



Bonita Springs  
Quarterly  
Spring 2023

# City News

*Small town Charm. Big Bright Future.*



Please join us for a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 9am.

Riverside Park 10450 Reynolds Street

Pictured below: Veterans Memorial Monument located in Riverside Park



## Hurricane Ian Progress Report

On September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall as a direct hit to Lee County as a Category 5 storm. It was the largest hurricane to make landfall here and is the fifth largest storm in U.S. history. The City of Bonita Springs experienced over 12+ feet of storm surge and sustained winds of over 155 mph. Hurricane Ian impacted all City parks, our beaches, and various City-owned infrastructure. We've provided a snapshot below of the damage and permits issued through April, 2023.

### **Initial Damage Assessment Snapshot: 19,427 Damage Assessments**

Destroyed: 28 parcels

Major Damage: 1,332

Minor Damage: 1,660

Affected: 3,796

Unaffected: 12,610

### **Hurricane Related Permits Issued (as of 4/12/2023)**

Demolition: 155

Restoration: 344

Repair: 1,322

Beach Access 1,837

Temporary Housing: 146

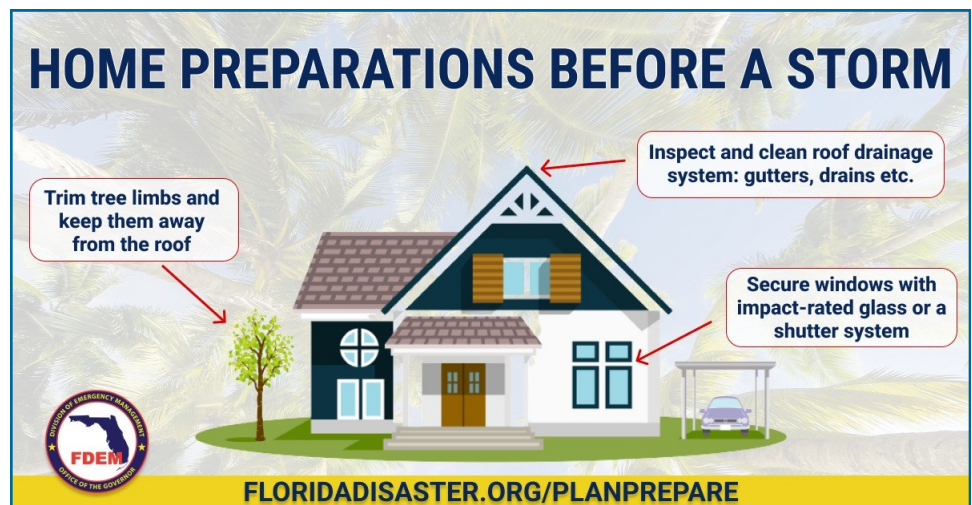
**Did You Know?** Governor DeSantis has signed tax-cut package HB 7063. This package includes two sales tax holidays for disaster preparedness items, one running from May 27-June 9, 2023 and the second from Aug. 26-Sept. 8, 2023. Some examples of tax-free items include: flashlights and lanterns costing \$40 or less; reusable ice costing \$20 or less; radios costing \$50 or less; tarps and ground anchors or tie down kits costing \$100 or less; coolers and portable power banks costing \$60 or less; batteries and fuel tanks costing \$50 or less; smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and carbon monoxide detectors costing \$70 or less; and generators costing \$3,000 or less.

The holiday also includes a number of items related to the safe evacuation of household pets. Common household consumable items that may helpful with disaster cleanup are also included. For example, laundry detergent, toilet paper and paper towels, soap, sunscreen, and various household cleaning products, with a sales price of \$30 or less.

For more information about what you can do to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season, visit [Florida Disaster.org](https://www.floridadisaster.org).

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The background of the entire page is a stylized American flag with a textured, fabric-like appearance. The stars are white on a dark blue field, and the stripes are red and white. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the flag, containing the text.

# *Memorial Day Service*

**Downtown Bonita Springs  
Riverside Park**

10450 Reynolds St, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

**Monday May 29th, 2023  
at 9:00 am**

Guest Speaker:

***Larry Ellis***

Retired US Marine Corps  
Vietnam Veteran

Triple Purple Heart Recipient

**Join us as we honor those who have given  
their lives in service to their country.**

For questions, please call 239-949-6262

# Independence Day Parade PARTY IN THE USA



**TUESDAY, JULY 4TH @ 9AM**

Beginning in 1958, the Independence Day Parade has become one of Bonita Springs' longest running traditions. Each year your Bonita Springs Professional Firefighters-Local 3444 organize and host the widely enjoyed Independence Day Parade.

For more information on the Bonita Springs Independence Day Parade, to submit a monetary donation, advertise on the parade map, or to participate with floats, walkers, or representatives, please visit our website at [WWW.BONITASPRINGSPARADE.COM](http://WWW.BONITASPRINGSPARADE.COM)

Or contact Parade Coordinator Frank Todd at 239-220-0593. Payment options are available online and via Cash App. Proceeds from the parade will benefit the Bonita Springs Firefighters Benevolent Fund.



**2023 PARADE HOSTED BY**  
*Bonita Springs* **FIREFIGHTERS**  
**LOCAL 3444**



**STAR SPANGLED BONITA**  
*Laser & Fireworks Display*

**4th of July Celebration**

**TUESDAY, JULY 4TH 2023**

**FREE**

**City of Bonita Springs Florida**  
*Small Town Charm, Big Bright Future*

FEATURING THE BEN ALLEN BAND!

LIVE MUSIC, FOOD TRUCKS, LASER LIGHTS & FIREWORKS, AND MORE!

LOCATION: RIVERSIDE PARK  
10150 REYNOLDS ST,  
BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135  
TIMES: 6PM TO 9PM  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CALL  
239-919-6262



Bonitians celebrated their 24th Anniversary of Incorporation on April 29th at Riverside Park!

Celebrate Bonita was a huge success!



Above: The Special Event Committee receives well deserved thanks.



Above: opening act Caylee Hammock gets the crowd up and moving.



Below: Headliner LANCO makes the night unforgettable.



Stay Tuned -2024 will be the 25th Celebration!

# KARATE

**Tues & Thurs**

**5:30-7:00pm**

**June 1 thru June 27**

**\$45 /8 classes**

Parents are welcome to register for class with their children.



Instructor Vincent Cannarsa learned the Art of Karate on the Island of Okinawa and has over 35 years of teaching experience

For more information contact the Bonita Springs Rec Center. 239-992-2556

## City of Bonita Springs Recreation Center

The City of Bonita Springs Recreation Center is located at 26740 Pine Avenue off of West Terry Street. The facility includes a full sized gymnasium and a cardiovascular/fitness room.

Many activities and classes are scheduled throughout the year.

The Bonita Springs Recreation Center offers an annual membership fee or daily fee for all of these activities and more! Please visit our Membership Page for more information by [clicking here](#).

### Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday      Friday      Saturday  
 6:00 am - 8:00 pm      6:00 am—5:00 pm      8:00 am—4:00 pm  
 Sunday closed

For more information visit the [Bonita Springs Recreation site](#).



# 2023

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat

Gym closed for cleaning Mon-Thurs 7:-8pm Fri: 4-5pm Sat: 3-4pm Pre-registration required for Pay Classes. (NO DROP INS)		26740 Pine Ave * Bonita Springs, FL 34135 * 239-992-2556 Hours: Mon-Thur 6:00am 8:00pm Friday 6:00am-5:00pm Sat 8:00am-4:00pm Sunday-Closed		1 8-9 Functional Fitness 10-5 Open Gym 5:30-7 Karate	2 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9:30 -12:30 Open Gym 1-3 Table Tennis	3 8-12:30 Open Gym 1-3 Pickleball	
PURPLE = Open Gym BLUE = Pay Classes BLACK = Included w/ membership 	5 8-9 Stretch & Tone 1-3 Pickleball 3:30 -7 Open Gym	6 8-9 Functional Fitness 10:30-5 Open Gym 5:30-7 Karate	7 8-9 Stretch & Tone 10:30-12:30 Pickleball 1-3 Table Tennis 3:30 -7 Open Gym	8 8-9 Functional Fitness 10-5 Open Gym 5:30-7 Karate	9 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9:30 -12:30 Open Gym 1-3 Table Tennis	10 8-12:30 Open Gym 1-3 Pickleball	
	12 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5-7 Pickleball	13 8-9 Functional Fitness 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5:30-7 Karate	14 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5-7 Table Tennis	15 8-9 Functional Fitness 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5:30-7 Karate	16 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP	17 10-12 Table Tennis 1-3 Pickleball	
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	26 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5-7 Pickleball	27 8-9 Functional Fitness 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5:30-7 Karate	28 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5-7 Table Tennis	29 8-9 Functional Fitness 9-5 SUMMER CAMP 5:30-7 Karate	30 8-9 Stretch & Tone 9-5 SUMMER CAMP		

# FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

## Fitness for Every Body

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 8-9 am**

The human body is made to move. ...  
 Train your body for activities performed in daily life.  
 Reduce risk of injury and increase your quality of life, with exercises to promote:

- Balance
- Endurance

Included with membership  
 \$5 non-members

★ Bring a Mat ★



For more information call the Bonita Rec Center 239-992-2556

More summer classes at the Bonita Springs Recreation Center !



# STRETCH AND TONE

Mon, Wed & Fri  
 8:00-9am

Included with membership.  
 \$6 for non members

Come join instructor Carmen Holt in Stretch and Tone class to have fun while challenging your body to improve and maintain muscle strength, cardio endurance, improved flexibility and balance .

## 2023 Summer Swim Lesson Schedule Questions call 239-947-1948

### Open Swim

- Monday: 11:00am—4:00pm
- Tuesday: 11:00am—4:00pm
- Wednesday: 11:00am—4:00pm
- Thursday: 11:00am—4:00pm
- Friday: 11:00am—4:00pm
- Saturday: 11:00am-4:00pm

### Lap Swim

#### Monday – Friday

- 7:30am-8:45am (8 Lanes)
- 12:00pm-4:00pm (4 Lanes)

#### Saturday

- 11:00am-4:00pm (4 Lanes)

Pool programming may restrict available lanes. Call for current lane availability.

### Swim Lesson Schedule

June 19—29  
 Monday—Thursday

July 2—13  
 Monday—Thursday  
 CLOSED 7/4  
 Makeup 7/7

July 17—27  
 Monday—Thursday

Saturdays  
 June 24—August 8

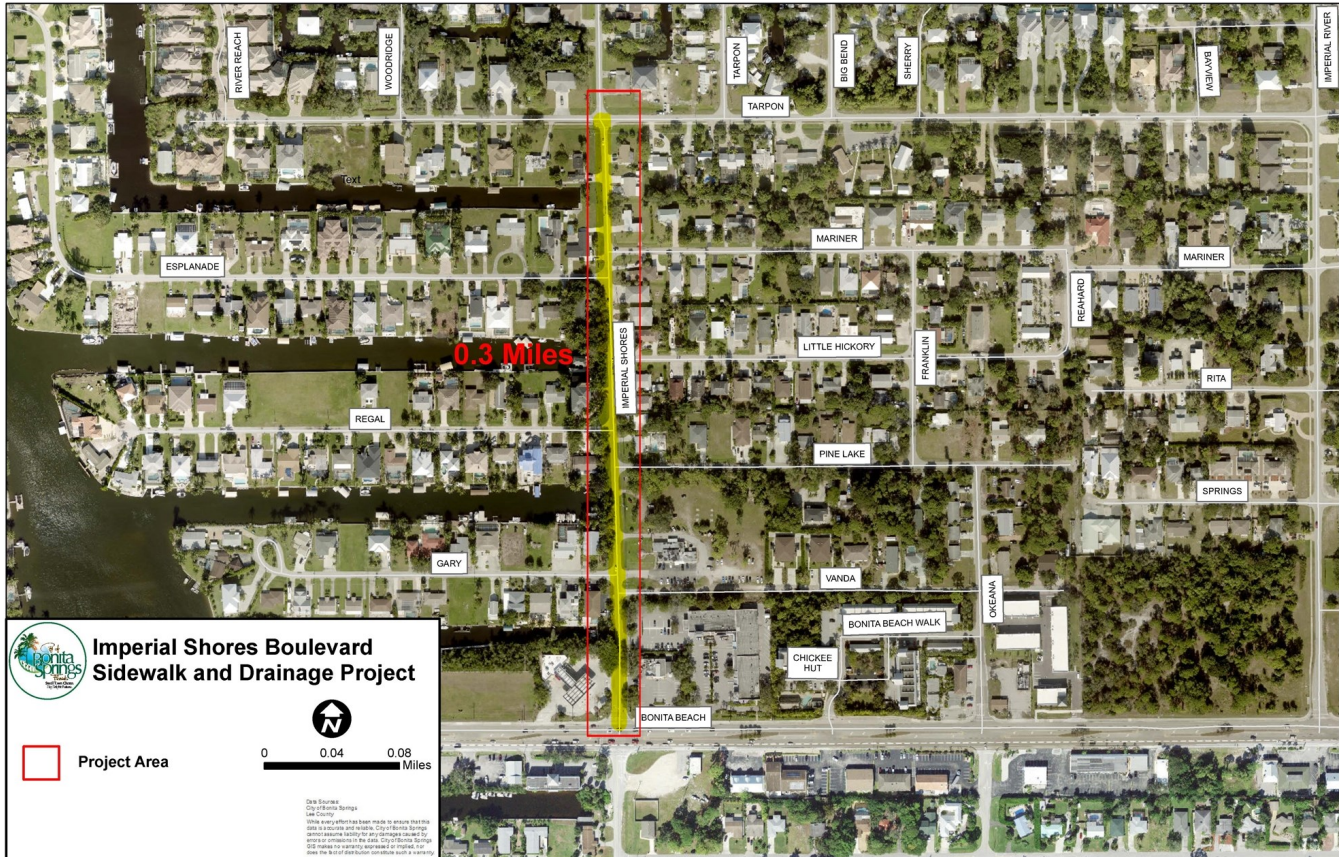
9:00	10:00	11:00
Preschool Beginner Adv. Beg.	Beginner Adv. Beg.	Older Beginner Intermediate Advanced
Preschool Beginner Adv. Beg.	Beginner Adv. Beg.	Older Beginner Intermediate Advanced
Preschool Beginner Adv. Beg.	Beginner Adv. Beg.	Older Beginner Intermediate Advanced

8:00	9:00
Preschool Beginner	Adv. Beginner Intermediate

Lessons are \$45.00 Per Child, Per Session  
 Classes canceled on or after the first day will not receive a refund  
 Make up classes will be held for classes canceled by the Pool only

## Imperial Shores Boulevard Update

Construction on this project began in the late summer of 2022 and is expected to conclude this summer. The entirety of the project will stretch 0.3 miles along the eastern side of Imperial Shores Boulevard; beginning at Bonita Beach Road and terminating at Tarpon Avenue. Details of the project include drainage, an eight-foot-wide sidewalk and curb and guttering separated by a two-foot section of grass. The completion of this project will add an essential connection to the city's sidewalk network.



### About the Veterans Memorial Monument seen on the cover

Originally unveiled on Veterans Day in 2012, the Veteran's Monument was a collaboration between the Veterans Committee and the Art in Public Places Board. The monument was designed by Artist Mike Morgan and plans to have it installed began in 2009. The Veteran's Committee raised funds to commission the monument by introducing the Riverside Park Veterans Memorial Walkway with bricks for purchase and by soliciting donations from businesses and private donors.

The monument pays tribute to and honors all Veterans. The etching on the front refers to the concept of "Buddies—No One Left Behind" as the theme of the piece. Unfortunately, the monument sustained damage as a result of Hurricane Irma in 2017. The City prioritized its repair and it stands today at Riverside Park with the message just as strong and meaningful as originally intended. It is so nice to see how the City of Bonita Springs values its Veterans!





## Did You Know.....

City Council has approved the award of the Old 41 Road and Strike Lane Signalization and Sidewalk Improvements Project to Coastal Concrete. This project involves the furnishing and installation of traffic signals and pedestrian signals at the intersection of Old 41 Road and Strike Lane. In addition, the construction of sidewalks on both sides of Strike Lane from the intersection with Old 41 Road to the railroad right-of-way, approximately 400 ft. east of Old 41 Road, will be completed.

The 2023 Sea Turtle Nesting Season started on May 1st and runs through October 31st. The Sea Turtle Ordinance is in effect from 9PM to 7AM during this period. There are guidelines you should follow to make sure this nesting season is a safe one for our marine wildlife and more information can be found here [Sea Turtle Nesting Season](#).

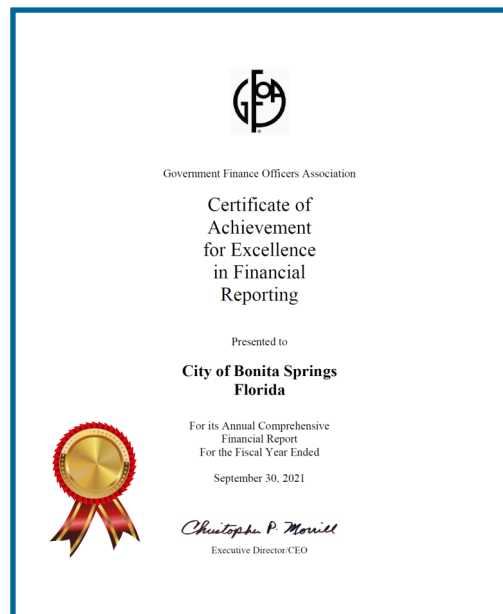
The City of Bonita Springs is seeking volunteers to serve on various advisory boards and committees that have been established to assist the City Council on a number of civic issues. Terms of service on these committees vary. There are currently vacancies on the following boards: Art in Public Places, Special Events Committee, Tree Advisory Board, Technology Advisory Board, Veteran's Advisory Board, Historic Preservation Board, and the Outreach Committee. If you are interested in serving on a committee, you can find an application here [Advisory Committee Application](#).

Riverside Park will be hydroseeded the week of May 29th. For at least two weeks, no one should walk on the grass which will be heavily irrigated during this time. The park will be roped off to discourage walking on the green area so the seed has a chance to grow.

You can purchase annual state park passes at Koreshan State Park—open 8 a to sundown each day. An individual park pass is \$60.00 and additional guests can join you for only \$2 each at most state parks. For more details or to purchase passes online, visit [Florida State Parks Annual Passes](#). Lovers Key State Park will also offer passes once they become operational again.

The City of Bonita Springs Finance Department has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

Recognized for demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate the financial story of the city and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report, the Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.





## **‘Tree of the Season’ award**

If you are as proud of our beautiful trees as we are and have a great idea for a specific tree in Bonita Springs to be recognized, please send in your nomination.

Bonita Springs is recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City.



## **The City of Bonita Springs encourages you to nominate**

- your tree
- your neighbor’s tree
- a local business’ tree
- or any beautiful tree for that matter



## **Please email a photo**

The tree, it’s address, and your contact info to:

[clerk@cityofbonitasprings.org](mailto:clerk@cityofbonitasprings.org)



# Council on the Move



**Above:** Mayor and Council attended Governor DeSantis' Press Conference announcing Executive Order 23-06 Protecting Florida Together this past January.



**Right:** Councilman Fullick (top), Councilman Purdon (second picture), Mayor Steinmeyer (third picture) and Councilwoman Carr (fourth picture) attend the Celebrate Bonita event on April 29th.



**Above:** The City of Bonita Springs is recognized as a 14 year recipient of the National Arbor Day Tree City USA Program, which promotes education, activities, and preservation of trees within communities. The City Council celebrated Arbor Day by proclaiming April 28, 2023 **National Arbor Day in the City of Bonita Springs**. Additionally, the Tree Advisory Board worked with the Bonita Springs Charter School to host an annual Arbor Day Poster Contest using the theme "Trees are Tough". Students submitted entries and the Tree Advisory Board selected a winner in each grade level that participated. The winning posters are displayed in the entry way at City Hall.