

The LWR Rotary's annual Suncoast Food & Wine Fest

For more information and pictures, visit pages, #12-13



Photo by Ernie Soller

The Lakewood Ranch Rotary's Annual Suncoast Food & Wine Fest had another banner year Nov. 12 at the event's home at the Sarasota Polo Club in Lakewood Ranch. Crowds came out to indulge their taste buds while helping raise funds for the numerous charities that the Rotary helps fund.

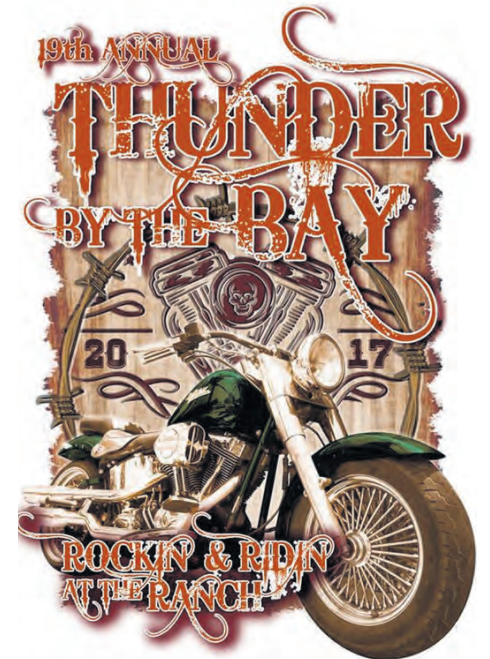


Photo provided

19th Annual Thunder By The Bay Festival comes to the Ranch

The 19th Annual "Thunder By The Bay" Motorcycle Festival will continue its history as one of the premier events that kicks off the new year. The Festival's new location in Lakewood Ranch has provided Suncoast Charities for Children the ability to expand the event. Area business leaders from the Lakewood Ranch community welcomed the Festival, knowing its longstanding history, economic impact, and revenues raised for charity.

A "Rockin' & Ridin' at The Ranch" two-day festival (Jan. 7-8), located at

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Photo provided

Premier Sports
Campus Little
Star

Name:
Ella Dyer

What school do you attend?
McNeal Elementary

What grade are you in?
Kindergarten

What is your favorite food?
Ice cream

Who is your favorite person?
My dad

What is your favorite sport?
Soccer

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FROM PAGE 1R
THUNDER

The Premier Sports Campus at Lakewood Ranch, will offer free admission and plenty for guests to enjoy. An outstanding lineup of live music is on tap, with special guest Blue Oyster Cult in concert on at 4 p.m. Jan. 8. Guests can expect to sit under the “Big Top” tent and enjoy the music, great food, and plenty of vendors. New this year is a “Taste of Thunder” area, open from 1-4 p.m. Guests can experience fine craft beer, wine, and spirits tastings of their choice for \$10. There will also be a “Light Up The Night” Bike Show on Saturday evening and an 18 Class Bike Show on

Sunday. Festival VIP tickets are available for \$100 each and may be purchased in advance through the Festival website. That same evening, The Coral House in Sarasota will host a “Welcome Thunder” fundraising event for Suncoast Charities for Children from 3 until 10 p.m.

Other events include a sporting clays tournament at Ancient Oak Gun Club on Jan. 5. A “Born To Be Wild” kickoff party at the Polo Grill and Bar will be held Jan. 6. This event will feature paired food and beverage tasting stations, an open bar, silent auction and live music from The Billy Rice Band. Limited tick-

ets are available for \$100 each and can be purchased through the Festival website. That same evening, The Coral House in Sarasota will host a “Welcome Thunder” fundraising event for Suncoast Charities for Children from 3 until 10 p.m.

On Jan. 7, a Finz Finds “Cruise for Cash” Charity Motorcycle Ride will begin at the office location for Suncoast Charities for Children (4630 17th St., Sarasota). Clients with special needs, who receive services from Suncoast Charities, will greet riders as they register from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. Z105 will also be on hand, playing classic rock favorites. Riders can register for \$20 with \$4,000 in cash prizes up for grabs.

This year’s Festival is presented by Rossiter’s and Manatee River Harley-Davidson, Sarasota Ford, The Premier Sports Campus at Lakewood Ranch, and Schroeder-Manatee Ranch/LWR Communities. Major cash

sponsors include Budweiser, The Law Office of Wittmer & Linehan, FCCI Insurance Group, The Loaded Barrel, and the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Festival is produced by, and proceeds benefit Suncoast Charities for Children. Last year’s Festival generated an estimated economic impact of \$8.8 million and 8,400 room nights. For tickets and Festival information visit: thunderbythebay.org

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District 6 not jumping on led lighting bandwagon ... yet

BY ERNIE SOLLER,
Community Correspondent

All the Lakewood Ranch Community Development District (CDD) boards, with the exception of District 6, have signed contracts to replace their old sodium-type street light heads with new and much more economical LED lighting equipment.

The LED lights will cost a lot less to operate, and will provide for improved lighting, but while the other districts have already signed their contracts with the supplier, the board of supervisors of District 6 is continuing to delay action on the proposal.

This board has, in the recent past, asked for and received a lot of resident input prior to making any major decisions regarding District expenditures.

Since it is the smallest of the Lakewood Ranch Country Club districts, costs of new projects have to be spread over a smaller population of residents. What this means is that the cost of a similar project in districts 2 or 5 may have a lesser impact as far as assessments are concerned, than a project in District 6.

Rather than jump on

the LED bandwagon just yet, the District 6 board is committed to getting more resident input and studying the matter more fully before arriving at a final decision as to whether or not to put LED heads on its 30 street lights.

One resident, Dairmuid McSweeney, came to the November District 6 board meeting to offer his expertise and suggestions as to factors which the board might consider. McSweeney, a Fellow of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America and now retired, spent his career as an illuminating engineer, and has long-term experience in both designing and producing lighting equipment.

In offering his services to the District 6 board, McSweeney noted among other things that it does little good to install better lighting if the areas to be illuminated are blocked off by tree growth. If the lighting is blocked off by tree limbs, he said, you might not see the deer – or person – in the roadway!

In District 6, many of the streetlights are close to residences, and the board is concerned that the wrong type of lighting fixtures might result in

too much light being projected into residents' windows.

As for whether delaying action on this project might cost the district more due to the potential inability to become part of a larger community "buy" of equipment, District 6 chairman Jim Rogoze indicated that the board felt that this would probably not be an issue.

District 6's board also committed to a contract to install holiday decorations, and plans to purchase a lighted menorah, rather than rent one for the District's display, as the rental fee seemed rather high.

CONTRACTOR COUNTRY CLUB ACCESS

The various Country Club district boards gave their approval to a revised set of transponder fees for contractor use. The IDA will make the formal decision, but it appears that contractor transponder fees will be set at \$50 per year.

EARLY VOTING AT LAKEWOOD RANCH TOWN HALL

Executive Director Anne Ross informed the CDD board supervisors that around 16,000 people voted early at the Lakewood Ranch Town

Hall prior to Nov. 8.

HOLIDAY-TIME HOME SAFETY

Outgoing District 2 supervisor and Safety Committee chairman Richard Moran noted that during the year-end holiday period, many packages are delivered to area homes, and may be left on the front porch if the resident is not at home. He suggested that residents, if they are not going to be home, ask their neighbors to pick up these packages, lest they get picked up by thieves.

DISTRICT 1

District 1's board of supervisors did not hold a formal meeting in November due to the lack of a quorum.

DISTRICT 2

A discussion was held during the District 2 board meeting regarding the removal of alligators from the community. At present, there have been 19 alligators removed from Lakewood Ranch during this year, which is close to the maximum amount of 25 authorized by the community's permit. Two large alligators, which were apparently fighting with each other, were recently removed. (Note: This type of behavior becomes more prevalent during alligator mating season.)

It was noted that some residents are not happy with the removal of the alligators, since, at present, the alligators that are removed are killed and their hides, etc., are disposed of by the trappers. However, it would be difficult, if not also more costly, to change the procedure so as to make sure that the alligators are released into a wild area rather than eliminated.

Supervisor Tom Green suggested that, as part of

Lakewood Ranch's new-resident orientation program, a section should be devoted to educating northerners about Florida wildlife.

DISTRICT 4

The District board is considering whether to install additional speed bumps on the roadway leading into Adventure Park.

DISTRICT 5

Operations Director Paul Chetlain informed the District 5 board that geotechnical examination of the road and sewer prob-

lems on Legacy took place in September, and that issues have been identified, in order that work may soon commence to repair the problems.

Supervisor Alan Silverglat asked Finance Director Steve Zielinski about the ongoing cost of outside consultants who are involved in installing and implementing new software. Zielinski said that the costs are close to double the estimated amount for these fees.



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The Ancient Oak Gun Club is set in a pristine area of the Lakewood Ranch community off of State Road 64 East, and is open to the public. We encourage all who have never shot sporting clays - or who have never shot at all - to visit and allow us to walk you through the sport to see if this is something that would interest you.

There are 28 covered shooting stations on two separate courses, which are operated by a wireless, radio controlled launching system that also offers a delay for the individual shooter and a 5-stand for shotgun shooting enthusiasts. All stations have three or more trap machines giving you a greater variety of target presentations. The 5-stand consists of five shooting stations and a variety of individual trap machines.

The Ancient Oak Gun Club has a well-trained staff to assist beginning shooters and to help host charity and corporate events, as well as sanctioned instructors for the more experienced shooters.

You need not be a member to shoot, although we do offer various memberships that afford discounts!

January 5, 2017 - Thunder By The Bay Sporting Clay Tournament. Registration is at 8:30 a.m.; coffee and doughnuts provided. Start time is 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$500 per team, or \$125 per person. Lunch will be provided by The Ranch Grill. A gun will be at each stand for any players who do not have their own. Safety glasses and ear plugs will be available. Participants are welcome to bring their own golf cart to the tournament. Entries will be accepted the day of the tournament if it is not sold out. The event will include a long bird contest, mulligans, 10-bird warm up, and raffle prizes. Highest men's and women's trophy for each course; first through third place teams get trophies for each course. The shoot is part of Suncoast Charities for Children's (SCC) Thunder By The Bay Festival. SCC is a local non-profit agency serving children, teens, and adults with special needs and their families. Over the years, Thunder By The Bay has raised \$1.7 million, impacting over 8,000 clients with special needs on an annual basis. Sponsorships are available. **Visit thunderbythebay.org for more information.**

We are looking for people who would like to volunteer to become trappers for our registered shoots. Please call the office to learn more about the benefits of becoming a trapper and what you will receive for your participation.

For more information visit www.ancientoakgunclub.com

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Community Activities Corner



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Director of LWRCAC

Holidays Around the Ranch on Main Street gathered a huge crowd to welcome Santa, lighting of the tree, and all new snow tube ramp, ice skating, rides on the train and so much more holiday cheer!

2016 OVERVIEW FOR LAKEWOOD RANCH COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

The year 2016 was certainly a busy, with lots of exciting events and activities!

The 2017 calendar of events is now available and we look forward to another successful year! This non-profit organization gives a BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers, sponsors, attendees, participants and businesses for all their hard work in putting these family fun community events on each and every year!

Carlene Smith is a voting board member of Lakewood Ranch Community Activities and oversees the volunteer committee. She has done a good job recruiting volunteers for our community events. She wanted to share with the community why she is an active member of the CAC Board:

"Just four years ago this month we started our volun-

teer reward and recognition program. This January we will host an appreciation social which will reward and recognize our volunteer of the year, along with our corporate sponsors. We welcome all interested residents to get involved in our community by volunteering at one or more of our events. It is a fabulous way to meet friends, and feel like you are a part of this fun and dynamic community. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Kyanne Merrill at 941-757-1530, or visit our website to register."

—Carlene Smith, Community Activities

CLUBS AND WHAT THEY HAVE PLANNED THIS SEASON!

LUNCH CLUB: Join the Club! The Lunch Club at Lakewood Ranch welcomes adults in Lakewood Ranch to enjoy a delicious lunch from the 9th Street Bistro, socialize, and explore a variety of topics presented by guest speakers, and best of all, it's affordable and fun! The Lunch Club meets every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. Please contact Jackie Godlewski or Sue Taylor at 941-749-0100 for more information or to reserve your seat. Reservations are encouraged, but walk-ins are always welcome. Please note, there will be no club on Dec. 27 or Jan. 3 due to the holidays.

ST. GEORGE'S MAH JONGG: We play a friendly game according to National Mah Jongg rules at Town Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. We do not teach. If you would like to join us please contact Aida Pyle at Ampyle41@aol.com or call 941-907-3846.

DOUBLE DECK PINOCHLE: All are welcome to join; young, older, married or single, expert or novice, male or female. The only requirement is to have fun! Contact Val at valen3000@aol.com. The club meets from 1-5 p.m. every Tuesday at rotating members' homes.

EVENING MAH JONGG: Evening Mah Jongg is played from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. We are a fun, social group. We follow the national Mah Jongg rules. Beginners are welcome, as well as couples, men or singles. Please come with a card to play. If you have any questions please call Cindy Tench at 941-961-4224.

DEMOCRATIC CLUB: meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Town Hall. All folks are welcome!

MAH JONGG QUEENS: This group of Lakewood Ranch residents play competitive mah jongg using the National Mah Jongg League rules as well as a few house rules. They meet weekly from 12:30 to 4 p.m. on Friday afternoons at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. For more information about this group, please call Glenda Robertson at: 941-907-8990 or e-mail her at: glendaron1@tampabay.rr.com.



BRIDGE ON TUESDAY GROUP: We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. You are welcome anytime you like. We usually play from 1 to 4 p.m.



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT): 2006-2016: Celebrating the Founders of CERT. We are now 250 members strong, ready to help if disaster strikes. Thank you to our founding members:

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2017 Calendar of Events

Feb. 11, 2017	Learn to Fish Seminar	Summerfield Park
Feb. 18, 2017	Fishing Tournament	Lake Uihlein
Feb. 25, 2017	Health & Wellness Expo Farmer's Market	LWR Medical Center
March 12, 2017	Irish Celtic Festival	Adventure Park

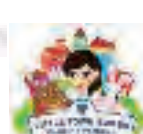
For up-to-the-minute activities, events and clubs, visit our website at www.lwrcac.com. You can enjoy past pictures from all of our popular events and even join our mailing list. Just enter your email in the "Get Notified" section, located on the right side of the home page. If Facebook is your social connection of choice, you can "like" our fan page at www.facebook.com/LWRCommunityActivities. Thanks to the hundreds of residents who have already joined, we are well on our way to hearing where you are going and what you're enjoying.



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JULIO AGUILAR Photos by Julio Aguilar



European Showcase by Figo a huge success

Luis Figo, one of Portugal's most legendary soccer players, hosted his "European Showcase By Figo" tournament Nov. 11-13 at Premier Sports Campus (PSC) in Lakewood Ranch. More than 200 teams of boys and girls, ranging in

age from 8 to 18 years, participated for a chance to win prizes. The showcase is part of Figo's new International Visibility Program for youth soccer, and is sanctioned by Florida Youth Soccer Association with the support of the

Lakewood Ranch Chargers Soccer Club.

The purpose of the event, which is planned to be held annually, is to elevate the local youth teams with top European development programs, bringing know-how, con-



tinuous education and proven European methodologies. The program strives to generate real opportunities to compete with European teams and promote the international visibility of the local teams, local coaches and local youth players in the European market place.

“The European Showcase by Figo was another fantastic event for our Premier Sports Campus and the Lakewood Ranch

community,” said Antonio Saviano, director of sports for the PSC. “More than 90% of the teams traveled from out of town and some as far as Argentina. The economic benefits and the recognition for our area was huge.”

The European Showcase By Figo featured Figo himself, who lead the tournament and contributed his international soccer experience, along with his technical staff

with several UEFA PRO coaches.

“Having Luis Figo on site at Premier Sports Campus during the entire event added one more element to this soccer tournament,” Saviano said. “It’s not every day you see a soccer star such as Luis Figo on site during a major youth soccer tournament.”

Figo made his name in Spain playing for powerhouse teams Real Madrid and FC Barcelona before

switching to Inter Milan in 2005. He has been named European Footballer of the Year and FIFA World Player – soccer’s highest individual honor. He represented Portugal in the 2002 and 2006 World Cup. Before joining Real Madrid in 2000, Figo played for FC Barcelona (1995-2000) and Sporting Lisbon (1989-95).

For more information on the tournament, visit www.figoprogram.com.





BY ERNIE SOLLER,
PHOTOS BY ERNIE SOLLER
Community Correspondent

It happened again!

The Lakewood Ranch Rotary Club again took over the Sarasota Polo Club at Lakewood Ranch for its annual Suncoast Food and Wine Fest.

It was bigger than ever, which is what we have come to expect from our Lakewood Ranch Rotarians. After all, these folks have their sights set on raising \$100K this year and, if the great crowds of people who came out to indulge their taste buds spent a few extra chunks of cash, the Rotarians will have a goodly crop of the green stuff to enable the funding of their charitable efforts during the year.

So, first of all, just what is the Rotary Club, and what does it

do? Rotary became the world's first "service club" in 1905, in Chicago, Ill. What started out as a club for business and professional people to get together, network, and socialize evolved into an organization dedicated to serving the needs of their communities and the world at large.

Rotarians hold to the motto of "Service Above Self" and the guidelines expressed in their "Four-Way test": Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOOD-WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

As for where the funds raised go to do good, Rotary has listed six areas of focus for their activities: peace, and conflict resolution; disease prevention; water and sanitation; maternal and child health; basic education and

literacy, and economic and community development.

Lakewood Ranch Rotary has been very active in promoting the construction of clean water systems in extremely poor rural areas in Central and South America, and in their efforts to promote literacy and encouraging children to develop a love of reading right here in our local schools, through their Books For Kids program.

But, back to the fun stuff. There was blueberry wine from the Island Grove Wine Company – made in Florida, even! Also, a red "Made in Florida" wine called, appropriately, "Swamp Juice." There were all kinds of other wine offerings, too (over 300), from California wines to French wines, and wines from South America and across the Pacific.

There were grilled oysters

from Half Shell, beef sliders from Michael's On East, and chicken curry from Tandoor. Also popular was the barbeque from Nancy's, a pasta dish from Salute!, a multitude of cheeses and other goodies offered by the culinary arts students at Manatee Tech, and some Key Lime pie from the Caribbean Pie Company.

You need something to wash down all that food. So, the choice came down to a decision among wine, or hard cider, or beer ... that's right, craft beer, from the likes of the new Naughty Monk Brewery – Lakewood Ranch's newest entry into fun food and drink.

If you needed to take a break from all that food and drink, there were new high-tech Porsches from Suncoast Motorsports to drool over, and let's not forget the silent auction tent,

where partygoers could bid on everything from a Super Bowl ticket package to a dual membership at the Crunch gym. Or, you could gather 'round the stage tent and listen to the Kettle of Fish Band.

At the Food and Wine Fest, not only is there great food and drink, but great people-watching. Newly-elected State Representative Joe Gruters and his wife, Sydney were in attendance, along with Manatee County Commission Chair Vanessa Baugh and husband Don.

Perhaps the most interesting group to watch was a bridal group – nine party-dressed young women, all with flowers in their hair, who arrived in a long black limo and cruised through the Food and Wine Fest together, having a great time.

Bottoms Up!



Lakewood Ranch Business Alliance

The Lakewood Ranch Business Alliance (LWRBA) is an organization committed to connecting, educating and strengthening the business community in the Lakewood Ranch region. The LWRBA's 550+ 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.

JANUARY EVENTS

(Please visit www.LWRBA.org to sign up for these events.)

January Networking Social:
Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club, Jan. 11, 5-7 p.m., Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club, 7650 Legacy Blvd. Free for LWRBA members; \$10 non-members

Our January Social will be held at the gorgeous remodeled Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club's main clubhouse. Join us to celebrate the New Year in the new and improved clubhouse! Mix and mingle with your Alliance friends and enjoy the re-opening of the Country Club and all its beauty. Complimentary



hors d'oeuvres and glass of champagne. Cash bar available.

January Executive Briefing:
Performing Every Day, Jan. 18, 7:30-9 a.m., Keiser University, 6151 Lake Osprey Drive, \$10 LWRBA members; \$20 non-members

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2017 Annual Membership Luncheon:

Wednesday, Jan. 25 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Fete Ballroom at Polo Grill & Bar, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, \$35 LWRBA members; \$45 non-members

Our 2017 annual membership meeting will honor our outgoing board members and reflect on the successes of the past year, as well as introduce the 2017 board of directors and take a look at what's in store for the Alliance in the coming year.

Young Leaders Alliance 2017 Kick-Off Social: Thursday, Jan. 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m., The Capital Grille, 180 University Town Center Drive, Free for YLA members; \$10 non-members

Join the Young Leaders Alliance and meet fellow young professionals at our 2017 kick-off social at The Capital Grille at the Mall at UTC. More info at www.LWRYLA.com.

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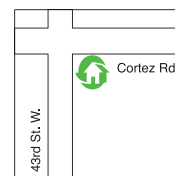
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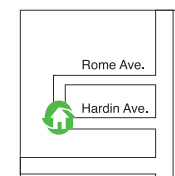


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JANUARY 5

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JANUARY 6

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The ponies are coming on Fridays! And so should you!

BY ERNIE SOLLER,
Community Correspondent

One of the more popular activities in the Greater Lakewood Ranch area during the winter season has been the excitement of Sunday polo matches at the Sarasota Polo Club, located just south of the intersection of University Parkway and Lorraine Road, here in Lakewood Ranch.

Polo fans come down to the Sarasota Polo Club early in the day, setting out their best tailgate feast equipment, and settling into comfortable lawn chairs to watch the matches. Expert players from the United States, Europe and South America compete for trophies and rankings, and the atmosphere is a mix of friendly competition, good fun, and an easy sociality among fans. The appropriate fan attire ranges from T-shirts and shorts for the more casual fans to “picture hats” and a “dressy casual” mode for those who may be attending a private party in the Club’s pavilion, and everyone gets to take part in the “stomping of the divots” during breaks in the action.

Now, Sundays have been a part of the Sarasota Polo Club scene for years, but this year, the Club is doing something different. They have scheduled



FRIDAY polo matches the last Friday of each month, through March, beginning on Dec. 30. The gates will open for spectators at 2 p.m., and games start at 3 p.m. on Friday afternoons. Since many of the new fans expected to attend Friday polo may not have all sorts of tailgating paraphernalia, a food truck

will be stationed at the Polo Club during the Friday matches, lest any fans arrive hungry or, for that matter, become hungry as they cheer for their favorite team. There will also be a cash bar set up for those who grow thirsty during matches.

Admission for the Friday matches will be only

\$12 (credit cards are accepted – except AMEX), and the Club is hoping that lots of those folks who inhabit Lakewood Ranch’s office parks during the week will decide to come on down on Friday afternoons. After all, no one gets a whole lot of work done after lunch on Fridays anyway, right?

There are some offices and businesses here in Lakewood Ranch that are actually closed on Fridays, or open only until early afternoon, giving workers plenty of time to relax and catch a polo match. Friday polo may become the new “in” activity for Lakewood Ranchers to start their weekends. Think of this: a

Friday afternoon at the Polo Club, followed by a nice, quiet dinner at one of Lakewood Ranch’s gourmet food emporiums.

The Friday match dates are Dec. 30, Jan. 27, Feb. 24 and March 31, so if you don’t catch the first in-

SEE THE PONIES, 23R



Photos by Ernie Soller

COMMUNITY EVENTS & CLUB CALENDAR

NOTE: NOT ALL CLUB MEETING DATES HAVE BEEN SECURED FOR JANUARY 2017 AT TOWN HALL SO PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE TO VERIFY DATES: www.lakewoodranchgov.org/reservations/month

December 20th – Third Tuesday

- Lunch Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Kiwanis, Polo Grill, noon
- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Italian American Club, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

December 21st – Third Wednesday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg At One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

December 22nd – Fourth Thursday

- Ladies' Devotional Hour, Town Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

December 23rd – Fourth Friday

- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.

December 24th – Fourth Saturday

- CHRISTMAS EVE DAY
- Town Hall CLOSED
- Adult Soccer, Soccer Field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field 1, 9 a.m.

December 25th – Fourth Sunday

- CHRISTMAS DAY
- Town Hall CLOSED

December 26th – Fourth Monday

- Town Hall closed for the holiday

December 27th – Fourth Tuesday

- Lunch Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Kiwanis, Polo Grill, noon
- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

December 28th – Fourth Wednesday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

December 29th – Fifth Thursday

- Ladies' Devotional Hour, Town Hall, 9:30 a.m.

- Thursday Bridge Club, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- St. George's Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

December 30th – Fifth Friday

- Shanti Yoga, Town Hall, 10 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Mah Jongg Queens, 12:30 p.m.

December 31st – Fifth Saturday

- Adult Soccer, soccer field, 8 a.m.
- Football Club, soccer field 1, 9 a.m.
- NEW YEAR'S EVE

January 1st – First Sunday

- NEW YEAR'S DAY
- TOWN HALL CLOSED

January 2nd – First Monday

- TOWN HALL CLOSED

January 3rd – First Tuesday

- Lunch Club, town hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Kiwanis, Polo Grill, noon
- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Garden Club, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

January 4th – First Wednesday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

January 6th – First Friday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Women's Club Board Meeting, Town Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- MUSIC ON MAIN, LWR MAIN STREET, 6 – 9 P.M.

January 7th – First Saturday

- Adult Soccer, Summerfield Park, 8 a.m.

January 8th – First Sunday

- Ladies' Soccer, Adventure Park, noon
- Jewish Club, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

January 9th – Second Monday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Garden Club, Town Hall, 9 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- CERT, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
- Genealogy Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

January 10th – Second Tuesday

- Lunch Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Kiwanis, Polo Grill, noon
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Bridge on Tuesday, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

January 11th – Second Wednesday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Financial Forum, Caddy Shack in River Club, 9 a.m.
- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Community Activities, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

January 12th – Second Thursday

- Women's Golf, Legacy, 7:30 a.m.
- Financial Forum, 9 a.m.

January 13th – Second Friday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon

January 14th – Second Saturday

- Adult Soccer, Summerfield Park, 8 a.m.

January 16th – Third Monday

- Women's Exercise, Woodland Baptist, 9 a.m.
- Italian American Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon
- Adult Soccer, Adventure Park, 5:30 p.m.
- Creative Arts, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
- Jewish Club, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

January 17th – Third Tuesday

- Lunch Club, Town Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Kiwanis, Polo Grill, noon
- Empty Nesters, Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Double Deck Pinochle, various homes, 1 p.m.
- Evening Mah Jongg, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

January 18th – Third Wednesday

- Mah Jongg at One, Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- Women's Book Club, Town Hall, 1 p.m.

January 20th – Third Friday

- Financial Forum, Caddy Shack in River Club, 9 a.m.
- Art Club, Town Hall, noon

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GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

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

December 21	4 p.m.	GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
	4 p.m.	Mizner Reserve Neighborhood Meeting 373-3898
	6 p.m.	GBVA Board Meeting 907-0202
December 27	8:30 a.m.	SRVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
December 28	1 p.m.	Country Club Modifications Meeting 907-0202
	3 p.m.	Edgewater Modifications Meeting 907-0202
January 4	4 p.m.	GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
	4 p.m.	Sandhills Neighborhood Committee Meeting 907-0820
January 5	3 p.m.	CEVA Restriction Revisions Meeting 907-0202
January 9	7 p.m.	CDD4 Safety Workshop/GBVA Safety Committee 907-0202
January 10	8:30 a.m.	SRVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
January 11	1 p.m.	Country Club Modifications Meeting 907-0202
	3 p.m.	Edgewater Modifications Meeting 907-0202
January 16	9 a.m.	CDD 6 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	3 p.m.	CEVA Board Workshop 907-0202
January 17	8 a.m.	IDA Board Meeting 907-0202
	10 a.m.	CDD 1 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	1 p.m.	CDD 2 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	2:30 p.m.	CDD 5 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	4 p.m.	GBVA Modifications Meeting 907-0202
January 18	10 a.m.	CDD 4 Agenda Review Workshop 907-0202
	10:15 a.m.	CDD 4 Board Meeting 907-0202
	4 p.m.	Mizner Reserve Neighborhood Meeting 373-3898
	6 p.m.	GBVA Board Meeting 907-0202
	6:30 p.m.	Orchid Island Neighborhood Meeting 907-2943

*Meeting dates and times are subject to change



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LWR Knights participate in Veterans Day commemoration

BY ERNIE SOLLER,
Community Correspondent

The Knights of Columbus has a long history of identifying with America's military forces and our veterans.

Originally founded in the 1880s by parish priest Father Michael McGivney in New Haven, Conn., the Knights of Columbus began as an organization dedicated to assisting the wives and children of men no longer capable of providing for their families, often as a result of an on-the-job injury or death. In those days, there was no such thing as workman's compensation. If you got injured or killed on the job, the boss notified your family, and that was the end of it.

As the organization grew, and with the United States entry into World War I, the Knights, being patriotic Americans, established what they referred to as "huts" near the combat zones in France, providing refreshments and a place where any soldier could, for a short time, socialize and enjoy some "non government-issue" refreshments. These huts were equipped with signs stating "Everyone Welcome, Everything Free."

Today, as the world's largest Catholic men's fraternal organization, the Knights – especially Fourth Degree Knights, continue to participate in

activities directed toward promoting patriotism and working to assist our veterans.

On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, the Fourth Degree Knights of Assembly # 3192, which meets at Our Lady of the Angels Church in Lakewood Ranch, together with their Brother Knights, relatives and guests from around Southwest Florida, gathered for a special Memorial Veterans Day Mass at the Sarasota National Cemetery, presided over by Bishop Frank Dewayne of the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

This event marks the seventh year that this celebration has been held at the Sarasota National Cemetery. What began seven years ago with a few Knights and their families in a large tent set up in an unoccupied area of the cemetery has grown into a large event taking up the entirety of the structure of Patriot Plaza.

Patriot Plaza is an area created in a cooperative effort between the Patterson Foundation and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. It is the first space of its kind in any National Cemetery in the country, and features art telling the story of the lives of military families.

One panel bore the remembered comment of a child of a military family:

"My Dad was a World War II veteran, and he



Photos by Ernie Soller

taught all of us that our country's strength was in its diversity – accepting all races, creeds cultures

and religions.

That made us unique – and also a democracy."

After the presentation

of the colors by Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, the The Star Spangled Banner was

SEE VETERANS, 22R



sung. A floral wreath was then displayed, having been presented by a French lady who, as a young woman of Jewish heritage in German occupied France during World War II, managed to survive the war.

In his remarks, Bishop Dewayne noted that the ceremonies of Veterans Day allow the community to come together to celebrate our veterans.

The bishop noted that although we are called to be men and women of peace, at times we must rise in defense of our country. He commented that the United States has stepped forward to defend other people as well as our own, citing as one example our involvement

in the Balkan conflicts which took place as a result of the breakup of the former country of Yugoslavia.

Bishop Dewayne acknowledged that not all of the wounds suffered in combat are physical, and that citizens should get involved and work to honor our veterans, stating that "It's not up to somebody else."

After the mass was ended, amid a backdrop of service branch flags and Knights of Columbus banners, Bishop Dewayne offered a blessing over "dog tags," which were brought to the ceremony by veterans.

The ceremonies concluded with the playing of "Taps."



FROM PAGE 18R

THE PONIES

stallment, come on down the next month ... or the next! The level of competition is advertised to be the same as fans have become accustomed to on Sundays.

Per Kristen Galvan, polo operations manager for the Sarasota Polo Club, and Sherri Sweeny, who's in charge of events and promotions, the idea is not only to put on matches on Friday, but to engage new fans who may have other commitments on Sundays, or who may feel that they don't "know enough" about the game to attend with the more "hard core" fans on Sundays.



If you try it – and like it – you might even decide to try your hand at the game yourself. Not to worry, the Sarasota Polo Club has classes on how to play polo, and even lessons for those who

can't ride! For additional information, go to the Sarasota Polo club's website at sarasotapolo.com. You'll be glad you did, and you'll no doubt meet new friends at Friday polo!

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