

October



BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN
ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

DOWNTOWN TALK

President's Message-October 2026

It's been a very calm summer, both business-wise and, thankfully, hurricane-wise. While I'm not looking forward to the traffic and longer wait times, I am looking forward to the increased business from our seasonal residents. Lately, I've seen transports dropping off cars daily, so it seems like they're arriving slightly earlier than usual. I think we're all ready for things to kick off!

It's going to be a fun Halloween downtown this year, and hopefully everyone can decorate and make it extra festive. **The Nightmare on Old 41 bar crawl will be on Saturday, October 24th, with dinner from 5–8 p.m., followed by themed bar parties from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m.** A trolley will help get patrons between the participating businesses.

With **Halloween falling on a Saturday** this year, and the road being closed thanks to the City, **we're expecting a very large crowd of trick-or-treaters.** **We're still looking for businesses that would like to participate.** If you're interested, please reach out to Zach at info@ceremonybrewing.com.

Last month, we heard from Property Appraiser Matt Caldwell about proposed Ballot Amendment 3. Thank you to Newrez for sponsoring last month's meeting. This month, we'll hear from **Commander Mark Bonora of the Lee County Sheriff's Office**, who will update us on Community Policing and how the Sheriff's Office assists with events downtown. **Thank you to our meeting sponsor this month, Gotcha Covered.**

The stores have plenty of candy available right now, so buy it now—and buy lots of it! I went through about a dozen large bags last year, so stock up while it's available.

See you Downtown!

Mike



 **Did you know October is
Breast Cancer Awareness Month?** 

Next BSDA Meeting @ Shangri-La Springs
Tuesday, October 27th 5:30 p.m.

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

October's Speaker: Commander Mark Bonora



Commander Bonora began his law enforcement career in 1997 with the Florida Highway Patrol, promoting to Corporal in 1999 as a Traffic Homicide Investigator out of Troop F, Fort Myers Precinct. Commander Bonora joined the Lee County Sheriff's Office in 2007, working Patrol and as a Field Training Officer in 5th Precinct before joining the K-9 Unit in 2009.

In 2017, Commander Bonora was promoted to Sergeant in 5th Precinct as a patrol supervisor before transferring to the Violent Crimes Unit.

In 2021, Commander Bonora was promoted to Administrative Lieutenant serving in 3rd Precinct. In 2022, Commander Bonora was promoted to Captain as a Watch Commander, then supervisor within the Criminal Investigations Bureau before returning back to 5th as Precinct Captain.

In September of 2025, Commander Bonora took command of 4th Precinct.

A native of New Jersey, moving to Florida in 1987, Commander Bonora is a graduate of Cape Coral High School, has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Florida, and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Florida Gulf Coast University. Commander Bonora enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, traveling and enjoying local restaurants.

October's Sponsor: Gotcha Covered



Nick and Eric have been owners of Gotcha Covered for more than five years and successfully run the Gotcha Covered-St. Pete/Clearwater franchise.

When an opportunity came to open a beautiful showroom in Bonita Springs/N. Naples and expand to a new territory, Nick and Eric took the leap.

As partners in life for close to two decades and also in business, Nick and Eric pride themselves on having fun with clients and educating them on all the ways window treatments can be the jewelry to the outfit that is your home.

Nick and Eric moved from Denver where Eric worked in media relations, PR and marketing. Nick spent many years in the hospitality industry, sales and sales management while working in the wedding industry helping brides and grooms plan their perfect day with beautiful linens. He also spent many years in the beer, wine and spirits industry.

Eric grew up in central Illinois and graduated from ISU with a broadcasting degree and Nick is from a large Detroit, Italian family. He loves to cook and makes a mean lasagna.

Thank You for Attending September's Meeting!





Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!

Oktoberfest 2026

PROST WITH A PURPOSE

PRESENTED BY
Rotary Club of Bonita Naples

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2026
3:00 - 7:00 PM**

**RIPTIDE
BREWING COMPANY**
28120 HUNTERS RIDGE BLVD.
BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135

EVERY TICKET HELPS CREATE
Lasting Impact
THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY

ADMISSION		ADMISSION INCLUDES:
ADULTS	CHILDREN (3-12)	ONE BEVERAGE
\$35	\$15	ONE BRAT PLATTER
		COMMEMORATIVE WRISTBAND
		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY AN AUTHENTIC 20-PIECE GERMAN BAND

Scan to RESERVE YOUR TICKETS!

BEER STEIN CONTEST RAFFLES 50/50 DRAWING

Rotary Club of Bonita Naples

Creating Lasting Impact

FOOD MUSIC FRIENDS COMMUNITY PURPOSE

Save the Date

HAPPY HAUNTS

IMMERSIVE HALLOWEEN STROLL

DOWNTOWN BONITA SPRINGS
LILES HOTEL PLAZA AND SURROUNDING AREAS

**Oct. 22nd- 31st
5:30pm-10PM**

City of Bonita Springs
Bonita Springs, FL

www.cityofbonitasprings.org
239-949-6262

DOWNTOWN BONITA SPRINGS BUSINESSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO LIGHT UP AND DECORATE TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE.

LIGHTING AND DECOR WILL BE LIT: FRI, SAT, 5:30 PM - 11:00 PM

Free Flowers

Wednesday October 14th, 2026

Petal It Forward Day!

Stop in and get 2 bunches of flowers
One to keep and one to give away!

Share the joy of GIVING
and RECEIVING flowers!



Over 40 Years of Making Life Bloom.

27515 Old 41 Road Bonita Springs, FL 34135
(239) 992-LOVE (5683)

Halloween COSTUME DRIVE

Donate new or gently used costumes so
every child can celebrate Halloween

Drop off at Ceremony Brewing before 10.19.26

HEY PARENTS! Please consider donating new or gently used costumes so all children in our community can have access to a costume this Halloween.

All sizes and types are welcome, including adult sizes; big kids need costumes too.

Please bag each costume with all accessories in its own individual bag and label the bag with the name of the costume.

Donations can be dropped off at Ceremony Brewing
10441 Packinghouse Lane, Bonita Springs, FL 34135, Tuesday- Saturday, 5:00pm-10:00pm

Your old costumes can make a difference.



Save-the-Date

Brunch & Bubbles

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

February 28, 2027

Spanish Wells Golf & Country Club

Ticket Sales Coming Soon

Downtown Trick-Or-Treat

October 31st 5-8 p.m.

Dean Street to Wilson Street

[Click Here to Participate in Trick-or-Treat!](#)

Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

We invite BSDA members to send us an email with the event details and/or a graphic to be featured in the **following month's email**.

The deadline to submit events and graphics for the October reminder email is Monday, October 19th.

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

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, Inc.

(239) 405-8115.

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

NOT A BSDA MEMBER? - CLICK BELOW

The annual Membership period is from September 30th - October 1st

JOIN OR RENEW AT:

<https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/membership/>

Join Today!

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.

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

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