

# LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## Community Outreach Newsletter

JANUARY 2026

### LCSO JOINS THE GOLDENFEST CELEBRATION

The Lee County Sheriff's Office and LCSO Animal Cruelty Task Force were on hand at Goldenfest at Lee Health Sports Complex.

Hundreds of dog lovers, pet owners, Golden Retrievers and others furry friends roamed the grounds outside of Hammond Stadium.

"Robbie," our LCSO robot dog, was a major attraction, as he always is.



The Lee County Sheriff's Office Ice Cream Response Team was on hand along with numerous other assets.



As we participate in "Goldenfest" annually, we are already looking forward to next year's event!

### SHOP WITH A COP

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Response Unit teamed up with the Boys & Girls Club of Lee County for "Shop with a Cop" at Walmart located at Six Mile Cypress Parkway and US 41.



It was an honor to help these amazing kids select holiday gifts. We are so grateful to Walmart and their amazing staff for making this day special for so many deserving kids!

**176 arrests, 297 cases cleared, \$65,025  
in rewards distributed LAST YEAR ALONE!**

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

**SWFL CRIME  
STOPPERS**

**1-800-780-TIPS (8477)**

**ANONYMOUS · CASH REWARDS**



**Your call matters!**



**ALWAYS**

**CHECK THE LEE COUNTY  
ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY  
BEFORE  
REHOMING A PET!**



### **"CHECK THE CHIP"**

It's important to emphasize the value of microchipping your pet and Sheriff Carmine Marceno is a huge advocate for microchipping events.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force hosted yet another "Check the Chip" microchipping event at our Community Outreach Center at Miromar Outlets.



Pet owners brought cats and dogs to be checked for microchips and those unchipped pets received free microchips!

Special thanks to Lee County

Domestic Animal Services for providing these no-cost microchipping services in our community!



### **HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING WITH SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CRIME STOPPERS**

The Lee County Sheriff's Office and Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers teamed up to offer free holiday gift wrapping to shoppers at Miromar Outlets.

Events, such as this one, provide an opportunity to chat with our county's residents about nearly anything they deem to be important.



Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers provided all wrapping necessities and, they too, shared information regarding the ability to provide anonymous crime information to local law enforcement...and how to receive awards for their tips. Last year, Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers rewarded tipsters with \$65,025 in rewards!

## **FOSTERING SHELTER ANIMALS SAVES LIVES**

- FOOD PROVIDED
- VETERINARY CARE PROVIDED
- TOYS/SUPPLIES PROVIDED

**YOU PROVIDE  
THE LOVE!**



**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,  
PLEASE EMAIL GARY LEVINE AT  
GLEVINE@SHERIFFLEEFL.ORG**

# VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEED YOUR HELP

Lives are at risk and we are counting on educated businesses and employees to become aware, know the signs, and take action in cases of suspicious activity.



## BE AWARE

Human trafficking is prevalent in the United States, and it often occurs in affluent neighborhoods and legitimate business settings.

Florida ranks 3rd in the nation for number of calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

More than 50% of the criminal human trafficking cases in the U.S. involved children.

The average age of a child when forced into human trafficking is between 12 and 14.

## KNOW THE SIGNS

As a community, we can help save lives by knowing and recognizing the signs of human trafficking.

PHYSICAL

- Branding, Scars, Burns, or Tattoos
- Malnourished
- Serious Dental Issues
- Disoriented or Confused
- Infections
- Drug Addiction
- Sleep Deprivation

VERBAL

- Responds as if coached
- Allows someone else to speak for them
- Fearful, Anxious, or Paranoid
- Reluctant to discuss their injuries

## TAKE ACTION

If you see suspicious activity, report it immediately to law enforcement. In Florida, call

► 1-855-FLA-SAFE

Funded by CSEF



Enroll today for peace of mind while you're away

# Vacation House Checks

Lee County Sheriff's Office

Take peace of mind on your vacation! Request this public service provided by Lee County Sheriff's Office Civilian Support Unit (CSU). CSU has trained volunteers who share their time and talents to keep Lee County safe.

SCAN HERE



Sign-Up Today!

www.sheriffleefl.org

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Ensure perimeter doors, windows, and gates are secured and undamaged
- Report uncollected mail and packages
- Monitor for unusual activity
- Identify any unaccompanied vehicles
- You will be notified if CSU discovers any of the aforementioned items



## SHERIFF CARMINE MARCENO REMINDS YOU... SCHOOL BUSES ARE LIKE TRAFFIC SIGNALS!

When overhead lights are flashing yellow:



Prepare to Stop

When overhead lights are flashing red:



Stop!

When hazard warning lights are flashing:



Proceed with Caution

Join the  
Lee County Sheriff's Office  
and the

American Heart Association Southwest Florida  
for a FREE, informative and enriching

# LUNCH & LEARN

The discussion is focused on nutrition, healthy living, and overall well-being. Led by Jessaca Rodriguez, Executive Director for the American Heart Association in Southwest Florida, this session will highlight the latest and greatest evidence-based guidance designed to support heart health and everyday wellness.

The discussion will cover:

- Core principles of heart-healthy nutrition
- The American Heart Association's Diet and Lifestyle Recommendations
- An overview of Life's Essential 8™, the key health behaviors and factors that support long-term well-being
- Simple, realistic ways to improve daily habits related to food, movement, sleep, and overall health

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

When: Thursday,  
February 26, 2026  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm



Registration is required. Please email  
Gary Levine at glevine@sheriffleefl.org

Lunch generously provided by  
Naples Flatbread Kitchen



## TIP-A-COP

The Lee County Sheriff's Office partners regularly with Special Olympics Florida helping people with disabilities to thrive.

By conducting a "Tip-a-Cop" event at Ford's Garage in Cape Coral...partnering with other local law enforcement agencies...a total of \$1,600 was raised. This brings our annual fundraising total to \$37,000 for the 2025 calendar year!





# SPEAK UP

# FOR THE VOICE- LESS



◀ Khaleesi was rescued in Cape Coral after suffering horrific neglect at her former owners hands. She was severely malnourished and couldn't even stand. Today, she is healed and in a loving home. Her former owners were jailed on felony charges. One call made all the difference.

## SWFL CRIME STOPPERS



## STOP DOG FIGHTING AND ANIMAL CRUELTY NOW!

**CALL CRIME STOPPERS AT**  
**1-800-780-TIPS**  
**(8477)**

## TO PROTECT ANIMALS WHO CANNOT PROTECT THEMSELVES.

Paid by CSTF



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



### "MEOWY CHRISTMAS"

Assisting local shelters and rescues in their efforts to find safe and loving homes for dogs and cats, the Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force hosted "Meowy Christmas," a cat and kitten adoption event at our LCSO Community Outreach Center at Miromar Outlets.

Shoppers, mall staff, children and tourists stopped in to say hello to the kitties.

Thank you to the Animal Refuge Center for providing the felines and special thanks to 7-Eleven and Coca Cola for generously donating refreshments.



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



## Join Our Volunteer Unit

Make a Real Difference in Our Community

### WHY VOLUNTEER WITH US?

Support deputies in real-world situations. Be part of special events and community programs. Gain valuable skills and law enforcement insights. Build friendships while serving your community.

### WHAT WE DO

School Support  
Administration  
Communications  
Event Coordinator  
HR  
Marketing  
Onboarding  
Training  
Patrol  
Bicycles  
Marine  
Road



**READY TO SERVE?**  
Scan the QR Code to  
start your application, or  
Call our office Today!  
239.477.1452

Lee County Sheriff's Office - Civilian Support Unit

### ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Response Unit, along with 4th Precinct Bonita Deputies and Search & Rescue K-9 Bloodhound "Mercy," joined in on the festivities as the Rotary Club of Bonita Springs held their annual "Christmas Community Celebration" Tree, Tent and Toy Drive.



The event was an effort to benefit needy elementary school students in the area.

Over 500 students and

families attended the event to watch Santa's arrival by Bonita Springs Fire Truck escorted by LCSO deputies.

The LCSO team enjoyed engaging with the residents, while K-9 Bloodhound "Mercy" loved the belly rubs, hugs, and kisses!