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THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF LAKEWOOD RANCH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018



**THE NATURE OF FLORIDA LIVING** Sandhill cranes are part of what makes Lakewood Ranch a magical place in which to live. See more things that your neighbors feel make the Ranch incredible on pages 16-17.

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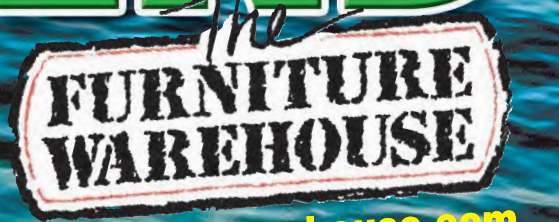
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### Resident Orientation Sessions Scheduled

Lakewood Ranch resident orientation sessions are scheduled through November, and will cover local, special purpose governments, or community development districts (CDDs); the Inter-District Authority (IDA), and the homeowners' associations. Residents will learn how each of these entities operate and how they all work together to make Lakewood Ranch the best community to call home. Town Hall staff is eager to share this information with residents

the opportunity to ask questions of staff. Those interested should RSVP to Kay DePaolo at (941)907-0202 or via e-mail at kay.depaolo@lwrtownhall.com. The dates of the two-hour informational sessions are listed below. All sessions are held at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall, 8175 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., LWR.

**2018 RESIDENT ORIENTATION DATES**  
Wednesday, November 7, from 4 to 6 p.m.



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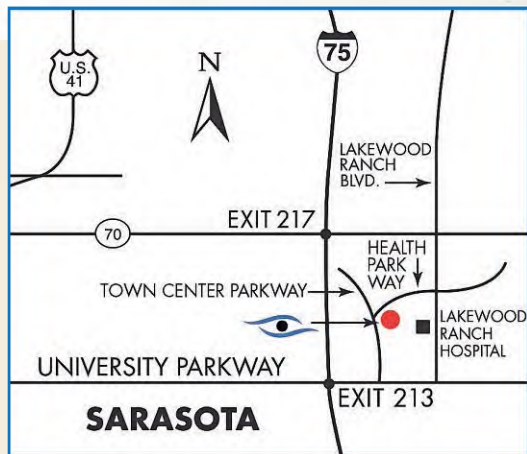




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## Florida Cancer Specialists Breaks Ground In Lakewood Ranch

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
Community Correspondent

The area of Lakewood Ranch north of State Road 70 and east of Lakewood Ranch Boulevard has been experiencing a building boom lately. A new shopping center has risen on that corner, featuring Earth Fare, a unique barber shop, and numerous other businesses.

But one of the more remarkable features of the area is the development located along Rangeland Parkway east of Lakewood Ranch Boulevard, directly behind and east of the shopping center.

First came the new Intercoastal Medical building on the northeast corner of Rangeland Parkway and Lakewood Ranch Boulevard, followed by a second Intercoastal building on Rangeland Parkway, The Sheridan Senior Living residence, a new medical supply warehouse and office space for Mercedes Medical, and at the end of July, ground was broken for a new location for the Lakewood Ranch offices and patient care facility of Florida Cancer Specialists.

Currently, Florida Cancer Specialists and Research Institute occupies office space on Health Park Way in the Ranch, but its new building being constructed on Rangeland Parkway will provide not only for lots more room for doctors' offices and patient treatment areas, but will enable their patients to access Florida Cancer Specialists' facility without having to go through another larger space, as they will occupy their own building, making for a more patient-friendly experience.

Chief Marketing and Sales Officer Shelly Glenn opened the groundbreaking ceremony by introducing a number of community leaders who were present for the ceremony, representing the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, the American Cancer Society, Team Tony, Tidewell Hospice, and the Suncoast Blood Bank, to name a few.

Brad Precht, CEO of Florida Cancer Specialists, and a 30-year veteran in the health care administration business, then took the opportunity to give the invited guests and staff members a rundown on some of the accomplishments of Florida Cancer Specialists. Precht has a background in business administration and accounting, has volunteered with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, and, in 2016-'17 was the chairman of the American Cancer Society's "CEOs Against Cancer" initiative.

Florida Cancer Specialists was founded in 1984 to provide oncology and hematology services to the patients served by their local offices and clinics.

In 2009, when Brad Precht took over as the head of the organization, Florida Cancer Specialists had 17 locations and 45 doctors practicing in those locations.

Now, there are more than 220 doctors practicing in almost 100 locations, 155 of whom are partners in the business. In addition to doctors, Florida Cancer Specialists employs more than 180 nurse practitioners and physicians' assistants.

On the west coast of the state, Florida Cancer Specialists offices are located from Naples in the south, to Tallahassee in the north, and around the Orlando area. On the east coast, offices can be found from Jacksonville in the north, to Palm Beach County in the south.

Florida Cancer Specialists has become the largest independent medical oncology/hematology



*Pictured, from left: Brad Precht, CEO, FCS; and doctors Fadi Kayali, Janice F. Eakle, Miguel Pelayo, and Amir Harandi*



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# CDD Boards Approve Fiscal 2019 Budgets

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
Community Correspondent

The various Lakewood Ranch Community Development District (CDD) boards of supervisors approved their respective district budgets, as well as the assessment rolls for each district, at their August meeting.

As usual, most of the district budgets reflected a small increase in assessments, although the District 6 fiscal 2019 budget will bring a welcome decrease in assessments of approximately \$441 per residence in that district. As Jim Rogoze, chairman of the District 6 board of supervisors has noted, the District took the step of increasing its budget (and assessments) for the previous fiscal year in order to pay for items the costs of which would have come due in future years anyway, thus paving the way for the decrease in this next fiscal year's budget.

The fiscal 2019 budget for District 2 drew a certain amount of criticism from a larger than normal group of residents - primarily condo residents - from that District who attended the budget approval session on Aug. 16. The CDD assessments for District 2 residents will go up between \$112 and \$397. Some of the main reasons for the larger increases for District 2 were listed by finance director Steve Zielinski as including a lack of sufficient reserve dollars (this item was increased by 5.82%), increases in shared expenses, larger amounts being budgeted for irrigation water usage, gatehouse expense increases, and ongoing storm drain inlet repairs (this item increased by 7.08%).

There is also an item of \$50,000 in the District 2, 2019 budget to pay for efforts to combat midge flies. It was noted during the discussion that although the bottom of Lake Uihlein is owned by District 2, the water itself is owned by SMR and Braden River Utilities, and currently SMR is not involved in any efforts to control the midge flies.

A discussion took place during the District 2 meeting regarding the methodology used to determine assessments.

In April of 2018, the District hired the consulting firm Rizzetta and Company (which has consulted with 120 community development districts across Florida) to review the assessment methodology. The methodology was established after a study by Severn Trent in 1995, in order to prepare for the repayment of infrastructure bonds, as well as capital improvements

and normal maintenance of facilities over time. The District came under control of the residents in 2004.

Their report, completed in June of this year, and discussed by Scott Brizendine of Rizzetta at the August board meeting, concluded that there was no need to make changes in the assessment methodology, and that the methodology was consistent with Florida law.

The methodology includes several factors, including EDUs (equivalent dwelling units). According to Zielinski, EDUs are factored into the assessments on an equal basis, whether large or small, and EDUs are used only to determine assessments for common expenses, such as administrative salaries. With regard to commercial properties, Zielinski noted that 2,250 square feet of commercial space is considered as one EDU, and over 10,000 square feet would be considered as 4-5 EDUs.

Zielinski noted that there are other factors, including square footage of structures, and "trips" (an exercise in quantifying the approximate number of times that condo residents, for example, use common district roads to get from their neighborhoods to other areas of the district).

Resident William Latham of Miramar noted that his condo area has its own roads, and that residents of the rest of District 2 use those roads as "cut-throughs."

A number of concerned residents, primarily from the condominium communities in the District, apparently were of the opinion that their communities were being assessed at a rate they felt resulted in the condo owners subsidizing the owners of single-family homes in the District.

Current District 2 supervisor Jerry Twiggs was the dissenting vote cast as part of the budget approval process, stating that he had no knowledge of the 1995 methodology report.

The assessment methodology process will be revisited in meetings starting in October.

#### CELL PHONE SERVICE

Executive Director Anne Ross reported that there is now in place a memo of understanding between Lakewood Ranch and USA/CRAN, the cell tower provider selected to install new towers in the community. This memo has been approved by the district boards, and it is now up to USA/CRAN to entice at least two major

SEE CDD, PAGE 20



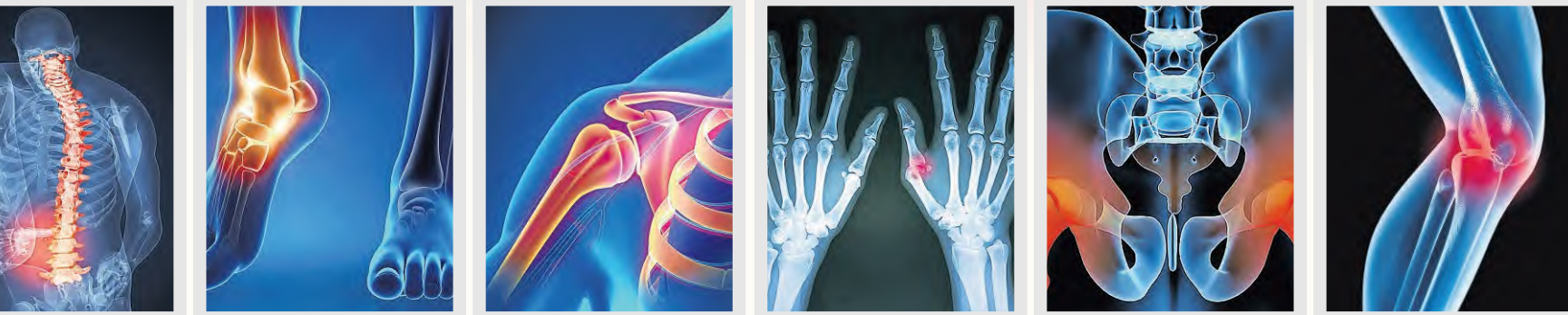
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# LAKEWOOD RANCH COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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



With impressive amenities around every corner and growing businesses, it's easy to see how this master-planned community has scaled to the second fastest growing in the nation!

For new residents, we offer a few great opportunities for you to get engaged and learn about your new community.

If you're eager to get to know, get engaged, and get involved with your new community, then join us at our upcoming New Resident Social from 4-5 p.m. Oct. 2. This event is free for residents. Socialize with other new residents and learn about your new community! Reserve your spot for free by visiting our website.

Another way to get engaged in the community is at our upcoming Club Day from 5-8 p.m. Oct. 19 on Lakewood Main Street, in conjunction with the annual Lakewood Ranch Block Party. Say hello to all the friendly faces from our over 50 active clubs in the community!

Stay up to date with all things "Happening in the Ranch" by joining our mailing list. Visit [lwrcac.com](http://lwrcac.com) to sign up!

## CLUB NEWS

**THE EMPTY NESTERS OF LAKEWOOD RANCH** would like both couples and singles to join us at Town Hall on the first and third Tuesday of the month for fellowship. Bring your lunch (coffee provided), enjoy a good time and sign up for activities such as Rays games, touring the Sarasota Opera House, or visiting the backstage and art tour of the Van Wezel. We would love to have you join us. For more information, call Peggy Walther at (941)907-6066 or e-mail [mfwalther@verizon.net](mailto:mfwalther@verizon.net).

**THE LAKEWOOD RANCH COUPLES GOURMET DINNER CLUB** announces its 2018-'19 season of events. If you love to entertain in your home, contribute to five-star dinners prepared by members and enjoy the friendship of other couples from LWR, consider joining the LWR Couples Gourmet Dinner Club. The Club recently announced the themes and dates for



Keith Pandeloglou  
Director of LWRCAC



its 2018-'19 season.

Couples meet monthly from November through April at members' homes for small group dinners of a specified theme

with an "all member" holiday buffet dinner in December.

Themes for the monthly dinners this season include: "Bobby Flay Grill Night," the Alpine region, farm-to-table, Provence re-

gion of France and "Low Country South" - USA. If interested in learning more, please contact the club's coordinator, Nancy Wozniak, at [wozfam24@aol.com](mailto:wozfam24@aol.com) or (941)907-3879.

**THE LAKEWOOD RANCH DEMOCRATIC CLUB** will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 18 and Nov. 15 at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall for its monthly meetings. They will also be on Main Street for the Lakewood Ranch Community Activities annual Club Day on Oct. 19. Please check [www.lwrdems.com](http://www.lwrdems.com) for program details.

**THE LAKEWOOD RANCH GARDEN CLUB** will carpool to Classic Caladiums (1315 S.R. 64 West, Avon Park, Fla.) and depart from Lakewood Ranch Town Hall at 7:40 a.m. on Sept. 26, returning at 1 p.m. Visit this amazing 850-acre farm dedicated to the production of a truly outstanding collection of caladiums. The farm has now recovered from last year's hurricane damage and staff members will be providing tours during the last week of September, so hopefully many of you can join us. See their website, [www.classicaladiums.com](http://www.classicaladiums.com), for a preview of their gorgeous displays. Deadline for signup is Sept. 20, 2018. Cost: no fee for the tour, but they are providing lunches for \$12. Anyone is invited to join the LWR Garden Club. Contact Cheryl Scheid at (941)362-2785 to be part of our group.

They are also hosting the semi-annual Lakewood Ranch Community Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 3 for the Summerfield, Riverwalk and Greenbrook neighborhoods in

## 2018 Lakewood Ranch Calendar of Events

<b>October 19</b>	Club Day	LWR Main Street
<b>October 26</b>	Boo Fest	LWR Main Street
<b>December 14</b>	Holidays Around the Ranch	LWR Main Street

Lakewood Ranch. Residents of these neighborhoods must register with Lakewood Ranch Town Hall and pay a \$5 fee.

**LAKEWOOD RANCH PICKLEBALL CLUB** hosts free open play at 5 p.m. Fridays of each week at the Lakewood Ranch school courts. Please join us for some pickleball fun. New members are welcome, so bring your friends. Beginner/novice clinics are the first and third Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m.

The club has started an inter-club summer league with six teams playing matches through September. Teams and players will be expanding in October. For information, contact Robert Haskin at [rahaskin27@gmail.com](mailto:rahaskin27@gmail.com).

**THE LAKEWOOD RANCH WINE CLUB** will be kicking off the new season at 7 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. If you are interested in trying some new wines and meeting some fellow wine lovers, then this club is for

you. We meet once a month, one of the members presents five wines in a very informal setting, and we have some lively discussions and a lot of fun. Whether you are just beginning your wine exploration or are a seasoned oenophile, you will enjoy this club! For details and/or to sign up please contact Corrine Wagner at (941)313-4982 or [corrine@wagners4.com](mailto:corrine@wagners4.com). As a backup, contact Ron Magee at (571)437-8495 or [oxymoron46@verizon.net](mailto:oxymoron46@verizon.net).

**LAKEWOOD RANCH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB** will hold its monthly meeting Oct. 17. The October selection is "Townie," by Andre Dubus III. Arrive at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall at 1 p.m. to meet and greet, with book discussion starting at 1:30 p.m. and lasting for an hour.

**SHANTIYOGA** meets Fridays from 10-11 a.m. at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. Enjoy peaceful yoga practice as learned from yogis in India, with time for pranayama and meditation.

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# What's A CDD? New Residents Attend Orientation At Town Hall

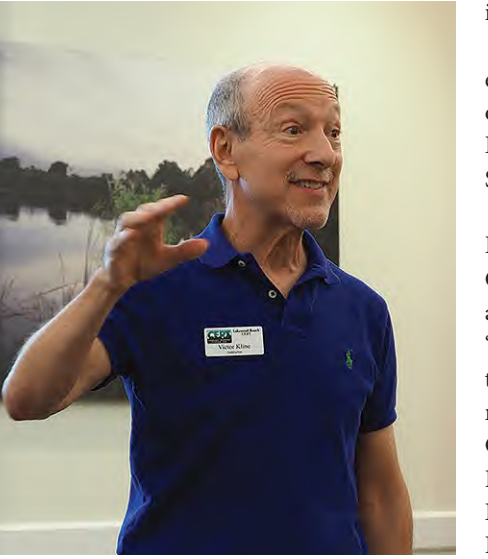
BY ERNIE SOLLER, Community Correspondent

Consider that many people moving to a new residence in Lakewood Ranch might be from somewhere other than Florida, meaning that there are certain things new residents need to be aware of, like just what constitutes a Community Development District, or CDD, for example.

In order to provide a learning experience for new residents, the friendly folks at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall periodically schedule new resident orientations. These sessions are timed to happen about every two-to-three months, in order to educate new residents on many of the new things and experiences that they may encounter as residents of Lakewood Ranch, as well as to clear up any misconceptions which they might have.

The latest orientation took place in July at Town Hall.

Each new resident was given a bag containing a folder with a whole stack of informational pamphlets, with topics ranging from how to deal with the presence of alligators as part of the



Victor Kline of LWR CERT addresses residents at Town Hall. PHOTO BY ERNIE SOLLER

“normal” everyday landscape in Florida, to discussions on irrigation, government functions, Community Activities, Community Emergency Response Teams, and so on. Manatee County’s Disaster Planning Guide was also included. There was also a small stack of goodies included

in the bag, such as writing pads and “chip clips.” The packets also included a loose-leaf pocket sheet containing the business cards of many of Lakewood Ranch’s officials, from Executive Director Anne Ross, to Chief Financial Officer Steve Zielinski, to operations officials.

After introductions by Executive Director Ross, the first speaker was Keith Pandeloglou, Community Activities director, who talked about the various opportunities for, shall we say, “fun and games” in Lakewood Ranch, noting the large number of clubs (over 50) in the community, and the various events put on by the Community Activities folks, such as the Boo Fest at Halloween, the Irish-Celtic Festival, the Eggstravaganza in the spring, and the Tribute to Heroes Parade at Memorial Day.

Pandeloglou let the new residents know that Club Day would take place at Main Street on Oct. 19 this year, and added that, “If you don’t see a club for you – tell us!”

Next up was Victor Kline, director of the Lakewood Ranch Emergency Response Team, or CERT.

Kline gave a short history of CERT, not-

ing that it got started in the mid-1990s, with a view toward providing response teams to combat the effects of disasters such as wild-fires, earthquakes, etc., and was picked up by FEMA as part of their “Resilient Communities” program.

The Lakewood Ranch CERT team got its start in 2006, and is dedicated to training volunteers to deal with disasters, including what to do during an event such a hurricane or, for that matter, a terrorist attack. The 250 volunteers of the Lakewood Ranch C.E.R.T. team learn first aid, disaster psychology, and such things as how to harden your home against hurricane damage.

Kline also commented on the subject of evacuation, noting that families need to decide whether to evacuate to a shelter, or whether they will leave the area. He noted that in the event of a disaster, not all shelters may be open, and those which are open may not accept residents’ pets. He also noted that it is important to have with you copies of your prescriptions, should you need to leave. Manatee County, Kline said,

SEE ORIENTATION, PAGE 13

FROM PAGE 12  
only has 20 ambulances in the county – covering over 400 square miles of area, and informed the attendees that even hospitals may have to be evacuated, as Manatee Memorial is in a flood zone!

A little bit of area history followed, to give new residents a feel for the area where they now live. The area now known as Lakewood Ranch was purchased by John Schroeder in 1905, and sold to the Uihlein family of Schlitz beer fame, in 1922. Residential planning began in 1983, and the first village in Lakewood Ranch, Summerfield, was begun in 1994. In 1997 the Country Club opened.

As far as government is concerned, Lakewood Ranch is located in both unincorporated Manatee and Sarasota counties. The Community Development District area – Districts 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 – are resident-controlled governmental entities, while the remainder of Lakewood Ranch, called the “Stewardship District,” is managed by the staff of Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, the developer of Lakewood Ranch, until such a time when the population level reaches a point at which the residents will have control.

Generally, the CDD areas have a higher level of services, paid for by CDD assessments, than the ordinary services provided to the unincorporated areas of the county. CDD services and responsibilities may differ by district.

For example, the roads in the Country Club area are gated, and are maintained by the CDD (even though public access is allowed, since the bonds to pay for the road

construction came from public funds), while the roads in districts 1 and 4 are maintained by Manatee County and are public roads. The Homeowner Associations generally deal with neighborhood issues.

The Inter District Authority, or IDA, takes care of administrative functions for the CDDs, and contracts with outside providers for services.

The CDD and IDA meetings are considered government meetings under Florida law, and as such are governed by the Florida Sunshine Law, meaning that their meetings must be open to the public, and their records are public.

Operations Director Paul Chetlain outlined the responsibilities of his department for the new residents. He noted that Operations is responsible for landscaping in the common areas throughout all the CDDs, and his 20 staff members oversee items such as the 315 storm water retention ponds in the community and maintain the guardhouses and gates for those neighborhoods which have restricted gate access.

Operations is also responsible for operation and maintenance of the controllers, valves and heads of the irrigation water system.

Community Associations Director Gary Glass discussed the functions of the community’s HOAs (homeowner associations), noting that their operations are governed by Florida Statute #720. In closing, Glass asked the new residents to call the Town Hall and check if they had questions!



Pictured sitting, from left: Susan Garbett, Judy Zivic, Carol Shatoff, Adele Tannenbaum, Nadia Ritter, Sharyn Nassau, and Beth Cooper. Standing: Saranee Newman and Sandi Kligman.

## Shabbat Services Planned

An enthusiastic group of Temple Beth Sholom members, who live in Lakewood Ranch, met at the home of Saranee Newman to plan five Friday night Shabbat services for the 2018-2019 “season.” Services will be held at The Windsor in Lakewood Ranch and will be led by cantors Aaron Marcus and Neil Newman; Sharon Strassfeld, and rabbi Aviva Berg and Mimi Wiesel.

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|---|--|

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**GOVERNMENT MEETINGS**

September 19, 2018 – October 16, 2018  
Please note that all meetings will be held at Town Hall unless otherwise specified.

<b>September 19</b>	10 a.m. CDD 4 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202 10:15 a.m. CDD 4 Board Meeting 907-0202 2:30 p.m. GBVA Restrictions Revision Meeting 907-0202 4 p.m. GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202 4 p.m. Mizner Reserve Neighborhood Committee Mtg. 373-3898 6 p.m. GBVA Board Meeting 907-0202 7 p.m. SRVA Safety Meeting 756-1431
<b>September 20</b>	8:30 a.m. CDD 1 Board Meeting 907-0202 9 a.m. CDD 5 Board Meeting 907-0202 9:30 a.m. CDD 2 Board Meeting 907-0202 10:30 a.m. CDD 6 Board Meeting - CANCELLED 3 p.m. CEVA Safety Meeting 850-396-2695
<b>September 24</b>	10 a.m. CEVA Finance Committee Meeting 907-0202 5:30 p.m. Summerfield Hollow Board Meeting 921-5393
<b>September 25</b>	8:30 a.m. SRVA Modifications 907-0202 3 p.m. CEVA Board Meeting 907-0202
<b>September 26</b>	1 p.m. Country Club Modifications 907-0202 3 p.m. Edgewater Modifications 907-0202 7 p.m. SRVA Board Meeting 907-0202
<b>September 27</b>	1:30 p.m. Whitmarsh Neighborhood Committee Meeting 907-0202 2 p.m. CEVA Fining Committee Meeting 907-0202
<b>September 28</b>	3 p.m. Augusta/Oakmont Committee Meeting 907-3448
<b>October 1</b>	9 a.m. CEVA Landscape Committee Meeting 907-0202 3 p.m. Canterbury/Laurel Valley Neighborhood Meeting 993-7168 7 p.m. Brier Creek Neighborhood Meeting 907-1169 7 p.m. CDD 4 Safety Workshop/GBVA Safety Committee 907-0202
<b>October 3</b>	2:30 p.m. GBVA Restrictions Revision Meeting 907-0202 4 p.m. GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
<b>October 4</b>	3 p.m. CEVA Restrictions Revision Meeting 907-0202
<b>October 9</b>	8:30 a.m. SRVA Modifications 907-0202
<b>October 10</b>	1 p.m. Country Club Modifications 907-0202 3 p.m. Edgewater Modifications 907-0202
<b>October 15</b>	9 a.m. CDD 6 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202 3 p.m. CEVA Board Workshop 907-0202
<b>October 16</b>	8 a.m. IDA Board Meeting 907-0202 10 a.m. CDD 1 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202 1 p.m. CDD 5 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202 2:30 p.m. CDD 2 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202

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

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# AROUND THE RANCH

## This is What Makes Lakewood Ranch Special

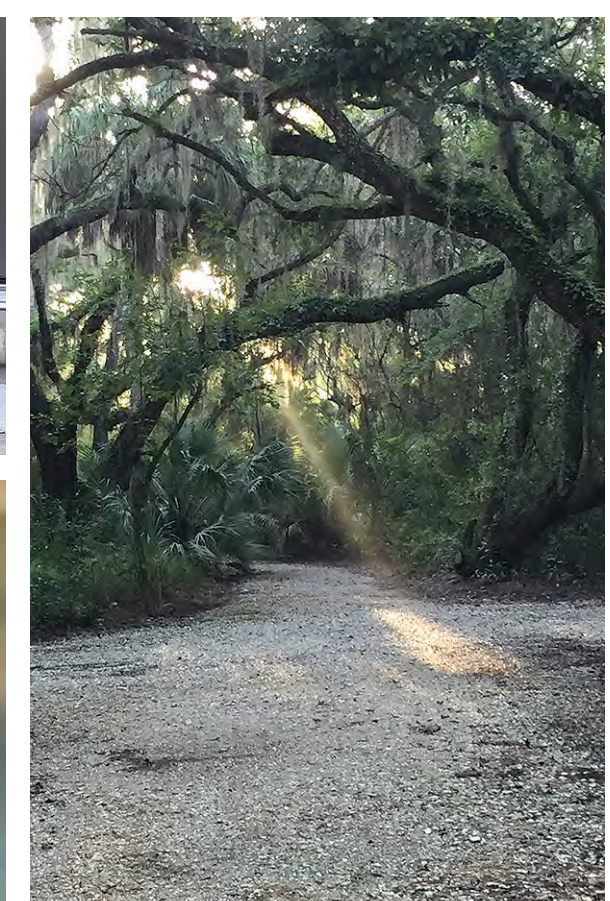
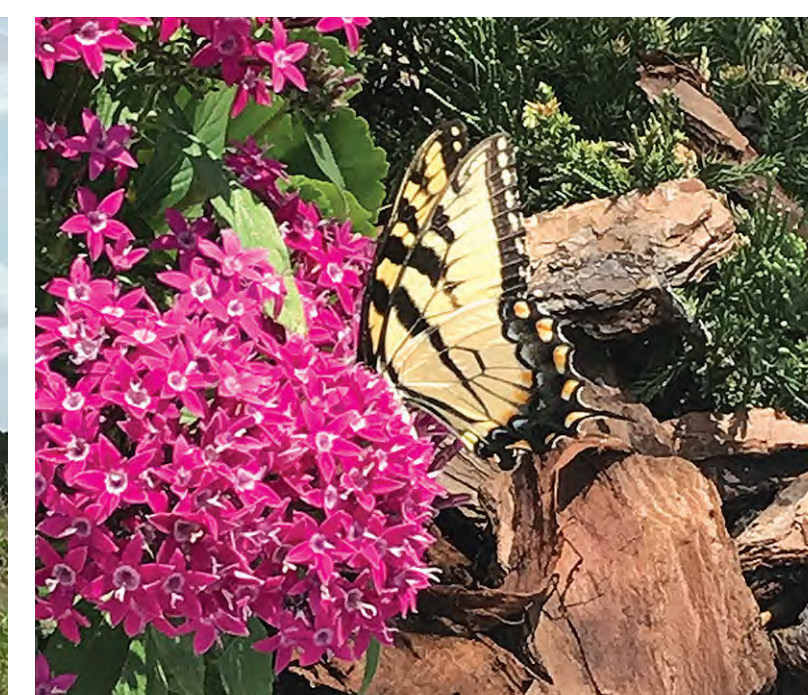
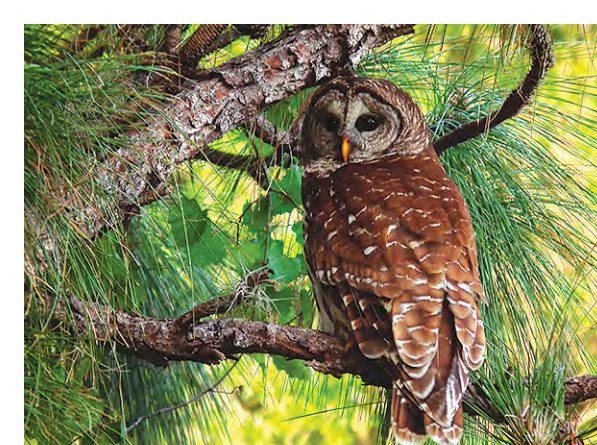
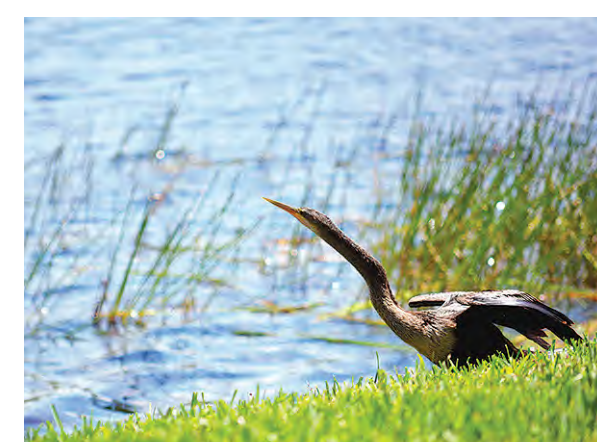
As we move into "fall," take time to look around you, and absorb and appreciate all the beauty and nature that makes The Ranch an incredible

place to live. More than 40% of the 31,000 acres that compose Lakewood Ranch are left as undeveloped green space. There are numerous

parks and miles of trails and paths, too! Walk, run, bike or just take a moment to enjoy what is all around us.

The photos are courtesy of your

neighbors – submissions from the second annual Lens on Lakewood Ranch photo contest that was held this spring.







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## Lakewood Ranch’s “New” Hyatt ... One Year Later

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
 Community Correspondent

“Welcome to a Different Place.” That’s the slogan that Lakewood Ranch’s Hyatt Place Hotel, now one year old, uses to sum up the things which set it apart.

The 122-room hotel, located at 6021 Exchange Way, opened a little more than a year ago.

The name Hyatt has long been associated with an upscale level of accommodations, amenities and service. And, the Hyatt name is one of those which may surely come to mind when talking about “better” hotels.

So, what does this Hyatt Place Hotel offer that some of their competitors may not? What makes the Hyatt Place “different”?

These days, the hotel business is not only about how clean the rooms are, or whether there’s a hair dryer in the bath area of their room or how comfortable the beds are – today’s upscale travelers expect these things – but also about what sort of amenities are offered, especially to the busy business or leisure traveler.

The Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place Hotel is all about the types of services and amenities that are considered to be more like necessities by the executive business traveler.

They have, for example, a free shuttle service that will take their guests to the mall, a restaurant, or anywhere the guest wishes to go within a three-mile radius of the hotel (not to be confused with their airport shuttle service). The Hyatt Place Hotel even gives their guests a flyer detailing what sort of restaurants are close by, as well as an indication of their particular cuisine, be it burgers, Italian, steak, seafood (We ARE on Florida’s Gulf Coast!), ethnic fare, pizza or a breakfast-and-lunch place. The restaurant list also lists the hours of operation of these eateries.

And, should the Hyatt Place guest not have the time or the inclination to go out for a meal, the Hyatt Place has an area where the guest can partake of pre-prepared food, as well as hot meals, fresh salads, etc., along with freshly made drinks in a comfortable, relaxed setting right off the hotel lobby. Breakfast is included in the hotel’s room rate, and the guest may find it really nice to be able to make his or her own Greek yogurt parfait.

Speaking of the Hyatt Place’s open-concept, bright and airy lobby, there are plenty of com-

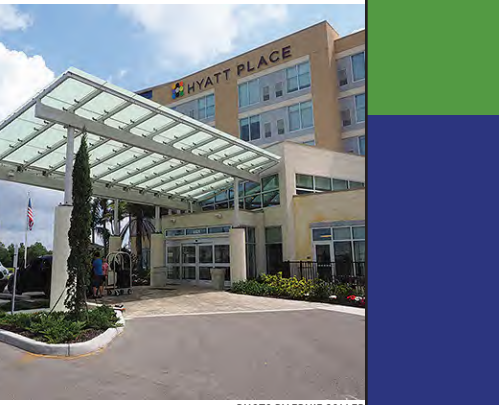


PHOTO BY ERNIE SOLLER

fortable chairs and couches to use while just perusing a newspaper or waiting for a colleague to arrive for a meeting, which could very well be held in one of the Hyatt Place’s meeting rooms.

There is also a 24-hour business center, for the guest who may need to go online to communicate with Europe or Asia – or simply their company’s home office – while staying at the Hyatt Place.

Now, since all work and no play (or no exercise) can make for a rather dull stay, the Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place has a 24-hour/day fitness facility, as well as a very nice pool.

As for the pool, unlike many hotels which offer no shade, the Hyatt Place Hotel has cabana areas, which give the guest a chance to relax, read a book, or take a short nap at poolside without getting fried. The Hyatt Place’s pool is also equipped to serve those guests who may have limited mobility.

Should the Hyatt Place’s guest just want to sit outdoors and relax without indulging in the pool, there is a very unique water fountain/fire pit area in the rear of the hotel, outfitted with comfortable chairs where guests can relax in a quiet atmosphere while being warmed by the gas fire and have their nerves soothed by the subtle movement of the water.

For those travelers who wouldn’t even think about leaving home without their beloved pet, the Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place Hotel is pet friendly.

Sarasota and Manatee counties hotel and motel rooms typically have an average occupancy rate above 90 percent in season, so guests should remember ... reservations made early are a good idea!

The Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place Hotel- it is a Different Place.



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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 600 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**

**East Meets West Regional Business Expo**  
**Thursday, Sept. 20**  
4:30-7 p.m.  
Robarts Arena  
3000 Ringling Blvd.  
Attendee tickets in advance \$5 (Tickets at the door \$10)

Join us for our largest event of the year, the 10th annual "East Meets West Regional Business Expo." This trade show event brings together businesses from the Alliance and our neighbors at the Longboat Key Chamber. Visit [www.EastMeetsWestExpo.com](http://www.EastMeetsWestExpo.com).

**Luncheon: From the Farm to the Boardroom**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 26**  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club  
7650 Legacy Blvd.  
Members \$27; non-members \$37

Recognized as one of the top female bankers in Florida, Rita Lowman (author of From the

FROM PAGE 8  
service providers to get on board, so that construction of the towers can begin.

**IRRIGATION WATER SYSTEM SHUTOFF DISCUSSION**

There had been some talk among supervisors and administrators relative to the possibility of shutting off the irrigation water system totally during periods of high rainfall, thus saving the residents the money that would be spent paying for water that was not needed for irrigation.

This move would have eliminated the possibility of residents running their sprinklers when they weren't needed, in the process wasting water.

However, the costs of doing this, including potential damage to the system if such a move

Farm to the Boardroom: Leadership Lessons) will share her story of leadership and success. Learn important leadership lessons about how to harness strength, tenacity and drive to become a brilliant leader, and also empower your team to be great!

**October Networking Social: Meet the Candidates**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 3**  
5-7 p.m.  
Gold Coast Eagle Distributing  
7051 Wireless Court, Sarasota  
Free for members; \$15 non-members

Join us for a special meet and greet with candidates running in the 2018 state and local general elections.

**Luncheon: Change the Culture, Change the Outcome**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 24**  
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club  
7650 Legacy Blvd.  
Members \$30; non-members \$40

Award-winning author and HR expert Tony Moore will walk participants through a proven process for designing and building a culture where organizational values are turned into action and metrics are used to ensure alignment between who you say you are and what you do. Infused with research, humorous stories, and real-life examples, this highly interactive workshop will be both a personal and collective journey that allows participants to depart with practical tools to help them design, build, and harness the full power of a healthy culture.

was adopted, made this idea not feasible.

**"SAFETY TOWN" PROGRAM**

District 1 supervisor Laura Fox reported that there will be a "Safety Town" program held in Lakewood Ranch on Oct. 20.

**BRADEN RIVER EROSION MITIGATION**

Attorney Chris Van Hise reported that there is a FEMA hazard mitigation program that may provide a grant to the community to pay for erosion mitigation in the Bluffs neighborhood in District 1.

More work needs to be done relative to whether this would constitute a "special benefit" to only those residents near the Braden River, and applying for a grant may take a year or more.

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS & CLUB CALENDAR

September/October 2018

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE TO VERIFY DATES  
lakewoodranchgov.org/reservations

**September 20 - Third Thursday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:45 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 2 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Democratic Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**September 21 - Third Friday**

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

**September 22 - Fourth Saturday**

- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field #1, 8 a.m.
- Digital Photography, Town Hall, 8:30 a.m.
- Digital Photography, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

**September 23 - Fourth Sunday**

- SUGAR Volunteers, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
- Ladies' Soccer, soccer fields 1 & 2, 2 p.m.

**September 24 - Fourth Monday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Spyglass Card Sharks, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.
- Anglers' Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**September 25 - Fourth Tuesday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- CERT First Aid Workshop, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**September 26 - Fourth Wednesday**

- Women's Duplicate Bridge, Town Hall, 8:30 a.m.
- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**September 27 - Fourth Thursday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:45 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- American Asian Women, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**September 28 - Fourth Friday**

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

**September 29 - Fifth Saturday**

- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field #1, 8 a.m.
- CERT After the Storm, Town Hall, 8:30 a.m.

**September 30 - Fifth Sunday**

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

**October 1 - First Monday**

- Handcrafts and More, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Spyglass Card Sharks, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**October 2 - First Tuesday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Lunch Club, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Anglers' Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**October 3 - First Wednesday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Bingo, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**October 4 - First Thursday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:45 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.

**October 5 - First Friday**

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

**October 6 - First Saturday**

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

**October 7 - First Sunday**

- SUGAR Volunteers, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
- Ladies' Soccer, soccer fields 1 & 2, 2 p.m.
- Sunday Duplicate Bridge, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**October 8 - Second Monday**

- Lakewood Ranch Garden Club, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**October 9 - Second Tuesday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Spyglass Card Sharks, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Women's Club - Blankets for Babies, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**October 10 - Second Wednesday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.

**October 11 - Second Thursday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Financial Forum, Caddyshak in River Club, 9 a.m.
- Rotary, LWR Country Club, noon

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & CLUB CALENDAR

**FROM PAGE 22**

**October 11 - Second Thursday**

- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:45 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Women's Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**October 12 - Second Friday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Total Health Club, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, Town Hall, noon

**October 13 - Second Saturday**

- Football Club, soccer field #1, 8 a.m.
- Adult Soccer, Summerfield Park, 8 a.m.
- Digital Photography, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

**October 14 - Second Sunday**

- Ladies' Soccer, soccer fields 1 & 2, 2 p.m.
- Jewish Club, Town Hall, 3 p.m.

**October 15 - Third Monday**

- Handcrafts and More, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Italian American Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 5:30 p.m.
- Creative Arts, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
- Running Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**October 16 - Third Tuesday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
- History Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**October 17 - Third Wednesday**

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

**October 18 - Third Thursday**

- Legacy Ladies' Golf Association, locations vary, 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:45 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 2 p.m.
- Football Club, soccer field/baseball diamond, 5:30 p.m.
- Democratic Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**October 19 - Third Friday**

- Women's Exercise Class, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, Town Hall, noon
- Wine Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**October 20 - Third Saturday**

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



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# Zenobia: LWR Headquarters For Near Eastern Food

BY ERNIE SOLLER,  
Community Correspondent

What's in a name? The name of a restaurant can conjure up a whole host of impressions ... usually food-related ... but first, a small history lesson:

In the case of the Zenobia Mediterranean and Kebab Grill, the name harkens back almost 2,000 years, to the days of the Roman Empire and its "client states," one of which became the Palmyrene Empire.

The Palmyrene Empire, at the height of its power, stretched from modern-day Turkey in the north, to the border of the Persian Empire in the east, and Egypt to the west, and included all or part of the present-day countries of Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The Palmyrene Empire was nominally subject to the control of Rome, but in the Third century A.D., the Roman Empire had its hands full attempting to exert its control over vast territories, fighting invaders and rebels on almost all sides.

Zenobia, who lived from 240 A.D. to 274 A.D., was the wife of the Palmyrene king, and, after his death, became regent for her son. She decided that with the conflicts plaguing Rome, the time was right for a little more independence. Queen Zenobia went about conquering Egypt, and extended Palmyra's borders only to find herself at odds with a reenergized Roman empire and its emperor, Aurelian, who defeated Zenobia and ended her bid to establish a permanent, autonomous Palmyrene state.



PHOTOS BY ERNIE SOLLER

So what does the name Zenobia have to do with the restaurant?

Well, the family that owns the Zenobia restaurant is originally from the present-day city of Palmyra, in Syria, and came to America after ISIS took over their hometown and destroyed many of Palmyra's ancient ruins, which had survived from as far back as the First Century A.D. Their menu features a statue of Queen Zenobia.



So, what can I say about the Zenobia restaurant? Well, for starters, as you walk into Zenobia, you will find a small table right out front. The table is covered with the implements of Middle Eastern hospitality: a coffee pot and small cups; an emphasis on making the guest feel welcome.

Near the kitchen area there is a camel saddle, and written on a plaque near the door are the words Bismallah/Mashallah, which loosely translates to: "In the Name of God/As God Wills."

Now, as to the food, which is the "main event" at Zenobia, I actually ate there on two separate occasions, the better to taste different dishes.

The first time I went, I joined a friend for lunch, and ordered the beef shawarma, with lentil soup, and a side order of cucumbers shredded and mixed into yogurt.

The lentil soup was very tasty, with a little bit of spice, but not too much. (Those with a hankering for additional spice might want to ask for more, but I thought it very good.)

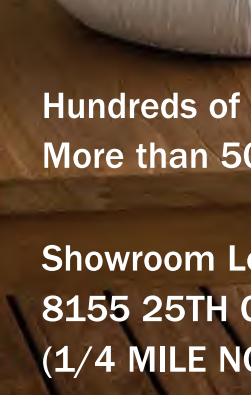
The beef shawarma was excellent, wrapped in pita bread with greens, with just the right amount of spices, and was very well-balanced by the cucumbers in yogurt, which provided a cooling counterpoint to the warm spiced meat flavor of the shawarma. My friend, on this occasion, elected to go with an order of quesadillas – not exactly Near Eastern, but Don liked it so much that he took some home with him.

Now, on my second trip to Zenobia, for dinner this time, I was accompanied by a friend who had lived in the Near East for

SEE ZENOBIA, PAGE 30



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## Kids Sukkot Discovery Lab Coming To Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch

Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch will host its first ever Sukkot Discovery Lab, just for kids, on Sept. 25. Blending hands-on, STEM-based experiments and creations with the "hows and whys" of this ancient Jewish hut in the desert, the Sukkot Discover Lab will launch a new year of CKid's Club events in Lakewood Ranch.

One of the first biblical holidays, Sukkot commemorates the divine protection the Jewish people experienced during their 40-year sojourn in the desert. Thousands of years later, Jews across the world continue to relive this event within the walls of a hand-built Sukkah. Today, children will gain a new insight into the mysterious qualities of Sukkot through the lens of science. Projects include cloud slime,

practice in the United States, officials said. The organization has a central laboratory and a specialty pharmacy which can compound patient-specific chemotherapy drugs. Florida Cancer Specialists takes part in 73% of the clinical trials involving new cancer drugs in the United States, and now logs in over 1.6 million patient visits to its many local offices each year.

After Precht's remarks, Dr. Miguel Pelayo, a FCS medical oncologist, commented on the history of Florida Cancer Specialists' Lakewood Ranch operations.

This was followed by the introduction of Joe Hwang, COO of Lakewood Ranch Medical Center, who spoke of the growth of the Lakewood Ranch medical community, along with the relationship between the Medical Center and Florida Cancer Specialists - emphasizing the increase in the availability of cancer treatment in Lakewood Ranch.

Then it was on to the actual groundbreaking, with lots of dirt being tossed by the participants.

Florida Cancer Specialists' new Lakewood Ranch \$16 million facility will provide 10,820 square feet of space for the organization, with 38 chemotherapy chairs, 10 examination rooms, access to clinical trials for Lakewood Ranch patients, along with an in-house full imaging suite which includes Siemens PET/CT scan equipment.

Local care, national clinical trials, access to a specialty pharmacy, the availability of advance imaging equipment- all of these factors make the new Florida Cancer Specialists offices in Lakewood Ranch a great enhancement to our community's health care.

The new facility is scheduled to open in the summer of 2019.

STEM sukkah-building and a pop art Simchat Torah flag.

The Discovery Lab is made possible by CKids Club International—an initiative that inspires children to create meaningful impact in their communities through fun, educational programs that explore the richness of Judaism.

The event will be held from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 25 at The Chabad House in Lakewood Ranch, and will be in conjunction with Chabad's annual Sukkah celebration which will also feature a bounce house, soups and salads in the Chabad Sukkah, music, and more. Admission is free to all; donations are appreciated.

To unleash your child's inner mad scientist, or for more information, contact Chabad at (941)752-3030 or info@chabadofbradenton.com.

FROM PAGE 7

FROM PAGE 24

some time, and had become quite familiar with the cuisine there.

I ordered the beef kafta kabob, which featured two large skewers of beef, well-seasoned and served with pita bread, sauce and rice. We ordered an appetizer of hummus, which was very artfully served on a platter, accompanied with a large basket of bread. Mindful of my fondness for Zenobia's lentil soup, I took that for my side item.

My friend ordered the chicken shawarma - only with rice instead of bread, and ordered the cucumbers in yogurt as her side item. We ate our fill of the main dishes as well as the hummus, and she elected to take the rest of the pita bread and hummus home with her.

We split an order of baklava - a must if you go to Zenobia(!), and order Turkish coffee, which came in small cups, quite strong and very good.

As for the quality of the food at Zenobia, I really like this place, and all of us liked the food.

The people who wait on you are family members, the food is very tasty, and a great variation from a diet of sandwiches, pizza, tossed salad and burgers at chain restaurants.

So go there, eat, and tell your friends about this place.

You'll be glad you did. I plan on going back - so should you!

Zenobia is located at 1857 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., in the south end of the shopping center at the corner of Lakewood Ranch Boulevard and State Road 64, in northern Lakewood Ranch. The menu is available for dine-in or take-out. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 9 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call 941.900.2722, or visit Zenobia-restaurants.com.

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