



Capt. Peter Nelson: Landed in Alva around 1881.

Important dates

All activities are open to the public

- ◆ Aug. 10: Alva Inc. general membership meeting, 7 p.m., Alva Community Center.
- ◆ Aug. 18: Lee County Commission regular meeting, 9:30 a.m. Courthouse, Fort Myers
- ◆ Aug. 22: The Alva School open house 8 a.m.
- ◆ Aug. 24: First day of school
- ◆ Sept. 1: Lee County Commission regular meeting, 9:30 a.m. Courthouse, Fort Myers

Inside buzz

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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 Alvafl.org.

Send news and photos to editor Don Ruane at:

ruanedon@aol.com

Join Alva Inc. by completing the membership form on Alvafl.org.

Park, high school link backed by Comm. Mann

A proposed park provides numerous opportunities for Lee County and the Lee County School District to cooperate to educate the public about agriculture, according to Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann.

Alva Inc. met with Mann, School Board member Pam LaRiviere and Extension Service agent Roy Beckford in July to talk about the possibilities presented by the park and a new high school that might be built on district land close to the park.

Alva Inc. supports the site at Tuckahoe Road and Joel Boulevard as the location for the high school. The school and the park could focus on agriculture and native Florida plants and landscaping.

Agriculture is a good field of study since it touches on many sciences and math, Beckford said.

The park will be paid for with impact fees already collected by Lee County. Construction is planned for 2016.

Site selection for the high school won't happen until the district first finds money to build another high school in Bonita Springs, LaRiviere said.



The site above marked by dotted lines is a potential location for the next East Zone high school. A county park is being planned for the green area. Tuckahoe Road is on the north side of the school site. Joel Boulevard links the sites.

Did you know ...

Medal of Honor recipient called Alva home

Army Specialist Nicholas J. Cutinha listed Alva as his home on official records when he died in Vietnam while defending his unit.

Cutinha received the Medal of Honor posthumously from President Richard Nixon for saving the lives of at least nine U.S. soldiers. He also was credited with killing nine enemies.

Cutinha, who is buried in the Fort Denaud Cemetery in Hendry County, and his unit were crossing a bridge in 1968 when concealed Viet Cong opened fired and killed or wounded half the



See Medal page 3



THE ALVA SCHOOL

Ramblers return

Aug. 24 first day;
open house set
for 8 a.m. Aug. 22

Auditorium repairs continue

Workers who removed the roof and walls of The Alva School auditorium have replaced them as work continues to rehabilitate the auditorium. School district officials planned to have the exterior completed in time for the first day of school. Work on the inside was expected to continue into October. The work was required because of cracks in the former wooden trusses made it unsafe to use the auditorium most of the past school year.



Top photo: Workers covered the back room of the auditorium with a blue tarp for protection. Bottom photo: A tethered for safety roofer prepares plywood for its tarpaper layer.

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The Alva Museum

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

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Alva's rainy season provides an almost daily dose of dramatic clouds.

Hall of Fame discussion draws a big response

More than 50 people joined a July 4th weekend discussion on Facebook on whether an Alva Hall of Fame should be established. They made about 65 nominations for inclusion.

Some also participated in a straw vote from the nomination list. The top vote getters were: Ruby Daniels, Mickey Newman and Nicholas J. Cutinha.

But an attempt to organize a committee to study what it would take to form the hall fizzled out. Volunteers willing to seek answers to the questions are asked to contact Don Ruane, who is editor of this newsletter, at ruanedon@aol.com or 693-8563.



Specialist Nicholas Cutinha's grave at Fort Denaud Cemetery in Hendry County.

Medal

92 members of the unit, including its officers. Cutinha stepped up and fought back until he was mortally wounded.

The ambush occurred at Gia Dinh, about four miles from Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon.

His Medal of Honor is on display at American Legion Post 130 in LaBelle. Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1046 in Duval County is named for him.

Cutinha was born Jan. 13, 1945 in Fernandina Beach. He graduated from Yulee High School.

Historic Alva

Colorful clothing part of Alva's museum exhibits

Seminole Indians once traveled and lived in Southwest Florida. Exhibits at the Alva Museum, at 21420 E. Pearl St., help people understand the skills and behaviors of the Seminoles.

The museum is open 2-4 p.m. each Saturday from October through May. The quaint building was Lee County's first public library.



A Seminole outfit shows the colorful work of the Native Americans.

Alva Inc. watches Lehigh Acres incorporation planners

Incorporation is under study again in Lehigh Acres, and Alva Inc. is watching closely.

Alva Inc. President Ruby Daniels is attending meetings of Your Lehigh Incorporation to learn about its procedures and how it might impact Alva, which borders the northern edge of Lehigh.

The Lehigh group meets Mondays at 7 p.m. at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church on Richmond Avenue.



Video shoot

Kinsey Quinlan videos Sr. Carol Beevers, director of the House of Prayer Retreat Center in Alva. The center is producing the video to better promote its programs.

-LIS-

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