

January 2010

Please Join In....

## Planning for Alva's Future

Starting Monday, January 11 at 7 PM

Alva, Inc. will begin a series of community planning meetings on January 11, 2010, at 7PM at the Alva Community Center. Gerald E Murphy. community planner, will lead a discussion of comprehensive planning, how it relates to Alva, and how the Lee Comprehensive Plan is changed. Residents of Alva and the surrounding area are encouraged to attend and participate in deciding how Alva will grow and develop. Future planning sessions will be held the second Monday of every month at the Alva Community Center at 7PM. The project is sponsored by Alva, Inc. and the Lee County Board of County Commissioners.

### Holiday Raffle Tickets - Last Chance! \$5 each, 10 for \$40.

Grand Prize: Getaway for four to a beautiful North Carolina Mountain Home

Runner Up's:

Alva Village Market \$50 gift certificate Alva Country Diner \$50 gift certificate

A J Auto (next to Village Mkt.): 4 Oil Changes, \$80 value

Drawing at the January Meeting

Riverdale Learning Academy: 1 week daycare, \$130 value

Roby Andrys Architect Inc: Connelly "Revolution" slalom ski, \$150 value

1886 Siler Dollar: \$40.00 Value

Available at: Alva Diner Alva Village Market A J Auto Riverdale Learning Academy

Call Rob Andrys: 728-2807



Did you Know....? Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings.—Please Come!

January 11 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

January 19 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30 PM, Olga Community Center.

February 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

Next Meeting: Monday January 11, 7 PM, Alva Community Center



February 2010

Presentation on the

# NORTH OLGAPLAN

Monday, February 8 at 7 PM

A small number of individuals owning land parcels in the northwest corner of the Alva Community Planning Area have assembled - with funding from the BOCC - a proposed comprehensive plan amendment encouraging increased residential density and commercial development in the area. The proposal can be viewed at : <a href="http://www.leegov.com/dcd/PlanAmendments/PA2009-2010/RA2009-2010.htm">http://www.leegov.com/dcd/PlanAmendments/PA2009-2010/RA2009-2010.htm</a>

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida will present their analysis and view of the plan at out February meeting. Please join us!

## **Alva Community Planning Kicked Off!**

One had to hunt for a chair at the January 11 Community Planning Kickoff Meeting! A full room listened to the background of Alva planning by Rob Andrys, followed Dr. Jerry Murphy's presentation on proceeding forward. This month will see discussion of the related issue of the "North Olga" plan (see above) and how or if it may impact Alva's efforts, as there is overlap in the areas of interest. The next steps will be planning area-wide standards, and more detailed planning for the core area. Don't miss the chance to help shape the future of Alva!

### Raffle Nets \$1,800 for Alva

### Thank you donors!

Winners:



Vacation in NC: Lane Temple
Daycare for a week: Dianne Johansson

Water Ski: Albert Gambros Silver Dollar: Rick Clay

Alva Market feast: Barb Watts Alva Diner feast: J.D. Shouse

Oil Changes: Alex

Did you Know....? Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings.—Please Come!

## Guinna Veisinis

February 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. North Olga Plan presentation. February 16 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30 PM, Olga Community Center. Commissioner Bigelow: Single Member Districts. March 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

Next Meeting: Monday February 8, 7 PM, Alva Community Center



Alva Inc. is dedicated to preserving the tranquility and beauty of Alva
P O. Box 2022, Alva FL 33920 <a href="https://www.alvafl.org">www.alvafl.org</a>

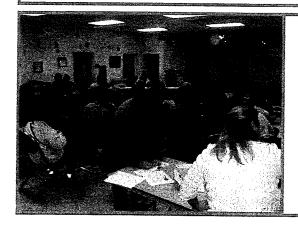
March 2010

Participation Strong in

## Alva Community Planning

Next Meeting Monday, March 8 at 7 PM

Another filling-of-the- room occurred in February when Dr. Jerry Murphy spoke on the Vision to be developed by community members for the Alva Community Planning Area. He provided handout information of prior work on the subject, sending members home with food-for-thinking in preparation for next month's community plan meeting. Issues and concerns regarding The North Olga Plan (density, commercial node, preservation of rural character) were presented by Julianne Thomas, Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Alva members from North Olga expressed their concern regarding lack of community input and consensus. President Daniels offered to arrange a meeting of community leaders (North Olga, Alva, and Bayshore) to work towards a plan submission that could have broad community support and consensus. Ms. Crespo, North Olga Planner, welcomed President Daniel's offer. *Please join your neighbors March 8th to assist in the planning process!* 



# Community Members Working Together to

Plan Our Future

Don't Be Left Out!

Did you Know....? Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings.— Please Come!

## Guinni Valanta

March 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. Vision Statement March 16 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30 PM, Olga Community Center.

April 12 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

Next Meeting: Monday March 8, 7 PM, Alva Community Center



**April 2010** 

Another Full Parking Lot!

Alva Community Planning

Next Meeting Monday, April 12 at 7 PM

Dr. Jerry Murphy spoke on *How to Develop in a Rural Area* (slides provided by Julianne Thomas of the Conservancy). Discussion and input then followed regarding community desires with Jerry as moderator and Rob furiously writing on large sheets of paper. Comments included:

- Rural Mixed Use defined for Alva: Horses and cows!
- Width of country roads: Widening detracts from rural nature.
- SR 31: Plan to widen? Opposition?
- Clustering is encouraged within current Land Use densities.
- TDR's can provide a positive impact properly enacted.
- Designation of North River Road as a Scenic/ Historic Highway will add protection.
- Encourage dedication of conservation easements with the resulting property tax benefit.
- Suggest Tax Increment Financing of sidewalks.
- Voice strong opposition to Babcock's intent to widen North River Road.
- Where commercial is allowed or encouraged, require interconnection of properties (drive between them without going back out on the highway).

April Meeting: A "shopping list" of objectives (broad topics) that have been adopted by other Lee planning communities, including the previously-submitted Alva Standards of Development is in preparation by Jerry and Rob. These will be presented at the April 12 planning meeting for community input and discussion.

Don't Be Left Out!

## North Olga Plan Heading to LPA

A revised North Olga plan has been submitted to Lee Staff by the six-member North Olga Planning Panel. It is avail-

able for download at:

http://www.mediafire.com/?okwmmzeyodq.

The plan may be a subject of the April Local Planning Agency Meeting, scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 AM, BOCC Chambers. The proposed plan includes the following communities in the northwest area of Alva, west of the Regional Park:

- North River Oaks
- Duke Highway/Terrell Drive
- Otterwater Way/Elmwood Drive
- North River Estates
- Telegraph Creek
- Riverwind Cove
- Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area
- Serengeti
- Taylor Road area
- Lyndhurst Lane area
- Fichters Creek area

If you have an opinion you are encouraged to voice it at the April 12 Alva Inc meeting and the April 26<sup>th</sup> LPA Meeting.

Don't Be Left Out!



## Fight Cancer! Join Relay for Life

The annual East Lee County Relay for Life will be held Friday April 30th at Riverdale High School. The event begins at 6:00pm with the celebration for our cancer survivors and runs through the night, ending at noon on Saturday May 1st. There will be lots of activities and fund raising for the American Cancer Society. For information to become involved, please go to <a href="https://www.relavforlife.org/eastleecountyfl">www.relavforlife.org/eastleecountyfl</a> Look for Alva-Team Hope and consider joining. Don't worry—by joining the team you are not required to stay all night. If you would like to make a donation you can do so on the same web-site - look for Denise Houck. It is a great event and we would love to see you there.

### Did you Know....?

- Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings. Please Come!
- Mark you calendar: July 12, 6:30 PM, Alva School, Alva Political Candidates Forum!
- Lee County has awarded a planning contract to assist in the evaluation and analysis of the Lee Plan. We are pleased the Alva Planner, Dr. Jerry Murphy, is on the selected team.
- Babcock Ranch and FDOT signed an agreement February 18 2010 to four- lane SR 31. The construction must start by December 31 2015. Don't be left out!

## COLUMN VER STREET

April 12 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7 PM, Alva Community Center. Vision Statement April 26 (Monday) Local Planning Agency, 8:30 AM, BOCC Chambers, possible North Olga Hearing.

April 27 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30 PM, Olga Community Center.

April 30 (Friday) Relay for Life, 6:00 PM, Riverdale High School

May 10 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

Next Meeting: Monday April 12, 7 PM, Alva Community Center



### **MAY 2010**

## **Alva Community Planning**

### **Objectives Drafted**

Next Meeting Monday, May 10 at 7 PM

The group reviewed objectives that had been developed and enacted through other community planning initiatives. After healthy interaction, consensus was reached on objectives in the following areas:

Growth Management

Rural Character

Natural Resources

Water Quality, Quantity and Surface Water Resources

Road Improvements

Water-Dependent Overlay Zone

Land Use

Historic Resources

Agricultural Uses

Mixed-Use Development

Community Facilities and Services

Residential Uses

Commercial Uses

Development Regulations

Intergovernmental Coordination

Public Participation

See specific wording in the April meeting minutes at www.alvafl.org. May Meeting: Enabling Policies for Objectives.

Don't Be Left Out!



### Conservancy: A Special Thank You

Ms. Julianne Thomas of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida has been providing invaluable assistance and support to Alva as we wrestle with planning issues. She has also been assisting our neighbors in West Hendry County. Our thanks to both Julianne and the Conservancy.







### North Olga Plan LPA Hearing Delayed to May Community Consensus Questioned

LPA Hearing of the North Olga Plan has been delayed to May at applicants' request after receiving a draft staff report that questioned if there is community consensus to support the plan. As submitted, the plan includes the following communities:

- North River Oaks
- Duke Highway/Terrell Drive
- Otterwater Way/Elmwood Drive
- North River Estates
- Telegraph Creek
- Riverwind Cove
- Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area
- Serengeti
- Taylor Road area
- Lyndhurst Lane area
- Fichters Creek area

If you have an opinion you are encouraged to voice it at the May 10 Alva Inc meeting and the May 24th LPA Meeting.

Don't Be Left Out!

### Kathie Ebaugh: New Community Planner

Welcome!

Alva Inc. President Ruby Daniels and planners recently provided an Alva Welcome to Ms. Ebaugh in her new Lee County position and discussed Alva planning. Ms. Ebaugh can be reached at 239-533-8313.



### Call for Photos!

Please send your favorite Alva photos to info@alvafl.org or bring to the meeting. We plan to give our website a facelift!





### Did you Know ....?

- Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings. Please Come!
- Mark you calendar: July 12, 6:30 PM, Alva School, Alva Political Candidates Forum!

May 10 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7 PM, Alva Community Center. Topic: Enabling Policies

May 24 (Monday) Local Planning Agency, 8:30 AM, BOCC Chambers, North Olga Hearing.

May 25 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30 PM, Olga Community Center.

June 14 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7 PM, Alva Community Center.

July 12 (Monday) Alva Political Candidates Forum, 6:30 PM, Alva School



June 2010 Newsletter

## **Alva Community Planning**

Next Meeting: June 14, 7PM Meeting with Business Interests: June 21, 3PM, Alva Diner

Implementing policies for: Growth Management, Rural Character, Natural Resources, Water Quality, Quantity and Surface Water Resources, Road Improvements, Water-Dependent Overlay Zone, Land Use, Historic Resources, Agricultural Uses, Mixed-Use Development, Community Facilities and Services, Residential Uses, Commercial Uses, Development Regulations, Intergovernmental Coordination, Public Participation.

Don't Be Left Out!

## Lee Staff Recommends Against North Olga Plan

Lack of Community Consensus Cited

The LPA continued the hearing until June 7. Over ninety North Olga residents have signed petitions against the plan. An update will be provided at the June 14 Alva Inc. meeting. The BOCC will consider the North Olga Plan at their June 16 Hearing, 8:30AM, BOCC chambers. Communities included in the proposed plan: North River Oaks, Duke Highway/Terrell Drive, Otterwater Way/Elmwood Drive, North River Estates, Telegraph Creek, Riverwind Cove, Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area, Serengeti, Taylor Road area, Lyndhurst Lane area, Fichters Creek area

Don't Be Left Out!

## Alva Political Candidates Forum

July 12, 6:30PM Alva School

Send your challenging candidate questions to Ruby at rubydaniels@embargmail.com

### Alva Museum and Library Rezoning

The proposal is to rezone the Alva Library & Museum from Residential to Community Facilities to be in keeping with its use and support restoration efforts. The tentative hearing date is July 14, 2010 10AM, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our office on 1500 Monroe Street, Fort Myers. Public Works/Community Development building. Contact: Tony Palermo and Shawn lamely, 533-8325.

## Welcome Emma!

Please join us in a warm Alva welcome to intern Emma Racila, completing her MBA at FGCU and assisting. Alva Inc. with community planning. You may see her at the meetings and on the volleyball court!

Members and non-members alike are always welcome at Alva Inc. Meetings -

Please Come!





### Congratulations to Riverdale Learning Academy 2010 VPK Graduates!

Listed alphabetically. Enk Buckelew, Chnstopher Camareno, Isaiah Cruz, Jaidah Estep, Harrison Hall, Faith Japozyk, Waylon Matejkovic, Jennifer Mayes, Yasley Miranda, Noah Musselvhite, Sky Nelson Trevor Peloquin, Xavier White. Pedro Zavala-Tores.



### Alva Citizenship Award

Alva Middle School Citizenship Awards were presented to Iman Zekri and Austin Snarr for their accomplishments. Both received their award certificate, \$25.00 and a year family membership in Alva Inc. Our congratulations to Iman and Austin!



## Auction!



Tools, toys, furniture, household, jewelry. Food, raffles, discount haircuts at Gail's Saturday June 19, 9AM preview, 10AM auction 14801 Palm Beach Boulevard - Call 693-0847



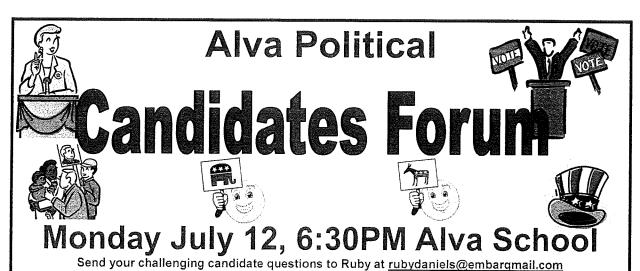
## Cultural Control

- June 14 (Monday) Alva Inc. planning/membership meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. Topic: Planning
- June 16 (Wednesday) BOCC Meeting on North Olga Plan, 9:30AM, BOCC Chambers.
- June 19 (Saturday) Bargain Bin Auction and Gail's discount haircuts, starts 9AM, 14801 Palm Beach Boulevard
- June 21 (Monday) Alva business interests and community planning, 3PM Alva Diner
- June 22 (Tuesday) ELCC Meeting, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center. Speaker is Ken Wilkinson, Lee Property Appraiser
- July 12 (Monday) Alva Political Candidates Forum, 6:30PM, Alva School
- July 14 (Wednesday) Alva Museum & Library Rezoning Hearing, 10AM, 1500 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor



www.alvafl.org

July 2010 Newsletter



## **Alva Community Planning**

### WORKSHOP Saturday July 24 9AM Alva Community Center

The plan is in draft and proceeding at a good pace. It was presented and comments received at the membership meeting on June 14th. A special presentation was provided for business interests on June 21st. If you receive this newsletter via email, the draft plan is attached. The Saturday workshop (above) is the next opportunity for you to participate and provide comment.

Implementing policies have been drafted for: Growth Management, Rural Character, Natural Resources, Water Quality, Quantity and Surface Water Resources. Road Improvements, Water-Dependent Overlay Zone, Land Use, Historic Resources, Agricultural Uses, Mixed-Use Development, Community Facilities and Services. Residential Uses, Commercial Uses, Development Regulations, Intergovernmental Coordination, Public Participation.

## DONT BE LEFT OUT.

### North Olga Plan Withdrawn

The plan was withdrawn by the North Olga Planning Panel just prior to hearing by the BOCC. Commissioner Mann spoke at some length regarding his fervent hope the plan proponents would work with Alva Inc. to arrive at a consensus plan for the entire Alva area.

Communities included in the proposed North Olga Plan: North River Oaks, Duke Highway/Terrell Drive, Otterwater Way/ Elmwood Drive, North River Estates, Telegraph Creek, Riverwind Cove. Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area, Serengeti, Taylor Road area, Lyndhurst Lane area, and Fichters Creek area.

Residents of the subject area have requested the Alva Community Plan currently under development (see workshop under Community Calendar below) speak to the entire Alva Community Planning Area. North Olga Planning Panel representatives have requested to speak at the July 27 ELCC meeting (see Community Calendar below).

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings -

Please Come!



July 12 (Monday) Alva Political Candidates Forum, 6:30PM, Alva School

July 14 (Wednesday) Alva Museum & Library Rezoning Hearing, 10AM, 1500 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor

July 24 (Saturday) Alva Inc. Community Planning Workshop, 9AM, Alva Community Center.

July 27 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center. Speaker: North Olga Planning Panel. Live music follow!

August 9 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.



August 2010 Newsletter

## 170 ATTEND Candidates Forum



It was a full crowd - the traditional Alva Inc. Political Candidates Forum July 12th at the Alva School. Over thirty candidates came to meet locals and describe their aspirations and attributes. A warm Alva Welcome was conveyed by President Ruby Daniels. Moderator Bill Redfern introduced candidates for senator, county commissioner, school and hospital boards, judge and fire district. All were given a brief moment to speak, with time carefully monitored by Andy "the Hook" Erickson. Written questions were submitted to candidates

(see below), and a limited number were asked and answered at the Forum. Campaign literature was in abundance, and Lee Elections Supervisor offered

voter registration. Unable to attend? Questions to candidates and written responses received are viewable at <a href="https://www.alvafl.org">www.alvafl.org</a>.







## Primary: August 24 General Election: November 2

### Senator Questions

- The proposed Babcock city will change rural east Lee County forever. What is your plan to minimize or eliminate this planned impact?
- 2. Mr. Sid Kitson, operating as Citizens for Clean Energy, has proposed legislation that would charge existing FPL customers for construction of a 75 megawatt solar plant for Babcock city. How would you vote?
- 3. Please discuss your approach to preserving our rural lands and preventing urban sprawl.

### Commissioner Questions

- 1. The proposed Babcock city will change rural east Lee County forever. What is your plan to minimize or eliminate this planned impact?
- 2. Please identify your three top sources of spending reduction to match the county budget to available funding.
- 3. How will you vote on any property tax rate increase?
- 4. How will you vote on any proposal to divide the Alva Community Planning Area?
- Please identify your platform to spur economic recovery in Lee County.

Alva Bids Rob and Sandy Andrys a Fond Farewell.

Rob was an Alva Inc. Founder and past President. We wish you both the best in your new ventures.



Rob and Ruby Daniels

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!

## Committee Carentar

August 9 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

August 24 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center. Speaker: North Olga Planning Panel. Live music follow!

September 13 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

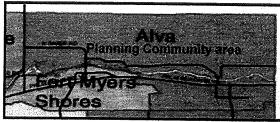
Next Regular Meeting: Monday August 9, 7PM, Alva Community Center



September 2010 Newsletter

### Lee Staff Invites North Olga Planning Panel and Alva Inc. to Plan Together

Under the auspices of Ms. Mary Gibbs, Lee Director of Community Development, Planners Matt Noble and Kathie Ebaugh spoke at the August meeting. The Lee Staff proposal is for the two entities to work together with the goal of a single community plan for the entire planning area. Identification of planning objectives and policies that receive mutual agreement was proposed as an early-on step, with any controversial issues considered later. The possibility of sub-areas of Alva and North Olga was



also proposed within the overall plan. The proposal received a thank you and willingness to proceed from those in attendance. The staff said they would work with the professional planners, Dr. Jerry Murphy (Alva Inc.) and Ms. Alexis Crespo (North Olga Planning Panel) to evolve a plan for initiating the dialogue.

### North Olga Plan to be Distributed

In consonance with Lee Staff's request to work toward a single community plan, Alva Planner Dr. Jerry Murphy will present copies of the submitted North Olga Plan for those interested at the September 13 Meeting. Additional copies of the draft Alva Inc. plan handed out before will also be available. Please note: The submitted North Olga Plan is attached to this newsletter for those who receive an email copy or view the newsletter at <a href="www.alvafl.org">www.alvafl.org</a>. The draft Alva plan is attached to the July 2010 Newsletter sent via email and available at <a href="www.alvafl.org">www.alvafl.org</a>.



Proposed Amendment Four Hometown Democracy



What Is It—What Does It Mean?
Come to the October Meeting (Monday October 11, 7PM) and find out. Speakers will present both sides of the issue.

### Alva Inc. Submits SR 80 Landscape Recommendations

Use only native plant material. Put plants that require moist soils in the areas that are naturally moist. Select drought and cold tolerant plants for the area east of Bedman Creek. Expand the types of plant materials selected to create variety and visual interest.

In the 45 mph zone (Herzog to Joel) replace Hong Kong Orchid, and Wild Date Palm with Live Oaks. Replace Dwarf Oleander with either Coontie, Wild Coffee or Dwarf Firebush. Plant Red Maple and other plants that thrive in wet areas.

Implement a Wildflower Mowing Program from Broadway to Hickey Creek. No Bald Cypress or Paurotis Palm east of Bedman, replace with red cedar. Silver buttonwoods are prone to sooty mold this far inland. Unless the maintenance program includes spraying, substitute green buttonwoods. No landscaping in front of Calusa Preserve. Let the preserved strip of scrub be the landscape feature.

For the Gateway Monument Sign, use Sabal Palm, Saw Palmetto, Coco Plum, Beauty Berry, Coral Bean, and Muhly Grass.

Eventually, we would like to see the Wayside Park turned into a more inviting place for residents and visitors. For this project a group of 3 to 5 low shrubs (String Lily) planted in the depressed area close to Packinghouse would improve the appearance.

Our Thanks to the Alva Participants and DOT!

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!



September 13 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. North Olga & Alva Plans September 21 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

October 11 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. Hometown Democracy Pros & Cons

Next Regular Meeting: Monday September 13 7PM, Alva Community Center

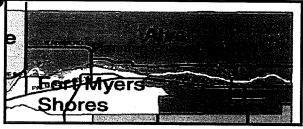


www.alvafl.org

October 2010 Newsletter

North Olga Planning Panel Goes it Alone

Shortly after Lee Staff reached out to the North Olga Planning Panel and Alva Inc., proposing the two entities work together with the goal of a single community plan for the entire planning area, the North Olga Planning Panel unilaterally resubmitted their proposed plan to the county. It was submitted as a private initiative, the same way the North River Village Plan was submitted by Bonita Bay.



As a result the BOCC voted to delete North Olga from county-sponsored planning initiatives. The Alva Community Plan will continue to proceed as a county-sponsored amendment. Confused? Come to the October monthly meeting and find out more.



### FIGHT CANCER-RELAY FOR LIFE You're invited to the

2011 East Lee County Relay for Life Kickoff Party Thursday October 21st, 6:00 pm at the River Hall Town House. It is a great opportunity to learn about The American Cancer Society's biggest fundraising event and how you can join the fight against cancer. Call

Denise Houck at 693-0317 for addi-

Hawkins Joins
Board of Directors
Long-time Alva resident
John Hawkins was elected
to the Alva Inc. Board of
Directors at the September
general meeting. John and
his wife Lynn live on Taylor
Road west of the Regional
Park. Welcome, John and
thank you for your community support.





Proposed Amendment Four Hometown Democracy What Is It—What Does It Mean? Come to the October Meeting (Monday October 11, 7PM) and find out.

### Hear BOCC Candidates at October ELCC Meeting - It's Your Decision!



tional information.











Carla Johnston or John Manning

Brian Bigelow or Debbie Jordan

Tammy Hall or Debbie Jackow

Tuesday October 19th 6:30 PM Olga Community Center

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!



October 11 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. Amendment Four (Hometown Democracy) Discussion

October 19 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center. BOCC Candidates November 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.



www.alvafl.org

**November 2010 Newsletter** 

Alva Inc. Incorporates North Olga Plan Words

Lee County Staff requested that Ālva Inc. work toward one community plan for the entire Alva Community Planning Area, incorporating the desires of the North Olga Planning Panel. Alva Inc. members and planners have reviewed and incorporated policies and objectives from the proposed North Olga Plan in to the current draft of Alva Community Plan, dated October 28 2010. A copy of the cur-



rent draft is attached to emailed November Newsletters and also available at <a href="www.alvafl.org">www.alvafl.org</a>. Approval for forwarding the plan to Lee Staff will be sought at the November membership meeting.

### Alva History - from www.alvafl.org

The modern history of Alva began with the vision of a Danish sea captain by the name of Peter Nelson. A colorful character that homesteaded a vast area, platted and laid out a village, earmarking plots for schools, parks, churches, even the first library in South Florida. He called his town "Alva," naming it after the profusion of small white flowers growing along the bank of the same name. Captain Nelson was instrumental in the forming of Lee County, and served as one of its first County Commissioners.

The Caloosahatchee River, then, as now, defines this area. It provides transportation, food, recreation, and essential source of water for an area that is just as prone to droughts as it is to floods.

The first bridge to cross the Caloosahatchee was built at Alva in 1903. Two hotels and dining rooms existed at that time, the Three Oaks and the Wade Inn, further attesting to bustling nature of early Alva.



Paddle Wheeler Thomas A. Edison at Alva

Working with LDOT and Lee Parks and Recreation, a plan is evolving for both road beautification and improvement of the Alva Wayside Park. Exciting details will be presented at the November membership meeting.

# December Meeting A Festive Time!

Plan ahead for the December meeting, 7PM Monday December 13th. Please come, join the festivities and bring a dish!



Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!

Committee Carentar

November 8 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

November 16 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

November 23 (Tuesday) Alva Inc. BOD Meeting, 7PM, Mother of God House of Prayer..

December 13 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. Holiday Cheer!

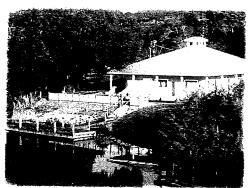
Next Regular Meeting: Monday November 8, 7PM, Alva Community Center



www.alvafl.org

**January 2011 Newsletter** 

### NEW ALVA DESTINATION - SPRING OPENING



Coming Soon to downtown Alva: Riverside Café Bait and Tackle Shop located at the river next to the post office. The menu will have a Caribbean slant and include beef, pork chicken, beans, rice soup, sandwiches, beer and wine. Bait and tackle will be available with initial opening times in the 10 am to 4-5 pm range. Target opening date is early March. Future plans include a bakery, retail shop and boat gas. Mr. Richard Viera, owner's representative, has been working with Alva inc. President Ruby Daniels on design details. Please contact Ruby or bring your input to the January meeting. Alva welcomes Mr. Viera and the new initiative to the community







### 2010 Alva Home Sales & Vision Test

Listed below are homes sold within the Alva zip code (33920) area during 2010 through Realtor® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach Inc. Compiled by Jim Green Realty. This article also doubles as a vision test!

Total Sold
98
Waterfront
28
Bank Owned
52
Short Sales
22
Average Price
\$232,258
Median Price
\$119,250

		-				
\$55,000	) 16521 Goldenrod Ln #203	\$163,000	21120 N. River Rd	\$265,000	2200 Safe Harbour Ct	£40,000
\$48,500					Daio	\$40,000
\$56,000						\$195,900
\$39,900		. ,				\$365,000
						\$190,000
						\$470,000
						\$194,000
						\$85,000
				. , ,	······································	\$199,900
						\$170,000
						\$250,000
						\$48,000
						\$30,000
						\$89,900
						\$285,000
						\$275,000
				\$480,000	2150 Waylife Ct	\$135,000
				\$155,000	2009 Wells Ave	\$76,000
				\$285,000	2104 Wells Ave	\$64,900
						\$159,000
			Total Collins of Motor Col	\$155,000	1650 Werner Dr	\$100,000
			The second contract and the se	\$235,000	15194 Yellow Wood	\$180,000
		\$76,500	2014 Robert Ave			\$108,000
		\$18,900	2011 Roosevelt Ave			\$118,000
		\$60,000	2016 Roosevelt Ave	\$69,000		<b>0</b> , 10,000
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#103   \$117,000   900 Norris Rd   \$199,414   2101 Scrub Olive Ct   \$55,000   16580 Goldenrod Ln #102   \$101,000   17200 Oak Creek Rd   \$205,000   2114 Scrub Olive Ct   \$39,900   1960 Goode Ave   \$200,000   17781 Oak Creek Rd   \$189,901   2161 Sebastian Ct   \$34,000   2006 Grayson Ave   \$64,875   16700 Oak Grove Ct   \$235,000   2131 Silk Bay Blvd   \$101,000   16731 Oak Grove Ct   \$235,000   2131 Silk Bay Blvd   \$102,000   2121 Harnilton Ave   \$36,000   16731 Oak Grove Ct   \$255,000   2277 Styles Rd   \$45,000   3288 Harnilton Ave   \$74,000   17004 Oakstead Dr   \$220,000   2275 Summersweet Dr   \$59,000   3286 Hampton Blvd   \$113,000   12350-20 Old Rodeo Dr   \$953,000   17720 Taylor Rd   \$29,500   \$280 Herzog Rd   \$86,000   3751 Packinghouse Rd   \$225,550   15280 Terrell Dr   \$550,000   2470 Hickey Creek Rd   \$159,500   17301 Palm Beach Blvd   \$798,000   2010 Truman Ave   \$370,000   2371 Jackson Ave   \$96,000   21480 Pearl St   \$155,000   2014 Truman Ave   \$372,000   2381 Leavitt Rd   \$118,500   2098 Polar Ave   \$41,000   23031 Tuckahoe Rd   \$125,000   2381 Leavitt Rd   \$100,000   19931 N River Rd   \$480,000   2150 Waylife Ct   \$202,000   22381 Leavitt Rd   \$100,000   19931 N River Rd   \$480,000   2150 Waylife Ct   \$202,000   22381 Leavitt Ave   \$150,000   15910 River Creek Ct   \$210,000   1550 Werner Dr   \$225,000   2009 Monroe Ave   \$40,000   15910 River Creek Ct   \$210,000   1530 Werner Dr   \$450,000   2108 Monroe Ave   \$76,000   2014 Robert Ave   \$450,000   15387 Yellow Wood Dr   \$40,000   2318 Monroe Ave   \$76,500   2014 Robert Ave   \$40,000   15387 Yellow Wood Dr   \$40,000   2318 Monroe Ave   \$60,000   2016 Roosevelt Ave   \$60,000   2014 Monroe Ave   \$60,000   2016 Roosevelt Ave   \$60,000   2014 Monroe Ave   \$60,000   2016 Roosevelt Ave   \$60,000   2014 Monroe Ave   \$60,000   2016 Roosevelt Ave   \$

## Alva EMS Service - Cut?

Please attend the January meeting to hear about possible reduction in Alva EMS services as part of the county budget reduction process.

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!



January 10 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center. January 18 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday January 10, 7PM, Alva Community Center



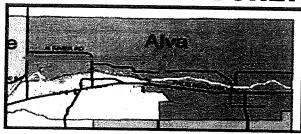
www.alvafl.org

**February 2011 Newsletter** 

## COMMING SOON!



## TWO PLANS OR ONE?



The issue remains on the table. County Staff is encouraging area residents to express their planning views at the North Olga Planning Panel meetings scheduled monthly on the third Thursday. Next meeting is Thursday, February 17, 6 PM at the Bayshore Fire Station. Please see attached letter from ALVA Inc. to Lee Staff (email newsletters only). Your silence is your consent!

### **ALVA Inc. Meeting Activities**

Alva EMS Service Reduction? Update at the February meeting.

**Alva Wayside Park.** A draft master concept plan has been prepared and will be presented at the February 14th ALVA Inc. meeting.

**Lee Plan 7-year Update (EAR)** LPA votes on transmittal to BOCC at 8:30 am meeting February 14th. ALVA Inc. supports the EAR.

**Alva Community Plan** Lee Staff comments on draft plan will be presented at the February 14th ALVA Inc. meeting.

Conservation 2020 Purchase of Persimmon Ridge Area

Land. Possibilities/status presented at February 14th ALVA Inc. meeting.

**Alva Land Development Code Changes.** Discussion starts at February 14th ALVA Inc. meeting. Please bring your thoughts and ideas.

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!

## Committee Care in Care

February 14 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7 PM, Alva Community Center. See agenda items above February 17 (Thurs\day) North Olga Planning Panel Meeting, 6 PM, Bayshore Fire Station, community planning. February 22 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday February 14, 7 PM, Alva Community Center

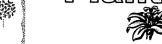


www.alvafl.org

March 2011 Newsletter

Alva Garden Club Annual

## Plant Sale and Feast









Plants · Vegetables · Used Books · Pies · Strawberries · Short Cake · Hot Dogs Museum Tours • Fruit • Home Grown Items • Home Baked Goods Attractive Women in Period Dress-Don't Miss It!

Thanks to the Ladies, Yoder Brothers and C&L Farms!

### **Honoring Alva Veterans**



An effort has been initiated to honor Alva Veterans. Research is underway to identify those who have served. The



idea is to eventually construct a memorial, possible at the Alva Wayside Park. For information or to contribute names, please contact T.J. Matekovic at 671-7737

### Telegraph Creek Preserve

A Public Meeting on the Telegraph Creek Preserve Land Stewardship Plan will be held on Tuesday March 15, 2011, at 6:30 P.M. at the Alva Community Center. The Stewardship Plan is available for review at the Riverdale Public Library and at www.conservation2020 orgestowardshippians.cfm under Telegraph Creek Preserve.

### Planning Discussions



The North Olga Planning Panel and Les Staff have been invited to the March 14 Awa Inc. Meeting. The goal is to achieve common planning. goals objectives and policies that would apply throughout the Alva Community Planning Area. Plessa coma and share your views!

Communities included in the proposed North Olga Plan: North River Oaks, Doke Highway Terroil Drive, Otterwater Way/Elmwood Drive, North River Estates, Telegraph Creek Estates, Riverwind Cove, Interlochen Dr./ Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area, Serengett, Taylor Road area, Lyndhurst Lene gree, and Fighters Oreek area.

Musicians \* Dance \*



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Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. Meetings - Please Come!







March 11 (Friday) Movie Under the Stars Event, Alva Elementary PTO. Contact: Sharon Garcia, 728-2494

March 12 (Saturday) Alva Garden Club Plant Sale and Festival 9AM -1PM, Alva Museum .

March 14 (Monday) ALVA Inc. Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center, joint planning discussions with North Olga Planning Panel

March 15 (Tuesday) Telegraph Creek Preserve Land Stewardship Plan, 6:30 PM, Alva Community Center

March 15 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday March 14, 7PM, Alva Community Center



www.alvafl.org

### **April 2011 Newsletter**

### North Olga Plan Opposed by North Olga Residents

### Residents' Declaration Submitted to LPA

Dear LPA Member:

farch 24 2011

Find below some resolutions by us four Western Alva Residents who have been annexed into a community calling itself North Olga. All of us are shocked that we no longer live in Alva and that our emphasis on rural life based on low density and natural landscapes could be compromised. We will discuss this with you and our neighbors further at the LPA meeting on Monday, March 28. Please be assured that contrary to what you may have been told there is considerable controversy on this annexation. We have been accustomed to a highly democratic process of decision making under Alva, Inc. for community involvement and have been rudely awakened by the autocratic structure of the North Olga Planning Panel as recently as the LAST meeting on March 17, 2011

We Western Alva residents, who have been active in our community and in our community's planning efforts, make the following declarations concerning a proposal to split the Alva planning district into two separate parts:

- 1. We strongly prefer that Alva not be divided into a "North Olga" planning district and an Alva planning district. Alva has planned and confinues to plan more than adequately for all the citizens of Alva from Hwy 31 to the Hendry County line. Any division weakens and confuses the attempt to keep the region relatively pristine as compared to the congestion and urbanization and suburbanization of much of Lee County.
- 2. We deny that Alva and Western Alva (AKA "North Olga") are two distinct communities. They are so similar that division only drives an artificial wedge between one community at the Caloosahatchee Regional park line. Instead of dividing this unified community, county staff and the Board of County Commissioners should be helping to foster connectivity for all of Alva through scenic status for Hwy 78, common walking trails, horse trails and bike paths, and facilitation of all Alva citizens in the planning process. This is best accomplished by utilizing the Alva Community Plan for the entire region in the 33920 zip code area.
- 3. If staff and the Board of County Commissioners insist on this artificial division due to political pressures from one group of individuals then every effort must be made to foster the common goals of the citizens of all Alva. Alva and the North Olga Planning Panel must work in unison on any development project that effects the so called Northeast Lee County region. Those goals would include the following points.
- 4. Both planning groups would have to include clear language that forbids density increases. Clustering is essential.
- 5. Both planning groups should allow residents and property owners in the area on their governing boards. Meetings must be democratic, transparent, and well communicated in advance. A spirit of inclusiveness and cooperation is essential. The real wishes of the majority of the people MUST always prevail. Minutes must be kept and Roberts Rules of Order observed.
- Statements in the North Olga pian that exempt development of less than 100 acres from scrutiny must be abandoned. ALL development should be scrutinized.
- Alva and "North Olga" would have to assign at least one officer to closely communicate all development plans with each other in advance. This would be a major RESPONSIBILITY of each group.

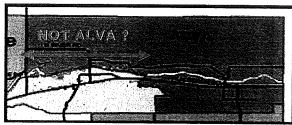
Respectfully submitted,

\*John F. Hawkins

\*Denise Houck

\*William Redfern, Jr. \*Michael Stottlemyer

\*These individuals all live in the Western Alva contested area referred to as "North Olga" and are current and active members of the Alva, Inc. planning group. They were all elected into their office by a majority of the members at various Alva, Inc. meetings. "North Olga" has long enjoyed heavy representation from the Western Alva region from the Caloosahatchee Regional Park west to Hwy. 31 and north of the Caloosahatchee River.



North Olga Residents Request to be Heard

At the March 28th Local Planning Agency meeting, approximately 30 residents of the North Oliga area socke out about the North Oliga Planning Panel's lack of democratic process and the proposed glan's lack of protection against density increase. Dr. Van Roekel, North Oliga Planning Panel President, the Panel's attorney and Panel's planner spoke for the plan and the process. Lee staff sxpressed their intention to schedule a formal LPA Hearing on the plan in April (25") or May (23"). In addition, diatogue continues between Alva Incls, and North Oliga Planning Panel is presidents and consultants in an attempt to arrive at a community planning consensus. Prior to the LPA hearing, residents are encouraged to express their opinions at the Alva Inc. and North Oliga Planning Panel meetings (see community celander below). Your silence is your consent!

Communities included in the proposed North Oliga Planning Panel meetings (see community celander below). Your silence is your consent!

Communities included in the proposed North Oliga Plan North River Oaks, Duke Highway-Terrell Daive. Otranvater Way-Elmwood Drive, North River States.

Talegraph Creek Estates, Riverwind Cove, Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane-Franklin Locks Area, Serengett. Taylor Road area, Lyndhurst Lane area, and Flotters



### Fight Cancer! Join Relay for Life

The annual East Lee County Relay for Life will be held Friday May 20th at Riverdale High School. The event begins at 6:00pm with the celebration for our cancer survivors and runs through the night, ending at noon on Saturday May 21st. There will be lots of activities and fund raising for the American Cancer Society. For information to become involved, please go to <a href="https://www.nelay.forlife.org/eastleecountyfl">www.nelay.forlife.org/eastleecountyfl</a> Look for All About A Cure and consider joining. Don't worry—by joining the team you are not required to stay all night. If you would like to make a donation you can do so on the same web-site - look for Denise Houck. It is a great event and we would love to see

Members and non-members alike are welcome at all Alva Inc. meetings - Please come and share your thoughts!

### Alva Area (33920) Reat Estate Sales Jan - March 2011 Address Price Addreess Price Address Price Ac. \$/Ac. Address Price \$/Ac. 15655 Angelica Dr \$117,400 2123 Mcarthur Ave 22101 N Persimmon Pt Dr 10.00 \$ 11,000 \$62,000 3606 E 21st St \$2,499 0.25 \$ 9,996 \$110,000 15702 Angelica Dr \$136,900 16731 Oak Grove Ct \$335,000 2118 Canton Ave \$2,500 0.51 \$ 4,941 15800 River Creek Ct 2.00 \$ 92,500 \$185,000 20225 Buck Crest Ln \$350,000 18226 Palm Beach Blvd \$30,100 23008 Crookedwood \$17,200 1.25 \$13,738 2220 Robert Ave \$2,500 0.50 \$ 5,000 2210 Canton Ave \$34,400 17901 Persimmon Ridge Rd \$128,000 22951 Florida Rosemary Ln \$15,000 1.23 \$12,165 2100 Scrub Olive Ct \$15,000 1.09 \$ 13,812 20665 Casaly Dr \$120,000 2200 Robert Ave \$51,500 2317 hamilton \$7,250 1.00 \$ 7,250 2023 Silk Bay Blvd 1.43 \$ 10,517 \$15,150 2560 charleston \$15,100 2110 Scott Ave \$55,000 2107 Louis Ave \$2,500 0.50 \$ 5,000 2053 Silk Bay Blvd \$9,600 1.12 \$ 8,541 15067 Citrus Tree Ct \$200,000 17150 Scout Camp Rd \$625,000 2113 Louis Ave \$2,500 0.50 \$ 4,990 2200 Silk Bay Blvd \$24,000 1.89 \$ 12,678 21901 Edwards Dr \$115,000 2214 Summersweet Dr \$99,000 2316 Louis Ave \$2,500 0.50 \$ 5,000 15004 Great Laurel Ct \$240,000 2317 Summersweet Dr #1 \$108,000 Homes - Average: \$170,154 Median \$116,200 16001 Herons View Dr \$440,000 18061 Traverse Dr \$460,000 Raw Land - Average \$/ac: \$17, 382 Off-River: \$10,481 2208 Lincoln Park Ave 529,900 18151 Traverse Dr \$187,400 The statistical data provided is based on information compiled from the FLORIDA GULF COAST MLS, INC. for MLS 22280 Luckey Lee Lr 2317 Truman Ave \$34,000 sales during the period January 1 2011 through March 31 2010. Prepared by Jim Green Realty

April 11 (Monday) ALVA Inc. Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center

April 19 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

April 21 (Thursday) North Olga Planning Panel Meeting, 6 PM, Bayshore Fire Station, community planning.

April 25 (Monday) Local Planning Agency 8:30AM, BOCC Chambers, possibly: North Olga Plan Hearing

May 9 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.



May 2011 Newsletter

### North Olga and Alva Plans Hearings Scheduled

In late May and early June the Alva and North Olga Plans, under the umbrella of the Northeast Lee County Plan, will be voted on by the Local Planning Agency and the Board of County Commissioners. Lee Staff has stated there intention to recommend transmittal. Please see Community Calendar below for meeting dates and times. Your silence is your consent!

ALVA.

The Northeast Lee County Vision Statement, a three page document, will apply to both areas. The separate North Olga and Alva Plans fall under the Vision Statement. The latest known versions of the three documents are attached to the email version of the Newsletter, and are also attached to the Newsletter posted at <a href="https://www.alvafla.org">www.alvafla.org</a>.

While both plans speak to preserving the rural character, the Alva plan prohibits density increases (except within-area TDR's). The North Olga Plan does not contain similar protective language. Other points of controversy remain between residents of West Alva/North Olga regarding The North Olga Plan: Lack of democratic process for plan development, and changing the area name from Alva. Communities included in the proposed North Olga Plan: North River Oaks, Duke Highway/Terrell Drive, Otterwater Way/Elmwood Drive, North River Estates, Telegraph Creek Estates, Riverwind Cove, Interlochen Dr./Traverse Lane/Franklin Locks Area, Serengeti, Taylor Road area, Lyndhurst Lane area, and Fichters Creek area.



Alva Grade School 19--

Back row L-R: Henry Fichter, Alonzo Lewis, Colin English, Louise Bonniwell, Maurice English, Margaret Fichter, George Bonniwell, Flora English, Helen Scott, Walker Blount, 7, Philip Barney

seated L-R :Frank Cook, Vivian Lee, Joseph W. Sherrill holding Edwina Parkinson, Charlie Blount, Walter Hicks.



### Fight Cancer! Join Relay for Life

The annual East Lee County Relay for Life will be held Friday May 20th at Riverdale High School. The event begins at 6:00pm with the celebration for our cancer survivors and runs through the night, ending at noon on Saturday May 21st. There will be lots of activities and fund raising for the American Cancer Society. For information to become involved, please go to www.nelaysforlife.org/eastleecountyfl Look for All About A Cure and consider joining. Don't worry—by joining the team you are not required to stay all night. If you would like to make a donation you can do so on the same web-site - look for Denise Houck. It is a great event and we would love to see



## Community Calendar

Members and non-members
alike are welcome at all Alva
Inc. meetings - Please come
and share your thoughts!

May 9 (Monday) ALVA Inc. Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center

May 12 (Thursday) North Olga Planning Panel Meeting, 6 PM, Bayshore Fire Station, community planning.

May 17 (Tuesday) ELCC, 6:30PM, Olga Community Center.

May 23 (Monday) Local Planning Agency 8:30AM, BOCC Chambers, possibly: North Olga Plan Hearing

June 13 (Monday) Alva Inc. Membership Meeting, 7PM, Alva Community Center.

June 13 (Monday) BOCC North Olga & Alva Plans transmittal hearing, 9:30 AM, BOCC Chambers.