



Downtown Talk

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Newsletter

From the Desk of...

As we begin 2023 It's time to reflect on what challenges were faced in 2022 (which we had many) and how to move forward and proceed with the upcoming new year.

The Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Board of Directors have worked tirelessly to help keep a spotlight on the downtown area. Many business owners, including myself, have attended council meetings and addressed concerns, improvements and other matters to continue the much-needed improvements to keep our downtown safe.



At the December 21st Council meeting, city staff was directed to research other surrounding communities to see how they can make part of downtown walkable and bicycle friendly.

This means that we should not have dump trucks and other large vehicles that use Old 41 as a by-pass both north and south. Not only does it increase the traffic flow at peak hours, but increases traffic to the point of loud noise where you cannot even enjoy a cup of coffee outside.

Another area of concern is Ragsdale to Matheson where many large trucks and oversized trailers are more frequently using these as a new route, which is a safety hazard to a residential area. We will keep you posted on these and other issues and other downtown interest.

Finally, our first meeting of the new year is Tuesday, January 24th at Shangri La Springs, beginning at 5:30 p.m. our speaker will be Deb Orton, Co-Founder of Friends of BERT.

Deb and her friend, Emily Porter established Friends of BERT after attending the June 2022 Lee County MPO public discussion of the 14-mile Seminole Gulf unused Rail from Bonita Beach Road to Alico

Road. Friends of BERT has grown to more than 500 members and its mission is to demonstrate the public's support for the Bonita Estero Rail Trail.

Cheers!

Trish Leonard, IOM

President

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance (BSDA)

Visit our website: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/>

Follow us on Facebook @bonitaspringsdowntownalliance.

WE ARE BACK!

Tuesday, Jan. 24th meeting at Shangri-La
Springs inside the Harvest and Wisdom
Dining Room



January Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 24th

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Location: Shangri-La Springs, 27750
Old 41 Rd

Business Agenda:

5:30 pm- Social Hour

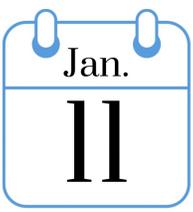
Secretary's report

Treasurer's report

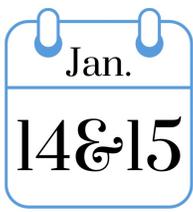
Program

January 2023 Events

Click on Event for more information



Art & Soul Night
Shangri-La
4:30pm-8:30pm



Center for the Arts
Fine Art Festival
Riverside Park
10am-5pm



Bonita Springs
Concert Band
Riverside Park
2pm-4pm



Stardust Memories
Band
Riverside Park
7pm-9pm



Vision Fest- Crusin for the
Clinic- Bike, Truck, Car Show
FL Lions Eye Clinic
11am-3pm

Upcoming Holidays

January 16th- Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Thank you to the downtown businesses for supporting the holiday events!





VISION FEST

Cruisin' for the Clinic

CAR | TRUCK | BIKE SHOW

Commemorative token for all show entries!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023
11AM - 3PM



\$20 car entry pre-registration by 12/31/22

\$25 car entry registration after 1/1/23

“EYE SHARE THE VISION”

TROPHIES | LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | RAFFLES | 50/50 | CLINIC TOURS | ACTIVITIES
\$5 DONATION GENERAL EVENT ENTRY | \$50 VIP SECTION IN AC WITH FOOD, DRINKS, MUSIC
10322 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135 | www.fllec.org/vision-fest
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT MIRANDA ESCOBAR 239-319-2983 OR MIRANDAE@FLEEC.COM

Get to know

BONITA NAPLES ROTARY

Join us for our Rotary Social and see what Rotary is all about!

- Meet and Greet
- Refreshments
- Bar will be open
- Learn about our club!

Sunday, January 15th 3-5pm

The Stage Restaurant
9144 Bonita Beach Rd SE,
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

January Speaker



Deb Orton-

Co-founder: Friends of Bonita Estero Rail Trail
(BERT)

Deb Orton is a full-time resident of Bonita Springs. Recently retired, Deb and her husband, Rob, moved from Cary, NC to SW Florida. Deb spent the last 15 years as a Marketing Executive with SAS Software, a large Analytics Software Company headquartered in Cary, NC. Deb is a native of Oregon, and lived 20 years near Seattle, WA where she received her

MBA from University of Washington and had a successful career in Health and Safety with Weyerhaeuser.

Deb Orton and her friend, Emily Porter established Friends of BERT after attending the June 2022 Lee County MPO public discussion of the 14 mile Seminole Gulf unused Rail from Bonita Beach Road to Alico Road. Friends of BERT has grown to more than 500 members and its mission is to demonstrate the public's support for the Bonita Estero Rail Trail.

Deb is an avid cyclist and hiker. Deb is a member and supports Rails to Trails and has lived near trails her entire life. Transforming this unused Rail to a linear park has the potential to boost local economy, reduce pedestrian and cycling accidents and improve health. This trail can connect people to open space, and make recreation more accessible to everyone near it.

For more information [Click Here](#)

Welcome New Members!

- Bonita Naples Rotary
- Builders Glass of Bonita
- Friends of BERT (Bonita Estero Rail Trail)
- Florida Lions Eye Clinic

Then 2007 Downtown Bonita Railroad



2011 Downtown Bonita Railroad



We have watched wonderful businesses build in Downtown Bonita Springs the past few years. Thank you for helping us continue to grow!

[Click Here to explore Downtown Bonita Springs 15 years ago!](#)

TLC Marketing and Creative Services is the proud to provide the BSDA monthly Newsletter.

If you would like to have a professionally designed newsletter or email campaign contact Chastity Roark, B.A. Marketing Director at TLC Marketing and Creative Services at chastity@trishleonard.com or call (239) 405-8115.

NOT A BSDA MEMBER? - Visit our Website

"Advocating a prosperous downtown for the Bonita Springs Historic Old 41 District"

Collaboration | Communication | Education | Advocacy | Awareness

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance
PO Box 367553
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239.398.9999

Visit our website

Trish Leonard, President | trish@trishleonard.com

CONNECT WITH US



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