



# Around the Ranch

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THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF LAKEWOOD RANCH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019



**THE PREMIER OF THE LAKEWOOD RANCH MINDFUL TRIATHLON** was held in November at Waterside, and was attended by more than 200 participants. The event, new to the area, consisted of a 5K run (or walk), yoga, and a meditation session. For more photos see pages 18-19. Photo by Eric Nalpas

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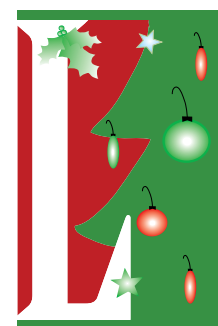
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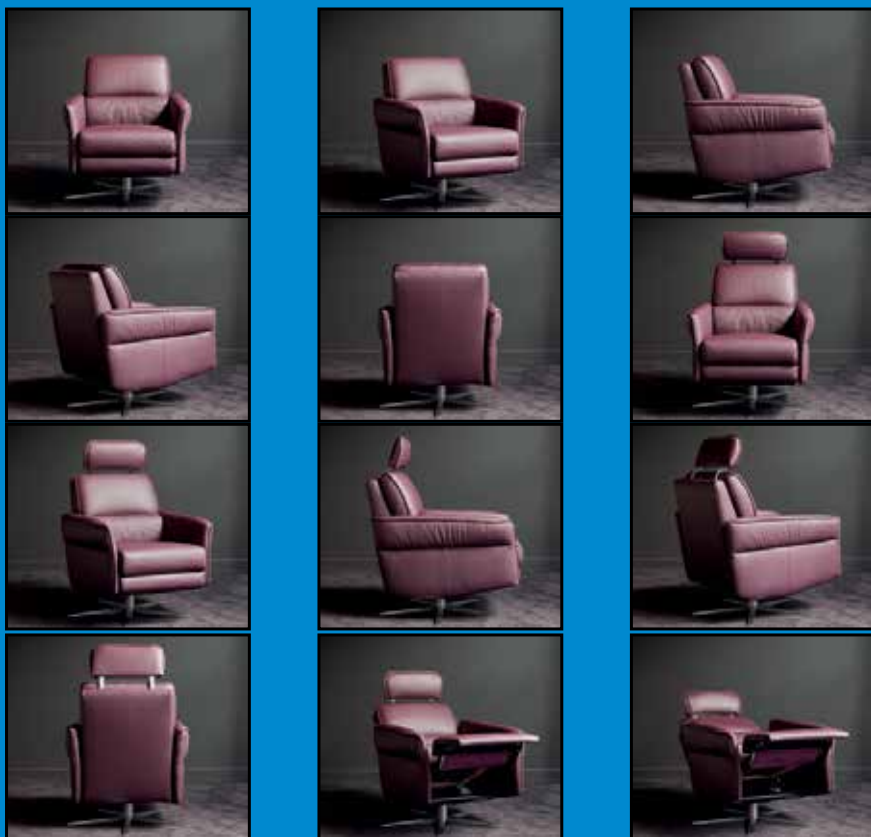
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# District 5 To Save Money By Re-Financing Bonds

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
*Community Correspondent*

During the November meeting at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall, the board of supervisors of Community Development District 5 in Lakewood Ranch approved moving ahead with efforts to refinance district bonds, in order to take advantage of the historically low interest rates currently available in the marketplace.

The board voted to engage MBS Capital Markets, specialists in financing for special tax districts, to determine the re-financing of the District's bonds.

Brett Sealy, managing partner at MBS, made a presentation to the board, indicating that he felt that his company could negotiate the re-financing prior to the end of the year, at a rate that would save the District about \$24,000 per year. (Note: these bonds had been re-financed earlier, but there is still a cost savings to the District to re-enter the process at this time).

The move should reduce assessments slightly for District 5 homeowners, which would be seen in their tax bills beginning in late 2020.

In addition to the authorization to engage MBS, the board also voted to authorize staff to proceed with the bond refinance. Final approval is expected to take place at a special meeting scheduled for Dec. 23 at 10 a.m.

## NEW GATE EQUIPMENT ISSUES

District 5 Supervisor Dave Emison noted that he had difficulty getting through the Players gate at Lorraine Road a few days prior. According to Operations Director Paul Chetlain, the old gate entry equipment was shut down during the second week in November. It was discussed that there may have been some possible interference due to Mr. Emison still having an old transponder on his vehicle.

## BALMORAL GATE AREA TRAFFIC SIGNAL

According to information from Manatee County Commissioner Vanessa Baugh, a new traffic signal for the intersection of Balmoral Woods and Lakewood Ranch Boulevard is in the works, and is expected to be installed during the early part of 2020.

## DISTRICT 1 TO REAPPLY FOR MITIGATION GRANT

For some time, residents of the Bluffs neighborhood in District 1 have been con-

cerned about erosion of the banks of the Braden River near their homes during heavy rainstorms. An earlier application for a mitigation grant was denied, so the District is going ahead with a second application for funds to deal with this issue.

The application process involves applying for a "pre-disaster mitigation grant" under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, a program administered by FEMA. The plan requires homeowners to go through their local government entities (in this case, Manatee County), which then pass the application through state agencies, with the ultimate funding coming from FEMA.

This funding from FEMA is dependent on congressional action, and getting a grant involves a very competitive process.

The idea of these grants is that communities that receive them can then take action now in order to mitigate threats, in order to prevent larger, much more costly problems in the future, thus saving the local community (and FEMA) money in the long run.

## AUDITS

Finance Director Steve Zielinski reported that audits are underway, and that the results of the audits would be presented at the February CDD board meetings.

## SUMMERFIELD-RIVERWALK HOA

District 1 Supervisor Preston Olinger reported that there would be two proposals to be voted on by District 1 homeowners, which could change policy regarding home rentals.

The first proposal would be to change the covenants to allow each neighborhood to determine whether to allow homeowners to lease their homes for a period of one year. (The current maximum is six months.)

The second proposal would require that home buyers not lease their homes for at least two years after purchase of the home.

## BRADEN RIVER UTILITIES BILLING

Braden River Utilities, the irrigation water provider for Lakewood Ranch, will hold a meeting with district supervisors in January to inform them of the changes in Braden River's billing practice from a "calculated" billing for irrigation water, to a "metered" system. It is expected that the metered method will reflect a more accurate picture of exactly where the irrigation water is being consumed.

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# Earth Fare Announces Same-Day Pickup Via Instacart

Natural grocer Earth Fare recently announced an expanded partnership with Instacart, an online grocery service. Earth Fare now offers same-day grocery pickup from select Florida locations, including Lakewood Ranch, as well as grocery delivery.

Customers can now enjoy thousands of products from Earth Fare's healthy assortment, Earth Fare officials said, in as fast as two hours via delivery or pickup. The ability to schedule grocery pickup of Earth Fare's industry-leading organic produce assortment, plant-based items, non-GMO products, and hard-to-find specialty items allows existing and new Earth Fare customers to enjoy more free time and better prioritize their health, according to their news release.

"Our partnership with Instacart to provide our customers with a convenient pickup option, in addition to delivery, is one more way Earth Fare makes it easy to live a healthier lifestyle," said Frank Scorpiniti, president and CEO of Earth Fare.

Customers can order through [earthfare.com/delivers](http://earthfare.com/delivers) or open the Instacart mobile app. The process allows customers to choose grocery pickup or delivery, and customize their preferred



pickup or delivery time. If pickup is chosen, the Earth Fare team will bring the customer's groceries right to their vehicle.

"Our expanded partnership with Earth Fare gives customers one more time saving option when shopping for groceries," said Andrew Nodes, vice president of retail at Instacart. "We know customers want choice and we're excited to now offer both pickup and delivery options to Earth Fare's loyal customers."

Earth Fare has distinguished itself as a leader in the healthy foods industry for more than 40 years by ensuring that all products sold are free of a variety of unacceptable ingredients. The standards are further reinforced by Earth Fare's "Boot List," which bans hundreds of

harmful chemicals and ingredients. In addition, Earth Fare offers more than 1,000 private brand food products sourced using only non-GMO ingredients, adding more each day.

Founded in 1975 in Asheville, N.C., Earth Fare is one of the largest natural and organic food retailers in the country, with more than 50 locations across 10 states in the Southeast, mid-Atlantic and Midwest.

For more information visit [www.earthfare.com](http://www.earthfare.com) or [www.Instacart.com](http://www.Instacart.com).

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# LAKEWOOD RANCH COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**Building a true sense of community, through memorable events and social clubs.**

It's almost 2020 and we can't be more excited about the slate of events and activities we've got planned for our community! Starting on Jan. 4, we will be at UTC Mall for our annual Health and Wellness expo, with a "New Year, New You" theme. You can find all of the best in healthy ways to live a better life, cooking demos, workout sessions, and other opportunities to get connected into the wellness community here in Lakewood Ranch.

We're also going to have our first ever Teenage Fishing Tournament on Jan. 18 at beautiful Patton Park in Lakewood Ranch. This will be a great opportunity to get LWR



*Keith Pandeloglou*  
Director of LWRCAC

teenagers into nature and experiencing the thrill of fishing with friends in a local, beautiful community park. Thank you to the Lakewood Ranch Anglers' Club for all of their efforts over the past couple years to get this program started. We can't wait to see all of you there!

A new program that we're launching in 2020 will be our new Club Starter program. This will be a great way for community members that are interested in starting an informal group, club or civic organization to have some support from Community Activities in getting formed, finding members, places to meet and helping to get promoted to the community. Stay tuned for more information on this program, and all of our events and activities by signing up

for our weekly "What's Happening" email at our website, [lwrca.org](http://lwrca.org).

## CLUB NEWS

**THE EMPTY NESTERS** want to invite all couples and singles to join them at Town Hall on Lakewood Ranch Boulevard on the first and third Tuesday of each month for fellowship and a potluck lunch. There are no dues and no officers. They are a social group that plans outings each month to plays, wildlife rescues, museums, exhibits and anything else members read about in the paper and wish to visit. The outings always include lunch and lots of

*SEE ACTIVITIES, PAGE 14*

## DECEMBER

1	The Market LWR • LWR Medical Center – 10am-2pm
4	Classic Car Show • LWR Main Street – 5pm-9pm
5	Carriage Rides, Strolling Carolers, Santa Visit • LWR Main Street – 6:30pm-8:30pm
6	Music on Main • LWR Main Street – 6pm-9pm
8	The Market LWR • LWR Medical Center – 10am-2pm
12	Carriage Rides, Strolling Carolers, Santa Visit • LWR Main Street – 6:30pm-8:30pm
13	Holidays Around the Ranch • LWR Main Street – 6pm-9pm
15	The Market LWR • LWR Medical Center – 10am-2pm
19	Carriage Rides, Strolling Carolers, Santa Visit • LWR Main Street – 6:30pm-8:30pm
20	Jingle Run 5k • LWR Main Street – 6pm-9pm
22	The Market LWR • LWR Medical Center – 10am-2pm
22	Chanukah Celebration • LWR Main Street – 5pm-8pm
23	Christmas on Main • LWR Main Street – 4:30pm-8:30pm
29	The Market LWR • LWR Medical Center – 10am-2pm



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# NEW / NEW YEAR / YOU 2020

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**Saturday, January 4**  
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### Speaker Series:

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**9 am** - Stelios Rekkas, MD, FACS, FASMB  
Manatee Weight Loss Center  
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**10 am** - David C. Buck Jr., DO, FACC  
Bradenton Cardiology Center  
*Cardiovascular Benefits of a Whole Food Plant-Based Diet*

**11 am** - Luke Wren  
International Keynote Speaker & Entrepreneur  
*Consciously Stepping Into Your Greatness in 2020:  
Letting Go, Reclaiming Your Identity, and Designing Your Reality*

**12 pm** - Aneta Lundquist  
Owner, Kombucha 221bc  
*Balancing It All: Family/Health/Business*

**1 pm** - Felicia Wagman, MD, OB/GYN  
Lakewood Ranch Medical Group  
*Mindfulness, Connection and Women's Health*

**2 pm** - Kelli Jaco  
Owner, Jaco Boxing and Fitness  
*Body Positivity and Body Image*

### Health and Wellness Expo - 9 am to 3 pm

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS & CLUB CALENDAR

December 2019

**VISIT LAKEWOODRANCHGOV.GOV  
FOR THE LATEST UPDATES**

**December 15 – Third Sunday**

- Ladies' Soccer, soccer fields 1 & 2, 2 p.m.
- Sunday Duplicate Bridge, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**December 16 – Third Monday**

- Handcrafts and More, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Italian American Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Art League Club, Town Hall, noon
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.
- Running Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Jewish Club board meeting, Town Hall, 7 a.m.

**December 17 – Third Tuesday**

- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Italian American Club holiday party, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**December 18 – Third Wednesday**

- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.
- Indivisible LWR, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**December 19 – Third Thursday**

- Thursday Bridge, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.

**December 20 – Third Friday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art League Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, Town Hall, noon

**December 21 – Third Saturday**

- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field #1, 8 a.m.
- Scribes, Town Hall, 10 a.m.

**December 22 – Fourth Sunday**

- Ladies' Soccer, soccer fields 1 & 2, 2 p.m.

**December 23 – Fourth Monday**

- Art League Club, Town Hall, noon
- Spyglass Card Sharks, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**December 24 – Fourth Tuesday**

- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.

**December 25 – Fourth Wednesday**

- Town Hall closed for holiday
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**December 26 – Fourth Thursday**

- Thursday Bridge, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.

**December 27 – Fourth Friday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art League Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, Town Hall, noon

**December 28 – Fourth Saturday**

- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field #1, 8 a.m.

**December 30 – Fifth Monday**

- Art League Club, Town Hall, 12 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.
- Anglers' Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**December 31 – Fifth Tuesday**

- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.



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## GIFT CERTIFICATES, THE PERFECT GIFT!

The holidays are quickly approaching and we all know what comes with that...The stress of finding the perfect gift for a family member, friend, or even a gift for the company holiday party. How often do find yourself waiting until the last minute to buy that gift only to find it sold out? Choosing presents for friends is easier because you know their habits and preferences. But what about the people whom you know less? There is hardly such a person who wants their present to gather dust in the cupboard and get thrown away during cleaning, or given as a gift to someone else. Not only does a present show care, but it also reminds about the person who gave it.

Give your friends the gift of entertainment this holiday season from the Manatee Performing Arts Center, and you can be sure that they will choose a present to their liking and will remember that you care! Gift Certificates are perfect for the upcoming holidays or any occasions and are available in custom denominations. Great seats are still available for upcoming Manatee Players' productions such as Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical, Damn Yankees, Dancing Lessons and Titanic. Don't forget gift certificates can also be used for any of the concerts put on throughout the year, whether that be at the Manatee Performing Arts Center or

The Center of Anna Maria Island. Some of the great performances upcoming in 2020 include STARSHIP Featuring Mickey Thomas, Michael W Smith, The Rat Pack: Together Again and the Atlantic City Boys. Parents and Grandparents will also love the fact that these can be used towards our educational programs. Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr. and Disney's Aladdin Jr. will highlight our spring camp and summer KidzCamp. Gift Certificates can be purchased at the Manatee Performing Arts Center box office located on 502 Third Avenue West Bradenton or call 941- 748-5875.

**To stay up-to-date on upcoming theatrical performances, concerts and events visit our website at [www.ManateePerformingArtsCenter.com](http://www.ManateePerformingArtsCenter.com)**

## HEALTH OF WEALTH

# Compounding Interest

BY HULDAH MATHIS

The holidays are here! December is a time for celebration, for giving, and for loved ones. It is also a time for reflection as we close out not only 2019 but another decade as well. As we look back on both this year, I want to leave you with some financial perspective and some encouragement.

So often human nature makes us doubt that relatively “small” contributions will even add up to much, especially with news headlines that cause some to fear the market and the future altogether.

First, travel back with me to the beginning of this decade. For simplicity's sake, we won't adjust these numbers for taxes or fees and will assume dividends are reinvested. If you had invested \$1,000 in the S&P 500 in January 2010 and then continued to invest \$100/month every month going forward, you would have seen a 13.03% return.

That may not surprise many who have watched their portfolios climb over the past decade. Even more compelling though is the look-



back over 20, 50, or even 100 years. Had you begun to invest in January 2000, your return through November 2019 would still have been 9.08% over a 20-year period that included two recessions!

To make this even more tangible, let's put some dollars to these longer time horizons. Take this start time back 50 years and you would have seen a 10.90% return and a total account value of \$2,173,267, having invested \$60,800. Go all the way back to the beginning of the century and you would have seen a 10.47% return and a value of \$273,426,256 having invested \$120,800. That is staggering. Think for a moment on all that has happened in the world since January 1920 also. These numbers really do bring life to Albert Einstein's quote about compounding interest, “the eighth wonder of the world”!

I hope this will encourage a new grandparent who began gifting this year for a future that will unfold long after their lifetime. I hope this will give perspective to someone who has faithfully given monthly through payroll deduction to the charity they love. I hope this will also challenge at least one person start saving right now.

*Huldah is an LWR resident and certified financial planner with Northwestern Mutual. She is a Florida native and has been serving this community for 12 years.*

FROM PAGE 10

laughs. Call Peggy Walther at (941)907-6066 for more information.

**MAH JONGG AT ONE** is inviting Lakewood Ranch women who play competitive mah jongg to join the group on Wednesdays at 12:45 p.m. All play is by reservation only. Please contact Joan Robbins at (941)929-2995 for further information and rules of play.

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Rex Jensen, second from left, with the Rick Fawley Economic Award of Distinction.

## SMR's Rex Jensen Honored by EDC

Schroeder-Manatee Ranch's President and CEO, Rex Jensen, was honored with the 2019 Rick Fawley Economic Development Award of Distinction by the Bradenton Area Economic Development Corp. The award recognizes an individual's outstanding contributions to moving the local economy forward.

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# AROUND THE RANCH



PHOTOS BY ERIC NALPAS



## Inaugural Mindful Triathlon at Waterside

The premier of the Lakewood Ranch Mindful Triathlon was held Nov. 16 at Waterside, and attended by more than 200 upbeat participants. The triathlon was the first major event to be held at Waterside, The Ranch's Sarasota County village.

The community-wide triathlon experience focused on health and wellness, and consisted of a 5K run (or walk), followed by 60 minutes of yoga, and ended with a 20-minute meditation session. The 5K portion wound through trails and

scenic views of the two new neighborhoods of LakeHouse Cove and Shoreview. The yoga and meditation took place on the lawn of LakeHouse Cove's amenity center, with a picturesque and calming lakeside view.

There was also a vendor village, music, and food and drink. The Mindful Triathlon benefitted the Brain Health Initiative, which strives to make long-lasting impacts on brain health for the Florida Gulf Coast and beyond.





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## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

DECEMBER 19, 2019 – JANUARY 16, 2020

Please note that all meetings will be held at Town Hall unless otherwise specified.

December 23	3:00 p.m.	Augusta/Oakmont Neighborhood Committee Meeting 907-3448
	5:00 p.m.	SRVA Board Meeting 907-0202
December 30	3:00 p.m.	CEVA Board Meeting 907-0202
January 2	3:00 p.m.	CEVA Restrictions Revision 907-0202
January 6	5:00 p.m.	GBVA Compliance Meeting 907-0202
	7:00 p.m.	CDD 4 Safety Workshop/GBVA Safety Committee 907-0202
January 8	1:00 p.m.	Country Club Modifications 907-0202
	3:00 p.m.	Edgewater Modifications 907-0202
January 13	9:00 p.m.	CCD 6 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
January 14	8:00 a.m.	IDA Board Meeting 907-0202
	8:30 a.m.	SRVA Modifications 907-0202
	10:00 a.m.	CDD 1 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	1:00 p.m.	CDD 2 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	2:30 p.m.	CDD 5 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
January 15	10:00 AM	CDD 4 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	10:15 AM	CDD 4 Board Meeting 907-0202
	2:30 PM	GBVA Restrictions Revision Meeting 907-0202
	4:00 PM	GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
	4:00 PM	Mizner Reserve Neighborhood Meeting 373-3898
	6:00 PM	GBVA Board Meeting 907-0202
January 16	8:30 AM	CDD 1 Board Meeting 907-0202
	9:00 AM	CDD 2 Board Meeting 907-0202
	9:30 AM	CDD 5 Board Meeting 907-0202
	11:00 AM	CDD 6 Board Meeting 907-0202

*\*Meeting dates and times are subject to change*

FROM PAGE 6

### FOOD BANK BARRELS

Barrels are set up in the lobby of Town Hall South to accept non-perishable food donations for the hungry. The barrels will be in place through the holidays.

### SUPER SPEEDERS BEWARE

Radar speed detectors have been installed in District 6. Monitoring has caught one driver motoring through the area at speeds in excess of 50 mph. Residents have noted the license plate of the offending vehicle and have reported it to District officials. The District is taking steps to identify the driver in order to put a stop to this dangerous activity.

### CDD BOARD MEETING CANCELLATIONS FOR DECEMBER

The IDA board, as well as all Lakewood Ranch CDD boards, have cancelled their scheduled December meetings.

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SF-1867304

# LWRBA

## LAKEWOOD RANCH BUSINESS ALLIANCE

The Lakewood Ranch Business Alliance (LWRBA) is a business organization committed to connecting, educating and strengthening the business community in the Lakewood Ranch region. The LWRBA's 750+ member businesses reflect a wide variety of small and large businesses across all industries in and around Lakewood Ranch. More information is available online at [www.LWRBA.org](http://www.LWRBA.org).

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
(Please visit [www.LWRBA.org](http://www.LWRBA.org) to sign up for these events.)

**January Networking Social at Nathan Benderson Rowing Tower**  
**Wednesday, January 8**  
5-7 p.m.  
Nathan Benderson Rowing Tower, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle  
Free for members; \$15 non-members

Join us as we kick off the year with our first networking social at the Nathan Benderson rowing finish tower. Come connect with fellow Alliance members and enjoy commanding views of Nathan Benderson Park and surrounding countryside. Enjoy complimentary appetizers and a cash bar.

**Alliance LEADS: 2020 Vision - Empowered to Succeed**  
**Wednesday, January 15**

7:30-9 a.m.  
Keiser University, 6151 Lake Osprey Drive  
**\$10 members; \$20 non-members**

Join us as we kick off the new year with an Alliance LEADS (Leadership, Education, Awareness, Development, Skills) panel discussion about wellness. Networking and coffee start at 7:30 a.m. and presentation begins at 8 a.m.

**YLA Social at PGA Tour Superstore**  
**Thursday, January 23**  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
PGA Tour Superstore, 8563 Cooper Creek Blvd.  
Free for YLA members and non-members

Kick off the new year at the Lakewood Ranch Young Leaders Alliance January Social! Join us for a night of networking at the brand-new PGA Tour Superstore. This is a great opportunity to start off the new year with some new connections. Be sure to bring a friend!

**2020 Annual Membership Luncheon**  
**Friday, January 31**  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
The Grove, 10670 Boardwalk Loop  
**\$37 members; \$47 non-members**

See what's in store for the Alliance in the coming year. Our 2020 annual membership luncheon will honor our outgoing board members and reflect on the successes of the past year, as well as introduce the 2020 board of directors.

## December Programs at Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch

Please note that all events take place at The Chabad House located on 5712 Lorraine Road, Lakewood Ranch, unless otherwise noted.

**Torah Studies**  
**Saturdays, 9-9:30 a.m.**  
Participate in a fascinating class on the Torah portion of the week. Discover the mystical meanings and lessons behind ancient stories. Admission is free.

**Weekly Shabbat Services**  
**Friday night, 7 p.m.; Saturday mornings, 9:30 a.m., Shabbat Kiddush at noon**  
Enjoy warm, family-friendly services at The Chabad House. Saturday morning services are followed by a delicious buffet Kiddush.

**Talmud classes**  
**Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.**  
Explore the Talmud and its laws in its original text. No prior knowledge of the Talmud or Hebrew is necessary. Book fee: \$45.

For more information on any of the ongoing events, call Rabbi Mendy Bukiet at (941)752-3030 or e-mail [rabbib@chabadofbradenton.com](mailto:rabbib@chabadofbradenton.com).

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# LWR Knights Hit a Triple Whammy for Charities

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
Community Correspondent

There is a certain amount of notoriety being created in the environs of Our Lady of the Angels Church, at the corner of State Road 70 and White Eagle Boulevard. Other than serving as the home for the parish, the church buildings also house meeting spaces for a number of organizations, one of the more significant ones being the Knights of Columbus-Saints Cosmas and Damian Council #13341.

This group of over 200 men from in and around Greater Lakewood Ranch has taken to heart the Knights motto: "In Service to One - In Service to All." Last year, this Council was awarded the Council of the Year award for the entire State of Florida, in recognition of their achievements in service. Some of their activities have included collecting food for the St. Joseph's Food Bank on the west side of Bradenton, manning a booth at the Hunsader Farms Pumpkin Festival to raise money for Special Olympics, and purchasing winter jackets for dozens of kids who might otherwise not have a warm jacket to wear to school when winter winds start to blow across Florida.

This year, however, the Knights of Council #13341 have taken on a trio of projects as part of their "Culture of Life" effort – projects which are ushering a new era of service to the community.

First of all, the Knights have entered into a partnership with Tidewell Hospice to assist in providing end-of-life services for patients who are receiving hospice care not only in Tidewell's own facilities, but also in their own homes. Volunteer Knights are going through training to enable them to provide companionship for their terminally ill neighbors, and to help out with respite care for family caregivers so that they can "do their own thing" for even a short period of time spent away from the family members for whom they are caring.

The Knights also are going through a very special set of training sessions to enable them to provide care and recognition for military veterans at the end of their lives. Some of these veterans have outlived their family members, or their friends and family may live in other parts of the country, so the presence of these specially trained Knights means a



great deal to them in their final days. One of the services provided by the Tidewell-trained Knights is a special "pinning ceremony," during which the veteran is presented with a special recognition pin for his or her service to our Country. Only Knights who are themselves veterans can participate in this solemn ceremony.

Second, the Knights have partnered with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Foundation in St. Petersburg to assist in raising money to help defray the expenses of running the only children's hospital in the Johns Hopkins Group.

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital serves 17 counties in Florida. They have an outpatient center in Sarasota on Clark Road, in addition to their main hospital in St. Pete. They also provide all of the clinical care at the IMG Academy. The main hospital, according to Dee Dee Fusco, of the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Foundation, treats kids who are "the sickest of the sick," and is the only acute care facility specifically for children in the area. They have a clinic for juvenile diabetes, and specialize in cancer treatment for

children. Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital also functions as the labor and delivery unit for Bayfront Medical Center. Seventy percent of parents whose children are admitted to All Children's Hospital lack the ability to pay for the very costly treatment which their children are receiving, and that's where the fundraising comes in, with \$18-20 million a year being raised to fund the care for these sick kids.

So, what did the Knights do? They decided to capitalize on things loved by almost all guys (and girls, for that matter) – cars, music, and food.

At the end of September, the Knights held a "car show cookout" on the grounds of Our Lady of the Angels, to benefit the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Foundation. In the spirit of "if you show the cars, the people will come," cars of all sorts of years, makes and models flooded into the Our Lady of the Angels parking lot, including old and new Corvettes, classic '55, '56, and '57 Chevys, a '55 Ford Thunderbird, a couple of early '50s Ford sedans, and a real rarity – a genuine 1960 Edsel – one of the last few produced before Ford pulled the plug on that car line

only weeks after the start of production. Others included a Dodge Viper, a "woody" station wagon that carried two surfboards on its roof, and a Plymouth Road Runner convertible. Camaros, Mustangs, a 'Cuda, and at least two "Plum Crazy" Dodge Challengers were on display as well. Lots of items, from chicken dinners to buckets of car washing products, were raffled off during the show. There was also music, with dancing, and of course, food!

The third agency to benefit from fundraising by our Lakewood Ranch Knights is the My Choice Pregnancy Center in Sarasota, a resource for women who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy. This facility provides pregnancy tests, relationship counseling, and education in birthing, pregnancy, parenting, and adoption. They also provide maternity clothing, formula, diapers, baby furniture, etc., for women who may not be able to afford these items. The Center has a thrift shop attached to its center, but more funds are always needed.

So, what did our Knights do to help? They held an event billed as "Knight Fever – the Laps for Life Ball," in cooperation with Sarasota Knights Council #3358, at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Fruitville Road. This semi-formal event included a few words from attendee Bishop Frank Dewane of the Diocese of Venice, who gave high praise to the contribution of our Lakewood Ranch Knights. "Everybody is finding out who these guys are!" Dewane said.

The ball featured a DJ, a silent auction, lots of food, and lots of fun. The auction items ranged from wine baskets to a set of garden tools, and from a pet basket to paintings by local artists. After ticket sales and proceeds from the auction, the Laps for Life Ball raised \$8,000 for My Choice.

What else are these guys working on? Never stopping their charitable work, as if these three activities weren't enough, the Lakewood Ranch Knights have also raised money to help fund a mobile medical care van, which has already been custom-built, and which will be dedicated and put into service later this year.

So, our Lakewood Ranch Knights continue to contribute to the community, continuing the tradition of service started by their founder, Father Michael McGivney, over a hundred years ago.



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PHOTOS BY ERIC NALPAS



## The Market At LWR In Full Swing

The Market at Lakewood Ranch, the community's popular farmers' market, is enjoying large crowds for its third season. This is the first year for its new day, time and location: Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Lakewood Ranch Medical Center.

"This market season is bigger and better than ever," said Morgan Bettes, manager of The Market. "In addition to shopping local, the community can enjoy complimentary yoga by The Yoga Shack each Sunday morning, chef demonstrations, a rock-climbing wall, and music, among other things."

Shoppers will still find the same great vendors at The Market as well as many new ones, Bettes said. Numerous products are available from more than 60 vendors, including produce, dairy, eggs, fresh bread and baked goods, honey, spices and rubs, prepared foods, coffee, and more. There are also lotions, candles, soaps, and jewelry, as well as knife sharpening.

Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee has been selected as The Market's non-profit partner for the season. Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate.

For more information visit [themarketLWR.com](http://themarketLWR.com).



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## Suncoast Food and Wine Fest Pleases Again

The Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch's 18th annual Suncoast Food and Wine Fest, an extravaganza of the area's best food and wine, was blessed with another huge crowd. More than 35 restaurants participated, and more than 100 wines from across the world were sampled.

This is the second year that the festival was held at the Premier Sports Campus in Lakewood Ranch, where it moved after years at the Sarasota Polo Club. The event, whose tagline is "You Will Never Have So Much Fun Doing So Much Good," provides financial assistance to many of the charitable organizations within Sarasota and Manatee counties. To date, the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch has given more than \$1.8 million dollars from festival proceeds to charity.



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## SPRING 2020 RECREATION PROGRAM

### 2020 SPRING SCHEDULE

Practices Begin: End of February  
Games Begin: End of March  
Saturday Morning Games  
Season Ends: 5/9/2020 (No Games 4/25/2020)

### 10 WEEK SEASON DETAILS

BOYS & GIRLS AGES 4 - 14  
Program Costs: \$125  
Fall Season Returning Players: \$115

## CAMP PROGRAMS

### SKILLS ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

6 Sessions: \$50  
Begins Monday, 3/23/2020  
Every Monday 6:30pm - 7:30pm  
Open to players born in 2010 - 2013 ONLY

### SPRING BREAK CAMP

3/16/2020 - 3/20/2020  
Cost - Full Day: \$175 • Half Day: \$100  
T-shirt included

## REGISTER TODAY!

[WWW.CHARGERSSC.COM/LWR-REC](http://WWW.CHARGERSSC.COM/LWR-REC)  
OR EMAIL [LWRRECREATION@CHARGERSOCCER.COM](mailto:LWRRECREATION@CHARGERSOCCER.COM)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS  
VISIT US ONLINE OR EMAIL US

**COME BE A PART OF THE BEST GAME!**



**Gettel**  
**TOYOTA**  
of Lakewood



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

PROGRAM IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH MANATEE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

# Join the Young at Heart!

*"We are always the same age inside."  
- Gertrude Stein*



*Daybreak* Adult Day Center is a safe, secure environment designed to meet the social, recreational, and therapeutic needs of older adults who live at home with a loved one but cannot be left alone while their caregiver works or attends to other responsibilities.

- *Licensed, safe, and secure day center*
- *Emotional support*
- *Promotion of physical and mental well-being*
- *Nutritious, hot lunch and healthy snacks*
- *Supervised recreational activities*
- *Registered nurse on premises*

Transportation services may be available.



A program of Meals on Wheels PLUS

Please Call  
for a Tour of Our Center  
**(941) 748-3001**

**Open Monday Through Friday**

10920 East State Road 70, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

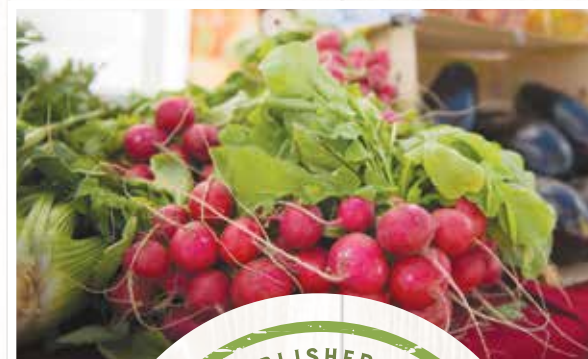
THE FARMERS' MARKET FOR THE ENTIRE LAKEWOOD RANCH REGION

JOIN US FOR OUR BEST SEASON YET | BRING THIS AD FOR *Free Market Swag!*

# YOUR NEW SUNDAY TRADITION

50+ LOCAL VENDORS,  
WEEKLY CHEF DEMOS  
& MORNING YOGA

FRESH MARKET PRODUCE • DAIRY  
EGGS • SPICES & RUBS • HONEY  
FRESH BREADS • BAKED GOODS  
PREPARED FOODS & MORE



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AT THE LAKEWOOD RANCH MEDICAL CENTER  
NOVEMBER 3RD-APRIL 26TH

8330 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard • Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR EVENT INFO | [THEMARKETLWR.COM](http://THEMARKETLWR.COM)

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# EarthBox "Buy One, Give One" Event And Donation Ceremony At McNeal Elementary School



PHOTOS BY ERIC NALPAS

Lakewood Ranch, The Junior League of Manatee County, Earth Fare, and EarthBox Garden Center partnered with the School District of Manatee County's Food and Nutrition Services Department on a "One Garden at a Time" event, which was hosted at The Market at Lakewood Ranch on Nov. 17. "One Garden at a Time" is a healthy eating initiative for local schools, encouraging healthy eating habits from a young age by introducing a food-to-fork mindset.

Participants were invited to "buy one, give one" with pickup at The Market. They attended a live EarthBox planting demonstration and afterwards, took their boxes home. For each EarthBox purchased, a box was donated to McNeal, Freedom, Myakka, Willis or Braden River elementary schools. More than 75 boxes were purchased and donated. Also, gift cards to the EarthBox Garden Center will be given to each benefiting schools to purchase additional supplies and plants for their garden.

A special EarthBox donation ceremony was held at McNeal Elementary School on Nov. 22. The Junior League of Manatee County presented McNeal Elementary with the donated EarthBoxes and students had the opportunity to plant them, with the EarthBox group conducting a demonstration for the students. The Food and Nutrition Services Department will provide state standard curriculum based on nutrition education in correlation with the EarthBoxes.



## Want to Save Water in Your Landscape?

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Get the information you need on:

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- ◆ Conserving natural resources
- ◆ Improving the health of your landscape
- ◆ Learning how to plant the right plant in the right place
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The **ONLY** ophthalmology practice in  
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At Coastal Eye Institute, our board-certified medical doctors use advanced technology to improve your sight, including cutting-edge laser surgery for cataracts, macular degeneration, vision correction (LASIK) and diabetic eye disease. We have served Manatee County since 1964 and remain the premier ophthalmology practice on the Gulf Coast of Florida uniquely focused on medical and surgical eye care.



Coastal Eye Institute is conveniently located across from Lakewood Ranch Medical Center at 6310 Health Park Way, Suite 340, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

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Robert P. Sambursky, M.D. | Pooja Khator, M.D. | Allison V. Menezes, M.D.  
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with additional fellowship training in all areas of  
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- Macular Degeneration
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- Neuro-Ophthalmology
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- Diabetic Eye Disease

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Payments are based on 36 month AFS lease. Leases are based on 7500 miles per year. \$3000 due at signing on the 2019 LINCOLN MKC PREMIER FWD, The 2019 LINCOLN MKZ PREMIERE FWD. \$3500 due at signing for the 2019 LINCOLN NAUTILUS PREMIER FWD. \$5000 due at signing for the 2020 LINCOLN AVIATOR. Price's and payments include either owner loyalty or competitive make customer cash. Security deposit waived. Payments exclude taxes, tags and state / lease fees. Price's exclude taxes, tags and \$495 delivery fee. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Offer expires 12/31/2019.



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