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The Kicker

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



If you've ever watched playoff football, you are familiar with close games. The stakes are high, and it will end with pure joy for one side and utter misery for the other. Oftentimes, a three-point field goal, if made, can win the game with little time left to play. Right here is where I think it gets interesting. Frequently, one of the announcers will say something like: "Toby Macintyre has been on fire lately. He's made 35 out of 35 kicks and is at the top of his game." At this point, a sober and rational person thinks that Toby will make it and be the hero. Well, it turns out, many times, this "Toby" completely misses the field goal like it's his first day on the job. What the heck just happened? Statistically speaking, this is a very improbable outcome. I have always attributed it to nerves, but let's be real: kickers at this level are professionals, and while everyone gets the butterflies, these dudes literally play under immense pressure for a living. Pressure is something they're very, very familiar with. Again, I ask why did he miss?

Defense Department physicist, Thomas Campbell, describing his Theory of Everything. In short, he proposes that humans are individual units of consciousness. Yes, it's weird, but that's what he says, and he has some real-world experiments that seem to back him up. He believes consciousness is part of the universe, and it wants more and more organization. Interestingly, he proposes that love is the best way to achieve increased organization. The opposite path, leading to disorganization, is hate and anger. He's very technical, but it makes sense from a big-picture perspective. It's hard to deny that living a gratitude-filled and purposeful life is likely the absolute best way to live. You can fill in the blank on the worst way to live, but we all know some miserable souls whose personal life has always been a disaster. Their apartment/house is a dumpster fire, to boot. Another part I found interesting was his being slightly afraid to bring his theory up to religious people for fear of insulting them. He found their response to be the opposite and was pleasantly surprised because their responses were generally: "Of course, God IS love."

on the clock. At that moment, the announcers do what they always do and make millions of conscious individuals think about that kicker missing. Millions then begin fabricating a reality in their minds where the kicker misses. Then, Boom! He misses. I fully realize that linking a kicker missing a field goal with our individual and collective consciousness is more than a bit odd. Still, it's undeniably interesting, and the odds are not zero that it's the correct explanation. I wonder what other examples of this people can come up with. Now, from purely a practical football perspective, when rooting for your team, you might want to consult with the announcers and convince them not to say a peep about the kicker until after the game is over.

never considered this mindset magical, but I cannot escape relating it to the kicker's outcome. In your head, you are the announcer predicting what will happen next. If you think you're going to succeed, you likely will. If you fail, then your mindset says: "What can we learn from this so the outcome is better next time?" If you are more victimhood-oriented and try something, thinking you'll fail, of course, the odds are good you will fail. You will likely also not be inclined to analyze what went wrong. That's because things always "happen to you" because responsibility is something you've chosen to be a part of your vocabulary no longer. In short, I am proposing that you really can create your very own reality.

Let's take a break from that for a moment. I recently listened to a fascinating interview with a former NASA and

Ok, the out-there philosophy lesson is over, and now back to the kicker. Imagine yourself watching a game, it's tied, and there are 5 seconds left

Missing field goals aside, I am fond of taking responsibility for everything that happens in my life. If I screw up and make a mess of things, that's my fault. If I do something successfully, that's also "my fault." This thinking removes all thoughts of victimhood; I believe it's the most empowering mindset out there. I mention this because I wonder if adopting this attitude lets you, in effect, craft your own reality a bit. Day after day, purposely crafting here and there, year after year can lead to some very positive outcomes. I've certainly

Changing gears again, think back to a time you thought about someone you'd not spoken to in years, and they coincidentally called you the next day. Weird, right? Or take Déjà vu (yes, I had to look up how to spell that) as another example. The definition of Déjà vu is: "It describes the sensation that you have already experienced something that is currently happening, even though you know it is happening for the first time." It truly is odd to feel confident you've been in the precise moment before. How could this happen? Pfft. Your

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

guess is as good as mine. Here's another doozy I have a hard time wrapping my head around. It's called the Mandela Effect. In 2009, a very perceptive woman named Fiona Broome discovered that many people, including herself, firmly believed that Nelson Mandela died in prison in the 1980s when, in reality, he was released in the 1990s and died in 2013. They say they even

remember watching news footage of the funeral. Another example is that people distinctly remember reading "The Berenstain Bears" as kids, but the actual book's title is "The Berenstain Bears." One more for you. I hate to burst your bubble, but Darth Vader really said, "No, I am your father." While we're at it, who among us hasn't put your face near a fan and said, "Luke, I am your Faaaaaather"? (Face close to fan equals cool deep voice sound)

I highly recommend it if you haven't.

To wrap up, this world sure seems very solid and real. Yet, I propose that all the examples above indicate that reality is fuzzier than we'd imagined. I don't have any big-picture advice to share other than that you genuinely can get control of your life if you're just willing to take on that responsibility. The other takeaway is whether millions can really control the outcome

of where the pigskin flies. It's unclear for the moment, but maybe we should all try to live as loving and positive as possible, and we just might get more answers down the road.

ABOUT BUTCH SWANK

Butch Swank is the President of Goodlad & Swank Insurance and SWFL Business Alliance. www.swflba.com

The Real Solution To The Immigration Problem

Jayson DiMaria, Esq. | jayson@dimarialaw.com



As an immigration attorney for over 20 years, specializing in deportation defense and family-based immigration, I've watched five presidents tackle the immigration issue. Each has promised to "solve" the problem through measures like closing the border and increasing deportations, yet none have succeeded in addressing the root of the issue.

President Trump's approach focuses on three main actions: closing the border, arresting undocumented immigrants with any type of criminal history, and deporting individuals who were previously deported but re-entered illegally. These actions resonate with many Americans, as the removal of individuals with criminal records is often seen as a priority.

However, what has gone largely unaddressed for over 25 years is the issue of the millions of undocumented, working-class immigrants who live in the shadows. These individuals typically have no criminal history, have established families in the United States, and contribute to the economy in various ways. Yet, they do not pay taxes, lack access to healthcare, and do not have Social Security numbers, leaving them "off the grid."

Why hasn't this group been targeted for deportation? The answer lies in

practicality. These individuals have the legal right to have their cases heard in immigration court, and the backlog is staggering. For example, in my current caseload of 500 cases, most have been pending for over 10 years. Deporting millions of people from this group would also have a devastating impact on the economy, creating labor shortages in industries that rely heavily on their work.

A PRACTICAL MIDDLE GROUND

To move forward, we must meet the concerns of both sides. Many conservatives want undocumented immigrants to pay taxes, avoid being a burden on the healthcare system, and face some form of accountability for entering the country unlawfully. Meanwhile, undocumented immigrants want to live without the constant fear of arrest, buy homes, establish roots, and travel freely.

The solution must balance these concerns while acknowledging the logistical impossibility of deporting millions of people. Here's a potential path forward: 1. Provide Legal Work Authorization: Grant undocumented, working-class immigrants an employment authorization card, Social Security number, and driver's license. This allows them to work legally, pay taxes, and contribute to the system. 2. Implement a Penalty and Pathway: To address the unlawful entry, require a

penalty fee—such as \$1,000—to enroll in the program. Over time, allow participants to apply for a green card after completing a probationary period, such as five years, during which they remain employed, pay taxes, and maintain a clean record. 3. Simultaneously Secure the Border: Border security measures should continue alongside this program. While achieving a fully secure border will take time, addressing the current population of undocumented immigrants and preventing new illegal entries must occur simultaneously.

This approach is not amnesty. It doesn't grant automatic permanent residency or citizenship but provides a legal pathway for people already contributing to our economy to formalize their status. The penalty fee alone—multiplied by millions of participants—would inject significant revenue into the system. More importantly, it would transform undocumented immigrants into contributors, helping to stabilize industries and strengthen the tax base.

CONCLUSION

The immigration issue has been a source of political gridlock for decades. People do have a valid argument that people should just immigrate here the right way, legally. However, most people don't realize that currently, the wait times to come here legally are extraordinarily long.

For instance, the current wait time for a Mexican sibling of a U.S. Citizen to come to the United States is 24 years; the wait time for a U.S. Citizen to sponsor his married son or daughter is 25 years; the wait time for unmarried sons or daughters of U.S. Citizens from various countries is 10 years. The visa wait times can be seen at travel.state.gov. You will see that the wait times to do it the right way are very long. Although there is no excuse for entering the U.S. illegally, we do have a broken system with hardly any options to immigrate here legally within a normal time frame. We need a new practical solution—like the one outlined above—that could address concerns on both sides of the aisle while recognizing the economic and logistical realities of the situation. It's time to move past rhetoric and implement a plan that reflects both compassion and practicality.

ABOUT JAYSON DIMARIA, ESQ.

Jayson DiMaria, Esq., graduated from William Paterson University and Michigan State University College of Law. He has dedicated himself to the practice of both Immigration and Criminal law. Jayson is an attorney at law of the state of New Jersey and is authorized by law to practice Immigration Law throughout all of the United States. Contact him at The DiMaria Law Firm, LLC, 973-934-5854.

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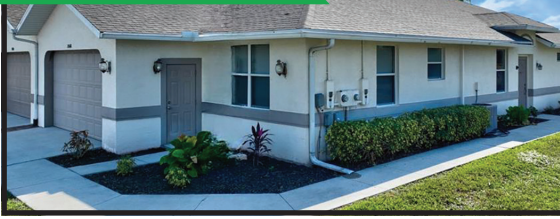


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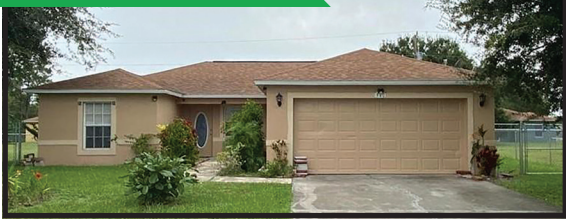


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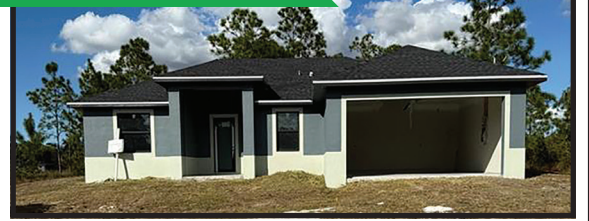


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Clerk & Comptroller Creates New Government Efficiency Officer

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



Photo(s): (Left) Kevin Karnes, (Right) John Bodner

Saving taxpayer money is one of my top priorities.

We work hard for what we have, and as your Lee County Clerk and Comptroller, I understand the importance of being a good steward of taxpayer money.

That is why I created a new role within our agency that is solely focused on saving taxpayer funds and promoting efficiency. I hear the sensitivity surrounding government budgets and am committed to doing

something about it.

I am proud to announce that our office now has a Chief of Government Efficiency, also known as CoGE. The role will focus on identifying cost-saving measures and providing strategic recommendations to help reduce the office's budget, streamline operations, and promote a culture of excellence.

John Bodner has been tapped to serve in the Chief of Government Efficiency role. Up until this new position, John served as our office's Chief Administrative Officer. That role has now been officially transitioned to the Chief of Government Efficiency position.

John joined the Lee County Clerk's Office in 2023 and was previously the assistant

county administrator in Lancaster County, SC. He has also worked at the Lee County Tax Collector as the Chief Financial Officer. My goal is that the Chief of Government Efficiency role pays for itself through all of the cost-saving measures John will find.

As the Chief of Government Efficiency, John will look at budgets and expenses with a different lens from internal auditors, who traditionally focus on different priorities. He will determine if purchases are mission critical to the Clerk's Office and make recommendations to me on whether the expense was necessary and a good use of taxpayer dollars.

John will also be responsible for regular research projects that are centered around our office's cost-saving initiatives and overall performance. The Lee County Clerk &

Comptroller's Office is governed by more than 1,000 statutes, as well as a variety of Administrative Codes and Administrative Orders. In addition to saving taxpayer dollars through the initiatives outlined above, John will also present recommendations to the Legislature and Chief Judge to make processes more simplistic and efficient for the taxpayer.

Creating this new role is the right thing to do. The goal of the Chief of Government Efficiency is to save taxpayer dollars and we're already seeing success in doing that.

I have no doubt John will excel as the Chief of Government Efficiency, and I look forward to all that he and the Lee County Clerk & Comptroller's Office will accomplish for the citizens we are honored to serve. 🍀

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Lighthouse Pet Clinic Celebrates 4th AAHA Accreditation

Mike Woodward, V.P. of Admin | Lighthouse Pet Clinic, mwoodward@lighthousepet.com



Lighthouse Pet Clinic is delighted to announce that it has achieved its 4th accreditation from the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA). This prestigious accolade underscores the clinic's unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards in veterinary care.

AAHA accreditation is synonymous with excellence in veterinary medicine, and earning this honor for the fourth time is a testament to the clinic's dedication to providing exemplary care. Less than 15% of veterinary practices nationwide achieve this level of accreditation, placing Lighthouse Pet Clinic among an elite group of veterinary professionals.

"Achieving our 4th AAHA accreditation

is a proud moment for our entire team," said Dr. Laura Baltodano, owner and C.E.O. of Lighthouse Pet Clinic. "This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to upholding the highest standards of veterinary care and ensuring the well-being of our patients. It signifies trust and quality to our pet owners and community."

The AAHA accreditation process is rigorous, involving a comprehensive evaluation of the clinic's protocols, facilities, and patient care standards. Accredited clinics are evaluated on approximately 900 standards of veterinary excellence, encompassing areas such as patient care, pain management, surgery, pharmacy protocols, and medical record-keeping.

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE PET CLINIC

Dr. Laura Baltodano, a graduate of Washington State University, has owned and directed Lighthouse Pet Clinic since 2015. The clinic offers a wide range of services, including routine check-ups, emergency care, dental services, and advanced diagnostics. Their dedicated staff are passionate about providing personalized care tailored to the unique needs of each pet, and they are frequently mentioned in online reviews for their compassionate care and preeminent customer service.

As Dr. Laura explains, "We take pride in being a small, private practice where compassionate, high-quality, and personalized care is at the heart of everything that we do. Our dedicated team values the close relationships we build with our clients and their pets, creating a warm, family-like environment where everyone is known by name. We remain committed to staying

small so that every pet and pet parent receives the individualized attention and heartfelt care they deserve."

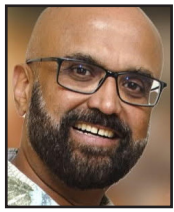
ABOUT THE AMERICAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION (AAHA)

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When Diversity Policies Compromise Aviation Safety

Executive Director Vinson Xavier Palathingal



As a Fort Myers resident and a frequent traveler through Reagan National Airport (DCA) on flights from RSW, I have always trusted the professionals orchestrating our skies. The recent mid-air collision over the Potomac River, which claimed 67 lives, has shattered that trust. This tragedy was not merely an accident; it was a preventable failure, highlighting the perils of prioritizing diversity initiatives over essential qualifications in critical professions.

A class-action lawsuit alleges that the FAA rejected over 1,000 highly qualified applicants—many of whom had aviation backgrounds—because they did not fit the agency's diversity targets. These applicants had passed rigorous screening, earned high test scores, and were well-prepared to take on one of the most demanding jobs in the country. (NY Post)

Additionally, the FAA actively recruited individuals with severe intellectual and psychiatric disabilities for critical aviation safety roles. The FAA's own website emphasized hiring individuals with disabilities such as severe intellectual disability, psychiatric disability, epilepsy, and complete paralysis for roles that demand split-second decision-making and extreme concentration. (NY Post)

On the night of the Potomac River mid-air collision, Reagan National was critically understaffed. Instead of having two controllers—one managing helicopters and another overseeing runway traffic—a single individual was tasked with handling

both responsibilities. This wasn't just human error—it was a systemic failure caused by a shortage of qualified air traffic controllers. (NY Post)

A 2023 report from the Department of Transportation's Inspector General found that the FAA was operating with a 30-year low in fully certified controllers. Reagan National had only 19 fully certified controllers, well below the 30 required to safely manage the volume of air traffic. (NBC Washington)

This staffing crisis has been well documented. Yet instead of focusing on recruiting the best and brightest, the FAA prioritized hiring quotas over competence, contributing to the shortage of experienced professionals overseeing our airspace.

Even those inside the industry have warned that FAA hiring policies are undermining aviation safety.

Andrew Brigida, an aspiring air traffic controller, scored 100% on his FAA training exam but was denied employment, allegedly due to the FAA's diversity-focused hiring process. Reflecting on the recent tragedy, Brigida stated:

"You want to hire the best and the brightest for this kind of job because it is a very stressful job... You want to make sure that the people that are doing it are the best." (Telegraph)

To restore confidence in aviation safety, decisive action must be taken. Congress should:


- Conduct a full investigation into FAA

hiring practices.

- End quota-based hiring and return to a merit-based selection process.
- Address staffing shortages by recruiting the most highly qualified professionals.
- Ensure safety-critical roles are filled based on expertise, not diversity metrics.

On a plane, I want to know that the people guiding my flight are the best in the business—hired solely on their ability to do the job at the highest level. Every traveler deserves that peace of mind.

We must demand accountability. We must restore competence over ideology. We cannot afford another disaster like this.

About the Author: Vinson Xavier Palathingal is a Fort Myers-based entrepreneur and policy advocate. He previously served on the President's Export Council and is the Executive Director of the Indo-American Center in Washington, D.C. His work focuses on economic policy, workforce development, and strengthening U.S. industries. 

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Caloosa Humane Society, Inc. (CHS)

Rebecca Crum | Business Director, www.caloosahumanesociety.org

Tucked away in LaBelle, Florida, known as the City Under the Oaks, is Caloosa Humane Society, Inc. (CHS). As a non-profit, 501(c)(3), and no-kill shelter and veterinary clinic, our mission is to serve, shelter, and protect the homeless pets in our care. We are dedicated to finding permanent and loving adoptive homes for our companion animals in need. Our no-kill facility provides low cost spay/neuter services to the community with the goal of reducing the extreme overpopulation of unwanted pets.

Driven by his unwavering desire to help homeless animals, the vision of Cornelius "Kees" Huijer became a reality in August 2001, when CHS opened its doors. Mr. Huijer's estate directed one million dollars to be dedicated to the creation and maintenance of a humane society and animal care facility to serve the forsaken pets of rural Hendry and Glades counties. Mr. Huijer retired to the Turkey Creek area of Ortona. Originally from the Dutch East Indies, he was educated as an engineer at the University in the Hague and employed by Mobil Oil Company. He was a man of strong intellect, spoke five languages, and had a great knowledge of history. CHS owes its existence to Cornelius Huijer, a compassionate visionary whose legacy lives on in our no-kill facility.

To uphold Mr. Huijer's legacy, and for fiscal security, we opened our clinic doors in 2011. Our clinic provides all medical services to animals housed at our shelter as well as services to the community including, preventative care exams, vaccines, wellness testing, spay/neuter, preventatives, dental cleaning, in-house radiographs and bloodwork, advanced surgeries, and canine and feline prescription diets.

The shelter houses an average of 50-75 animals, and adoption fees range from \$30 to \$130. For canines, these fees cover heartworm testing/treatment, intestinal parasite testing/treatment, spay/neuter surgery, monthly preventatives, Rabies, Parvo, and Bordetella vaccines. Feline fees cover FeLV/FIV testing, intestinal parasite testing/treatment, spay/neuter surgery, monthly preventative, Rabies,

FeLV, and FVRCP vaccines. Each animal receives a comprehensive physical exam, which allows us to then perform any additional tests or treatments to improve their quality of life, from medicated baths to limb removals.

As CHS has continued to grow, the shelter now includes 26 air-conditioned dog kennels, 1,500 linear feet of fence for the 13 dog enrichment yards, 4 free roam cat rooms with enrichment such as shelving and decompression boxes, a designated medical isolation area, and a meet & greet room. With our shelter's ongoing renovation project, funded largely through donations, we've upgraded the flooring, lighting, lobby area, storage shelving, cabinets, countertops, fresh paint, mulch, new grooming tub, storage cabinet, installed new hurricane-proof doors, and with more to come. Not only has our shelter grown, but the clinic as well. With an upgraded surgical suite, a new recovery suite, an additional part-time veterinarian, additional support staffing, and in-house radiographs, bloodwork, and urinalysis, we are able to accommodate the community's needs more efficiently and provide higher quality medical care.

In addition, CHS also has programs including a Volunteer Program, where volunteers can assist with animal care, building/premises upkeep, and animal socialization, a Foster Program that allows families to foster shelter animals that may be too young to be housed at the shelter, sick animals that need a quiet place to heal, or animals that need decompressing prior to enter shelter for adoption, and a Events/Fundraising Program to help adoptable animals gain more exposure as well as funding to ensure the shelter and its programs continue to prosper.

We also receive funding via grants and donations for community programs such as Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR). For example, this past year we were awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Florida Animal Friend fund. With this grant, we were able to TNR 308 cats, from nearly 50 trapping locations, with the help of over 20 staff, board members, and volunteers in



our community. Immediate positive effects were noted by the local animal control agency as they reported a 12% decrease in dropped off strays, an increase of released TNR strays by 6-fold, and a decrease in their euthanasia rates. Due to this impact, the City of LaBelle has continued to provide limited funding, allowing an additional 30 cats to be TNR'd in 2024 alone.

While we host and attend many events and fundraisers each year, our two primary fundraisers include the annual Peace Love & Paws Gala and Swamp Stomp 5k. With over 200 attendees, the gala is hosted at the stunning Riverbend Motorcoach Resort and includes sponsorships, live

and silent auctions, a steak dinner, free beer & wine, live band, special presentations, our money board, and video show. Surpassing 500 registrants last year, the Swamp Stomp 5k includes a beautiful course in LaBelle, FL, which takes runners and walkers under arching oaks, with glimpses of the Caloosahatchee River along the way.

If you would like to join the CHS family, to save lives and make a difference, please visit our shelter located at 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, FL, our clinic located at 1050 Commerce Drive, LaBelle, FL, or visit our website at www.caloosahumanesociety.org. 🌿



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An Interview With High Horse Bar & Grill

East Lee County News

ELCN: What inspired you to open a restaurant here in Lee County on State Road 80?

Edward Michaels: We have been coming down here about seven years, and we have had a restaurant in my family for forty-six years up home. So we've always been around it. And Kat has been around a bar since she's been 18.

We noticed that there is not a lot of food in this area for the number of people who live here, so it seemed like a great location to open our bar and restaurant.

We started out in Naples, went to Bonita Springs, and landed here in North Fort Myers. We just liked the area and decided this was where we would call home. We live about three miles from here in North Fort Myers. This will be our fourth year, and we've been coming down for seven years.

ELCN: How did you choose the concept or the theme for the High Horse Bar & Grill?

Edward: It's pretty much based on the bar we have back in Pennsylvania. That one is more of a Country Western theme with a bit of class.

Kathleen Frye: I'm the country girl, and he's a high-horsepower automobile guy. He loves his old cars, so the name High Horse would be appropriate either way you look at it.

ELCN: Did you face any challenges when you started this, and how did you overcome them?

Kat: Actually, we had several people from the local area who helped put it together. Some of the vendors and contractors we met at LJ's came and helped us get started, you know, painting and cleaning, and they helped with a lot of the fix-up that we needed to do. And then we had a friend that we'd met through it at LJ's, and, you know, he was really good close friends with the bartenders working here, and he wanted to help. His name's Fred Miller. He was my guardian angel. We call him Mr. Fred. He came in and never left till it was complete. He came in and helped us phenomenally. Without him, we would have never gotten open when we did get open. We experienced a lot of love then, especially with LJ's closing. You know, that this is in essence, like, almost a new LJ's. Right?

ELCN: What was this restaurant before?

Edward: It was Darla's and actually Red's Out East (Red Bones East), and then I think even before that, it was several names throughout time.

ELCN: How do you handle seasonality in Florida? Did the Election delaying snowbirds' return affect you?

Edward: We have a good, strong local

crowd. We do. I mean, we've been gaining at that every day. The snowbird thing is a great thing, and we appreciate all that they are coming down here and being a part of what this is. But this, you know, we still gotta be here for the local community that's been here all this time, and that's one of the things that keeps us going all summer long.

Kat: I don't know. It's nice that we're getting all the other crowd, the ones that just come down for four months, five months because we're meeting new people. They're coming in. They're enjoying the food. They like the drinks. They love the espresso martinis. You know, they just keep coming back. The entertainment, they keep coming back for that because we have good entertainers.

ELCN: What are some of your signature dishes? Like the Lasagna Soup, I keep hearing about?

Kat: Well, I think they want that to be the signature soup. Every day the lasagna soup is what they want that to be. We sell a lot of homemade meatloaf, pizzas, strombolis, and half-pound burgers. It's fresh ground chuck, pizzas and strombolis are fresh dough, and the wings. Everybody seems to love the wings. It gets their curiosity going and they say, "What's twice baked mean?" Some people don't know what that is, but that's cooking them through the pizza oven, after we put them down in the fryer, it cooks the sauce on them.

ELCN: Can you tell us about the Tiki Bar outback?

Kat: Some people like sitting outside because they can smoke. Starting probably on Sundays, I'm going to do entertainment out there, most likely from one to four. And then something in here on Sunday from five to eight. They seem to like sitting out at the Tiki bar and enjoying the fresh air, and then they get hot, and they come in here. So most of the customers, they'll kinda, bounce back and forth.

ELCN: Do you have happy hour or drink specials? What type of atmosphere are you trying to create?

Edward: We have happy hour. It's seven days a week. So what kind of atmosphere are we trying to create here? Just a down-home kind of friendly thing. More or less, where somebody feels comfortable coming in, you know, you can actually have two women go out to lunch or dinner by themselves and feel comfortable. We've got some games for people to play. We have two pool tables and an electronic dart board.

Kat: Yeah. I mean, we even have the Golden Tees golf arcade game, which is a huge draw too and a juke box you can play.

ELCN: What are your long-term goals or plans for the restaurant or bar?

Kat: We're planning on being here. That's why we signed a fairly long lease. That way we could be here and know we were going to be here. So it's pretty much that we're trying to be here for the community and be part of it, you know, we're enjoying meeting new friends and making new friends. I'm going to be starting breakfast on Sundays in a few weeks, just on Sundays. If it goes well and takes off, I'll have to get it staffed to do it more days a week.

ELCN: What's your personal go-to meal from your own menu?

Kat: Kat's Wings, they have secret ingredients, lots of parmesan, the hard kind, they are twice baked and spicy. One of our biggest sellers at home is the Kat's Wings at our other bar.

Edward: Mine, probably the Italian Hoagie because, like I say, it's a true Italian, you know, capicola ham. It's got the salami and ham. That's probably one of my favorites out of everything we do. Our burgers, well it's probably between the burgers, and the Italian Hoagie is because, like I said, I love fresh ground chuck, I'm not a real frozen fan when it comes to meat.

Kat: One more thing, If we've got it in the house, and you ask for it, I'll go back there and make. You know what I mean? Because, like, say you want a Pizza Burger. Okay. Well, I have the sauce. I have the cheese. I have pepperoni. I just go back there and make it because we have the ingredients on hand.

ELCN: Can you tell us a little about your businesses up north?

Edward: I have I have three other businesses at home. I still have a bar

that's been in my family for forty-six years. I'll actually be 47 here in another couple of months. I've owned it for twenty years. And then we have a dirt track that I've had seven years. It's one of the it's actually oldest Western Pennsylvania dirt tracks that runs three-eighths mile, runs sprint cars, modifieds, and some of those other subordinate classes. The names are the Mustang Bar and then Michael's Mercer Raceway. They're located in Mercer, Pennsylvania. And then I have a fabrication shop. It's called E and E Welding Exhaust. That was my primary business for the last twenty-eight years, doing custom exhaust on exotic cars and muscle cars.

ELCN: So, how'd you two meet?
Kat: (Eleven years ago) I was managing a bar, and he came in. He lost electricity.

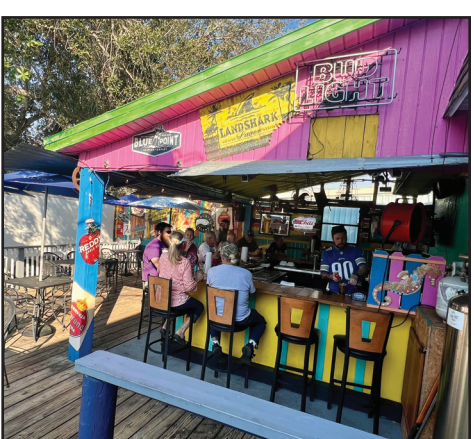
Edward: (Smiling) Yep.
Kat: (Smiling) He wanted to come and eat.

Edward: (Teasing) So what!
Kat: (Smiling) Then he didn't leave!

ELCN: Anything you'd like to add?

KAT: I don't I don't think other than a shout out to my staff on how wonderful they are, and they stuck with us this whole entire time. They just keep striving, and they all show up to work, and I try to make it a fun environment for them. Sometimes it gets stressful, but we because, well, when I hired them all, I told them, listen, I'm not corporate. It's like family, at the end, we'll work through it. We'll all work through it.

The High Horse Bar & Grill is located at 12350 Palm Beach Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33905. Phone, (239) 990-6272 or go online and search High Horse Bar & Grill for listings. 🍀



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Arts Of The Inland Presents: The Kaleidoscope Of Art – A Vivid Celebration Of Creativity And Community

Stella Luckey | artsinland@gmail.com, www.artsinland.com

Arts of the Inland is proud to present our March Art Gala, an evening dedicated to celebrating local artists and fostering community engagement through creativity. The gala will occur on Saturday, March 22, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, at the Arts of the Inland Gallery, 471 N Lee St, LaBelle, FL 33935.

This exclusive event will showcase artwork from talented regional artists. Guests will enjoy live music, delightful finger foods, and a silent auction featuring gift baskets generously donated by local businesses.

The Art Gala is a key highlight of Arts of the Inland's ongoing exhibition, Kaleidoscope, which runs from February 27 through March 30, 2025.

"This event is more than just an art show; it's a vibrant celebration of artistic expression and the incredible talent that flourishes in our region," said Stella Luckey, the President of Arts of the Inland, a non-profit organization. "We invite everyone to step into the colorful world of the arts for a memorable evening filled with creativity, connection, and inspiration."

In addition to showcasing artwork, the gala will feature an awards presentation, recognizing exceptional pieces selected by renowned artists Clyde and Nikki Butcher. Attendees will also have the unique chance to engage with artists, learn about their artistic journeys, and even take home a piece of the experience through the silent auction. For more information, please contact: Stella Luckey artsinland@gmail.com or visit www.artsinland.com.



Charles Ross Appler Turns One Hundred!

East Lee County News

World War II, Navy Hospital Core veteran Charles Appler was surprised to see many of his closest friends and family at the Westminster Florist in Lehigh Acres during his birthday week recently as he went in to pick up an arrangement. "Happy Birthday!!! Surprise!!!" shouted everyone as he looked up from carefully coming through the door. He regaled the participants with a couple of tried and true stories.

Charles was a Laboratory Technician Pharmacist Second Class, when he met his wife of 54 years, they were married in 1945, when he returned stateside., They made a home and raised cattle, corn, wheat, and hay in the Maryland and New Jersey area. He also worked as a high school biology teacher for 32 years. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1949.

Charles told us about his first-hand experiences at the Battle of Guadalcanal, an Allied offensive against forces of the Imperial Japan in the Solomon Islands in the Pacific Theater during

World War II between August 7, 1942 and February 9, 1943. Charles said, "We landed on the island and had secured the area 99%. We set up camp, and the Japanese soldiers in the hills would come down and raid the camp for food. We treated the wounded, and the Navy gave the hospital staff guns. We didn't know how to use them, so we put them under our bunks. When they came to inspect, they had rusted, so they were taken away," we laughed.

After the war, he was stationed at the Naval Hospital in San Diego. As a member of the Master at Arms force, he met and greeted Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: "I've never washed my hand since, and if you believe that, I'll tell you another." said Charles.

Special thanks to Westminster Florist Owner Isoline Litchmore, CEO/Founder of Sampson's International Nursing Society Linda F. Hill & President Barbara Belkoff, Vietnam Veterans of America Chaplain Juan Cordero C104 and Vet. Chuck Gregory C 108.



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Pet Health Topic: Periodontal Disease in Cats and Dogs

Dr. Veja Tillman, DMV | Owner of Just 4 Pets Veterinary Wellness Center

Periodontal disease is infection and inflammation of the deep tissues that surround and support the teeth. Up to 70% of cats and 80% of dogs have some level of periodontal disease by age 2. Other risk factors include obesity, toy breeds, immunosuppression (diabetes mellitus, hyperadrenocorticism), poor nutritional status, and malocclusion.

Periodontal disease causes systemic effects on other body organs, such as, an increased risk of chronic kidney disease and heart disease. If left untreated, periodontal disease will progress to tooth loss.

CAUSES OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE

Periodontal disease is caused by plaque bacteria accumulating on the tooth surface and eliciting a host response to the bacterial presence. Plaque is the soft layer or film on the tooth surface that forms from a combination of food particles, saliva proteins and minerals, and bacteria present within the mouth. The accumulation of plaque, bacteria, and the response of the immune system are factors that lead to the development of periodontal disease.

CLINICAL SIGNS AND LESIONS OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE

Key clinical signs of periodontal disease are bad breath (halitosis); plaque

and calculus (tartar) accumulation; red, swollen, and bleeding gums (ie, gingivitis); recession of the gum line; pocketing of the tissues around the tooth root; mobile teeth; and tooth loss.

DIAGNOSIS OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE IN SMALL ANIMALS

An oral examination in an awake and sedated pet is one of the best ways to diagnose periodontal disease. When performing an oral examination, the veterinarian can gather information on any occlusion abnormalities (overcrowding, malocclusion), obvious signs of trauma to the teeth (tooth fractures or discoloration, etc), evidence of calculus (tartar) on the teeth or inflammation, presence of all teeth, extra or missing teeth and evidence of foreign material or abnormal growth of tissue within the mouth.

Additional information collected on an oral exam (under anesthesia) would include probing the gumline for periodontal pockets, exposure of the base or root of the teeth, and the degree of mobility of the teeth.

Intraoral radiographs are helpful to fully assess the extent of disease and bone loss around the tooth root.

TREATMENT OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE IN SMALL ANIMALS

Treatment of periodontal disease

includes: professional dental cleaning, periodontal treatment and dental extraction. Treatment of periodontal disease can be complicated and variable depending on the condition of the affected teeth.

PREVENTION OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE IN SMALL ANIMALS

Prevention of periodontal disease is the same as its treatment: treatment of gingivitis, plaque removal and control. Daily brushing (or wiping of the surface of the teeth every 2 days for pets that may not tolerate brushing) can easily remove plaque and prevent tartar accumulation. However, tartar can only be removed by professional scaling and polishing of the teeth.

Products that slow the development of plaque on the tooth surface or prevent the adhesion of plaque bacteria on the surface of the tooth may provide some benefit.

Correction and treatment of predisposing anatomical and systemic fac-

tors, including the following, should be identified and addressed:

- Severe crowding of teeth (malocclusion)
- Metabolic conditions such as diabetes mellitus or renal failure should be diagnosed, treated, and controlled.
- Inappropriate behaviors such as cage biting or rock chewing and inappropriate selection of toys (eg, tennis balls) that damage the tissues should be identified and modified.

For more information and to discuss your pet's oral health, contact your veterinarian care team today to schedule a Complete Oral Health Assessment.

ABOUT DR. VEJA TILLMAN, DMV

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

The EVENTS CALENDAR

March 1 - Yard Sale @ The Little Yellow House

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is hosting a Yard Sale. The event is located at 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33919, on March 1st from 8am - Noon. Items such as clothing, antiques, collectibles, dishes, artwork, CD's and miscellaneous items for sale. Please bring small bills. All items priced between \$1.00 - \$10.

March 8 - AGC Annual Plant Sale & Strawberry Shortcake Festival

The Alva Garden Club presents its annual Plant Sale & Strawberry Shortcake Festival from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, March 8 at 21440 Pearl Street in Alva. In addition to a large assortment of plants, there will be vendors, used books and a bake sale. Admission and parking are free.

March 8 - The Alva Museum Quilt Show

Join the SW Florida Quilter's Guild on March 8, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Alva Museum (21420 Pearl St, Alva, FL) for a stunning display of antique and modern quilts. Explore beautifully handcrafted pieces and celebrate the artistry of quilting. This event takes place alongside the Alva Garden Club's Strawberry Festival.

March 22 - Kaleidoscope of Art Gala and Exhibition

Arts of the Inland presents the Kaleidoscope of Art Gala on Saturday, March 22, 5:00-8:00 PM at the Arts of the Inland Gallery (471 N Lee St, LaBelle, FL 33935). Enjoy a stunning art showcase, live music, finger foods, and a silent auction. Awards will be presented by judges Clyde and Nikki Butcher. Part of the Kaleidoscope Exhibition (Feb 27 - Mar 30, 2025).

March 29 - Alva Country Days Festival

Experience the charm of Alva at the first annual Alva Country Days Festival on Saturday, March 29, from 1:00 PM to 7:30 PM located at 21361 North River Road, Alva, FL 33920. Celebrate Alva's rich history and rural traditions with interactive exhibits, agricultural displays, live music, local artisans, and educational programs. This family-friendly event highlights the beauty and culture of our beloved town.



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MARCH 2025

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Fishing Adventures In Southwest Florida: A Guide For A Great Day Outdoors

Looking for a fun day out in Southwest Florida? Whether you're a seasoned angler or just getting started, fishing in this beautiful region offers something for everyone. All you need is some bait, the right gear, and a sense of adventure.

Start by gathering small baits like 1/4 oz jig heads, road runners, beetle spins, or buck tails. If you're looking for alternatives, bacon or frozen shrimp will do the trick. Head to the Everglades to find your perfect fishing spot. Areas like Alligator Alley, Fakahatchee Strand, Monroe Station, and Tuckers Grade, off US-41 south of 951, have plenty of boat ramps and fishing opportunities.

Be mindful if you're fishing along the ridges on US-41, as the road is narrow, and vehicles often speed by. It's a good idea to bring a large cooler with ice to store your catch and don't forget the bug spray to keep those pesky mosquitoes at bay.

Fishing in Southwest Florida offers a wide variety of species to target. Expect to catch plenty of Oscars and cichlids,

peacock bass, tarpon, snook, garfish, snakeheads, and more. Remember that there are limits in place to protect certain species: the peacock bass limit is two per person, with at least one being over 17 inches. Snook season runs from March 1st to the end of April and again from October 1st to November 30th. If you plan on keeping a snook, don't forget to purchase the snook stamp.

While many of the fish are excellent table fare, Oscars can be a bit tricky due to their tough skin. If you don't want to clean them, consider using them for cat food or placing them around trees to deter pests. Better yet, pass them along to neighbors or those in need, but be sure not to release them back into the water. Oscars are an invasive species and harm native fish populations, so it's important to remove them from the ecosystem responsibly.

For those heading to Everglades City, be aware that you'll need a saltwater fishing license. And if you're planning on hunting turkey, spring turkey season runs from March 1st to April 6th, south of Highway 70. Don't forget to get your turkey stamp, and keep in mind that

Capt. Eddie | Tight Lines, www.facebook.com/eddie.yerdon



Photo(s): Katrina with Eddie handing out at the SWFL Historical Society Cracker Dinner on Feb 10th.

all turkey kills must be reported to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

Whether you're fishing with the family or simply looking to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life, Southwest Florida offers the perfect opportunity to unwind. Enjoy the wildlife, take in the sights, and of course, have fun!

Tight lines and happy fishing! 🍀



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Salvation Army Needs YOUR Help!

Major Brenda Lane | The Salvation Army

I hope this note finds each of you well and enjoying the beautiful weather we are having, can you believe we are already in March!! Before you know it, summer will be here!! I don't need to remind you that we are all facing some pretty rough times as it relates to everyday living and the daily increase in the cost of food, gas, rent and so much more. We are seeing so many more families in our office who are facing the loss of jobs because they can't afford the cost of gas to get back and forth. We are seeing families who are facing eviction due to the extreme rise in rent and mortgage. I fear it is only going to continue to get worse. We are assisting more families than usual with emergency food. Again, this is due to the loss of jobs, the rise in rents, and the overall cost of living.

many other necessities... We have some wonderful people in our Community of Lehigh Acres, who support us, and make it possible to continue to have the resources to serve those who come to us with various needs. However, it isn't enough... Our resources are running low and we don't want to turn anyone away if they have a legitimate need. We need your help.

If you are in a position to help with any of the things I have mentioned, or perhaps, you can make a monetary donation (tax deductible), be assured your support will go a long way in allowing us to fill the needs and requests of those who are not able to provide for their families at this time. If you would like more information on ways to help us continue serving and providing for the needs of those who are struggling to make it day to day, please feel free to give us a call or stop by our office Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (closed 12:00 to 1:00) We are located at 25 Homestead Rd. N #42 (33936)- behind Joe's Cafe, in the Lehigh Town Center Mall. Our phone# is 239-491-6071.

We here at The Salvation Army stand ready to assist in any way we can. However, we can't do it alone, it takes a village!! We need your help. There are so many ways in which you can help us help those coming to us for assistance every day. We need canned goods and non-perishable food items to replenish our emergency food. Canned meats are a great need. We are getting requests for tarps, ponchos, and help to pay for Medication, help with gas and so

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



MEET Jessica

Hello! My name is Jessica, and I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the newest hairstylist at Gateway's Mini Spa & Salon!

With over 20 years of experience in the beauty industry, I have developed a passion for helping clients feel confident and beautiful. I specialize in precision haircuts for both women and men, dimensional color, grey coverage, and working with curly hair to enhance its natural texture and beauty. Whether you're looking for a bold transformation, a subtle refresh, or expert care for your curls, I'm here to bring your vision to life!

I can't wait to meet you and help you achieve your hair goals. Book an appointment today, and let's create something amazing together!

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Shout out to Jaime from the Buckingham Blues Bar.



THE ROAR

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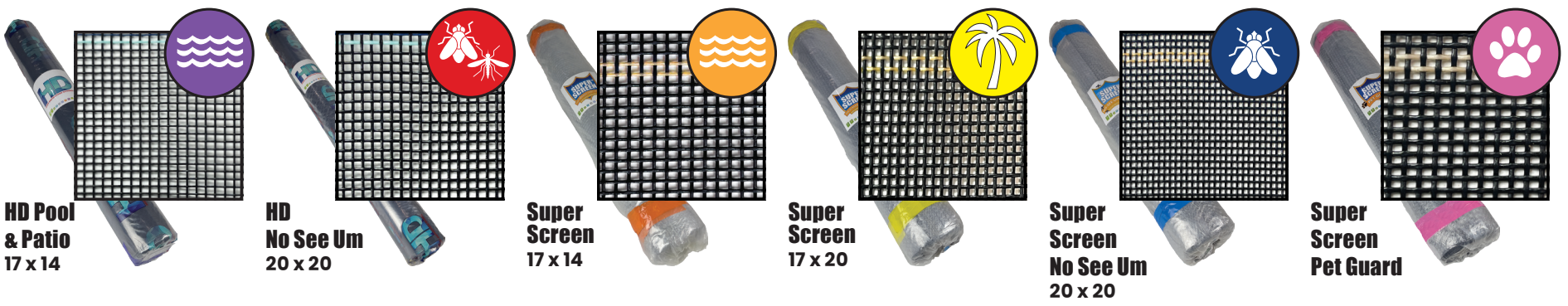
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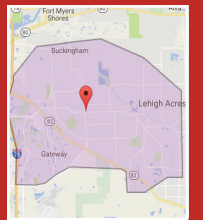
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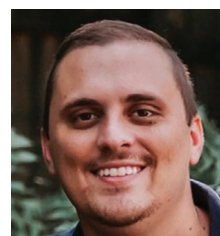
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Nick Bonacolta



CHARLIE BONACOLTA

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NICK BONACOLTA

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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**

Charlie Bonacolta

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charlisold@gmail.com

GROUND FLOOR 2 BR 2 BA 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.....\$189,900**

Nick Bonacolta 239-887-0468

nbonacolta@gmail.com

BRAND NEW 3/2 IN NE LEHIGH



Brand New Home located in Northeast Lehigh bordering ALVA, MOVE IN READY, AFFORDABLE 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH NEW CBS HOME. C.O. HAS BEEN ISSUED, 32 X 32 POLISHED PORCELAIN TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE HOME with 5 inch baseboards, impact resistant windows, covered front and rear porches with large open concrete patio 12.6 X 18 overlooking the backyard, excellent for grilling and parties, high ceilings throughout, upgrades galore in the kitchen with shaker cabinets, soft close doors and drawers, LED pendant lighting over breakfast bar, QUARTZ TOPS in kitchen and baths, stainless steel appliance package, glass tile backsplash, large dining area off of the kitchen, master bedroom with private bath, tiled walk in shower with frameless glass doors, indoor laundry area, garage with grey seal coated floors, extra long driveway with plenty of parking, excellent location just minutes to SR 80 bordering ALVA I-75, Ft Myers and the International airport. **Offered At.....\$279,900**

Charlie Bonacolta

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BRAND NEW HOME IN NE LEHIGH ON 1/2 ACRE LOT



Brand New Home located in Northeast Lehigh on a HALF ACRE LOT, MOVE IN READY 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH WITH A DEN with a closet that may be used as 4th BEDROOM, C.O. HAS BEEN ISSUED, double door entry to the den for privacy, TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE HOME with 5 inch baseboards, impact resistant windows, covered front porch leads to large great room, high ceilings throughout with tray ceilings in the living room and master bedroom, shaker cabinets with soft close doors and drawers, pendant lighting over breakfast bar, QUARTZ TOPS in kitchen and baths, stainless steel appliance package, glass tile backsplash, large dining area off of the kitchen, upgraded LED lighting throughout, spacious master bedroom with walk in closet, private bath with dual sinks and tiled walk in shower with glass tile accents, indoor laundry room, covered porch in the front as well as the rear overlooking the backyard, double garage with seal coated floors, extra long driveway with plenty of extra parking, excellent location on a quiet low traffic street just minutes to SR 80, I-75 and Ft Myers. **Offered At.....\$349,900**

Charlie Bonacolta 239-994-1062

charlisold@gmail.com

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH POOL HOME



Affordable POOL home located just North of Oakwood subdivision, three bed/ two bath with a large built in desk area in the middle of the two guest bedrooms, great for home office or homework space, NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2023, NEW 50 gallon WATER HEATER 2023, spacious deck area (45 X 25) surrounds a SALT WATER IN GROUND POOL AND SPA OVERFLOWING INTO THE POOL, auto vacuum, NEW POOL HEAT PUMP IN 2024, NEW WATER TREATMENT EQUIPMENT IN 2023, FRESHLY PAINTED INTERIOR, covered front porch, 8000 WATT PORTABLE GENERATOR WITH HOOK UP IN GARAGE TO Electrical PANEL BOX, cathedral ceilings and plant shelves, split bedrooms for privacy, newer French door refrigerator in the kitchen with all appliances, breakfast bar and pantry, indoor laundry room with full size washer and dryer, master bedroom with large walk in closet and private ensuite bathroom, newly remodeled guest bathroom with new walk in shower for easy access, walk in closet in one guest bedroom as well, spacious double garage with plenty of storage, storage shed with electric in the backyard, excellent location on a quiet low traffic street with larger estate sized homes in the area, just minutes to Lee Blvd, I-75 and Ft Myers. NO HOA FEES HERE AND NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED HERE. LEHIGH IS THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. **Offered At.....\$345,000**

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2/2 PARKWOOD VILLA - NO AGE RESTRICTIONS



Popular Parkwood Villa, low monthly maintenance fees with a common pool and walking distance to stores etc., NO AGE RESTRICTIONS HERE. TWO BEDROOM TWO BATH, NEW TILE ROOF IN 2018. 18 X 12 screened lanai with seal coated floors overlooking the open park like setting leading to the HEATED COMMON POOL, covered carport parking, ceramic tile floors throughout, large breakfast bar in the kitchen, primary bedroom with sliding barn door leading to ensuite bathroom, walk in closet and newly remodeled walk in shower, guest bedroom doubles as dining area with a BUILT IN MURPHY BED that pulls down, full guest bath with newer vanity, newer insulated windows, screened front entryway leads to entry foyer, spacious living room with plenty of room for an office desk, front load full size washer and dryer under the kitchen counter, storm panels for openings are located on the lanai behind the small storage container that will convey, furnishings available for sale separately, excellent location within walking distance to all of the stores, banks, etc. on Homestead Rd yet minutes to I-75 and Ft Myers. Affordable carefree living at it's best with NO AGE RESTRICTIONS. **Offered At.....\$200,000**

Charlie Bonacolta

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3/2 + DEN - NEW ROOF IN 2023



NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2023, NEW WATER HEATER 2017, three bedroom two bath with a den that can easily be used as a 4TH BEDROOM, screened front porch in entry as well as a 16 X 10 screened lanai overlooking the backyard and a nice Oak tree for shade, corner lot with easy access to Lee Blvd, I-75 and Ft Myers, cathedral ceilings, plant shelves, ceramic tile floors and laminate throughout, breakfast bar and two pantries with all appliances, French doors to the den, primary bedroom with two walk in closets and ensuite primary bathroom, guest bedrooms with Jack and Jill bathroom access, indoor laundry room with full size washer and dryer, generator hook up in the garage with lock out switch. NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED HERE. LEHIGH IS THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. **Offered At.....\$295,000**

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3/3 POOL HOME - CENTRAL WATER & SEWER



Affordable POOL HOME in a quiet neighborhood atmosphere with CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, THREE BEDROOMS, THREE BATHROOMS THAT INCLUDE TWO MASTER SUITES WITH PRIVATE BATHS, NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2021, whole house "GENERAC" AUTO GENERATOR (22 KW), NEW WATER HEATER 2021, screened front entry, QUARTZ tops in kitchen and baths, breakfast bar and party, newer cabinets with soft close doors and drawers with pull out shelving in the kitchen, QUARTZ backsplash and pass through to the pool area, all appliances including a SUB ZERO refrigerator, newly remodeled bathrooms with newer dual sinks and vanities, fixtures and lighting, crown molding, frameless glass shower doors with multi head shower with rain head feature, ceramic tile and luxury vinyl plank floors, lighted valances in living room, built in TV stand in the living room with storage shelving and electric fireplace, cathedral ceilings, auto sliding doors to pool area, SCREEN ENCLOSED IN GROUND HEATED POOL with newer "Diamond Brite" finish, plenty of covered and open patio space for entertaining, auto pool vacuum. Excellent location just minutes to SR 82, I-75 and Ft Myers yet just a short distance to central Lehigh to the Publix, stores, banks etc. LEHIGH IS THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED. **Offered At.....\$335,000**

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3 BEDROOM 2 BATH POOL HOME IN WILLOW LAKE SOUTH



Affordable THREE BEDROOM TWO BATH POOL HOME in popular Willow Lake South with large streets and curbs, CENTRAL WATER AND SEWER, EXCELLENT NEIGHBORHOOD ATMOSPHERE, SCREEN ENCLOSED IN GROUND HEATED POOL WITH NEW POOL SCREEN CAGE IN 2020, 47 X 24 pool area with an insulated pan roof, plenty of room for entertaining, NEW CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR IN 2019 with new AC duct work in the attic in 2021, NEW WATER HEATER IN 2022, Square D electrical panel box, dimensional shingle roof new in 2014, newly remodeled kitchen with newer cabinets, GRANITE TOPS, ISLAND COUNTER TOP, stainless steel appliance package, tile backsplash, pantry, newer sinks and vanities in both bathrooms with new tile in the tub and shower areas, rain head shower, primary bedroom with sliding door access to the pool area and ensuite private bathroom with walk in shower, large formal dining room off of the kitchen, spacious guest bedrooms, laminate floors throughout with 5 inch baseboards, newer ceramic tile floors in the bathrooms, oversized corner lot nicely landscaped with palms etc. plus a fenced dog run area off of the pool enclosure, 366 square feet in the garage with plenty of room for storage. The property was recently appraised at \$320K. NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED. LEHIGH IS THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. **Offered At.....\$315,000**

Charlie Bonacolta

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charlisold@gmail.com

4 BEDROOM 3 BATH ON HALF ACRE



Brand New Home ON A HALF ACRE LOT in NE Lehigh, Excellent location in area of larger estate sized homes, MOVE IN READY 4 BEDROOM 3 FULL BATHROOMS with TWO MASTER SUITES, EXCELLENT FOR IN LAW QUARTERS, C.O. HAS BEEN ISSUED, PORCELAIN TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE HOME with 5 inch baseboards, impact resistant windows, covered front porch leads to large great room, high entry foyer with decorative shelf, high ceilings throughout with tray ceilings in the living room and master bedroom, shaker cabinets with soft close doors and drawers and crown molding on top, pendant lighting over breakfast bar, QUARTZ TOPS in kitchen and baths with QUARTZ WATERFALL TOPS ON EACH SIDE IN THE KITCHEN, stainless steel appliance package, QUARTZ backsplash, large dining area off of the kitchen, spacious master bedroom with two walk in closets, private bath with dual sinks and tiled walk in shower with frameless glass door, 4th bedroom guest quarters off of the kitchen area with it's own private bathroom, indoor laundry room, screened lanai in the rear with tile floors overlooking the HALF ACRE LOT, covered front porch with tile floors as well, auto irrigation on well, double garage with grey seal coated floors, excellent location just minutes to SR 80, I-75, Ft Myers and the International airport. NO FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED HERE. LEHIGH IS THE HIGHEST ELEVATION IN LEE COUNTY. **Offered At.....\$399,000**

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3 BEDROOM 2 BATH HOME - 1800 SQ FT LIVING AREA



1800 SQUARE FEET OF LIVING AREA IN THE THREE BEDROOM TWO BATH HOME, NEW DIMENSIONAL SHINGLE ROOF IN 2023, NEW CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR IN 2019, NEW WATER HEATER 2022, double door entry lead to soaring high cathedral ceilings, ceramic tile floors throughout the entire home, FRESHLY PAINTED INSIDE AND OUT, CROWN MOLDING, GRANITE tops in kitchen and bathrooms, formal living room plus spacious kitchen overlooking the family room, French doors that lead to the 24 X 10 covered patio with tile floors overlooking the backyard, breakfast bar and pantry in kitchen with all kitchen appliances, primary bedroom with vaulted ceilings, walk in closet and private ensuite bathroom with dual sinks, separate walk in shower and garden tub, indoor laundry room, newer water treatment system, spacious backyard, excellent location within walking distance to schools with sidewalks in front and minutes to I-75 and Ft Myers. **Offered At.....\$325,000**

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