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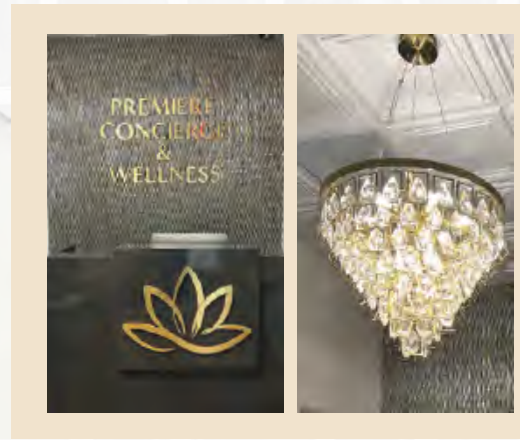
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Departments Editor — Mark Gordon

Design — Nicole Thompson

Editor At Large — Lisa Barnott

Contributors

Kelly Fores, Marty Fugate, Dex Honea, Elizabeth King,
Emily Leinfuss, Beth Luberecki, Laura Lyon, Lori Sax,
Robert Plunket and Eric Snider

ADVERTISING

Director of Advertising — Jill Raleigh

Associate Publisher — Lori Ruth

Advertising Managers —

Kathleen O'Hara and Penny Nowicki

Advertising Executives — Richeal Bair,

Jennifer Kane, Honesty Mantkowski, Toni Perren,
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CREATIVE SERVICES

Director of Creative Services — Caleb Stanton

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Graphic Designers — Louise Martin, Taylor Poe, Shawna Polana
and Luis Trujillo

CONTACT LWR LIFE

To submit story ideas or calendar listings,
contact Kat Wingert at KWingert@YourObserver.com.

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The land of second acts



Lori Sax

Rick Barry has given up playing hoops, but now he's all in on the pickleball court.



Depending on how you look at it, one of the best — or worst — things about Florida is that almost everyone is from somewhere else. There are definitely tradeoffs (history is easy to lose, for example), but it can be a great thing. I love meeting people, hearing about where they're from and what they did in their lives B.F. — Before Florida.

In Lakewood Ranch, you never know who you're going to meet. Point in case: Just imagine you're on the pickleball courts, playing your weekly game, when you see a very tall, very athletic man (probably) taking it very seriously a few courts over. Turns out, that man was a pro. In basketball. One of the best to ever play the game, actually.

That's exactly the case with Rick Barry, a basketball legend who now

lives in Lakewood National and has taken up pickleball as his new passion.

Contributor Eric Snider spoke with Barry (Page 80) to recount his days as a professional baller, a conversation that highlighted the brand of candidness and directness that was Barry's trademark as a player.

It's one of many examples of meeting someone extraordinary who has had a rich career in another field before moving to Florida, where they begin their second act.

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Some play golf. Some, like Barry, fall in love with pickleball. (There's a huge contingent of those folks you can read about on Page 38).

Others get involved in a nonprofit or organization that ties in with their pas-

sion. That was the case for Ilee Finocchiaro, who started volunteering for the Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy after her kids were grown. More than 10 years later, she took the helm of the organization and led a merger with Hooves with H.E.A.R.T., a nonprofit with a similar mission.

Now Finocchiaro and Danielle Curtis — another volunteer — are fundraising so the combined organization can focus on its mission of helping others through the healing power of horses.

Although Barry and Finocchiaro have very different second acts, both enrich our community.

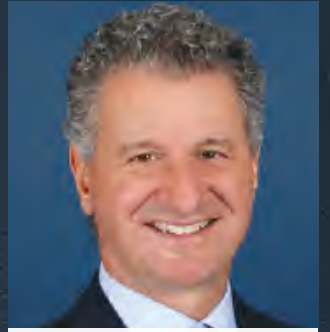
For the rest of us, it gives us something to think about. What will you do with your second act?

Kat Wingert
Executive Editor

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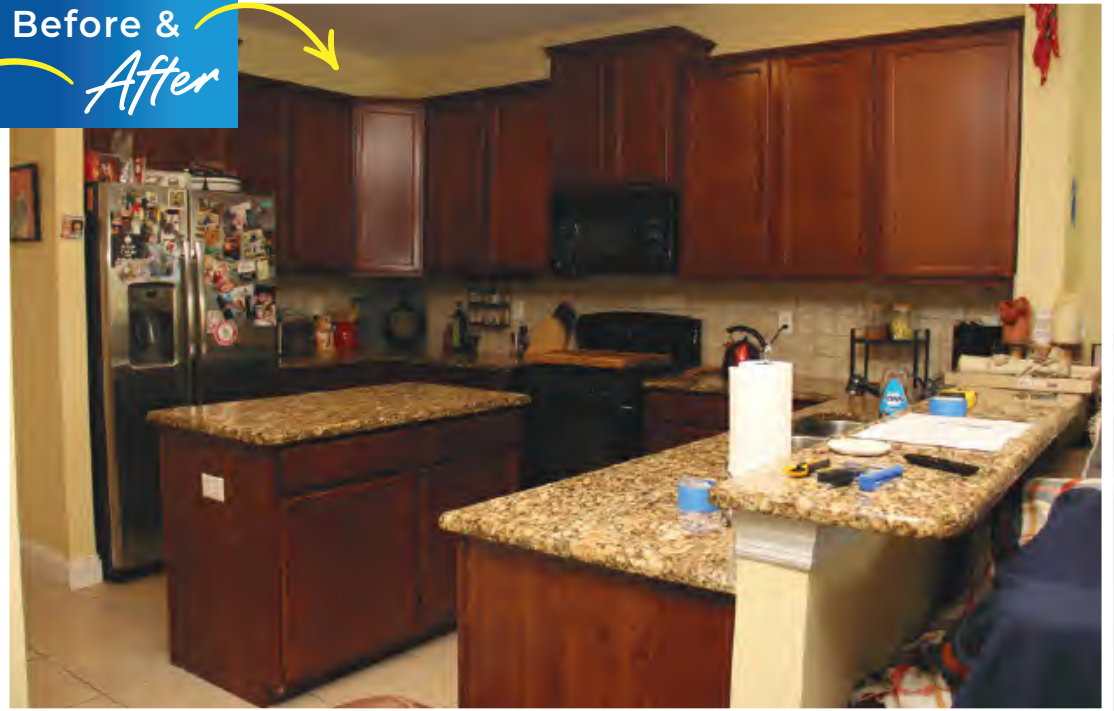
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Pickleball players search for home courts closer to home. **PAGE 38**



Photo by Dex Honea
Bob Haskin returns
a serve against
Alan Bartlett at a
recent pickleball
game at Lakewood
Ranch High School.



Ilie Finocchiaro and Danielle Curtis met in 2023 and began to formulate a plan to merge the two nonprofits they helped run.

Photos by Dex Honea

Take the Reins

Two nonprofits with a similar focus — helping people through horse therapy — have merged into one organization.

BY LAURA LYON | CONTRIBUTOR

Ilie Finocchiaro had to wait for her children to grow up before she was free to pursue her path as a volunteer for Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy east of Lakewood Ranch. And now Finocchiaro is a believer in the old saying that “horses are mirrors to your soul.”

Danielle Curtis, meanwhile, was an equestrian growing up, but the competitive nature of the field left her with a bitter taste. It wasn't until her daughter turned to horses for stress relief that she was able to rekindle her passion for the animals she loves so much.

That led her to co-found Hooves with H.E.A.R.T (Horse Education and Riding Therapy).

Finocchiaro and Curtis, with a love for horses at the forefront, are now connected in another way: last September, Finocchiaro and Curtis worked together to merge SMART and Hooves with Heart, the two equestrian-based nonprofits, capping a tumultuous time for the former organization on its third iteration of leadership in five years. Two hurricanes and a holiday season later, the women at the helm of the organization, now called SMART with Heart, are working together to chart a new course.

The organization's mission is to provide special needs members of the community with therapeutic equine rides and encounters. Finocchiaro is SMART with Heart's new executive director; Curtis is vice president of the board. The nonprofit carries out its mission on a 23-acre facility on County Road 675, just south of Lake Manatee State Park and State Road 64.

Finocchiaro joined SMART as a volunteer in 2014 and stepped away to join Hooves for a year. In 2023 she met Curtis. That's when the pair started to hatch a merger plan.

Continued on Page 32

"I had the opportunity to come back here as the [executive director], and Danielle and I had a great conversation about being able to merge together to create a stronger force to be able to serve the community together," Finocchiaro says.

Part of the plan involved building back the core tenets of the organization they felt were lost: reinstating the exclusive focus of therapeutic programs, rebuilding its volunteer base (the organization is 100% volunteer run, including Finocchiaro, who commutes an hour and 20 minutes from Punta Gorda), refilling the financial coffers and re-establishing a strong presence in the community.

So far, the trajectory is headed in the right direction.

"While our individual mission is to service our individual riders, we've also expanded to doing these programs that help with PTSD, anxiety, grief ... we're just opening the door," Curtis says.

RIDE HIGH

Finocchiaro says "horses hold tension right in their bodies, just like we do," referring to some of the programs aimed at helping veterans.

"They don't want to show their fear. They don't want to show their weakness, right? So neither do our veterans. They've been trained that they can't show weaknesses. So when they have that opportunity to connect with the horse, and that horse trusts them and releases that tension, it kind of lets the veteran know it's OK for them to release their tension as well."

Curtis echoes, "It was special, another powerful thing to see that these animals are able to bring individuals who are going through such hard, hard things in life, but these loving creatures are just helping them feel and know what's OK and comfortable for them to portray in life."

None of the programs is possible without the appropriate crew helping out. Currently there are 45 active volunteers, "But we could always use more," Curtis says.

KEEP IT GOING

The equines consist of a team of five working horses and five mini ponies serving approximately 40 riders a



HELP WANTED

SMART with Heart seeks people willing to commit their time and talent to become a PATH certified instructor. PATH is the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, essentially the gold standard for equine therapeutic care. SMART with Heart is willing to sponsor future instructors, with a time commitment of two years in exchange for doing so.

"We're training, hopefully the future of more horse-loving, human-loving people like we know we have to help each other in this world," says Danielle Curtis, vice president of the SMART with Heart board.

week. The duo notes 70-80% of donor funds go to their care and to programming. The hope is to add two or three more horses to the fold, so others are able to take a break.

In the months since the merger was final, fundraising through grant support has brought in \$150,000. Although the organization declines to assign dollar amounts, it credits Bishop Animal Shelter SPCA and the Lakewood Ranch Community Foundation. "We both cried like babies, I'll be honest," Curtis says, upon learning of the donations. (No public data on the new organization's finances is available yet.)

SMART with Heart leadership, beyond fundraising, is continuing to make strides in the moment with its eye on the legacy of the new brand.

"Seeing this love and this desire to make people feel more connected to each other and to being better people in society and knowing how to function in society, I think that that's our goal," Curtis says. "It's just to be able to [look] 10 years down the road, I'd love to look back and see that maybe I'm not a part of this, but whoever is carrying on the mission and the love that we have, not only for the children, for the animals, and for our community."

SMART with Heart says its mission is to provide "equine-assisted services in a safe and nurturing environment that enhances independence, confidence and well-being, one hoofbeat at a time."

ORGANIC ELEGANCE IN LWR



By Cristi Martel



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Next Town Up

With bulldozers and (lots of) building permits in tow, a pair of communities a short car ride away from Lakewood Ranch are in boom mode. ‘Coming soon’ signs dot the landscape.

BY ELIZABETH KING | CONTRIBUTOR

A piece of proof that Parrish and Palmetto — a pair of northeast Manatee communities — are the next big growth centers in the county lies in two kinds of foods: pizza and pineapples.

Both can be bought at places in the Gateway Commons shopping center near the Moccasin Wallow exit off Interstate 75, the first at Jet’s Pizza, the second at Publix. Richard Trzcinski, president of the Tampa-based real estate firm Primerica Group One, which owns the property, says there’s been “tremendous velocity in sales” at the center, which opened in 2019.

The Publix, which is the anchor of the center widely visible from the highway, is “one of the strongest stores on the west coast of Florida,” he says. Jet’s Pizza is the top producing location of four in the area, he adds, and Hornback Chiropractic’s Gateway Commons location is its No. 1 walk-in clinic of five sites.

“The Palmetto-Parrish area is experiencing a significant transformation,” says Trzcinski’s daughter, Daniele Trzcinski, vice president in charge of sales and leasing for Primerica. “The area’s potential as a growth center is undeniable, and we’re committed to supporting that momentum with properties that contribute to its vibrancy and success.”

Commercial real estate success is just one piece of what is making the area Manatee’s next boom town. Growth is surging in schools, medical buildings and housing developments, in what not too long ago was a vast rural landscape.

Of the two, Parrish is the epicenter: the unincorporated area covers 302 square miles, according to U.S. Census data. The population was



Photo by Lori Sax

Continued on Page 36

John Neal, with Neal Land & Neighborhoods, is building North River Ranch in Parrish.

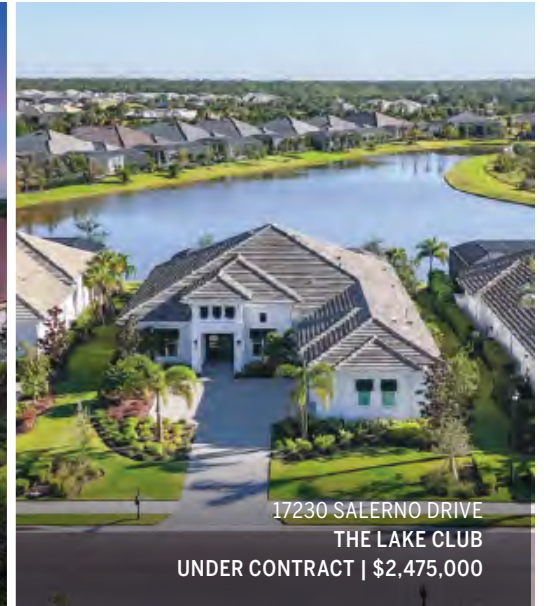
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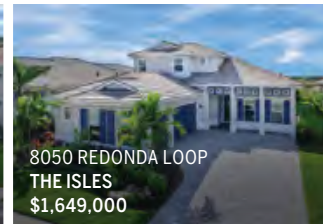
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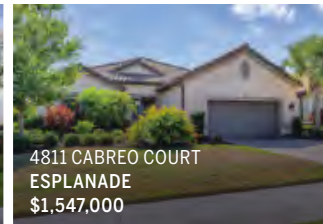
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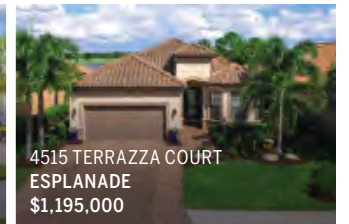
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Continued from Page 34

38,944 in 2023, up 12.52% from 34,608 in 2020. Palmetto, meanwhile, covers seven square miles, according to the city government website. Its population, the city says, is 14,000, up 11.05% from 12,606 in the 2010 census. The city was incorporated in 1897 and has an elected-mayor form of government.

By comparison, Lakewood Ranch, census data shows, had a population of 40,700 in 2024, up 53.50% from 26,513 in 2020, according to World Population Review.

JUMP RIGHT IN

On the housing side, Neal Land & Neighborhoods is behind one of the most notable projects in the region, with North River Ranch. Near Fort Hamer Road and Moccasin Wallow Road, the project is approved for 5,000 homes, of which 1,200 are currently occupied, according to Neal Land & Neighborhoods President John Neal. (Neal's father is Lakewood Ranch-based homebuilder Pat Neal, one of the more prolific homebuilders in east Manatee County.)

"So we're just over a fifth completed," John Neal says. Offerings range from single-family homes to townhouses and villas.

Most new residents come from Manatee County, with many moving from St. Pete, Tampa and south of Tampa "for affordability, education and lifestyle factors," Neal says. "Parrish has become attractive for a number of reasons, but it has a lot to do with its proximity to St. Petersburg and Tampa, the employment opportunities which are offered there, and the lifestyle elements — football team, hockey team, baseball team, some of Florida's best restaurants."

Another large residential development underway is Seaire, just east of I-75 on Moccasin Wallow Road. Its first residents began arriving toward the end of 2024. The community, being created by Tampa-based Metro Development Group, will feature a unique amenity: a 4-acre lagoon with lifeguards, a swim-up bar and event space.

"This is going to be the magical place to live in this area," Metro Development Group's Realtor Liaison Julie Kremner says, noting its draw for buyers in surrounding counties as well as

within Manatee County.

Once built out, Seaire will contain 3,000 homes, including townhouses, single-family homes and estate homes.

DOCTOR IS IN

With more people, the need for health care is growing, and several organizations seek to fill that void.

Two examples: a freestanding emergency room from HCA Florida South Shore Hospital is set to open this year on Fort Hamer Road in Parrish and HCA Florida North River Ranch Emergency is expected to open in early summer. "The need for health care services in the area was the primary reason for developing emergency care services in Parrish," HCA Florida South Shore Hospital COO Cathy Edmisten says.

And an even bigger medical facility is in the works, with Bay Care Health System planning a 154-bed hospital off Moccasin Wallow Road in Palmetto. A mile north of I-75 and I-275 on the Robinson Gateway property, officials project a 2027 opening for BayCare Hospital Manatee, which will be the first hospital north of the Manatee River.

SCHOOL DAYS

Multiple school campuses are also in various stages of development.

Parrish Community High School, which opened in 2019 on Fort Hamer Road, is expecting to complete a 25,000-square-foot addition that will add 16 classrooms to the school this spring. Students are expected to begin using the space after spring break, according to Principal Daniel Bradshaw.

Also, a middle school is under construction within the North River Ranch community, along North River Ranch Trail. It's expected to be completed in time for the 2025-2026 school year.

There's a higher education component in the surge of growth, too: Along Erie Road, State College of Florida is developing its Parrish campus. "We anticipate having general education as well as signature programming, such as nursing," SCF spokesperson Jamie Smith says.

BRICK AND MORTAR

The schools, houses and health care has led to a demand for commercial real estate, especially in retail and restaurants.

In addition to Gateway, with its busy



Photo by Elizabeth King

Publix and Jet's Pizza, there's Creekside Commons off US 301 in Parrish, which opened in 2023 with tenants like HomeGoods and First Watch. The 300,000-square-foot center is more than 92% leased, according to Julie Fanning, spokesperson for Benderson Development, which owns the shopping center. It has more than 30 brands represented, including Lowe's, Ulta, Aldi, 3Natives, Marshalls and more.

"Benderson developed the center from the ground up to cater to the needs of the growing community, and it has quickly become a popular one-stop destination for high-quality shopping and dining," says Fanning.

Gateway Commons, meanwhile, says Daniele Trzcinski, is "one of the standout properties in our portfolio." The company owns properties across seven counties in Florida.

Gateway Commons is 97% leased, she says. Its finished first phase includes 15 tenants in more than 58,000 square feet. The second phase, over 31,000 square feet, is mostly leased and will open in August. Tenants include Ed's Tavern, Bealls and Peach's Restaurant.

Primerica also owns Gateway Commons, a 280-unit luxury apartment community that opened in June, and 90 acres west of I-75 at Moccasin Wallow Road that Richard Trzcinski says is receiving interest from hotels. "It's good to be a bit of a risk taker by building out there," he says. "We're almost the only game in town."

Seaire, being developed by Tampa-based Metro Development Group, will feature a 4-acre lagoon.



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Photo by Dex Honea

Match Point

Passionate pickleball players — which is to say just about all of them — are dinking and dunking for new Lakewood Ranch courts to compete on. A solution might be in play.

BY MARK GORDON
DEPARTMENTS EDITOR

The fun-loving, sometimes-raucous and usually competitive Lakewood Ranch pickleball community was served a big curveball at the end of 2024.

That's when The Pickleball Club, on Sarasota Center Boulevard, shuttered operations. The company announced the closure on a Dec. 17 LinkedIn post,

saying, in part, "it is with great sadness that we must announce that we have closed the company. We did not have sufficient financial resources to continue operations." (The Pickleball Club founder Brian McCarthy did not respond to multiple phone messages and texts for comment.)

To some club members, based on interviews and dozens of social media posts, the closure wasn't a surprise, necessarily, given customer service

complaints and its high-end country club-like business model.

Yet the closure left a big void for the hundreds of indoor players who relied on the facility to get their pickleball fix — people like Lakewood Ranch Country Club East resident Mike Burzminski, a charter member of The Pickleball Club, which opened in May 2023.

The closure was a gut-punch to Burzminski, and many others. "When we heard about (the closing) we were actually kind of depressed for a few weeks," he says. "A whole bunch of us were scrambling around going, 'where are we gonna play pickleball?'"

The 33,393-square-foot facility had 12 championship-grade courts, an indoor players' lounge observation deck, luxurious locker rooms and more, officials with The Pickleball Club boasted in press statements. Officials said it cost \$10 million to \$12 million to build.

"I was a legacy member," Burzmin-

Bob Haskin, Alan Bartlett, Drew Hnat and Baha Multy play pickleball on a recent weekday in Lakewood Ranch.

Continued on Page 40

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Continued from Page 38

ski says. “I remember when it was a dirt field. I really liked what they were offering, and it was right by my house. They built it like the Taj Mahal.”

Memberships started with a \$1,000 initiation fee and dues were \$100 a month. Burzminski and several other former members of the club, in interviews, emails and social media posts, say prices increased randomly and often, especially on food minimums. One former member, Bob Haskin, says he and his wife ended up paying some \$5,000 for the club in a year and he dropped out prior to its closure. “Not too many people can afford to pay that for pickleball, especially when there are all these outside opportunities,” says Haskin, who is president of the The Lakewood Ranch Pickleball Club, an unrelated nonprofit dedicated to teaching and growing the sport.

Yet like a killer dink shot or crafty slice that catches an opponent off guard, the feisty Lakewood Ranch pickleball community is pivoting to other options — while holding out hope for a local savior to rekindle indoor pickleball in the area.

LOCATION MATTERS

Haskin, Lakewood Ranch’s unofficial pickleball mayor who teaches and plays the sport, says, of course, there are multiple free outdoor options, beyond the dozens of courts in private developments and communities. The list includes Lakewood Ranch Park and what’s informally known as Pompano Park in Sarasota County, behind Robarts Arena on Fruitville Road. The 12 Pompano courts have been a popular option for displaced Lakewood Ranch players. G.T. Bray Recreation Center in west Bradenton has outdoor courts, too, but it’s 22 miles from Lakewood Ranch — a 45-minute drive, at least, in season. Several players say outright that G.T. Bray is too far.

One other outdoor option is coming soon — much closer to home for Lakewood Ranch residents: Manatee County’s new Athletics and Aquatics Center at Premier Sports North Campus. On Rangeland Parkway near the Lakewood Ranch Library, construction on the multisport facility, which will include a competition-sized swimming pool, therapy pool and a geothermal yard, began earlier this year.

The good news? The east Manatee County campus is designed to include 24 pickleball courts — including 14 covered courts. The not-as-good news for those who want to play pickleball today? The courts, and sports facility, won’t be ready until late summer or early fall 2026, county officials say, more than 18 months away.

While Haskin says he enjoys indoor and outdoor pickleball, some people prefer to play exclusively indoors. The weather is one obvious factor, but the indoor feel on the feet and body is better, too, says Pam Williams, a Lakewood Ranch resident and avid pickleball player. “It’s a totally different situation when you play outside,” she says. “You don’t have that consistency outside.”

SHARP EDGES

Indoor pickleball is the name of the game at Dill Dinkers — a Maryland-based franchise pickleball courts business that has captured the attention of many Lakewood Ranch pickleballers. The company, through husband-and-wife franchisees Heather and Tim Dull, opened the first Dill Dinkers in Florida in mid-January, with a location near the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport.

At 500 Tallevast Road, in a former dance studio for the Sarasota Ballet, Dill Dinkers has 11 indoor courts with top-tier court surfaces, a designated dinking court, a state-of-the-art reservation system, a pro shop, a ball machine and a viewing area, the Dulls say in a statement.

More importantly, say Burzminski and Haskin, who have both played at Dill Dinkers, that place puts the focus on the sport — not the add-ons and revenue generators.

“Dill Dinkers is so much different,” says Burzminski, who adds that the first few weeks of playing at Dill Dinkers — 13 miles from Lakewood Ranch — have been like days of pickleball past. “It’s no frills. They have one bathroom and one check-in desk. It’s just pickleball courts, and those courts are wonderful.”

The Dulls say the timing — of opening a month after The Pickleball Club closed — was fortuitous. “There has been a giant outpouring of support from Lakewood Ranch,” Heather Dull says. “It was like a reunion on the court. People were crying and hugging



Courtesy photo

each other.”

Dill Dinkers has more frills than Burzminski lets on. It has multiple event spaces, leagues for all ages, clinics, private and semi-private lessons and places to socialize, say the Dulls. It costs \$45 a month to be a member, or \$450 for the year, and there are hourly fees for court time, \$32 (for four players) for members, \$64 for non-members. The Dulls say they want to encourage non-members to come check out the sport, so it’s not a members-only model.

The Dulls, who have worked in finance and owned math and reading learning centers in Maryland, became Sarasota snowbirds during the pandemic. Like many others, that’s also when they picked up pickleball. They actually listened to investor presentations from the founders of The Pickleball Club, but, says Heather Dull, “we didn’t think they had the right model to be successful.”

The Dulls are also opportunistic. They have been following the online rumors of maybe a pickleball investor buying the closed club space in Lakewood Ranch and restoring it — under a different business model. The Dulls have development rights to open 10 more Dill Dinkers locations from Bradenton to north Fort Myers. “We are evaluating that opportunity,” Dull says. “We are interested in that space. We are interested in being in the Lakewood Ranch community.”

Entrepreneurs and franchisees Heather and Tim Dull opened Dill Dinkers in Sarasota earlier this year. The couple are snowbirds who split their time between a house near downtown Sarasota and Maryland.

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PULSE

THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

Fire chief prepares to pass the torch of public safety. **PAGE 44**



Photo by Dex Honea
Lee Whitehurst
has been working
and volunteering in
east Manatee fire
departments for
nearly 50 years.

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A Life Well Lit

Lee Whitehurst's passion to become a firefighter was kindled as a teenager. Five decades later, with retirement looming, he remains devoted to the craft.

BY ERIC SNIDER | CONTRIBUTOR

When Lee Whitehurst, chief of the East Manatee Fire Rescue District, retires in January 2027 after a decade on the job, he'll have spent 48 of his 62 years in the firefighting business. Actually, it's been quite a spell since Whitehurst has fought actual fires. He reckons the last time he went out on a call was for a Myakka City brush fire in 2008.

Because Lakewood Ranch composes a major part of his district, there aren't many fires to fight. The homes and buildings are too new, too well constructed. But that's not the way East Manatee was back in the late 1970s when Whitehurst's career was in its nascent stage. There were plenty of places that were apt to catch fire, from old wooden homes to brush fields.

Whitehurst got his first taste of the trade at age 14. "I was mowing yards in the summer to make a little extra money when I saw this big cloud of smoke coming up from down the road," he recalls. Whitehurst bicycled toward the plumes, where he found an old house burning. The Samoset Volunteer Fire Department was using the blaze for a training exercise. "Then I noticed



Continued on Page 46

Lee Whitehurst was named chief of the East Manatee Fire Rescue District in 2017.

Photos by Dex Honea

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Continued from Page 44

these kids in oversized gear holding a hose that was squirting water on the fire,” he says. “They were junior firemen. I immediately joined Explorer Post 48 as a cadet, part of the Manatee County Fire Service.”

He’s been a firefighter — either volunteer or professional — ever since.

Working out of a 20-acre main campus on Lakewood Ranch Boulevard, Whitehurst currently oversees a force that includes 19 administrative personnel and 123 firefighter/rescuers in 10 stations.

The East Manatee Fire Rescue District is named purposefully to place the emphasis on rescue. Each firefighter is a licensed emergency medical technician (EMT) and can handle basic life support, like administering epinephrine for severe allergic reactions or Narcan for drug overdoses. The department does not transport people to the hospital, but because it has twice as many vehicles as the county has ambulances, “we tend to get there sooner, and begin life support,” Whitehurst says.

Then there is the litany of ad hoc emergencies that don’t fall under a firefighter’s purview. They include snakes or alligators in pools and horses stuck in the mud. The firefighters show up and help people get in touch with the appropriate agencies to rectify the problems. “We get these kinds of calls and, I mean, we’re not gonna not go,” the chief says.

‘LIKE GOLD’

Lee Whitehurst was born in the same hospital — Manatee Memorial — and went to the same grade school — Samoset Elementary — as his mother. His father ran a landscaping business. “I would say we were lower middle class,” he says.

Lee first felt the thrill of fire rescue when as a pre-teen he fell under the thrall of the 1970s TV show “Emergency.” Then came that fateful cloud of smoke while mowing lawns. Whitehurst recalls the time when, at age 16, he alone accompanied an inexperienced Samoset volunteer to a brush fire. “He could drive the truck, but that was it,” Whitehurst recalls. “I did the codes over the radios, cranked up the pump for him. I wasn’t allowed to fight the fire, though.”

That came two years later. Whitehurst attended Southeast High School, where he lettered in wrestling. As soon as he turned 18, he became a full-fledged Samoset volunteer firefighter. “Back then it was the opposite of Lakewood Ranch; we had lots of fires,” Whitehurst recalls.

He took a paying job as an electrician’s helper, while continuing to volunteer. Whitehurst moved over to the Braden River Fire Department — the predecessor to his current agency — which was in a pole barn with a tin roof on State Road 64 (it’s now a Starbucks). “Just a bunch of farm boys,” Whitehurst recalls, “and here I come in from Samoset with a year of experience as a responding firefighter and a couple of classes, and I’m like gold.”

MOVE UP THE LADDER

He was a lieutenant at age 19, a captain by 24. “We had volunteers in their 40s, and I was always taught to honor my elders, so being the boss, if you will, was something I had to learn how to deal with,” Whitehurst recalls. He turned out to be a quick study, and soon earned a reputation for his dictatorial ways. “I was maybe a little heartless back then,” he acknowledges. “I’ve learned to be more compassionate.”

Whitehurst married the first of three wives at age 20, had a daughter in 1985, and lived in Manatee Palms. He had his heart set on becoming a full-time, paid firefighter but needed to go to a fire academy, so he sought employment at a department that would underwrite him. The Sarasota County Fire Department hired him in 1987. He did not stay long.

In 1983, the renamed Braden River Fire Control and Rescue District hired Henry Sheffield as its first paid fire chief. He and Whitehurst developed a mentor/mentee relationship, so in 1988, when it came time to hire two full-time firefighters to work days, Whitehurst was one of them. His salary jumped from \$12,500 per year in Sarasota to \$18,000 as a Braden River captain. He continued to work as an after-hours volunteer.

Whitehurst steadily moved up the ranks, making deputy chief of operations (“the firefighting side of it”) in 1992. The department got its current name in 2005. He says he was offered the job as chief when Sheffield retired in 2007, but turned it down because



Lee Whitehurst knew he wanted to be a firefighter from when he was a teenager.

“now I’m a single parent of two kids (the other, a son) and I knew that I could not do what I needed to do to be chief.”

Whitehurst served as fire marshal for five years, then handled the business and HR side. He was appointed chief in January 2017. During his tenure in the upper ranks, the district has grown like a wildfire, generated largely by the development of Lakewood Ranch. Whitehurst — who lives in Lakewood Ranch’s Central Park neighborhood with his wife of 15 years, Carol Ann — figures he’s hired around 80 people since he’s been chief, some as replacements but most of them new positions.

The decision to retire in two years was all his. “I’m actually a little old now,” he says. “You don’t see very many 60-year-olds in the fire service.”

BY THE NUMBERS

East Manatee Fire Rescue District

19
administrative personnel

123
firefighter/rescuers

10
stations

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Home Run

Grieving parents turned their son's tragic death into a sustainable charitable endeavor that has paid for more than a dozen teenagers to attend a private high school.

BY ERIC SNIDER | CONTRIBUTOR

If not for attending The Out-of-Door Academy in Lakewood Ranch, Austin Brinling thinks he probably wouldn't have graduated high school. When he was 4 years old, his mother dropped him off at her parents' house and never came back. His grandparents raised him. He never knew his father. Austin also had a severe case of ADHD. In his view, a public school's lack of structure and resources to provide him special help would have led to failure.

If not for being awarded the Taylor Emmons Scholarship, Brinling would have never gotten to attend ODA and graduate in 2019 with a first-rate education. "Credit to my grandparents for raising me well," he says. "But they didn't have the financial means to send me there."

The Taylor Emmons Scholarship is named after a former student and baseball player at ODA who, in 2010, died after being hit by a car while a sophomore at University of Miami. Shortly after his death, Taylor Emmons' parents — Mike and Katie — founded a charity to award a full four-year scholarship to one ODA student each year.



Continued on Page 50

Mike and Katie Emmons founded the Taylor Emmons Scholarship fund in 2010.

Photos by Lori Sax

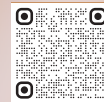
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That amounted to \$100,000 in the early stages, \$120,000 these days, says Mike Emmons. “Our No. 1 criterion is we’re looking for someone who would not be able to attend ODA without the scholarship,” he adds. “And they have to be able to handle the academic rigors of the school.”

Thus far, the Taylor Emmons Scholarship has put 10 students through ODA’s high school, with four currently attending. “We’ve had a 100% success rate,” Emmons says. “Some have struggled, but they’re great kids and they’ve all stepped up.”

Brinling was one of them. “Man, I struggled,” he says. “I was not the best of students, but what I will say is that I tried. I gave it my best effort.”

GOLD GLOVE

Brinling had an easier time of it on the baseball diamond, where, a strong hitter, he excelled as a center fielder. His four-year batting average was over .400. He went on to study and play baseball at four colleges, graduating from University of South Carolina last spring. He turned 24 in early January and now lives in Brunswick, Georgia, where he coaches youth baseball.

Brinling never met Taylor Emmons. But he’s well aware that his golden opportunity arose from a horrific tragedy.

Taylor was a good-looking, charismatic young man, a talented ballplayer. His father describes him as “real happy-go-lucky. He was just nice to everybody and everybody liked him.”

After his passing, the Emmonses “wanted to do something instead of having a house full of flowers,” Mike says. The scholarship, founded in 2010, got off to an auspicious start. Friends and family, as well as the Lakewood Ranch and ODA communities, quickly donated \$165,000.

The Emmonses had the financial means to hire someone to run the nonprofit. “If we had to do it all ourselves, it was just too emotional, too raw, especially in the beginning,” Mike says. They brought in a family friend, Sandy Albano, who ran the charity’s day-to-day for eight years.

The Emmonses did a few small fundraisers, then hit on a winner: a golf and poker tournament, held at Lakewood Ranch Country Club. “We used to get 288 golfers, 125 people playing poker, 450



at the party at night,” Mike says. “Over a 10-year period, we were able to raise close to \$3 million doing that event.”

DOUBLE PLAY

They closed down the tournament after the one in 2022, partly because the scholarship had built a large enough endowment to be self-sustaining. If they don’t raise another dime, the scholarships will continue. Samantha Emmons, 28, Taylor’s younger sister, now runs the nonprofit as a volunteer.

Two years ago, the Emmonses handed over the scholarship money, about \$2 million, to ODA. “The stock market has done well in the last couple years, so there’s close to \$2.4 million in there presently,” Mike says. The school handles the investments and appropriates the funds. Mike and Katie select the scholarship beneficiaries. “The admissions office narrows it down to two or three applicants and we interview them and make the final decision,” Mike says.

The Emmonses are not done with their charitable pursuits at ODA. They’re starting a business school in Taylor’s name. Mike says he and his wife donated \$1 million to get it off the ground. “We’re in the process of designing the school,” he says. “It’ll be

in one building. We’ve hired an architect, we’ve hired a builder. [ODA] started business classes a couple of years ago and they’ve been a huge success.”

He hopes to see a groundbreaking within a year.

Meanwhile, Taylor Emmons is still very much a presence within his family. “[The grief] never goes away,” Mike says. “Does it get better? I’m not sure ‘better’ is the right word, but it gets more tolerable.”

A turning point came when “Katie and I just sat down and said to each other, ‘Look, this is a tragedy and what’s going to be an even worse tragedy is if we let it ruin our lives,’” Mike recalls. “We just made a conscious decision to move forward.”

Granting scholarships and building a business school have been a vital part of that process.

As for Austin Brinling, coaching kids baseball is a stopover, he says. He remains uncertain about his career path. Of one thing he is certain, though. “The scholarship changed the course of my life,” he says. “I’m blessed to say that I’m a Taylor Emmons scholar.”

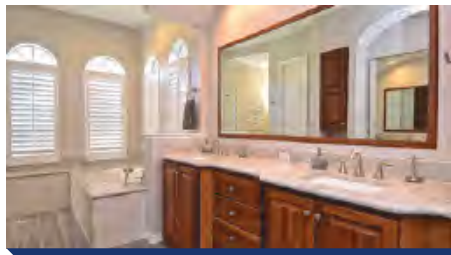


Courtesy Austin Brinling, who graduated from the Out-of-Door Academy in Lakewood Ranch in 2019, says he’s “blessed to say that I’m a Taylor Emmons scholar.”

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MARCH

THROUGH MARCH 9

CIRCUS SARASOTA

Circus Arts Conservatory presents its Circus Sarasota 2025 show. See award-winning international artists perform under an iconic red and white Big Top at Nathan Benderson Park, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota. Tickets are \$32-\$75; parking is \$10.

■ Visit CircusArts.org.

MARCH 1

TROPICAL NIGHTS

Join Meals on Wheels Plus for its annual Tropical Nights fundraiser, this year themed "Under Paris Lights." Guests will enjoy live and silent auctions, gourmet cuisine, cocktails and dancing. The fun starts at 6 p.m. at The Grove Ballroom, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, Lakewood Ranch. Tickets \$250.

■ Visit MealsOnWheelsPlus.org.

MARCH 2

FARMERS MARKET

Far from the typical farmers market, The Farmer's Market at Lakewood Ranch is a curated gathering of the best flavors in the region, cooking demonstrations and more. Visitors can purchase produce, meat, poultry, seafood, breads, pasta and other prepared foods from more than 100 vendors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Waterside Place, 1561 Lakefront Drive, Lakewood Ranch. Runs every Sunday.

■ Visit TheMarketLWR.com.

SARASOTA POLO

Come out to enjoy an afternoon of tailgating and polo. Gates open at 10 a.m., and matches start at 1 p.m. at the Sarasota Polo Club, 8201 Polo Club Lane, Lakewood Ranch. General admission tickets are available for purchase on Eventbrite; children 12 and under are free. Polo matches will be held every Sunday through April 10.

■ Visit SarasotaPolo.com.



Photo by Lesley Dwyer

MARCH 5

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Come to Lakewood Ranch Main Street from 5-8 p.m. for a car show celebrating the "classics." All are welcome to participate for just \$10 per vehicle, and there are no restrictions on year, make or model. Continues April 2 and May 7.

■ Visit CollectorCarsTV.com.

RANCH NITE WEDNESDAYS

This mid-week community Ranch Nite event features food trucks, cornhole, live music and to-go drinks from the local restaurants. The event is 6-9 p.m. at Waterside Place, 1561 Lakefront Drive, Lakewood Ranch, every Wednesday through May 28.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

MARCH 7

MUSIC ON MAIN

This monthly event returns on Lakewood Ranch's Main Street from 6-9

p.m. Enjoy a free concert by MonkeyFinger, food vendors, beer trucks and kids activities. Proceeds will benefit Lakewood Ranch Community Activities.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

MARCH 8-9

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Main Street at Lakewood Ranch. Shop an outdoor gallery of handmade fine arts and crafts including paintings, glasswork, woodworking and more. Admission is free.

■ Visit ParagonFestivals.com.

MARCH 13

SUNSET POLO HAPPY HOUR

Come out to enjoy an evening of tailgating and polo at Sarasota Polo Club, 8201 Polo Club Lane, Lakewood Ranch. Gates open at 4:30 p.m., and

Anne Bellinder, owner of Happy Flowers, has a tent set up at the first Ranch Nite Wednesday of the 2024 season.

Continued on Page 54



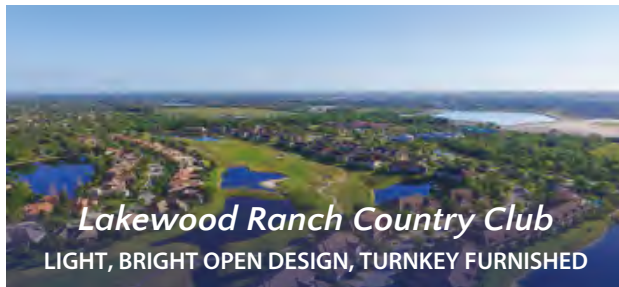
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Continued from Page 52

the match begins at 5:30 p.m. General admission tickets are available for purchase on Eventbrite; children 12 and under are free. Runs Thursdays through April 10.

■ Visit SarasotaPolo.com.

PURIM MASQUERADE PARTY

Celebrate Purim with Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch at a masquerade party starting at 8 p.m. at the Chabad House, 5712 Lorraine Road, Lakewood Ranch. Enjoy Megillah readings, drinks, music and a masquerade. Admission is free.

■ Visit ChabadOfBradenton.com.

MARCH 14 MOVIE IN THE PARK

The family-friendly free movie night runs the second Friday of each month at Waterside Park, 7301 Island Cove Terrace, Lakewood Ranch. The movie will begin at sunset and is sponsored by Grace Community Church, which will provide a free popsicle from Sista Pops to the first 300 attendees. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs. Concessions will be available from We B' Poppin Popcorn and Kettle Corn. Face painting and inflatables will be available for the kids. Continues April 11 and May 9.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

MARCH 15 IRISH CELTIC FESTIVAL

For those of Irish Celtic descent or those who just want to be Irish for the day, this event features the luck of the Irish with traditional food, craft beers, hard ciders, live music and dance performances from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Greenbrook Adventure Park, 13010 Adventure Place, Lakewood Ranch.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

MARCH 20 HERMITAGE SUNSETS @ NATHAN BENDERSON PARK

Hermitage Artist Retreat gives audiences a sneak peek at works, such as plays and operas, that often eventually appear on renowned stages with its Hermitage Sunsets program. The final event of the program's debut season begins at 6:30 p.m. at Nathan Benderson Park, 5851 Nathan Benderson Park Circle, Sarasota. Folding chairs



Photo by Lesley Dwyer

are put out, but guests are welcome to bring their own chairs and blankets. Registration is \$5 and required.

■ Visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

UTC NIGHT MARKET

University Town Center's monthly night market is 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the West District at UTC, 125 N. Cattlemen Road, Sarasota. Enjoy live music and more than 35 local vendors selling gifts, jewelry, art, handmade goods and more.

■ Visit UTCSarasota.com.

MARCH 22 MAIN STREET MARKET

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Lakewood Ranch Main Street, more than 70 small and local businesses will be out with gifts, candles, baked goods, hand-crafted jewelry and more at the boutique market, hosted by Main Street Market LWR.

■ Visit MainStreetMarketLWR.com.

WALK MS

Advocate for additional MS research, funding and other steps toward a cure with National Multiple Sclerosis Society's fundraising walk. The program starts at 8:45 a.m., and the walk kicks off at 9 a.m. from the Nathan Benderson Park pavilion, 700 N. Cattlemen Road, Sarasota. A 1-mile

route and a 3-mile route are available. Participants who raise at least \$100 will receive a T-shirt.

■ Visit NathanBendersonPark.org.

SPRING ART SHOW AND SALE

Creative Arts Association of Lakewood Ranch presents its annual Spring Art Show and Sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall, 8175 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., Lakewood Ranch. Browse art from a variety of mediums including acrylics, jewelry, ceramic and mixed media. Admission and parking are free.

■ Visit CAALR.com.

MARCH 29 MY HOMETOWN FEST

This regional food and craft beer sampling event at Nathan Benderson Park, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota, features food, beer, children's activities, vendor booths, exhibits and live music. Gates are open from noon to 5 p.m. Admission including food, craft beer and spirits samples is \$40; admission with food only is \$30; kids 12 and under are free. Parking is \$10. Proceeds benefit Sertoma Club of Greater Sarasota and Sertoma Kids.

■ Visit MyHometownFest.com.

Bagpipe players lead the dogs in the Lucky Dog Parade at the 2024 Irish Celtic Festival.

Continued on Page 56


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APRIL

APRIL 4 MUSIC ON MAIN

This monthly event returns on Lakewood Ranch's Main Street from 6-9 p.m. Enjoy a free concert by Sweet Fleet, food vendors, beer trucks and kids activities. Proceeds will benefit MVP Feel Good Fund.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

APRIL 12 EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Bring your baskets and kids to Lakewood Ranch's longest-running egg hunt from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Waterside Park, 7301 Island Cove Terrace, Lakewood Ranch. More than 25,000 eggs will be spread across the field and separated by age to maximize the excitement. Participant tickets are \$10 for residents and \$20 for nonresidents; parents free.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

APRIL 16-19 LECOM SUNCOAST CLASSIC

Begins at 8 a.m. each day at Lakewood National Golf Club, 17605 Lakewood National Parkway, Lakewood Ranch. The Korn Ferry Tour's LECOM Suncoast Classic offers golf fans an opportunity to see future PGA Tour stars. Enjoy Lakewood National Golf Club's views and watch some of the world's best golfers compete for a \$1 million purse. Activities, food trucks and vendors will be on-site throughout the weekend. Single-day tickets are \$20; weekly tickets are \$60; children 17 and younger, military, first responders and teachers are free.

■ Visit LECOMSuncoastClassic.com.

APRIL 22 WATER CONSERVATION WATERSHED WORKSHOP

Build your own small-scale watershed while learning about water conservation and how you can help protect watersheds in the area. Begins at 4 p.m. on the back lawn at the Lakewood Ranch Library, 16410 Rangeland Parkway, Lakewood Ranch. Registration is required.

■ Visit ManateeLibrary.libcal.com/calendar.



Photo by Jay Heater

APRIL 26 YOUTH & TEEN FISHING SEMINAR

Children can learn the basics of fishing with the help of the Lakewood Ranch Angler's Club in preparation for the Youth Fishing Tournament in October. The seminar will be held at Summerfield Park, 6402 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., Lakewood Ranch. Hour-long sessions are at 10 a.m. or noon.

■ Visit MyLWR.com.

SEEING FLORIDA HERITAGE THROUGH ARCHAEOLOGY

Hear archaeological insights into Florida history at Braden River Branch Library, 4915 53rd Ave. E., Bradenton. The Friends of Braden River Library hosts a presentation on the dynamics of heritage at 11 a.m. in Meeting Room 205 in the West Wing. Registration is required.

■ Visit ManateeLibrary.libcal.com/calendar.

MAY

MAY 2 MUSIC ON MAIN

This monthly event returns on Lakewood Ranch's Main Street from 6-9 p.m. Enjoy a free concert by Bluestar, food vendors, beer trucks and kids activities. Proceeds will benefit Lakewood Ranch Community Foundation.

■ Visit LakewoodRanch.com.

MAY 3 SUP & RUN 5K

Dine and drink rum in a libation lounge after this SUP and Run 5K event benefiting veterans group Operation Second Chance and RUCK9. Admission is \$50; ages 14 and younger are \$28. Paddleboards are available for a \$55 rental fee. The handcycle and wheelchair division is free admission. All races start at 8 a.m. at Nathan Benderson Park, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota.

■ Visit PaddleSignup.com.

MAY 10 PETER RABBIT'S GARDEN TEA PARTY

Celebrate the special moms in your life with the Peter Rabbit's Garden Tea Party at Braden River Branch Library, 4915 53rd Ave. E., Bradenton. From 11 a.m. to noon, enjoy tea, snacks and crafts. Registration is required.

■ Visit ManateeLibrary.libcal.com/calendar.

MAY 21 TOWN HALL WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONER GEORGE KRUSE

Manatee County residents are invited to join at-large Commissioner George Kruse in a Q&A on county-related topics at 6 p.m. at Lakewood Ranch Library, 16410 Rangeland Parkway, Lakewood Ranch.

■ Visit ManateeLibrary.libcal.com/calendar.

Lakewood Ranch's Kaden Stalnaker, 2, and Savannah Stalnaker, 4, begin to open their eggs at the 2024 Eggstravaganza.

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Pick a Park and Pet a Pup

Dogs are everywhere in Lakewood Ranch, and their owners love to talk. Ask questions, and you'll learn a lot about their favorite outdoor spaces. [Scan the QR Code](#) for a list of our Lakewood Ranch Parks.



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Spring is calling. It's time to refresh your essentials for outdoor adventures.

BY KELLY FORES | CONTRIBUTOR

Village Bikes

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Women's Nike Air Zoom Lite 3 Tennis Shoe: \$74.95

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5275 University Parkway, University Park
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Proper footwear is critical for all outdoor endeavors. On and off the court, these women's Nike tennis shoes give off a retro vibe and match (no pun intended) everything. Guys will find these Merrells not only perfect for hiking but for everyday wear as well.

Continued on Page 60



Men's Merrell Moab Speed 2 Hiking Shoe: \$139.95

Continued from Page 59

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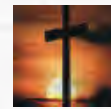
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HOOKED ON FUN

Fishing Fresh in Lakewood Ranch

With its many lakes, Lakewood Ranch offers prime fishing spots that invite anglers to cast a line amidst serene surroundings, whether they're seeking a quiet escape or the thrill of reeling in the catch of the day.

BY EMILY LEINFUSS | CONTRIBUTOR



Photo by Liz Ramos
Jaydyn Boucher has
been fishing since she
could hold a fishing rod.

If you ask Lakewood Ranch fishing enthusiasts why they favor casting their lines in local lakes and ponds over pursuing tarpon and snook along the Gulf shores just to the west, many will tell you it's the thrill of reeling in largemouth bass. This iconic freshwater predator accounts for nearly 90% of the catches in the area and keeps anglers coming back for more. For members of the Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club (LWRAC), however, the answer is more about enjoying an incredibly relaxing pastime and connecting with nature, family and the community — close to home.

Anyway, who says you have to choose?

CASTING A LIFELONG PASSION

Since 1998, the Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club has been dedicated to sharing the love of fishing with residents of all ages. Current club President Ed Van Stedum has been a lifelong fishing enthusiast. "I grew up in the Midwest and have fished from Anchorage to Miami and many points in between," he shares. Van Stedum is also a certified vessel safety check inspector and an active member of the Manatee Sail and Power Squadron.

For the past 17 years, Van Stedum has dedicated himself to organizing fishing events for children, with the last three years focused on Lakewood Ranch.

"My passion is not only fishing but giving back to the community — which is one of the principal goals of the Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club. We want to inspire a lifelong connection to nature while teaching kids about fishing safety and environmental stewardship," he explains.

Reflecting on his favorite moments, he adds, "There's nothing like seeing a child smile as they reel in their first big fish."

Nancy Frederick, former secretary of the LWRAC, shares a similar sentiment. Taught to fish by her grandfather when she was a young girl in Cleveland, Frederick has always found joy in the sport. "Fishing brings people together," she says. "When I see a girl fishing, it warms my heart — it's a great reminder that this isn't just a man's sport."

Continued on Page 70



Photo by Emily Leinfuss

For the past 17 years, Ed Van Stedum has dedicated himself to organizing fishing events for children.



Van Stedum proudly displays a vibrant redfish caught in the Gulf.



Van Stedum with a teen tournament participant.

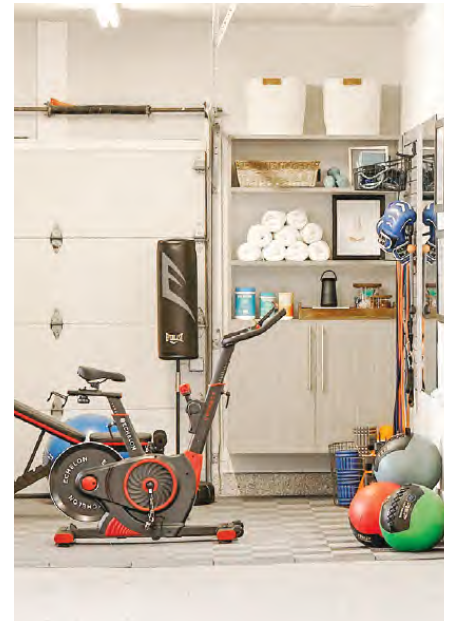
Courtesy photos

“

We want to inspire a lifelong connection to nature while teaching kids about fishing safety and environmental stewardship. ED VAN STEDUM

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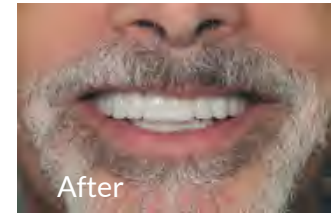
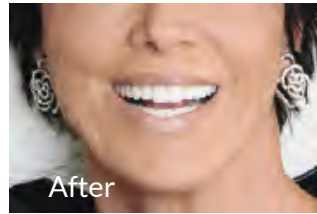


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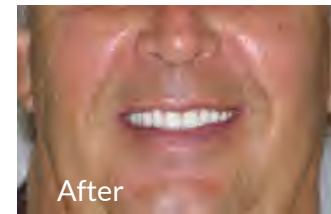
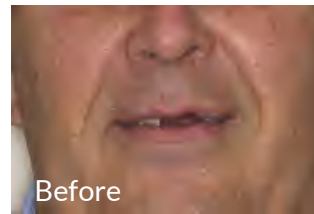
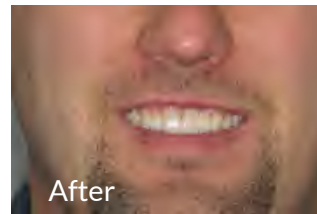
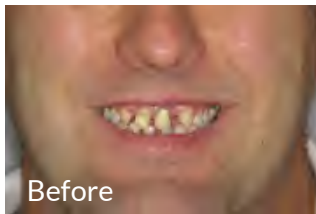
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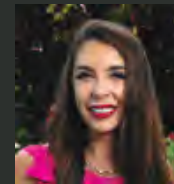
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Continued from Page 66

THE JOYS OF LAKEWOOD RANCH FISHING

Lakewood Ranch, with its abundance of lakes, offers prime fishing locations, including Lake Uihlein, Summerfield Lake and Patton Lake, where anglers can find largemouth bass, catfish, bream and tilapia. Both Frederick and Van Stedum also have waterway backyards. "Living on a lake is a dream come true," says Van Stedum. Frederick agrees, adding that her son visits just to fly-fish in their backyard pond. "There's something special about spotting fish and targeting them on the water's surface — it's like solving a puzzle," she says.

FISH TALES AND MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Nothing beats a good fishing story, says Van Stedum, as he recalls a tournament right before Hurricane Milton hit, when the fish went into a feeding frenzy. "The kids caught more fish



Photo by Emily Leinfuss

Nancy Frederick, former secretary of the LWRAC, was taught to fish by her grandfather as a young girl in Cleveland.

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Continued from Page 70

than ever, and we saw a lot of smiling faces. Parents often thank us for getting their kids off phones and tablets and introducing them to nature.”

And it’s not just the kids who benefit. Often, grandparents bring their grandchildren to LWRAC events. “It’s a way to pass along a passion and make new memories,” Van Stedum notes.

Both Van Stedum and Frederick extend their fishing adventures beyond Lakewood Ranch — and they’re not alone. The Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club organizes group trips to saltwater fishing hotspots, such as Islamorada, famously known as the sport fishing capital of the world. The club also facilitates casual meetups along local beaches and has resumed bass fishing trips to Lake Okeechobee after a pandemic hiatus.

Frederick recalls a time when the club needed several charter captains to accommodate everyone for a fishing trip on the vast waters of south-central



Photo by Liz Ramos
Lindsey Carr helps her daughter Joslyn Carr cast her line.

Continued on Page 74

THE LWR ANGLER’S CLUB: MORE THAN FISHING

The LWR Anglers Club hosts monthly meetings with guest speakers, refreshments, and plenty of fish tales. But its real focus is on education and community. The club’s cornerstone events include:

Events are currently scheduled for March 18 and May 17, 10-11 a.m., at James L. Patton Park.

Youth & Teen Fishing Seminar: Scheduled for April 26, this is where teens up to 19 years old can learn the fundamentals of fishing in preparation for the Fall Fishing Tournament. Learn more at LakewoodRanch.com.

Annual Fishing Seminar: Held at Summerfield Park each spring, kids learn about different types of bait, casting techniques, knot-tying, fishing etiquette, and conservation at various stations. Thanks to donations from Fish Florida, each child goes home with a free rod and reel.

Fall Fishing Tournament: Held at Lake Uihlein in October, this family-friendly competition includes trophies for the longest combined length of fish caught, lunch from local sponsors, and, of course, plenty of smiles.

Bi-Monthly “Learn to Fish” sessions: Designed for beginners to learn the basics and for seasoned anglers to brush up on their skills. Topics include safety, bait techniques, and catch-and-release practices.

Except where noted, event registration is online at mylwr.com/cms/community-activities.

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Continued from Page 72

Florida's iconic Lake Okeechobee, the second-largest natural freshwater lake contained entirely in the contiguous United States. "One of our members was sitting on a metal chair aboard a sand boat — a vessel designed for shallow or sandy areas — when the mounting frame or stabilizing bracket gave way," she says. "He went straight into the lake with all his gear." Fortunately, the only casualty was his cell phone as the group quickly pulled him back aboard.

Van Stedum enjoys both freshwater and saltwater fishing on his two boats. For freshwater excursions, he takes out his Xpress Bass Boat on nearby lakes that allow motorized fishing, including Lake Manatee. In saltwater, he navigates his Beavertail Skiff, targeting trout, snook, and tarpon.

It's important to note that most lakes in Lakewood Ranch prohibit fishing from boats, with a few exceptions, such as Trophy Lake and Otter

Continued on Page 76



Parker Ramos shows off his catch. The Youth and Teen Fishing Tournament is a tradition for his family.

Photo by Liz Ramos



Lake Uihlein

Courtesy of Nancy Frederick

“There’s nothing like seeing a child smile as they reel in their first big fish.” ED VAN STEDUM

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File photo
The Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club shows children various lures they could use when fishing.

Continued from Page 74

Lake. Even then, there are restrictions: boats must be no longer than 14 feet, and only non-motorized vessels like kayaks are sometimes permitted. As a result, "most of the fishing here is done from the shore," Van Stedum explains.

FISHING SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY

Safety and environmental stewardship are at the heart of every LWR Anglers Club event. Members emphasize teaching children to respect wildlife, steer clear of alligators, and clean up fishing lines to protect birds and other animals. "There's a blue heron on Lido Beach we call 'Hook,' because it has visible scars from a fishing hook removal," Frederick explains.

The group also stresses the importance of using proper equipment for safe and enjoyable fishing. "Always wear gloves when handling fish like catfish — they can be brutal," warns Van Stedum. He also advises keeping pliers handy for gently removing hooks during catch-and-release fishing, which is required in most Lakewood Ranch waters and mandatory for Lakewood Ranch Anglers Club events. The club also promotes the use of artificial bait, such as Texas-rigged plastic worms, which are safer and cleaner for kids and more environmentally friendly.

PREMIER TACKLE

Fishing in Lakewood Ranch blends community involvement with access to quality gear, thanks to local experts like those at Premier Tackle on Lakewood Ranch Blvd. Captain Jordan Grabski, a Bradenton native and Premier Tackle employee, brings extensive experience to the area's fishing scene.

"Premier supports local events by donating gear like lures and hooks, and we assist families with rigging, casting, and fishing basics," he says. "It's rewarding to see families enjoying fishing with the gear we've provided." The store offers child-friendly equipment, including superhero-themed Zebco rods for toddlers. For adults, the Shimano Nasci series, particularly the 2500 and 3000 models paired with a 7-foot rod, is a top seller.

When it comes to lures, Grabski recommends:

Whopper Poppers: Noisy topwater baits that attract bass.

Chatter Baits: Easy to use and effective for mid-water fishing.

Texas-Rigged Senko Worms: Perfect for fishing in heavy vegetation.

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Photo by Liz Ramos

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REFLECTING ON CHANGES

Despite the club's efforts to promote environmental awareness, stewardship and safety, fishing in Lakewood Ranch has undergone significant changes over the years. Frederick reflects on her early days in the community: "We built our first two houses here in '98 and '99, when there were only about 2,000 people. We lived in Edgewater Cove and would take a little jon boat out on Lake Uihlein, behind Town Hall. Back then, there were hardly any homes and we were catching bass that weighed 8 to 10 pounds," she recalls.

Frederick notes how much the area's lakes have changed over time. "There's more water runoff now from all the buildings and condos, and I don't see as many people fishing or boating as we did in the late '90s and early 2000s. It's just not the same as it used to be."

Then Frederick remembers an adventurous day on Lake Uihlein that highlights both the challenges and charm of fishing in Lakewood Ranch. "We took the jon boat out on the lake. I was with my son when a big storm rolled in out of nowhere. With only a battery-operated motor, the waves got really high. Thankfully, a kind lady came out from her dock and let us bring the boat ashore. We walked home through the rainstorm, but 20 minutes later, we were back out fishing. It's one of those memories that makes fishing so special."

Avery Green, his dad, Steve Green, and brother Ashton Green, are new to fishing after moving from New Jersey to the area.

“
Parents often thank us for getting their kids off phones and tablets and introducing them to nature.”

ED VAN STEDUM

Learn more about the Lakewood Ranch Angler's Club on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/2593067207503032, and on the Lakewood Ranch Community Activities website at mylwr.com/cms/community-activities.

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— HOOPS LEGEND —

RICK BARRY

This part-time Lakewood Ranch resident was one of the most prolific scorers and accurate free throw shooters in basketball's history.

BY ERIC SNIDER | CONTRIBUTOR

"I'm here to see Rick Barry," I told the guard at the gate.

"Who?" asked the guard, who looked to be about 30.

"Rick Barry. I should be on a list," I replied.

"Rick Barry? The Rick Barry, the basketball player? He lives here?"

"That's him."

After the guard cleared me to enter Lakewood Ranch's Lakewood National community and just as I was pulling away, he called out, "Can I come with you to the interview?"

I think he was serious.

His reaction surprised me. The name Rick Barry, Basketball Hall of Famer, is more apt to resonate with baby boomers. He's a bona fide hoops legend, who also made his mark as a TV color analyst. The National Basketball Association named him one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History when the league celebrated its half-century anniversary in 1996. Twenty-five years later the league unveiled its 75th Anniversary Team, and Barry was among the 75 players honored.

He also stirred up his share of controversy, both during and after his playing days, and was widely reviled by his peers. His former teammate and friend, Billy Paultz, once said, half-jokingly, "Half the players disliked Rick. The other half hated him."



Courtesy photos
Barry played for the University of Miami (top). He then spent most of his NBA career with the Golden State Warriors (bottom).

Barry is 80 now and spends the winter months in a unit of a quadplex that overlooks Lakewood National's golf course. Largely because he plays a lot of pickleball at various courts in Lakewood Ranch, Barry gets recognized and approached regularly, mostly by boomers who know him from his basketball days. "People ask me, 'Don't you get bothered?'" I say, "Hell, at my age it's nice that people still remember me." If I'm not too busy, I'm glad to take a photo with people. I feel honored.

Barry lives with his wife, Lynn, in a home that overlooks the 10th hole. On this hot mid-afternoon in early December, the balcony was roasting in the sun, so Barry suggested the living room for our interview.

He's still a lanky 6-foot-7. His body has all of its original joints, which is saying something when you consider his age and the pounding his body took during a 15-year pro career. His knees aren't in great shape and his back gives him trouble, he says, but it's nothing he can't overcome with a good stretching routine.

Barry was dressed in monochrome — royal blue shorts, Crocs and a T-shirt representing the Golden State Warriors, the team he played for most of his career and led to an NBA Championship in 1975.

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Photos by Lori Sax
The National Basketball
Association named
Rick Barry one of the
50 Greatest Players in
NBA History in 1996.

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Lynn was on her way out to play pickleball. I asked the couple how long they've been married.

"Thirty-four years," she replied.

Barry chimed in. "Yeah, but I count 39, because of the five years of relentless pursuit." He grinned at his wife, causing her to roll her eyes.

Lynn, 65, was a baller, too. The St. Petersburg native played for William & Mary in Virginia, setting 11 school records in four seasons, two as captain.

The Barrys spend the other half of the year in Colorado Springs, their primary residence for nearly 40 years. They've wintered in Lakewood Ranch since 2017. "We wanted to be near her parents once our son Canyon went off to college," Rick explains. "We visited The Villages, then we heard about Lakewood Ranch. It's closer to her parents, and closer to airports. And we just liked it here more. I mean, it's too busy up in The Villages."



Continued on Page 84

Barry spends his days playing pickleball, riding his bicycle and working out in his Lakewood Ranch neighborhood's exercise facility.

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Continued from Page 82

Barry spends his days playing pickleball, riding his bicycle and working out in the neighborhood's exercise facility. "I'm not super-social," he says. "We rarely go out to eat. I'd just as soon stay home, make a nice salad, eat healthy."

A NATURAL

Richard Francis Dennis Barry III grew up in Roselle Park in northern New Jersey. His father coached him during his early basketball days, stressing fundamentals. Barry played on the junior high team when he was in the fifth grade. He starred in basketball and baseball in high school, but ultimately focused on hoops, playing games in the park, and drilling when no one was around.

At the urging of his father, Barry switched to using a two-hand, under-hand technique to shoot free throws. Despite his myriad achievements and laurels, Barry's decidedly uncool, "granny" foul-shot style is probably what he's most noted for. Not for nothing, his NBA free throw percentage was 89.98%, fourth best of all time.

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RICK BARRY



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A STELLAR PRO CAREER, WITH OBSTACLES

The San Francisco Warriors selected Barry second in the 1965 NBA draft. He told me that the team offered him an initial yearly salary of \$12,500, which he negotiated up to \$15,000, plus a \$3,000 signing bonus. "I was as happy as a pig in slop," Barry says. "Somebody was paying me \$18,000 to play basketball."

He earned Rookie of the Year honors, then in his second season led the league in scoring with a 35.6-per-game average and was named to the All-NBA First Team. (Wilt Chamberlain won MVP.)

Barry was the first athlete in major American professional sports to challenge the onerous "reserve clause," which gave teams the right to renew a player's contract automatically, binding him to the franchise and making free agency effectively impossible. The Oakland Oaks of the upstart American Basketball Association made Barry a substantial monetary offer, and promised to bring in Hale, his father-in-law, as head coach.

The Warriors exercised the reserve clause. The courts ruled against Barry and said he would have to sit out the 1967-'68 season to play for the Oaks. Call it stubborn, call it principled, but that's what Barry did.

Three years later, baseball player Curt Flood filed suit to challenge the reserve clause, and in 1972 the U.S. Supreme Court struck it down in a landmark case. Although Barry gets little credit, he helped open the floodgates that see top NBA stars making in excess of \$50 million a year.

With his stats, Barry would certainly command a mega-contract if he were playing today. "It's hard for me to wrap my head around the idea that I would make \$60 million playing basketball, with \$300 million guaranteed for five years," he says, shaking his head and grinning.

Looking back, Barry says, "I don't think I was ever in the top 15 in salaries in the NBA, which I should have been. But I didn't play for the money. From a business standpoint, I was stupid."



Barry is still a lanky 6-foot-7. His body has all of its original joints, which is saying something when you consider his age and the pounding his body took during a 15-year pro career.

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SCAN ME

Barry won an ABA championship in his first year with the Oaks and went on to play three more seasons in the struggling league before signing again with the Warriors. The 1974-'75 season marked the pinnacle of his career. In the NBA Finals, Golden State was a heavy underdog to the powerhouse Washington Bullets but won the championship in a four-game sweep. Barry won MVP. "It was the greatest upset in the history of major sports in the United States," he declares, leaning forward, hands on knees.

That's classic Barry — sure of his opinions and blunt in delivering them. These traits earned him a reputation as being difficult, and worse. Slate once referred to Barry as "the most arrogant, impossible son of a b— to ever play the game of basketball." His one-time teammate Mike Dunleavy told the Chicago Tribune, "You could send him to the U.N., and he'd start World War III."

In 1983, Barry conceded to Sports Illustrated, "I acted like a jerk ... I was an easy person to hate. And I can understand that."

CALLING GAMES

Barry's unabashed candor didn't do his broadcasting career any favors. "You're supposed to be a dumb jock," he says. "I wasn't afraid to freaking speak my mind."

Barry maintains that his penchant for criticizing teams and players — pointing out mistakes in a way that today would be considered anodyne — labeled him as being too negative. "There are good things and bad things that happen in games," Barry says. "I talked about both of them."

While working as an analyst during the 1981 NBA Finals, Barry made an offhand reference to his broadcast colleague Bill Russell's "watermelon grin." A backlash ensued. Barry claimed not to have known about the remark's racist overtones and apologized. CBS did not renew his contract for the following year. "If I had said 'Cheshire cat grin,' it would've been fine," he says with a tinge of rue. Barry later went on to call games for TBS and TNT.

FINISHED WITH HOOPS, BUT NOT WITH COMPETITION

Barry told me he never played basketball after retiring in 1980, save for



some short stints during games at his camps. But he continued to crave competition. Barry turned his attention to long-drive tournaments in golf — he reckons his best was about 360 yards — and won four world championships in his age group.

He played a lot of tennis but by his early 70s felt that the sport was getting too hard on his body. Someone recommended pickleball. "What's pickleball?" he remembers asking. Barry gave it a shot and "fell in love with it." But merely playing recreational games at local courts wouldn't cut it.

"I thought, 'OK, I'm going to get good enough to win a national championship [in his age group],'" he says. With his size, wingspan and the advanced hand-eye coordination of an elite athlete, he got very good very fast. And sure enough, Barry has won several championships at the national level. (For you pickleballers, he ranks himself a 4.5 — out of 5 — player.)

Barry is fortunate to be playing any sport these days. In July 2014, he suffered a horrific accident while cycling

Barry was nicknamed the "Miami Greyhound" by long-time San Francisco Bay Area broadcaster Bill King because of his long and slender physical build, whippet-like quickness, and remarkable instincts.

Continued on Page 90

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Barry has won several pickleball championships at the national level


Continued from Page 88

in Colorado Springs, fracturing his pelvis in six places. He was flown to a trauma center outside Denver, where Dr. Nimesh Patel performed a six-hour surgery. Barry has an Erector Set's worth of rods, pins and screws in his right hip area. (I can attest; he texted me an X-ray.) "I thank God every day for Dr. Patel," Barry gushes. "After the surgery, he said, 'Rick, if you had the bones of a man your age, I could never have operated on you.'"

Barry spent three months in a wheelchair and several weeks at a rehab facility in Colorado Springs. Early on, he joined a physical therapy class with some elderly folks. Their wheelchairs formed a circle and they started passing a light ball between them. The hoops Hall of Famer wasn't having it. "I talked to the lady that was running it," Barry recalls, "and I said, 'Excuse me, I think I can throw and catch a ball. This is not working for me. I need rehab so that I can get out and have my life back.'"

Barry says he was up and functioning well in about six months. He's deeply grateful for his return to form. "I'm a Type A personality," he says. "For me not to be active would be, like — my God, I can't imagine it."

The school's Hall of Fame website calls Barry "the greatest basketball player in University of Miami history."



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Cultivating Creativity



Members of the Creative Arts
Association of Lakewood Ranch
unite to inspire each other and
create community awareness.

BY SU BYRON | MANAGING EDITOR



Photos by Lori Sax
Stacey Lipton's captivating
watercolor paintings capture the
beauty and essence of nature.

Lakewood Ranch is known for its scenic parks and landscapes, friendly communities, lively dining and social scene, and abundance of recreational activities — but it's also a hub for creativity.

Alongside musical ensembles and craft groups, many visual artists and artisans have found a home here. Over the years, they have come together through the Creative Arts Association of Lakewood Ranch, which has been fostering artistic talent and connection since 2001.

What began as a small gathering of local artists has grown into a thriving organization with more than 35 members, ranging from emerging talents to seasoned professionals. Their works span a variety of mediums, including painting, pottery, mixed-media, fiber art, jewelry and stained glass.

“Advancing the arts, supporting local artists, and providing a platform for their talents has always been our goal,” says CAA’s president Carol Krah. Twenty-four years later, that vision is alive and flourishing.

THE ARTISTS BEHIND THE WORK

According to Krah, CAA members offer supportive critiques, exchange ideas and launch collaborations. She explains that artists interested in joining the Creative Arts Association must go through a jurying process to ensure their work meets the organization’s high standards of quality and craftsmanship. This helps maintain a vibrant and diverse community of talented artists. She adds that members do not have to live in Lakewood Ranch, although a majority do.

The association’s tapestry of talent is impressive, with artists expressing their creativity in unique and varied ways. **SUE KERR’S** clay sculptures reflect her joy in the creative process, embracing lighthearted and whimsical designs. **BARBARA KAPLAN**, owner of CassieCatClayworks, creates functional and decorative ceramics that celebrate individuality, spanning low-fire earthenware, mid-fire stoneware, and experimental Raku firing. **ELAINE VAUGHN** specializes in one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces crafted with seed beads, Swarovski crystals, gemstones, and sterling silver, blending ele-

“*The artists themselves are the heart of our association.*”

CAROL KRAH

Below: “Joy Ride” by Susan Kerr



gance with individuality. **SHARON TELL WOOD’S** paintings and pastels span a range of creative expressions, including highly stylized interiors, impressionistic landscapes and kinetic abstractions.

“The artists themselves are the heart of our association,” says Krah. “We work across a vast range of media — the love of creation is something we all share.”

In addition to supporting individual artists, CAA donates scholarships to ArtCenter Manatee’s summer children’s camp. “We sponsor two or three children every year,” notes Krah. “We’re committed to the next generation of creative minds. These initiatives aim to ignite a lifelong passion for the arts and inspire the next generation of creative minds.”

The association holds four meetings every year, along with a potluck dinner. CAA also hosts two annual juried exhibitions in November and March. Its 2025 Spring Art Show & Sale takes place March 22 at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall.

Three CAA artists recently shared their insights with us.

Continued on Page 96



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Carol Krah proudly displays her intricate stained-glass creations, featuring vibrant hanging planters that bring a touch of nature indoors.

Carol Krah

Lakewood Ranch resident Carol Krah joined the CAA of Lakewood Ranch in 2002 and has served as its president since 2016. Stained-glass artistry is her specialty. Krah's three-dimensional creations include stained glass flowerpots, hanging planters, holiday ornaments, pins and suncatchers. She finds inspiration in nature and light itself.

Artist origin story. "In the summer of 1991, I discovered a stained-glass class for adult students. After taking one class, I was immediately hooked. I've been creating my favorite things ever since."

The joy of creation. "Creating stained-glass art is very rewarding to me. That's why I named my business

Favorite Things in Stained Glass. I try to make pieces that make my heart sing and help others smile."

Creative process. "I hold each sheet of glass up to the light to see its color variations, texture and grainline. Then I'll glue or trace pattern pieces that best suit the piece. For example, plant leaves have definite grainlines; I'll try to match those to each glass leaf to make it as realistic as possible."

Artistic honor roll. "I find inspiration in Louis Comfort Tiffany's stained-glass panels, windows and lamps, and Marc Chagall's stained-glass windows. I've visited many museums, churches, and cathedrals to see their work." *Contact Carol at CarolrKrah@gmail.com.*



Krah's sailboat suncatchers glisten with textured clear glass sails and colorful boats, capturing the essence of breezy coastal charm.



Courtesy photo
Krah's "Bleeding Hearts A Flutter" hanging basket features delicate pink glass crystal flowers and buds.

Continued on Page 98

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Left to Right: Samuel Yelverton, MD,
Alexa Kinder, MSPAP, PA-C and David Dexter, MD, FACS

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Deborah Jernigan models one of her handwoven creations, a striking red shawl. Her work celebrates texture, color, and the artistry of weaving.



Deborah Jernigan

Fiber artist Deborah Jernigan learned to weave with natural fibers, such as alpaca, angora and wools, while living in the San Francisco Bay area. It wasn't her profession; she was working as a psychiatric emergency nurse at the time. In 2016, Jernigan and her husband moved to Lakewood Ranch. She adapted to the warmer climate by creating her elegant tunics, wraps, scarves and capelets from lighter fabrics, including linen, silk, rayon, chiffon and cotton.

Artist origin story. "Before embracing fiber arts, I'd previously been working with beads and some knitting. In 1993, my husband and I were visiting my sister in Asheville, N.C., when we came across the Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair. The vendor behind Ashford Knitters Looms was giving a demonstration. I was intrigued and amazed. When she was done, I immediately ordered two looms. I was hooked."

Weaving her worries away. "Weaving helped me deal with the stress of working as an RN in a psychiatric emergency room. It was a county hospital just outside San Francisco. We'd receive out-of-control patients with serious mental health and drug-related issues. My stress level was extremely high. I discovered that weaving let me relax and gave me the freedom to be creative. The

sense of inspiration and accomplishment was truly transformative."

Creative inspiration. "The patterns and textures of my woven designs really flow out of the natural yarns themselves. I'm inspired by their variety of textures and colors. Yarns can be smooth, rough, knotted, curly, thick, thin — you name it. There's an infinite rainbow of colors to choose from. When I work within these possibilities, creative ideas just naturally flow."

Favorite fibers. "I'm enamored with working with alpaca, angora and other wools. I love their feel, their warmth, and the fact that these animals are sheered, not killed. Alpaca's probably my all-time favorite. It really feels like you're petting the animal."

Artistic honor roll. "I take inspiration from a variety of other artists, books, nature and my own imagination. The artist who most inspired me was the woman who owned Amazing Yarns in Redwood City, Calif. She dealt directly with the farms that raised alpacas and spun their wool into incredible textured yarns. She was an amazing fiber artist — and really set a great example to follow." *Contact Deborah at DeborahJsDesigns@yahoo.com.*

Continued on Page 100



Above: Jernigan with her hand-dyed silk scarves, each a vibrant blend of colors and patterns.

Left: A woven work-in-progress
Below: Jernigan's vibrant creations reflect her mastery of blending fibers and hues into wearable art.



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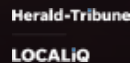
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Stacey Lipton

Lakewood Ranch resident Stacey Lipton's luminous watercolor paintings capture the beauty and essence of nature. Her work draws the eye with vibrant, layered hues and a soft, dreamlike quality. Lipton often draws inspiration from Florida's lush landscapes, tranquil waters and vivid flora, translating these scenes into art both that is both delicate and dynamic.

The wonder of watercolor. "As a paint medium, watercolor has a beautiful transparency. Its transparent quality allows light to pass through multiple layers of paint. That creates a sense of depth no other medium can. Watercolor is nontoxic, easy to set-up, clean and affordable in comparison to other mediums."

Making a scene. "I love painting Florida landscapes and sea life since this is my home. The Florida fauna of landscapes, water, sunsets and even

cloudy days gives a wealth of non-stop material to paint. I get inspiration from photographs that my husband and I take. I also keep a folder of future paintings waiting for my next opportunity to paint."

The joy of spontaneity. "The beauty of watercolor painting is that I'll begin some pieces with a definite plan while, with others, I might allow the watercolor to take over. This allows freedom and diversity. I do start with a general idea of what and how I want to paint, but I don't necessarily stick with it."

Artistic honor roll. "There are so many talented artists — it's difficult to narrow it down. My three favorite watercolorists are Beverly Perdue of Virginia; Shirley Trevena of Great Britain; and Alisha Farris of Missouri." *Visit Stacey Lipton Interiors on Facebook.*



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Stacey Lipton
in her studio.



"Underwater Turtle" by Stacey Lipton



"Under Sail with Dock" by Stacey Lipton



Lipton's paint box, filled with a spectrum of colors, serves as the foundation for her stunning watercolor creations.

IF YOU GO

What: Spring Art Show and Sale
Who: Members of the Creative Arts Association of Lakewood Ranch
Featured: Painting, jewelry, pottery, fabric arts, mixed-media, stained glass and more
Where: Lakewood Ranch Town Hall, 8175 Lakewood Ranch Blvd.
Admission: Free
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 22

For more information about the Creative Arts Association of Lakewood Ranch, visit CaaLR.com or email Carol Krah at CarolrKrah@gmail.com.

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HAVEN

SPOTLIGHTING LIFE ON THE RANCH

A home in the Country Club proves that a classic look never goes out of style. **PAGE 106**

Photos courtesy of
Arista Realty Group
A Palladian façade
sets the tone for
this 5,000-square-
foot, four-bedroom
lakeview home.

In the living room, shades of crème and blue create a soothing, seaside-inspired mood. The painting above the fireplace was created by the homeowner, Mary Ann Steinbock.





Timeless Appeal

This showplace in the Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club was just what buyers were seeking.

BY ROBERT PLUNKET | CONTRIBUTOR



A spacious outdoor living area provides all the amenities for Florida living, including an outdoor kitchen.

Like most homeowners, Robert and Mary Ann Steinbock were a little apprehensive when they recently put their Lakewood Ranch house on the market. Would it sell? At what price? And how easily? Today's market is a little unsettled, and who knows what might happen. The listing price was high — \$2.3 million. It was not new — built in 2007. And it wasn't full of the latest trends — no farmhouse sinks, no sliding barn doors.

Well, the Steinbocks needn't have worried. There were 14 viewings during the first three days. The house sold on the third day.

What went right? Clearly, this was a house people loved. Why?

The first rule of real estate — location — was a factor. The home is on a half-acre lot in the Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club, with a water view overlooking a lake toward the 16th hole of the King's Dunes Golf Course. Carefully planned vegetation give the property an unusual amount of privacy.

And the home's architectural style is a definite plus. It has a classical timeless look, full of Palladian and Georgian elements — columns and arches, terraces and enclosed gardens. Particular attention had been given to the scale and proportion of the rooms. They flow easily into each other yet still maintain their own sense of space. Interesting details are everywhere. At just under 5,000 square feet, the home is big but not overwhelming.

Continued on Page 110



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Continued from Page 108

It is one of those homes that has everything the high-end buyer is looking for, even things he might not think he needs, like an exercise room. The garage holds three cars and there is a separate golf cart space.

Each of the four bedrooms has an en suite bath. One of them, a sort of second primary, has a beverage bar with granite counter tops and built-in seating — it would make a great in-law suite. In fact, many of the rooms can be adapted for special purposes. Both Mary Ann and Bob have their own office, and it's hard to tell which one is nicer.

But what really sold the Steinbocks' home is its personality. It's a hard quality to define in a home, but it's like meeting a person you immediately like. There is something about the way they look — comfortable yet classy, with beautiful taste. Pleasant and relaxing. Authentic. Full of ideas and endearing little surprises.



Photo by Harry Sayer

Continued on Page 112 Robert and Mary Ann Steinbock relax in the living room of their elegant Country Club home.

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Continued from Page 110

The Steinbocks discovered Lakewood Ranch back in 2013 when Mary Ann was invited to a golf invitational at Lakewood Ranch Country Club.

“We knew that very fun day that this would be our new home,” she remembers. The couple is originally from Pittsburgh, where Robert owned a manufacturing company. They bought a house in Country Club and lived there for several years; then this home came on the market and Mary Ann fell in love.

“The incredible ceiling designs, the pillars, and the ledges throughout the house” were some of the features that immediately struck her and indeed, the home is full of details everywhere you look, be it the mosaics and tile work in the guest room baths, or the aquarium windows that open to the lanai. They enliven the house and go a long way to creating its unique personality.

The tone is set in the living room. Here the mood is traditional comfort, all done in shades of crème and blue.



Continued on Page 114 An intimate nook in the primary suite is the perfect place for catching up with the latest bestseller.

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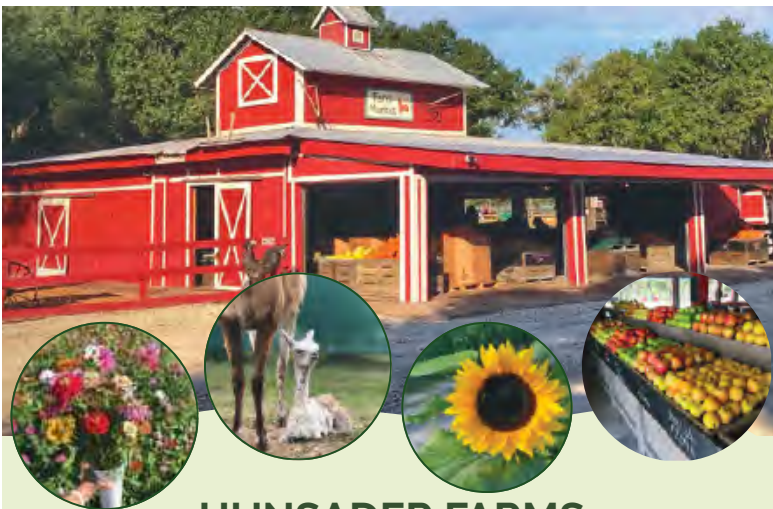
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Continued from Page 112

“The color scheme began with the rug,” Mary Ann explains. “It had colors of the sea and the sand.” She added a large painting over the fireplace to complement the space. The artist? Mary Ann herself. “I dabble in art and after attending a class in acrylic painting with texture, I created that piece.” Other examples of her work can be found throughout the home.

Among the home’s other surprises: the baby grand in the dining room. “We decided the room would get more use that way,” Mary Ann explains. “The acoustics are amazing!”

The mood changes a bit in the fam-

Each of the three guest bedrooms offers its own en suite bath, perfect for visiting grandchildren.

Continued on Page 116



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Continued from Page 114

ily room. Here the feeling is a little more contemporary. The blue and crème color scheme remains the same, with a comfortable sectional sofa and overstuffed armchairs and handy little tables for drinks and snacks. Just outside, overlooking the saltwater pool and spa, is an exceptionally well-equipped living area, with a full outdoor kitchen and fireplace. Here you'll find a built-in grill, sink and ample counter space. There's even an automated bug repellent system.

"We love to entertain on our lanai," Mary Ann says. "Our grandkids especially enjoy the swimming pool. And during the cooler days of winter, the fireplace and firepit table keep us warm and cozy."

The Steinbocks discovered that the kitchen didn't need much updating. They installed new countertops and repainted cabinets but the large prep island with a sink, the gas cooktop, butler's pantry and little touches like



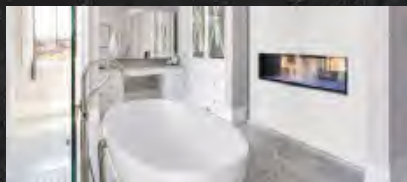
Continued on Page 118 The bright spacious kitchen features high-end appliances and several different dining areas for informal meals.

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Continued from Page 116

soft-close drawers were hard to improve upon, not to mention the special beverage refrigerator and separate wine cooler.

But perhaps the home's most distinctive space is the primary suite. Located in its own wing, it is entered through double doors leading into a vestibule. The bedroom is soft and luxurious, with elaborate ceiling moldings and a graceful chandelier. You will also find two large room-sized closets and a stylish bath complete with a soaking tub that looks out onto a walled garden. There is also a walk-in rain shower complete with multiple sprayers.

But there is an extra special detail in the primary suite that epitomizes the home's allure: an intimate sitting area tucked away in a corner, with a view to the lake. It's perfect for watching the late-night news or curling up with a good book on a lazy afternoon. It's yet another distinctive feature in a home that proves that classic style is the most timeless of all.



The Steinbocks have turned the dining room into a music room, complete with a baby grand piano. The acoustics? "Amazing!" Mary Ann reports.

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art and about

Springing into Spring

Spring is the season of renewal, rebirth and reinvention. The area art scene is no exception.

BY SU BYRON
MANAGING EDITOR

BOLD MOVES

Sarasota Contemporary Dance's "Dance Makers" brings together a striking mix of works by some of the most compelling choreographers on the scene. This season features pieces by Kristin O'Neal, Gregory Catellier, Bliss Kohlmyer, Rosanna Tavaréz and Sarasota's own Tania Vergara Perez. Whether you're deep into the dance world or just curious, this showcase offers a bold exploration of movement, creativity, and storytelling — each piece a unique perspective that's sure to leave an impression. *March 13-16 at FSU Center for the Performing Arts, 5555 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Info: SarasotaContemporaryDance.org.*



Courtesy of Sorcha Augustine Photography
Sarasota Contemporary Dance member Jordan Leonard.

REDEFINING CLASSICAL

The Grammy Award-winning Catalyst Quartet redefines classical music with dynamic performances and a mission to uplift young Black and Latinx musicians. The ensemble is celebrated for its innovative programming, blending familiar works with diverse influences. Artist Series Concerts brings them here in March, with a program featuring works by Gershwin, Piazzolla and Ravel. The quartet comprises Abi Fayette and Karla Donehew Perez on violin, Paul Laraia on viola and Karlos Rodriguez on cello. *March 30, 4 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak St., Sarasota. Visit ArtistSeriesConcerts.org.*

BRIDGING PERSPECTIVES

For 21 years, Embracing Our Differences has transformed Sarasota's Bayfront Park into a colorful outdoor gallery. The 2025 Sarasota exhibition runs through April 13 and features 50 billboard-sized works and inspiring quotes. Highlights include Amanda Marie's "Through Your Story," celebrating literature's power, and Junho Chung's "Nevertheless," a testament to resilience. "Best-in-Show" quotes include Kim Howard's "Choosing to speak when others are silent is an act of bravery this world needs," and Aashna Parsa's "We can choose to build bridges or spend a lifetime lost on our own islands." *Explore all the works and words online at EmbracingOurDifferences.org.*

CONSIDERING MATTHEW SHEPARD

Choral Artists of Sarasota brings Craig Hella Johnson's "Considering Matthew Shepard" to life — a poi-



The Grammy award-winning Catalyst Quartet, known for "perfect ensemble unity," will be performing as part of the Artist Series Concerts this March.



"What's Wrong with My Eyes" by Thi Huong Lien Pham, is part of Embracing Our Differences' 2025 outdoor exhibition at Sarasota's Bayfront Park.

Continued on Page 122

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Continued from Page 120

gnant cantata recounting the story of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man brutally attacked in Wyoming in 1998. Through its haunting melodies and hopeful message, the work envisions a world rooted in love and acceptance. April 5, 4 p.m., at The Venue @ LEC, 3650 17th St., Sarasota. Join Artistic Director Joseph Holt for a preview discussion with guest performances on March 27, 6 p.m., at 16 S. Palm Ave., Sarasota. Visit ChoralArtistsSarasota.org.

TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEYS

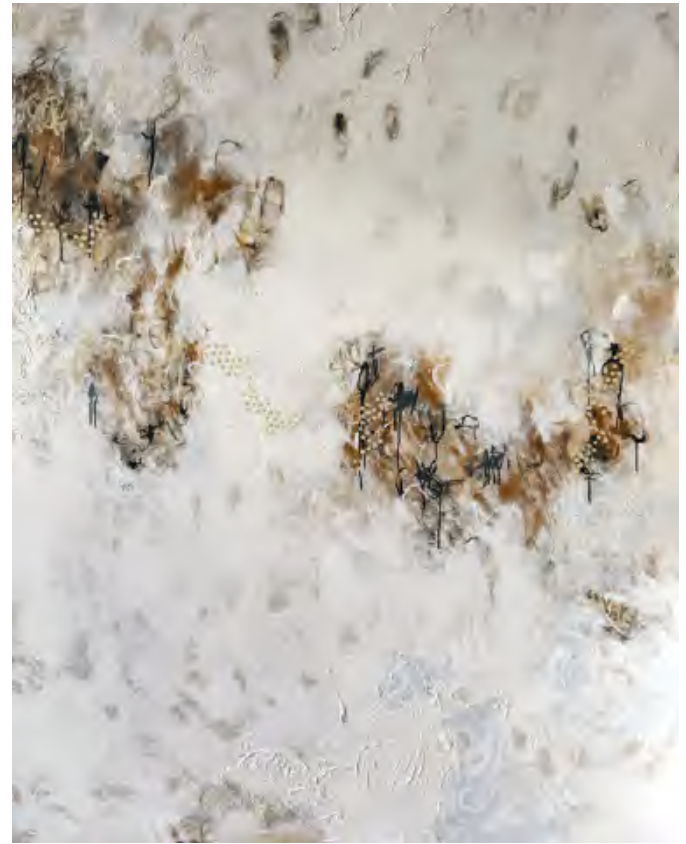
Mara Torres González's exhibition "Fragmenting Layers of the Soul" is a poignant exploration of healing after trauma. Through richly layered paintings, the artist delves into how emotions can feel fragmented or concealed until a safe space allows for expression. Vibrant colors symbolize specific emotions, culminating in a final white layer that signifies healing and resolution. This transformative journey celebrates resilience, courage and empathy. Inviting personal reflection,

the exhibition offers viewers a chance to connect deeply with universal emotions and the art of self-reclamation. February 27 to March 31 at MARA Art Studio + Gallery, 76 S. Palm Ave., Sarasota. Visit MaraStudioGallery.com.

SIX-STRING HISTORY LESSON

Once upon a time in America, Robert Johnson sold his soul to the devil so he could play a damn good guitar. Or so the story goes. Nobody knows if it's true, but it's a damn good story. "America at the Crossroads: The Guitar and a Changing Nation," tells that story and many more at Bishop Museum. This exhibition showcases 40 instruments — from the vihuela of the 1500s, to the axes of B.B. King and other Mississippi bluesmen, to a 21st-century steampunk guitar. Each guitar (or proto-guitar) tells its own story — and the story of our nation as well. Through May 18 at Bishop Museum, 20110th St. W., Bradenton. Visit BishopScience.org.

Right: Mara Torres González's "Silent Illumination" will be on exhibit at her gallery Feb. 27-March 31.



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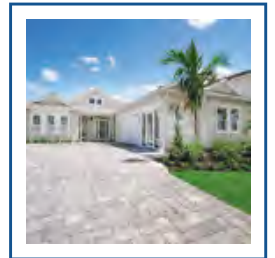
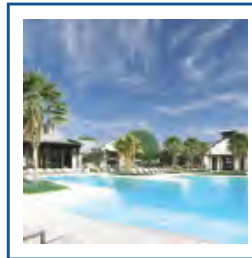
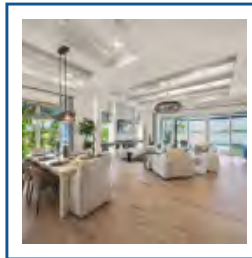


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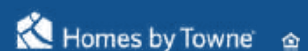
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MEGA CHALLAH BAKE

JAN. 16 AT THE GROVE



Bradenton's Michelle Ercolino returns to the Mega Challah Bake for the second year in a row. The event has grown to nearly 350 women.



Photos by Lesley Dwyer
Above: Country Club East mother and daughter, Dolores Carl and Nancy Menard, like the ease of having the ingredients premeasured.

Left: Chanie Bukiet with the Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch emcees the Mega Challah Bake.



Esplanade residents Gale Berman and Nancy Silver attend the annual Mega Challah Bake for the first time.



At 9 years old, Ella Ben-Ami is the youngest baker in the crowd.



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Photos by Vinnie Portell

Gianna Constantine, Haile Middle School Future Farmer of America member, looks at her steer as he's being sold at auction.

MANATEE COUNTY FAIR

JAN. 26 IN PALMETTO



Keaton Winget lends a hand to Trenton Tye, owner of Purgatory Ironworks, during a blacksmith demonstration.



A velociraptor tries to take a bite out of a young onlooker during the Jurassic Kingdom Dinosaur Show.



Marc Dobson, the "One Man Band," roamed around the fairgrounds while playing a variety of instruments.

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TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING WATCH PARTY

JAN. 11 AT LAKEWOOD RANCH MAIN STREET



Will and Braylon Kent couldn't pass up getting their photo taken with ThunderBug during the Tampa Bay Lightning watch party in front of Ed's Tavern.



Presley MacDonald looks to pass to a teammate in a ball hockey game before the watch party.



Evan and Chad Hawkins pass the time waiting for the Lightning vs. Devils game to start by playing a game of catch.



Photos by Vinnie Portell
Goalie Lucas Chancey takes a break in between ball hockey games during a round-robin tournament for elementary and middle school-aged kids.



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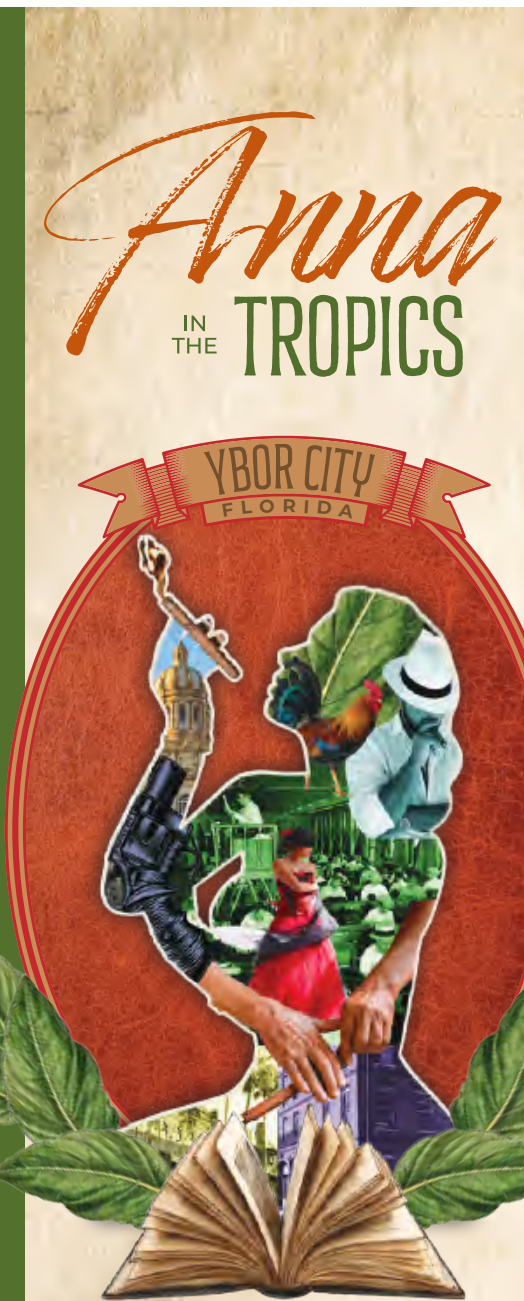
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JAN. 25 AT TERRANOVA EQUESTRIAN CENTER



Tristan Aldrich (backstep) and Dee Aldrich (navigator) hold on as Lakewood Ranch's Misdee Wrigley Miller drives her team through a tight turn.



Photos by Jay Heater

Navigator Carrie Ostrowski-Place gives her horse a kiss at the start line for the marathon portion of the event.



Driver Allison Stroud of Kennett Square, Penn., competes in Combined Driving at TerraNova on Saturday.



Sarasota's Amy Chenard, Wendy DeGilio and Katy Rosen enjoy champagne and a picnic lunch during the Combined Driving at TerraNova event.



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table talk

Grant Phelan of Deep Lagoon Seafood & Oyster House

The CEO and co-owner of Phelan Family Brands says family values, team spirit and commitment to quality are always on the menu.

BY MARTY FUGATE | CONTRIBUTOR

Grant Phelan is the CEO and co-owner of Phelan Family Brands, a family-owned hospitality company with 26 restaurants in Florida, including Pinchers, Texas Tony's BBQ Shack, Phuzzy's Boat Shack and Deep Lagoon Seafood & Oyster House. The company recently expanded with a fifth location of Deep Lagoon in Lakewood Ranch's Waterside Place. According to Phelan, the key to his company's success lies in its family-centered approach.

Growing up in a family of restaurateurs, my most important lesson was ...

Valuing the people you work with every day. It's crucial to find and develop great team members who share the same vision and culture. You can't succeed in this business without a phenomenal team. If your team members are happy, your customers will be, too.

The core value of Phelan Family Brand restaurants is ...

Family! Phelan Family Brands is exactly that — a family. It's owned by my mom, my dad and me. We treat our team members as family, too, with many having worked with us for nearly



Photos by Lori Sax

30 years. We've shared milestones, celebrations and challenges together. The individuality of each restaurant lies in its menu, but the culture — great service, fantastic food and a clean environment — is consistent across all locations. The menus may differ, but our values never change.

The concept of Deep Lagoon was inspired by ...

... creative evolution. For years, we've had Pinchers, our first brand, which my dad started. While we love Pinchers, we saw a demand for a more upscale concept. Deep Lagoon evolved as our tastes matured. It's a place for khaki shorts and

a collared shirt, where you can enjoy a refined glass of wine and a relaxed, yet elevated, dining experience. Pinchers is great for casual family outings, but Deep Lagoon offers a different ambiance.

Balancing family traditions with changing restaurant trends is never a challenge because ...

... they naturally go together. Being family-owned gives us the advantage of making decisions that make sense for people and not just the bottom line. We're not accountable to Wall Street, so we prioritize our team and culture. This flexibility lets us adapt to trends while staying true to our values.

Grant Phelan believes it's crucial to find and develop great team members who share the same vision and culture.

My three favorite dishes at Deep Lagoon are...

... hogfish Lagoon-style, which is prepared with white wine, garlic, nuts, tomato and basil. It's phenomenal, especially with a great sauvignon blanc. Next, the chili-rubbed tripletail grilled with sweet chili spices and topped with avocado salsa. Finally, the grouper Oscar, which is sautéed and served over jasmine rice, topped with lump crab meat, hollandaise sauce and bell pepper confit. These dishes are unique to Deep Lagoon and hard to find elsewhere.

My passion for dining ...

... is all in the family. I was born into this industry. My parents always owned restaurants, so it's in my blood. I love the intensity, creativity and sensory engagement the restaurant business demands. It's never repetitive; there's always a new challenge. That's what keeps me motivated.

My go-to meal at home is ...

I'm a steak guy. I love to cook a big rib-eye or New York strip and pair it with a Napa cabernet. It's not that I don't



like fish! I eat fish in our restaurants. At home, it's all about steak.

My top three culinary heroes are ...

Anthony Bourdain is number one. He was an amazing chef and storyteller. I also admire a professor from Cornell University School of Hospitality who taught me the basics of cooking and my first chef, Greg Smith, who showed me how to utilize fresh ingredients and

create exciting dishes.

The three restaurants I love to visit are ...

Scalinatella Restaurant in New York City is sensational. My wife and I go there every year. My mom's kitchen is also a top favorite — she's an incredible cook. Locally, in Naples, The Bay House is tough to beat. Its food preparation and atmosphere are exceptional.

Miso-glazed Chilean sea bass is a specialty at Deep Lagoon Seafood & Oyster House in Waterside.

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AGAVE BANDIDO

Agave Bandido is a South Florida inspired Mexican restaurant and tequila bar. A little rebellious, a little wild-you'll find over 100 varieties of tequila at the Agave bar, 100 inspired art & drinks you can't find anywhere else. Perfect for dinner dates, nights out and business lunches-enjoy their tacos, their ice cold margaritas and the city vibe!

Weekly specials include All You Can Eat every Taco Tuesday for \$20, Ladies Drink Free Thursday's 8pm-10pm, weekday happy hour. Have you visited their best kept secret? Maya SpeakTiki is located upstairs, just look for the tequila bottle guarded door.

1550 Lakefront Drive, Lakewood Ranch, FL
941-260-8866 | www.agavebandido.com

432118-1



Now Serving
FIVE STAR FUN
 ★★★★★ at
Anna Maria
OYSTER BAR

ANNA MARIA OYSTER BAR AT UTC

NOW OPEN! Our newest location at UTC features a stunning 40-seat indoor-outdoor raw bar, with its crown jewel-the shucking station-where boutique oysters are shucked fresh to order from the best family-owned farms. From the moment you sit down, you'll have a tough time choosing which Tiki Drink, our NEW lineup of tropical craft cocktails, to try first. Our NEW wine list is packed with beloved favorites and exciting discoveries, while the dining menu bursts with fresh, bold flavors-think Tropical Chicken Bowl, Seafood Cobb Salad, and Cobia Tacos with mango pico.

The entire restaurant is a feast for the eyes, and with Five Star Fun daily deals like Happy Hour, Wine Down Wednesday, and Prime Rib Thursday, we can't wait to welcome all of our new neighbors on the Ranch. Stop by and say hey!

5405 University Pkwy #110
941-491-2662 | OysterBar.net

439976-1



C'est La Vie!
 Authentic French Restaurant & Fine Artisan Bakery
 Locally-Owned & Operated Since 1997

C'EST LA VIE

Locally-owned and operated by Christophe and Geraldine Coutelle, this award-winning local favorite opened in 1997. Experience an authentic Parisian café for breakfast, lunch, coffee, house-made French dessert, or glass of wine! Featuring monthly wine-pairing dinners on select evenings, C'est La Vie is also available for creating party platters and customized cakes and desserts!!

9118 Town Center Pkwy, Lakewood Ranch
 941.961.0111 • Open Tues-Sun 7:30am-5pm

1553 Main St, Sarasota • 941.906.9575 • Open
 Mon-Tues 7:30am-6pm, Wed 7:30am-9pm,
 Thurs-Sat 7:30am-9:30pm, Sun 8:30am-9pm

cestlaviesarasota.com

436179-1



439293-1

ED'S TAVERN

Lakewood Ranch's Premier Sports Bar and Restaurant with two locations! We are a perfect blend of local neighborhood sports bar and a family friendly restaurant. Both locations have a full-service bar including 26 ice cold draft selections plus over 31 flat screen TVs. Daily Events and specials. Check out the lineup at EdsTavernFL.com.

Happy Hour Every Day 4pm-7pm.
Live Music Friday + Saturday nights.
Kitchen Open Late!

New Location:
1305 108th St E, Bradenton
941-329-1010

10719 Rodeo Drive, LWR



435024-1

FORKED AT WATERSIDE

Discover the taste of Forked at Waterside in Lakewood Ranch where every bite is a forkful of flavor. Conveniently located in Waterside Place, at Forked, we have a fun neighborhood feel with an urban, upscale vibe. All of our food is prepared with the freshest and highest quality ingredients. We offer a generous menu selection consisting of traditional American, Hispanic and a French flare. Some tasty menu options include omelets, skilletts, tamales, fluffy pancakes, stuffed French toast, sweet and savory crepes, burgers, salads and of course our famous chicken and waffles. Indulge in our innovative cocktails as we have an amazing full bar selection to offer as well! Be sure to check our Social Media for information.

Mon-Thurs 8am-2pm & Fri-Sun 8am-3pm
**hours are subject to change*
7600 Island Cove Terrace #100
Sarasota, Florida 34240
(941) 355-3672 | ForkedEats.com



432615-1

GROVE - RESTAURANT, PATIO & BALLROOM

Discover exceptional Contemporary American cuisine at GROVE. With a personal and authentic approach, GROVE showcases a diverse selection of house-made dishes using fresh seasonal ingredients. Experience the perfect harmony of refined flavors and approachability, complemented by carefully crafted cocktails. With inviting gathering spaces including a casual patio, spacious dining room, a lively, modern bar and intimate private rooms, GROVE provides the perfect fusion of sophistication and hospitality.

10670 Boardwalk Loop, Lakewood Ranch
941.893.4321 | www.GroveLWR.com





DINING OUT



KELLY'S

BOSTON'S LEGENDARY ROAST BEEF & SEAFOOD
— SINCE 1961 —



@Kellysroastbeef_FL
KellysRoastBeef.com

KELLY'S

For more than 70 years, Kelly's Roast Beef has been the staple of the North Shore of Boston, renowned for its thinly sliced "melt-in-your-mouth" roast-beef sandwiches and generous platters of New England seafood. Enjoy fried whole-bellied clams, lobster rolls, scallops, homemade clam chowder along with our traditional customer favorites. 100% of our menu can be made gluten free!

Open Sun-Thu: 11am to 8pm
Fri-Sat: 11am to 9pm

5407 University Pkwy, Sarasota, FL 34201
East of CVS Pharmacy

941.263.1911 | www.kellysroastbeef.com

426320-1



DELIGHTFULLY DELICIOUS
HAMILTON FAMILY
LAKWOOD RANCH DELI
EST. 2024
LAKWOOD RANCH, FL

LAKWOOD RANCH DELI

Crafted with Care - Fresh Daily

Indulge in our mouthwatering sandwiches, vibrant fresh salads and comforting hearty soups. Order breakfast sandwiches all day and experience the warmth of homemade goodness with every bite!

Open Mon-Tues 11am-4pm, Wed-Fri 11am-8pm and Sat 11am-3pm. Daily Specials, Dine-In, Take-Out, Catering, Online Ordering, Door Dash & Uber Eats.

8225 Nature's Way, Suite 111
San Marco Plaza

941-500-1082 | LakewoodRanchDeli.com

435026-1



McGRATH'S
KITCHEN & COCKTAILS

MCGRATH'S KITCHEN & COCKTAILS

Come see what's hot out of the oven at the ALL NEW McGrath's Kitchen & Cocktails American grill! Take a bite out of the brand new menu full of mouthwatering entrees for the entire family to enjoy at an affordable price. Try one of our \$10 and under lunch specials, indulge in bottomless mimosas and Bloody Marys at Sunday Brunch or visit our website for other daily offers. With a full bar and live music on the weekends, fun is guaranteed. Visit our website for a full menu.

Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm

Friday 11am-11pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday Brunch 10am-3pm

8110 Lakewood Main Street, Lakewood Ranch
941-210-4398 | www.McGrathslwr.com

439298-1



441716-1

MOJO RISIN' COFFEE CO.

For a really cool break in the day, walk yourself into Mojo Risin' Coffee Co. located in Siesta Key Village next to Gilligan's Island Bar. This tropical retro coffee bar features all locally private roasted coffee and espresso including our World Famous North Shore roast. Join us for Bloody Mary Happy Hour from 7am-9am or sip an Espresso Martini on one of our patios. Hungry? Enjoy something from our selection of fresh made empanadas or one of our fresh fruit smoothie bowls.

A visit to Siesta Key is not complete without a relaxing stop at Mojo Risin' Coffee.

Free Wi-Fi, Indoor and Outdoor seating available.
Open Daily 7:00am - 5:00pm

5251 Ocean Blvd, Siesta Key, FL
941.349.6656 | <https://MojoRisinCoffee.com/>



428395-1

STATION 400

Station 400 is your local family owned & operated breakfast & lunch restaurant. Offering chef inspired twists on your favorite brunch items. With the best local ingredients and always above & beyond service.

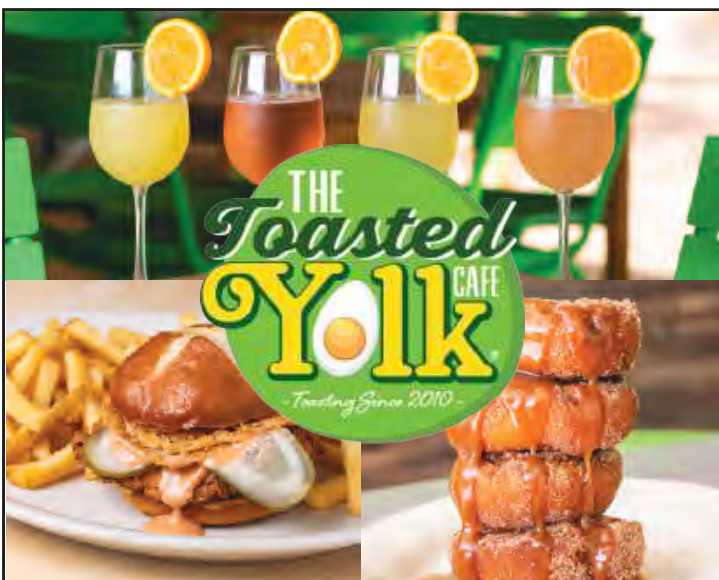
Specialty Mimosas, Seasonal Menu, GF & Vegan options.

Voted 2023 Best Local Breakfast Spot

LWR Ranch
8215 Lakewood Main St.

Downtown Sarasota
400 N. Lemon Ave

www.Station400.com



440402-1

THE TOASTED YOLK CAFE

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO GET TOASTED!
Breakfast, Boozy Brunch, Lunch, and Drinks.

The restaurant features a full menu of made-from-scratch menu items, focused on exceptional quality at reasonable prices.
3 Locations!

TheToastedYolk.com

3750 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34239

5502 Cortez Rd W
Bradenton, FL 34210

6562 University Pkwy
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34240

Mon-Sun 7am-3pm

DINING OUT

440059-1



PARTING GLANCE

Gordon Silver took this photo of tiny white daisy-like blooms called German chamomile covering the ground in Del Webb.

INTEGRITY • *Tenacity* • EXPERIENCE

Ranked as one of America's Best Realtors® in the top 1.5% nationwide for 3 years in a row, and ranked a **Top 5 Agent in Lakewood Ranch for 11 Years in a Row.**

Specializing in luxury properties in Sarasota & Manatee, Stacy's award-winning service gives you the results you require and the professional experience you expect.

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Accomplishments

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- **Master Certified Negotiation Expert**
- **Over 30 Years of Real Estate and Interior Design Experience**
- **Proud Lakewood Ranch Resident & Real Estate Expert for Nearly 20 Years**



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**Sold Over \$720 Million
in Career Sales Volume 2007-2025**

Michael Saunders & Company
LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER



439955-1



YOUR LAKEWOOD RANCH NEIGHBORS & REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS



- #1 Lakewood Ranch Agents for Coldwell Banker
- Top 1% of all Sarasota and Manatee Realtors
- Over \$700 Million in Lifetime Sales
- Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialists

Holly and Alexis have successfully matched families with their perfect home for over 24 years. Their extensive knowledge & certifications in Luxury Home Sales give YOU the edge you need in today's competitive housing market.

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ALEXIS ZIBOLIS, PA
941.725.3060 | Alexis.Zibolis@cbrealty.com



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