

# LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## Community Outreach Newsletter



AUGUST 2024 EDITION

### A DAY AT VALERIE'S HOUSE...

Angela Melvin, only ten-years old in 1987, lost her mother in an awful automobile accident in Fort Myers.

Approximately 26 years following that loss, Angela returned to Fort Myers and founded Valerie's House...a program for grieving children to connect with others who have suffered similar losses.



The Lee County Sheriff's Office Ice Cream Response Team visited Valerie's House and served up a seemingly endless amount of ice

cream to some very appreciative children.

To learn more about the incredible work done by Valerie's House or to donate, please visit them online at [valerieshouse.org](http://valerieshouse.org).



### THANK YOU, STARBUCKS

The Lee County Sheriff's Office wishes to thank Starbucks for the many "Coffee with a Cop" events that they host, as well as for their generous coffee donations at various LCSO activities!

These events provide opportunities for LCSO staff and community members to share and discuss anything and everything of interest.



A recent event, held at the 3141 NE Pine Island Road location, provided the Community Response Unit

an opportunity to make new friends and to plan an upcoming animal adoption event to be held outdoors on the Starbucks patio.



Crime doesn't pay, but we do! Call with your tips.

# SWFL CRIME STOPPERS

1-800-780-TIPS (8477)

ANONYMOUS · CASH REWARDS





### PAWS FOR THE NIGHT

Held annually at the Coconut Point Mall, “Paws for the Night” is an opportunity for pet owners, vendors and animal shelters to gather and celebrate their love for animals.

The Gulf Coast Humane Society was on-hand with a collection of adoptable canines.

The Lee County Sheriff’s Office Community Response Unit always attends these get-togethers and distributes pet first-aid kits, doggie treats, poop-bag dispensers and other cool swag!



### HAVEN'S LEMONADE FUNDRAISER

At the age of two, Haven received a diagnosis of Cancer.

Her family immediately reached out to the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Following a year of chemotherapy, Haven was deemed to be Cancer-free!

Haven contacted Sheriff Carmine Marceno and asked for help raising money for St. Jude and the wonderful work that they do.

Sheriff Marceno dispatched his deputies to assist Haven and, within minutes, Haven exceeded \$100 in sales!

Children, like Haven, make Lee County the incredible place that it is and the Lee County Sheriff’s Office is extremely proud to be part of efforts such as this one.

For additional information regarding St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, please visit [stjude.org](http://stjude.org).



### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF GIVING

The Lee County’s Sheriff’s Office and other community partners celebrated 25 years of giving backpacks to local children ahead of each upcoming school year.

The event began with a patriotic ribbon-cutting followed by 2,500 backpacks personally handed to the school children in their vehicles as they drove by.



In addition to prioritizing the safety and well-being of our students, Sheriff Carmine Marceno wishes to ensure that all students begin each school year with the supplies that they need to be successful!

And, of course, Robbie the Robodog stopped by to meet and greet the students and their families.

### SUNSHINE HEALTH “BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH”

The Lee County Sheriff’s Office Ice Cream Response Team made certain to attend the Sunshine Health “Back-to-school Bash” held at their facility on Palm Beach Boulevard.

While the thought of returning to school may have been unappealing to the children, ice cream cones seemed to put smiles back on their faces.





### 810 BILLIARDS AND BOWLING

Following months of construction at the southeastern end of Miromar Outlets, “810 Billiards and Bowling” held their long-awaited grand opening.

The Lee County Sheriff’s Office Community Response Unit was invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Estero Councilmember Rafael Lopez, Miromar Outlets Vice President, Jeff Staner, and other dignitaries joined in on the celebration.

Even Robbie the Robodog wanted to stop by and check out the incredible entertainment facility!

810 Bowling and Billiards is located across from the Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse and easily accessed through the Corkscrew Road mall entrance.



### DIAMOND HEAD RESORT “COFFEE WITH A COP”

MoJoe’s Coffee Café on Fort Myers Beach graciously hosted a “Coffee with a Cop” event to afford residents and guests a chance to chat with Lee County Sheriff’s Office deputies and staff.

Our agency is always grateful for an opportunity to speak with residents, tourists and guests regarding any issues that they wish to address.



### AMBER AND BETTY...

The IMAG Summer Camp provides youngsters with an opportunity to participate in fun and educational activities involving science, technology, engineering and other science/math-related topics.



The Lee County Sheriff’s Office Community Response Unit and the Ice Cream Response Team were invited to share in some of the cool activities with the

IMAG campers...including an opportunity to feed and play with Angus and Betty, their Cownose Stingrays.

IMAG is hosting a “Community Day 2024” on August 17 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The IMAG History & Science Center is located at 2000 Cranford Street in Fort Myers. Visit [theimag.org](http://theimag.org) to learn more.



### THANK YOU, EMMA!

Emma Vana and her family, in an effort to show appreciation to members of the law enforcement community, have visited each and every Florida county! At each stop, Emma has gifted members of each agency with wooden “Blue Line Flags.”



Emma visited Lee County Sheriff’s Office headquarters at which time she distributed 19 “Blue Line Flags” to a number of our deputies.

Emma and her mother create these handmade flags and continue to deliver them to agencies across the State of Florida...and we’re so grateful!



THE LEE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND  
SHERIFF CARMINE  
MARCENO REMIND  
YOU TO REMOVE  
VALUABLES AND TO  
LOCK YOUR VEHICLE'S  
DOORS EVERY  
EVENING.

IF YOU VALUE IT...



LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!



### IGLESIA DE DIOS PENTECOSTAL MI CAPE CORAL

Invited by Chaplain  
Mildred Padua, the Lee  
County Sheriff's Office  
Community Response Unit  
helped distribute back  
packs, school supplies and  
food at the Iglesia De Dios  
Pentecostal M.I. Cape  
Coral.



Assisting those in need  
and supporting  
community agencies are  
two of our agency's top priorities.

To learn more about our Community Response Unit and  
how we can assist your agency, please call 239-477-1CRU.

FREE "LUNCH & LEARN" AT THE LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER AT MIROMAR  
OUTLETS ON BEHALF OF  
EPILEPSY SERVICES OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. SEATING IS LIMITED.

*Join the Lee County Sheriff's Office  
for an informative "Lunch & Learn"  
presented by*

*Epilepsy Services of Southwest Florida*



*Learn about  
Seizure disorders  
Causes  
Symptoms  
Diagnosis  
Available services*

*Where: Lee County Sheriff's Office  
Community Outreach Center at Miromar Outlets  
10801 Corkscrew Road, Suite 190, Estero*

*When: Thursday, August 29, 2024 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm*

*Lunch generously provided by  
Ford's Garage at Miromar Outlets*

*REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED  
email [glavine@sheriffleeefl.org](mailto:glavine@sheriffleeefl.org)*



**FOLLOW THE LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA  
PLATFORMS FOR THE LATEST SECURITY,**



### HOPPING FOR HEROES

"Home Front Heroes," a Lee County non-profit  
organization, works to assist the community by way of  
charitable and educational  
funding.

The Lee County Sheriff's  
Office is enormously  
grateful to "Sky Zone" for  
hosting a fundraiser on  
behalf of "Home Front  
Heroes" at their location  
at The Forum in Fort  
Myers.

