

JUNE



BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN
ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

DOWNTOWN TALK

President's Message:

June 2026

While the first day of summer is still a few weeks away, we definitely have our summer pattern weather, hot and humid with afternoon thunderstorms. I always feel June is an odd month to plan for as I think many families start doing vacations since the kids just started summer break. I've had multiple people say that they are looking at doing staycations this year due to the high gas prices. Hopefully that means we keep more money circulating in our local economy this summer.



We should also be looking at ways to embrace the FIFA World Cup tournament taking place in North America this year with 7 of the 104 matches will be taking place in Miami. The tournament starts June 11th and the first Miami match is on the 15th. It's also a good time to start ordering your decorations for this year's Independence Day celebration, it would be nice to see everyone go all out for our country's 250th birthday.

At our May meeting we welcomed Tyler Bess of the Bonita Fire Department and head of the Fourth of July parade to let us know how we can participate in the annual tradition. There are always large crowds and it's a great way to promote your business while showing your love of our community. Sign up at bonitaspringsparade.com Thank you to Survey Cafe for being our May sponsor.

For our **June meeting** we will welcome the **political action side of BERT as our speaker** so we can learn how best to support them and **get the word out ahead of the vote on August 18th**. And thank you to **Sugar Shack Downtown for being our sponsor for the June meeting**.

If anyone would like to sponsor an upcoming meeting, please contact me.

Our members and sponsors keep this organization going and we appreciate you all!

Mike

Tuesday, June 23rd
Is the next BSDA Meeting at
Shangri-La Springs at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Friends of BERT

Sponsor: Sugar Shack Downtown

Interested in sponsoring a meeting? Email Mike Gibson at bsdaprez@gmail.com.

Please RSVP for the BSDA Meeting to:
lee@shangrilasprings.com

June's Speaker: Friends of BERT (Bonita Estero Rail Trail)



Friends of BERT (Bonita Estero Rail Trail) is an all-volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) citizen group dedicated to bringing the BERT and Florida Gulf Coast Trail (FGCT) to Lee County and Collier County communities. Our mission is to generate public support for BERT and all sections of the FGCT trail network. Our advocacy group started in late September of 2022 and currently we have over 4000 members.

The proposed Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT) will run from Wiggins Pass Road in Collier County border along the 11.4 mile unused rail corridor through downtown Bonita Springs and Estero ending at Estero Parkway. Once complete, BERT will become part of the Florida Gulf Coast Trail 400+ mile network stretching from Collier County to Tampa. See **Trail Maps**

The mission of Friends of the Bonita Estero Rail Trail is to protect and advance the BERT greenway as a conserved natural corridor with a connected multi-use trail that enhances environmental stewardship, safe recreation, and access to Southwest Florida's natural resources. We build community support, secure funding, and partner with public and private leaders to ensure the long-term preservation, safety, and sustainable use of this vital greenway for residents and visitors, and future generations.

To donate to the BERT Campaign, visit
[Vote4BERT2026.com](https://www.vote4bert2026.com).

[Click Here to Learn About BERT](#)



June's Sponsor: Sugarshack Downtown



In 2014, Sugarshack was born as a simple idea: capture real musicians, playing real music, in an environment where they felt comfortable enough to be themselves. No stage lights. No pressure. No filters. Just artists, instruments, and authentic moments. Those backyard sessions became Sugarshack Sessions, a YouTube series that quickly grew into a global community of music lovers drawn to something that felt raw, honest, and human.

Over the years, Sugarshack became more than videos - it became a culture. A place where emerging artists and established musicians alike could tell stories, joke between songs, and connect with people in a way that felt personal. That spirit - unpolished, welcoming, and centered around genuine connection - is what people fell in love with.

In 2025, that same spirit found a physical home.

Sugarshack Downtown was created to bring the Sugarshack experience off the screen and into real life. It's a live music restaurant built around the same values that started it all: authenticity, community, and great music. Here, live music isn't a feature - it's the foundation. Artists play nightly, the energy is intimate, and the line between performer and audience feels intentionally blurred.

Sugarshack Downtown is a place to eat, drink, and gather - but more importantly, it's a place to feel something. To discover new artists. To hear stories between songs. To stay longer than you planned. To feel

like you're part of something that's been growing organically for over a decade.

Thank You to Everyone Who Joined Our May Meeting!



[Click Here To Learn More About Midterm Elections in August!](#)

Election Information Lee County

239-LEE-VOTE (239-533-8683) Great resource for all things voting!

<http://www.lee.vote>

Register to Vote

<https://registertovoteflorida.gov/home>

Everyone wishing to vote by mail **MUST** request a mail-in ballot, even if you've voted by mail in past elections.

Go to the link below, or call 239-LEE-VOTE (239-533-8683)

Bonita Springs Branch Office

at Bonita Commons

25987 S Tamiami Trail, #105

Bonita Springs, 34134

<https://www.lee.vote/277/Request-a-Vote-by-Mail-Ballot>

If you were recently issued an updated Florida Driver's License or ID Card, you will need to update that number **FIRST** before making a web request. You can make that update at [RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov](https://www.lee.vote/277/Request-a-Vote-by-Mail-Ballot) or call 239-533-8683.

Key Dates:

- Voter Registration Deadline: July 20, 2026
- Deadline to request Vote by Mail: August 6, 2026
- Early Voting Begins: August 8, 2026
- Safe date for mailing ballot: August 11, 2026
- Election Day: August 18, 2026

**Discover All That Downtown Has
to Offer This Month**

(Click the Flyer for More Info)

**The City of Bonita Springs Is
Looking for Sponsors!**

Bronze Sponsorship \$500

The promotions and advertisements begin with our Bronze Sponsorship. Your business will benefit from the following promotions:

- Deadline to apply: 3 months before event date
- Inclusion in a press release
- Inclusion in one social media ad
- Your Logo on the event T-shirt (T-shirts must be offered at the event and you must meet the deadline)
- 1 - 10' x 10' booth space

Booth Sponsorship \$250

As the name implies, the booth sponsorship offers your business the opportunity to set up a 10' x 10' booth space to showcase your company. No additional benefits are included in this sponsorship level.

City Outreach



The City of Bonita Springs has a combined Social Media outreach of over 25,000 followers and growing! Additionally, over 30,000 residents are subscribed to the city's e-blast notifications.

Contact Us

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9101 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs FL 34135
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2025-2026 Event Season Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Opportunities
Brochure

For more information, or to become a sponsor contact Lora Taylor at Lora.taylor@cityofbonitasprings.org or call 239-949-6262



JOIN OUR LEAGUES

FUN GAMES. NEW PEOPLE. GOOD FOOD.

VOLLEYBALL

STARTING JUNE 15TH

SOCCER

STARTING JULY 6TH

BASKETBALL

STARTING JUNE 15TH

BONITA SPRINGS, FL

AT SPORTS CHALLENGE AMERICA



ELEVATE_SWFL

FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS & JOIN NOW!

ELEVATEOURCOMMUNITIES.COM



BUILT BY LOCALS. FOR LOCALS. WITH LOCALS



4TH OF JULY

250TH CELEBRATION

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES, THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS IS INVITING ALL BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS IN BONITA SPRINGS TO DECORATE IN PATRIOTIC COLORS AND DÉCOR, HELPING CREATE A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

THE CITY WILL HOST ITS ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY STAR SPANGLED BONITA EVENT ON JULY 4TH BEGINNING AT 6 P.M. THE EVENING WILL FEATURE AN OUTDOOR CONCERT BY THE BEN ALLEN BAND, FOLLOWED BY A SPECTACULAR FINALE WITH A SYNCHRONIZED DRONE, LASER LIGHT, AND FIREWORKS SHOW.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG OR CALL 239-949-6262.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Bonita Springs Downtown Events

4th of July Parade

Riverfest- Saturday, August 1st

Art-Music Walk, Thursday, October 15th

Halloween on Old 41 Saturday, October 31st

Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

We invite BSDA members to send us an email with the event details and/or a graphic **by the 15th of each month** to be featured in the **following month's email**. If you need design help TLC would be happy to assist for a small fee.

The deadline to submit events and graphics for the second June newsletter is Monday, June 15th.

Please email emma@trishleonard.com with your event information or any questions you may have regarding the newsletter.

Membership:

BSDA is a community-driven organization that brings together businesses, nonprofits, and local residents dedicated to the growth, promotion, and preservation of Old Downtown Bonita Springs, maintaining its unique old Florida charm.

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Inc. is organized exclusively as a business league. We are a Florida nonprofit corporation and IRS 501(c)6 organization with Federal tax FEIN ID #81-1385933.

The annual Membership period is from September 30th - October 1st
JOIN OR RENEW AT: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/membership/>



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

If you would like to have a professionally designed newsletter or e-mail campaign, contact TLC Marketing & Creative Services (239) 405-8115.

[Click here to view the website.](#)

NOT A BSDA MEMBER? - CLICK BELOW



Help Our BSDA Community Grow by [Liking and Following Our Facebook Page](#)

Join Today!!

Visit our Website



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