to pool, Etc. Owner's just pay FPL electric! **Offered At\$224,900**

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AFFORDABLE POOL HOME IN MEADOWS AT MIRROR LAKES



AFFORDABLE POOL HOME LOCATED IN THE MEADOWS AT MIRROR LAKES, excellent neighborhood atmosphere with CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, quiet low traffic streets, located just minutes to SR 82, I-75 and Ft Myers, screen enclosed solar heated in ground pool with separate spa, plenty of deck space for entertaining with 18 X 10 under truss and 38 X 26 screened pool/spa area, accordion storm shutters, cathedral ceilings, plant shelves, eat in kitchen with breakfast bar and panty, nook area overlooking the pool, master bedroom has a separate music room off of it that can be used as a den/office or nursery, large walk in closet and private bathroom with walk in shower, indoor laundry room with full size washer/dryer and laundry tub, NEW WATER HEATER IN 2017 in double garage with opener, home is in need of some cosmetics and updating but is priced accordingly. **Offered At\$304,900**

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- SHELLIE HAS THE EXPERTISE TO MARKET YOUR RENTAL PROPERTY
- A PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ATTORNEY PREPARED LEASE THAT WORKS FOR YOU
- LICENSED & INSURED VENDORS READY TO DO REPAIRS AT REASONABLE RATES — NO SURCHARGE
- A MANAGEMENT PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES YOU WITH MONTHLY STATEMENTS & CHECKS
- END OF YEAR INCOME STATEMENTS & QUARTERLY INSPECTIONS

WE HAVE WELL QUALIFIED TENANTS READY TO MOVE IN TODAY!