



Important dates

All activities are open to the public

- ◆ April 7, April 21: Regular Lee County Commission meetings, 9:30 a.m. Courthouse, Fort Myers
- ◆ April 13: Alva Inc. general membership meeting, 7 p.m., Alva Community Center.
- ◆ April 14, 6 p.m. Public hearing on instructional materials for next school year, Lee County School Board offices, Fort Myers
- ◆ April 15: Federal income tax due date
- ◆ May 3: 11-2 p.m. Fire district barbecue, Styles Road station

Boat ramp repair plan still afloat; county needs a grant to make it go

Lee County commissioners agreed on St. Patrick's Day to ask the state for the green it needs to improve the Alva boat ramp.

Staff was authorized to ask the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for a grant to replace the one-lane ramp, enlarge the boarding dock, improve the path from the parking lot to the dock and to make parking lot improvements to eliminate flooding.

Last year the county received \$43,350 from the FWCC's Boating Im-

provement Plan for the design and permitting of the improvements. The county matched the grant with \$14,450.

Lee County acquired the ramp in 1989.



More please

Strawberries draw a crowd to museum

Hundreds of people hurried to Alva last month for the annual strawberry shortcake and plant sale to benefit the Alva museum. Various other vendors also were onsite to sell their goods.

Visitors could tour the museum, listen to flute music and spend time talking to their neighbors and friends on a sunny day.



Newsletter Information

The Alva Inc. newsletter is published monthly.

Get the newsletter by email. Send your address to Alva Inc. President Ruby Daniels at:

rubydaniels@embarqmail.com

Readers of the condensed printed version can read the full newsletter online at Alvafi.org.

Send news and photos to editor Don Ruane at:

ruanedon@aol.com



A flute player entertained while people lined up to purchase a bowl of strawberry shortcake during the annual Alva Garden Club's shortcake and plant sale to raise money to renovate the museum.

In the museum

Fancy dishes from our past

The Alva Museum features many items that help visitors understand the past and appreciate the present.

One such item is a tea service on display in a case to the right after you enter the doorway.

The service was given to Era Blount Foster as a wedding gift around 1905. Other homewares also are on display at the museum at 21420 E. Pearl Street. The museum is open 2-4 p.m. each Saturday from October through May.

The quaint building was Lee Coun-



ty's first public library. Today it houses artifacts and memorabilia related to Alva and life in Southwest Florida.

If you have a story about early Alva or a historical picture to share send them to newsletter editor Don Ruane at ruanedon@aol.com. Space is limited so keep the length reasonable.

Land development regulations being finalized for Alva

Alva Inc. is close to submitting proposed development regulations for commercial property to the Lee County Commission for approval. Once in place the rules will help preserve the rural appearance of commercial projects along State Road 80 and in the historic district between the Caloosahatchee River and The Alva School. Last minute work is under way to improve wording regarding public meetings a developer must hold before a proposed project can complete the county review process.

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The Alva Museum

Open every Saturday Oct—May
2 pm. — 4 p.m.

Courtesy of the Alva Garden Club
Meetings the third Tuesday of the month
2 p. m. — 4 p. m.

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Pedal power

Caloosa Riders bicycle club members toured Alva in late March. They paused in front of the post office and then left town via the bridge.



Firefighters barbeque lunch date with community in early May

An old tradition is coming back to life May 3 at the Alva Fire Control and Rescue District station on Styles Road.

The firefighters barbeque to raise money for new equipment will run from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. according to Chief Joey Tiner. People can eat their meal at the station or take it with them.

A \$10 donation is requested in exchange for half a chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, a roll and a drink.

The district, which relies on paid and volunteer firefighters, had the cookout for many years, but the tradition fell by the wayside.

Palmettos leveled

An area of Caloosahatchee Regional Park covered by tall, thick patches of palmettos was reduced to a stubble in March by Lee County. Chopping palmettos is often done to reduce the risk of brush fires and to keep fires less intense if they do ignite.



Proposal calls for up to 120 housing units at SR 31 and North River Road

The owner of a 40-acre parcel on the southeast corner of the intersection is preparing to ask the county to approve three units of housing per acre and 100,000 square feet of commercial space.

That's the maximum that can be allowed on the property but not necessarily what the owner, Daniel Kreinbrink, ultimately will be able to put there, said Tina Ekblad, of Depew & Associates, a planning consultant hired by the owner.

The proposal has been discussed twice in front of the North Olga Planning Panel, but the panel has yet to make a recommendation. More information was requested at its March meeting.

Traffic and development along SR 31 are expected to increase as the Babcock development progresses. The state has plans to widen SR 31 to four lanes to cope with the changes.

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