



Downtown Talk

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Newsletter

From the desk of the President...

I would like to start off by saying thank you for your confidence in electing me as President of our great Downtown Alliance. I'd also like to thank Trish and the rest of our Board for helping to grow our group, we have come a long way since John Paeno started this organization.

I may be the current President, but this is by no means my group, this Alliance belongs to all of us, and as such I welcome your comments and criticisms. I want to make sure everyone feels represented.



I would like to hear from you all about what you think of our group, what are we doing right, what could we do better, and if we are missing something. I know we are all busy and there are only so many hours in the day, so I am grateful our meetings are so well attended. I will try to keep them relevant and something you feel is worth the time away from your businesses and families.

As it is October, I hope all of you are able to participate in our "Trick 'R Treat Bonita" from 5-9pm on Halloween. Please contact Zach Smith immediately to get in on this great family event to bring more people to our downtown and discover what they have been missing. Please see info below on how to sign up.

The City is also having a Halloween event on the 21st and is looking for businesses to participate, it would be great if we were all able to do both, but if you are only able to do one, I hope it would be ours on Halloween. See below for info on how to participate in the city event.

Those of you that know me, know that I am not a talker, I'm definitely a better listener. So I will always do my part of keeping things short and sweet.

Thank you again for the honor of representing you all,
Mike Gibson
President, Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance

Visit our website: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/>
Follow us on Facebook @bonitaspringsdowntownalliance.

October's meeting at Shangri-La Springs inside the Harvest and Wisdom Dining Room



October's Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 24th

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

Location: Shangri-La Springs, 27750
Old 41 Rd

Business Agenda:

***5:30 pm- Social Hour
& Cash Bar***

Swearing in of Officers

Secretary's report

Introductions of guests

***Speaker - Angel Cerritos, Bonita
Springs YMCA Executive
Director***

RSVP HERE

Upcoming Events



Not your mother's
Wedding Expo
Hodges Life Celebration &
Events Center 1pm-4pm



Halloween at
Riverside Park
6pm-9pm



Nightmare on Old 41
Haunted Party Bus
7 PM-1 AM

[Click Here to learn more](#)



Halloween on Old 41
6pm-9pm



Business Expo
Bonita Naples Rotary
The Stage
4pm- 7pm
[Click Here to learn more](#)

Join us Tuesday, October 31st for the First Trick or Treat on Tuesday, October 31st from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. along Old 41. For more information contact Zach Smith, owner of [Ceremony Brewing](mailto:zach@ceremonybrewing.com) - zach@ceremonybrewing.com as soon as possible.

TRICK 'R TREAT BONITA

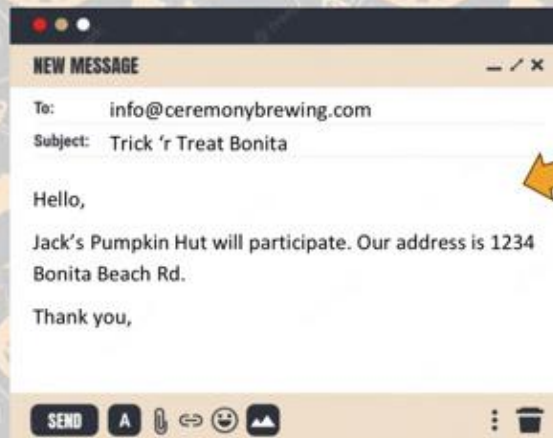
HALLOWEEN, OCTOBER 31ST, 5:00PM-9:00PM

**WE INVITE ALL BONITA SPRINGS BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE IN A
COMMUNITY TRICK 'R TREAT DOWN OLD 41 ROAD.**

The event is being hosted by the Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance with the support of the business along Old 41. Any Bonita Springs business is invited to set up a 6' table along Old 41 Road to hand out candy to trick or treaters. This is a free event. Free to participate and free to attend.

If you wish to participate, please email your response to info@ceremonybrewing.com no later than October 9th. Make sure your subject line is "Trick 'r Treat Bonita", be sure to include the name of your business and address of your business.

Several of the downtown businesses that are located on Old 41 have been gracious enough to provide space for other businesses to set up. Once we have a full list of participating businesses, we will be able to start assigning spots to set up during the event.



NEW MESSAGE

To:

Subject:

Hello,

Jack's Pumpkin Hut will participate. Our address is 1234 Bonita Beach Rd.

Thank you,

SEND A [attachment icon] [reply icon] [emojis icon] [images icon]

DO

- Decorate like crazy
- Dress up
- Advertise the event (signs and social media assets will be distributed)
- Provide your own decorations and candy
- Only provide store bought, individually wrapped candy
- Keep it family friendly for all ages
- Only set up in marked and approved locations

DON'T

- Don't set anything up on the sidewalk, you must be **next** to the sidewalk, not on it.
- Don't set up on unapproved locations.
- Don't set up on city property such as Riverside Park or the Banyan tree lot.
- Don't use amplified noise.
- Don't use fire.
- Don't use tents larger than 10x10
- Don't give out marketing materials. It's meant to be fun for the kids, this is not a trade show.

**IF YOU EMAIL TO SIGN UP MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED VIA EMAIL
LEADING UP TO THE EVENT.**

DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS TO INFO@CEREMONYBREWING.COM

THANK YOU!



Let's make this fun, memorable, and the start of a new tradition in Bonita Springs.



HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK
In Riverside Park

The City of Bonita Springs will be hosting it's "Halloween in the Park: In Riverside Park" event for the second time. This year, as a part of the 25th anniversary, the City is adding a Halloween Stroll through the Liles Hotel area of Riverside Park.

The City is seeking businesses in the Downtown Bonita Springs area that would participate in a Halloween Stroll event for the community. The event is Saturday, October 21st from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. There will be various activities and enhancements in the park during this time. The stroll portion of the event is taking place between 6pm and 7:30pm. Businesses can keep their booths up until 9 pm to share information for any remaining individuals and are encouraged to have activities/games for the community at their booth.

- There are 25 booths available. There is no cost to participate.
- Businesses must provide sealed candy for their booth.
- Businesses would be asked to decorate the booths in Halloween Décor.
- Businesses can use this event as an opportunity to share information about their business.

October 21st, 2023
Downtown Bonita Springs

For more information please contact: Karessa Minoli (Community Relations Specialist)
E: karessa.minoli@cityofbonitasprings.org
O: 239-949-6262

Meet your October Speaker



Angel Cerritos, YMCA Regional Executive Director Bonita Springs

Angel Cerritos moved to Southwest Florida about 3.5 years ago with his family from Loudoun County, Virginia. He currently serves as the Regional Executive Director for YMCA of Southwest Florida, specifically at the Bonita Springs YMCA branch. He has worked for the YMCA for nearly 18 years in various capacities. Through his

career with the YMCA he has had the opportunity to work with and partner with local community leaders, local organizations, school systems, and YMCA staff to introduce and expand programs and services. In his regional executive director role he focuses on expanding the YMCA's mission with the support of the board and other community leaders to serve Lee County families regardless of their inability to pay.

Angel holds a Bachelor's of Science in Business Management. He is a graduate of Leadership SWFL and recipient of the INCredible Award from SWFL Inc. He is also involved in the community such as being a Rotary member and Board Director at the Rotary Club of Bonita Naples. He serves on the board of the SWFL Inc. as well as in the City of Bonita Springs' Outreach Committee. In Virginia, he was a recipient of the 40 under 40 award and was awarded Top 30 Nonprofit Executives by The Community Foundation (previously the Cape Coral Foundation) in 2021 for his work and leadership in Lee County.

Angel strongly believes in the mission of the YMCA and is committed to helping others find and bring out the same passion to make a great impact in our community.

He is looking forward to continuing to connect with the community to build partnerships and collaborations to help build a better community for us all.

[Learn More About The Bonita Springs YMCA Here](#)

BDSA Member Spotlight



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Bonita Springs YMCA

Welcome to the YMCA of Southwest Florida. We're an inclusive, nonprofit organization of men, women and children joined together by a shared commitment to nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility. We're glad you're here!

Every day, the Y strengthens communities for kids, adults, seniors and families with programs that protect, teach, connect, heal nourish and encourage. It's

how we help communities and the "us" who live in them find the power of their full potential.

(239) 221-7560

27200 Kent Rd Bonita Springs, FL 34135

[Click to view the Website](#)

2023-2025 Slate of Officers

President: Mike Gibson

Vice President: Bonnie Whittemore

Secretary: Susie Sayger

Treasurer: Lee Bellamy

Immediate Past President: Trish Leonard

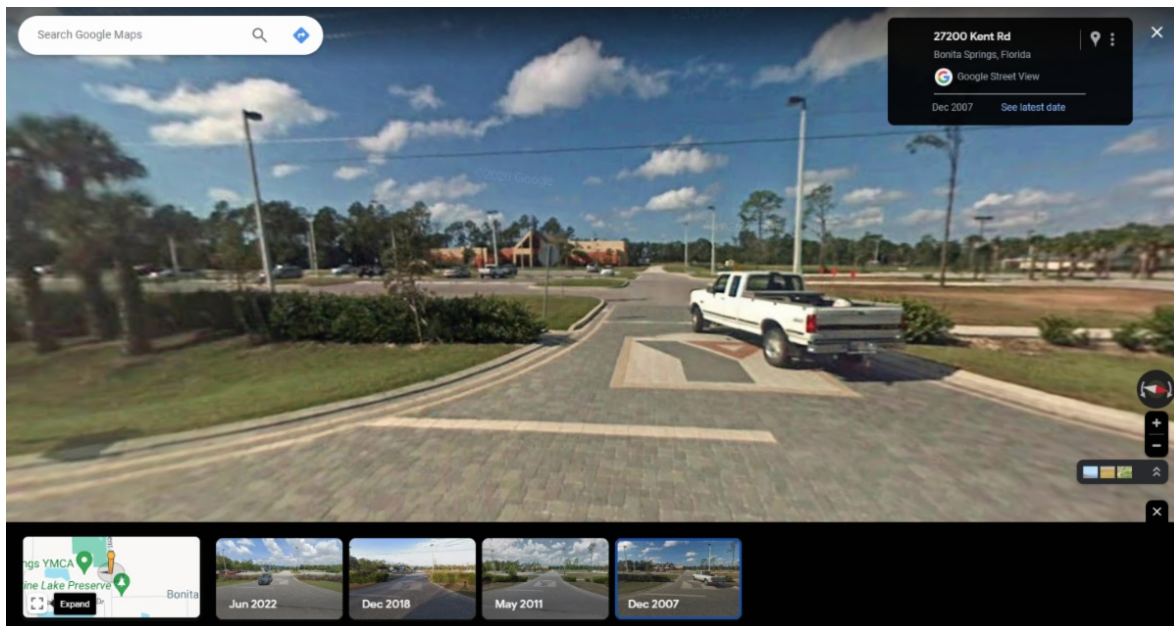
Directors: Peggy Baker, Sophie Leroux, Candice -Sebring-Kelber,
Kyle Moran, Jim Magnus, Alyona Ushe

Thank you to our Evening Sponsor:

John Jenkins

**If you are interested in sponsoring a future meeting,
Call : Mike Gibson (239) 287-3648.**

Bonita Springs YMCA 2007 THEN



Bonita Springs YMCA 2022 NOW



We have watched wonderful businesses enter our growing Downtown Bonita Springs the past few years. Thank you for helping us grow Downtown Bonita!

City of Bonita Springs Contacts:

CITYMEETINGS@cityofbonitasprings.org- For City Agenda Items Only

Mayor Rick Steinmeyer **Rick.steinmeyer@cityofbonitasprings.org**

Councilwoman Jamie Bogacz **jamie.bogacz@cityofbonitasprings.org** (District 1)

Councilman Jesse Purdon **jesse.purdon@cityofbonitasprings.org** (District 2)

Councilwoman Laura Carr **laura.carr@cityofbonitasprings.org** (District 3)

Councilman Chris Corrie **chris.corrie@cityofbonitasprings.org** (District 4)

Councilman Nigel Fullick **nigel.fullick@cityofbonitasprings.org**; (District 5)

Councilman: Fred Forbes **fred.forbes@cityofbonitasprings.org** (District 6)

City Manager: Arleen Hunter **arleen.hunter@cityofbonitasprings.org**

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

If you would like to have a professionally designed newsletter or email campaign, contact Chastity Culver, B.A. at TLC Marketing and Creative Services at chastity@trishleonard.com or call (239) 405-8115. [Click here to view the website.](#)

NOT A BSDA MEMBER? - CLICK BELOW

Application

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

Collaboration | Communication | Education | Advocacy | Awareness

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance
PO Box 367553
Bonita Springs, FL 33936
239.398.9999

[Visit our website](#)

Trish Leonard, Immediate Past President |
trish@trishleonard.com

CONNECT WITH US



TLC Marketing and Creative Services | 9148 Bonita Beach Road, Ste 201, Bonita Springs, FL
34135

[Unsubscribe \[trish@trishleonard.com\]\(mailto:trish@trishleonard.com\)](#)

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