

# NETWORKS

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in the area. I was working so hard I didn't really have time to get involved socially."

The JBN holds monthly meetings, has more than 100 members and helped Ms. Raskin make a decision to go back to school for a master's degree in mental health counseling.

"There is a sense of togetherness in the (JBN)," she said. "Everyone feels they have a common bond."

"The way the rabbi conducts the meetings, there is some mention of faith, but the business comes first. He might tell an inspirational story that is religious based at the beginning of the meeting, but it really is a business meeting."

Rabbi Yitzchok Minkowicz, who heads the JBN through Chabad Lubavitch of Southwest Florida, said, "The focus is not come here, you'll make money. It's where to make high level relationships and friendships that naturally result in business."

"If a person is in line spiritually, his business is going to be better."

The rabbi pointed out some values the Jewish community shares that are good for business, like respect and honesty.

"Ultimately, it's faith," he said.

While religion and business mix as well as oil and water at most business functions, they are homogenized at the JBN.

"Why should you separate (faith and business)?" Rabbi Minkowicz said. "What we need to do is have faith in everything we do."

"It really is all connected. We believe that a person is a complete person — if

a person is healthy the business is going to be healthy."

For more information on the JBN, call 433-7708, visit [Chabadswf.org](http://Chabadswf.org). or e-mail [yourjbn@chabadswf.org](mailto:yourjbn@chabadswf.org).

## Islam

There's no organized business group associated with Islam in Southwest Florida, because there are so few practicing in Southwest Florida, said Mohamed Al-Darsani, the director of the Islamic Center for PEACE in Fort Myers. But there are about 2,000 Muslims in the area who have faith-based guidelines for business.

"Our faith dictates everything in our life, including business," Mr. Mohamed said. "The way you finance it, the type of business you get involved in, the type of loans and partnerships. We're immune to the financial crisis that is storming all over the globe, because most of the Muslim concepts are built on (values) completely different from the Western World."

Islamic guidelines forbid loans in which interest is either paid or collected, ruling out the entire mortgage meltdown. Loans are also supposed to be only for basic necessities, and the borrower sets the terms for an Islamic loan, not the lender. That means a lender has to wait until the borrower is able to pay him back. The lender is also encouraged to "forgive the debt" if they can.

What if they never pay up?

"Your payment will be guaranteed by God himself, even if it's in the hereafter," Mr. Mohamed said. "Remember, you don't have to lend. You don't have to do it. But if you do, you have to be patient."

For more information, call 671-1761 or visit [ic-peace.com](http://ic-peace.com). ■



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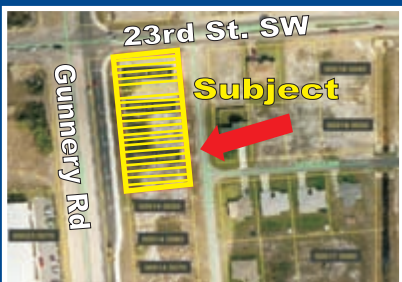


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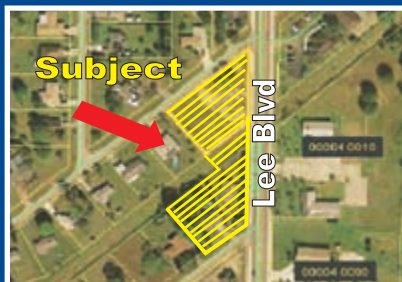
# Commercial Property FOR SALE



### Property Details:

- Zoned CN-3
- 1 Acre +/- (321 feet of road frontage)
- D.O. In Place
- Busy intersection
- Near Hwy. 82 & Daniels Parkway.

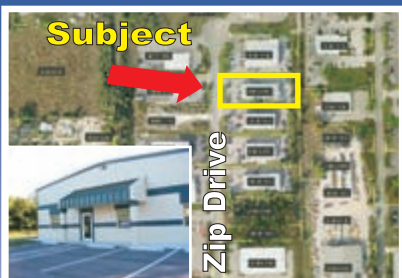
Was: \$385,000 NOW: \$308,000



### Property Details:

- Lee Blvd. frontage approx. 470 ft.
- Zoned CS-1
- 71,431 Sq.ft.
- Water & Sewer
- 2 homes w/ conversion potential
- 700 Taylor Ln. Lehigh Acres

Offered at: \$750,000



### Property Details:

- Zoned C (Industrial-Business Park)
- Billy Creek Commerce Center
- Multiple Tenants
- Building & Land ■ 8,246 sq.ft.
- 5881 Zip Drive

Offered at: \$925,000



### Cape Coral

### Property Details:

- Located on Gulf access canal
- Duplex with commercial zoning (P1-W)
- 1,034 sq. ft. under air
- Single car garage each side.
- Great opportunity in a great SE Cape

Offered at: \$369,000



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