

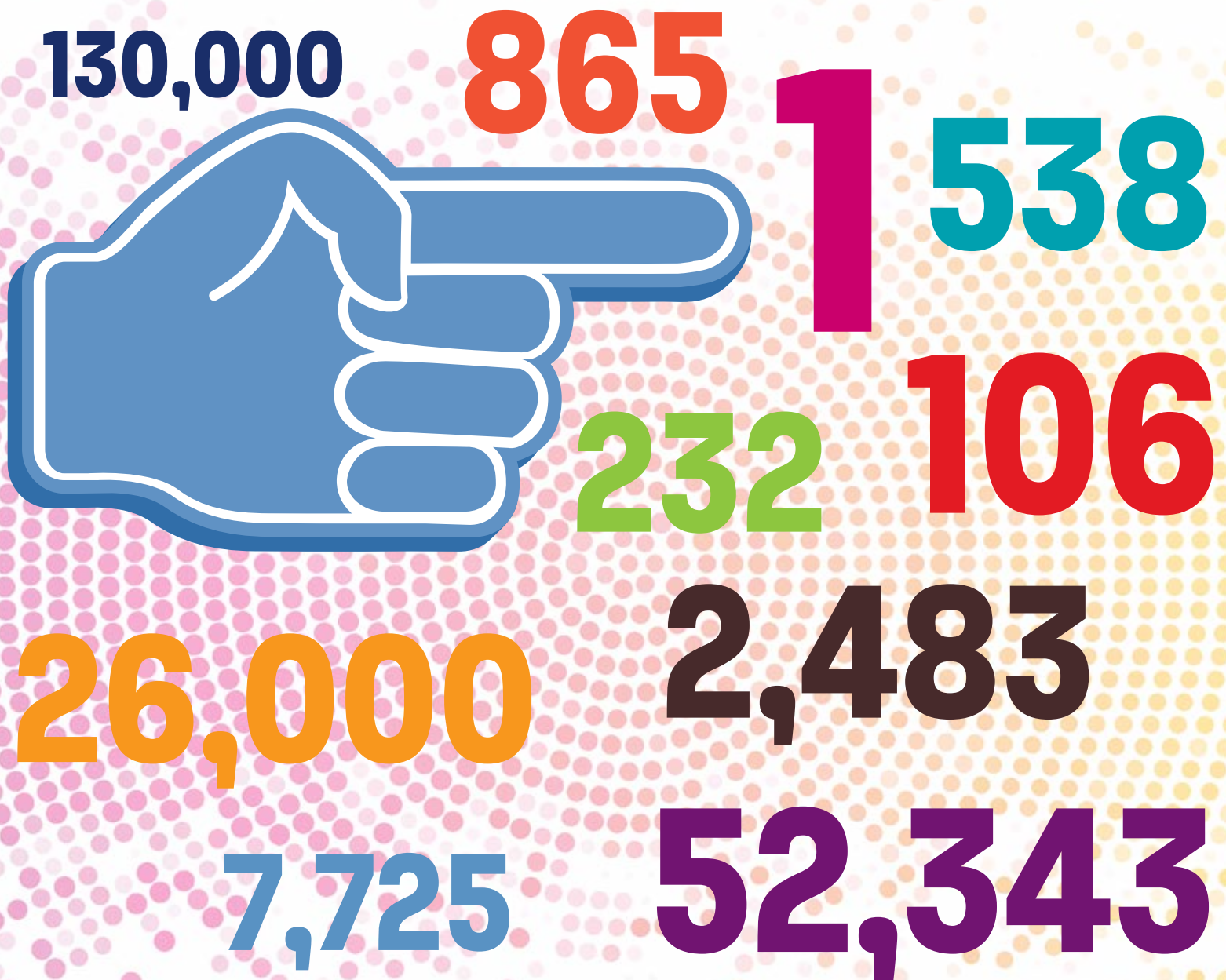


Manatee CHAMBER of COMMERCE *Current*

The Official Publication of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce

FEBRUARY 2019

5-Star Accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Four-Time Winner Florida Chamber of the Year
National Chamber of the Year



What's in a Number?

During a Heart Attack, *Every Second Counts*

If you experience the symptoms of a possible heart attack, call 911 immediately and ask to go to your nearest emergency room.



At Lakewood Ranch Medical Center, cardiologists are on call 24/7.

We are an accredited chest pain center with primary PCI (Percutaneous Coronary Intervention). This means that our teams and systems have passed rigorous evaluation, demonstrating advanced capability to streamline patient cardiac care. Your treatment begins in the ambulance, and a specialized clinical team is ready for you when you arrive at the hospital.

Comprehensive Cardiovascular Services

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lakewoodranchmedicalcenter.com/yourheart

Catheterization Laboratory Services:

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- Stress testing
- Peripheral angiography
- Echocardiography
- Nuclear medicine lab
- Electrocardiogram (EKG)

Device Implants

- Pacemakers
- Loop recorders
- Automatic internal cardiac defibrillator

Interventional Care

- Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Treatment of deep vein thrombosis
- Percutaneous peripheral intervention (PPI)
- SIR-Spheres
- Interventional radiological procedures
- Pulmonary embolism treatment



**Lakewood Ranch
Medical Center**

8330 Lakewood Ranch Blvd. | Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

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1901 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205
Phone: 941-748-3411
Fax: 941-745-1877

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4215 Concept Court
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211
Phone: 941-748-3411
Fax: 941-745-1877

Info@ManateeChamber.com
ManateeChamber.com

MISSION:

To build a positive business environment while enhancing the community's quality of life.

The Manatee Chamber of Commerce's **Current** magazine is published monthly and distributed to more than 3,000 business and community leaders. It is an advertising medium available only to Chamber members.

FOR ADVERTISING RATES CONTACT:

Michele Slaughter
941-748-4842, ext. 116 or
MicheleS@ManateeChamber.com

The *Current* magazine is proudly published by CG&B Publishing, LLC of Bradenton.

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MANATEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

Terri Behling, Vice President, Workforce and Community Development..... TerriB@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 172
Kim Dalglish, IOM, Vice President, Membership KimD@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 121
Jacki Dezelski, IOM, President | CEO..... JackiD@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 131
Tim Estep, Member Engagement Manager TimE@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 275
Tim Fenimore, Membership Development Representative TimF@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 241
Michael Gallen, Esq., Vice Pres., Public Policy & Small Business MichaelG@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 124
Carole Guevara, Information Specialist..... CaroleG@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 200
Kimberly Henley, Program & Events Manager KimberlyH@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 139
Erica Massey, Executive Assistant, Public Policy & Small Business EricaM@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 123
Carey Miller, Office Administrator CareyM@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 113
Cara Misiewicz, Executive Assistant, Membership CaraM@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 122
Reba Parrish, Information Specialist RebaP@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 100
Dawn Plavak, Better Business Council Manager DawnP@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 114
Cheryl Richert, Controller of Finance CherylR@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 115
Michele Slaughter, Creative Services Manager..... MicheleS@ManateeChamber.com, ext. 116

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Stay up to date with the latest Chamber news and happenings

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Business After Hours

February 12 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Humane Society of Manatee County

MYP Networking Social

February 14 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Waterline Marina Resort & Beach Club

Coffee Club

February 25 • 7:45 - 9:00 AM
Blake Medical Center

membership matters

What's in a Number? You Are!

2018 was a banner year for the Manatee Chamber with thousands of connections made, many celebrations, extensive promotion for members, significant member engagement, thousands of cups of coffee, and another year as the largest Chamber in the Tampa Bay region. We have plenty of numbers to celebrate and you are #1! Our mission is to build a positive business environment while enhancing our community's quality of life, and we can only accomplish both with the engagement and support of our members. Highlighted here are just a few of the many reasons we celebrate 2018 as the foundation for a stellar 2019.



#1

Rank, by #
of Members,
of Chambers
in Tampa Bay



2,483

Cups of Coffee Consumed
at Meetings and Events



106

Ribbon
Cutting
Celebrations

865

Member Press
Releases Sent

232

Classrooms Had a Chamber
Volunteer through Project TEACH
and the Big Bank Theory



Meetings
and Events
Hosted at the
Chamber's Two Offices

538

52,343

Searches on the Chamber's
Online Member Directory

340

Members of the Manatee
Young Professionals Program



130,000

Unique Sessions on the
Chamber's Websites

26,000

Visitors to the Chamber's
Two Lobbies



1,200

Graduates of
Leadership
Manatee

1%

of Chambers
with 5-Star
Accreditation
& We're
One of Them!

7,725

Facebook Fans on
the Chamber Page





Chamber Brings Business Priorities to Tallahassee

New faces join established leaders in the State Capitol as the Florida Legislature, Governor's Office, Cabinet officials, and others settle in for a new era of Florida politics.

As the state legislature prepares to begin the 2019 Florida Legislative Session in March, your Chamber has been laying the groundwork is advocating for the business community. In December, we addressed the Manatee Legislative Delegation and introduced our State lawmakers to the Chamber's 2019 Legislative Priorities. We followed up with the Chamber's annual pre-session Pancakes & Politics legislative roundtable event designed to facilitate discussion between our business community and elected officials. Our Manatee delegation highlighted their priorities for the upcoming session while the business community conveyed what was important to them.

This month the Chamber takes our business advocacy to the State Capitol where the Chamber's Tallahassee team will share our top priorities with State Senators, Representatives, agency leadership, and legislative staff. This year's annual trek to Tallahassee is of particular importance, as many new lawmakers and other state leaders take office for the first time. It's critically important for the Chamber to develop a line of communication with key representatives and top decision makers in order to address the issues that are important to our business community. It's equally as important to have face-to-face conversations with these leaders during committee weeks leading up to session as critical policy positions and legislation begin to take shape.

To continue to strengthen our business environment, the Chamber is focused on a number of issue areas that impact our community's quality of life and your business. Some of the Chamber's top legislative priorities for 2019 include:

Red Tide has had a significant economic impact to our businesses; we support:

- Allocation of grant funding to businesses for red tide recovery
- Legislation to address Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research, including agency research

We continue to advocate for:

- Legislation that would reduce the Commercial Lease Tax (Business Rent Tax) over time
- Protecting Florida's housing trust funds (Sadowski Act) and ensure they be used solely for housing programs

We support continued funding for critical transportation projects, including:

- Funding and expediting the PD&E study to replace the DeSoto Bridge
- The next phase of the Cortez Bridge and Anna Maria Bridge projects
- The Sarasota-Manatee MPO's Complete Streets Initiative to reconstruct 15th Street East/301 Blvd. from Tallevast Road to U.S. 41

To ensure school readiness, and prepare our workforce of tomorrow and today, we support:

- Legislation to improve access to quality early learning, accountability measures for school readiness, including Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten readiness, and support for grade-level reading
- Increased recurring funding for workforce programs and fixed capital outlay projects at all regional higher education institutions to allow for program growth to meet critical regional employment needs
- Bonding of Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) funds to expand the amount available for K-12 and higher education fixed-capital outlay projects

We support healthcare legislation that:

- Expands access to healthcare, including dental and vision programs, that increases quality of care with a reduction in over-all patient cost
- Increases funding and/or enables legislation for increased access to behavioral health focused on the opioid epidemic
- Increased funding and policy changes to encourage additional medical residency slots, including the psychiatry specialty, to attract more physicians to Florida

View the Chamber's full list of 2019 Legislative Priorities at ManateeChamber.com/PublicPolicy.



Representative Will Robinson, Senate President Bill Galvano, Representative Wengay Newton, and Representative Tommy Gregory

Politics & Pints



Join Us May 15 | 3 Keys Brewery

Our legislators will be returning from Tallahassee to give you a recap of the 2019 Legislative session at the Chamber's 3rd Annual Politics & Pints roundtable wrap-up. Join us for delicious food and pints while you hear from our legislators and have the opportunity to ask our elected officials your burning questions over a cold beer.

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Getting It Done, in the Community...

NDC Construction Company President Ron Allen has always had a heart for his community. Having been in Manatee County for over 35 years, Ron and the staff at NDC continue to make an impact in the community and in the lives of those that call it home. From supporting the educational system to providing quality construction to retirees, NDC Construction Company gets it done with the highest standards and dedication to excellence.

And Behind the Scenes...

In 2018, NDC broke ground on multiple projects that will bring greater opportunities to Manatee County. With the groundbreaking of the new DeSoto Branch of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County and the Barbara A. Harvey Elementary School, NDC Construction continues its dedication to "Getting It Done" for our community.

In addition, NDC began construction on the Bradenton City Centre Garage and the multi-family community of Arbor Village in Sarasota.

The Company's portfolio of assisted living facility and memory care centers continue to grow with the completion of several facilities across the state of Florida including Stuart, Jacksonville and our very own Grand Palms Senior Living apartments in Bradenton.

NDC Construction foresees a busy and exciting 2019 with projects that promise to be a great addition to Manatee County's array of cultural, entertainment, and residential options.





Ship-Shape SHOWCASE

Thursday, April 4
4:00 – 7:00 PM

at Port Manatee, 300 Tampa Bay Way, Palmetto

Presenting Sponsor:



Don't Miss the Boat!
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For more information: CaraM@ManateeChamber.com | 941-748-3411

headliners: monthly membership lunch

HOT TOPICS | COOL SPEAKERS

Healthcare in Manatee County Impacts Your Business

Manatee Memorial Hospital: Past, Present & Future

Kevin DiLallo, FACHE, CEO | Manatee Healthcare System

Health is so important to our quality of life and healthcare is a major segment of the economy and workforce. Healthcare in Manatee County affects you, your employees, and your customers. It's a significant economic driver in our community.

Hear from Manatee Memorial Hospital CEO, Kevin DiLallo, to learn how healthcare impacts you, your business, and our community.



Wednesday, February 13
11:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Pier 22 | 1200 1st Avenue West | Palmetto 34221

\$30 Manatee Chamber & MYP Members | \$45 Future Members

Headliner events are open dialogues designed to allow members the opportunity to learn and interact with our speakers.

HEADLINERS REGISTRATION

Erica Massey | 941-748-4842, ext. 123

EricaM@ManateeChamber.com | ManateeChamber.com/Headliners

Recap: Chamber Members Find Their Leadership Value

In December, we welcomed Velma Knowles as our Headliner speaker. Velma gave our members insight into her life experiences with the valuable leaders that influenced her and emphasized the importance as a leader to develop yourself before developing others.



Velma noted there are 18 inches between your head and your heart, which she referred to as the "18 Inch Rule" then quoted Eleanor Roosevelt who said, "To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart."

L to R:
Michael Gallen, Liz Gibbs,
Cindy Denison, Velma
Knowles, and Phill Baker

NEXT MONTH Pride and Progress:

**Reflections on
12 Years as Manatee
County Administrator**

Ed Hunzeker



Ed Hunzeker's 50-plus year career in public service ends this March when he retires as the Manatee County Administrator. Join us as Ed reflects on his time in Manatee County and the role he played in redefining Manatee County's relationship with the Manatee Chamber, its many local partners, and with the businesses and residents of Manatee County.

Wednesday, March 13

11:30 AM - 1:15 PM

**GROVE Restaurant,
Patio & Ballroom**

10670 Boardwalk Loop
Lakewood Ranch 34202

**\$35 Manatee Chamber
& MYP Members**
(\$45 after March 6)

\$45 Future Members

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Use Data to Drive Growth

Learn about tools that can help you understand customer behavior with your online presence. We'll show you how you can use this info to make informed decisions about your ongoing online marketing strategy.

Matt Weber is a Certified Google AdWords individual and a sought-after international trainer in Google AdWords and Google Analytics. In the past two years, Matt has taught thousands of individuals, agencies and business owners in more than two dozen cities across North America.

Wednesday, February 27 | 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Manatee Chamber of Commerce

Lakewood Ranch Office | 4215 Concept Court, Lakewood Ranch

\$30 Manatee Chamber & MYP Members

\$27 Non-Profit Chamber Members | \$45 Future Members

SEMINAR REGISTRATION

Erica Massey | 941-748-4842, ext. 123

EricaM@ManateeChamber.com | ManateeChamber.com/Events

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Qualified Opportunity Zone: What Does It Mean and What Can It Do?

Opportunity Zones are an economic development tool designed to spur economic development and job creation in distressed communities where new investments can become eligible for preferential tax treatment for capital gains taxes. Join us to learn how to benefit from this new tax law, how to invest, and where can investments be made.

Who should attend?

- Real estate, development & finance communities, shovel-ready projects
- Property owners, businesses and community stakeholders in Opportunity Zones,
- Investors - Opportunity Zone funds, local high net worth individuals and family corporations

**Monday, February 25
9:00 – 10:30 AM**

Bradenton Area Convention Center

No cost to attend

Navigating Labor and Employment Law

Must-Knows for Every Business and Organization

Anne Chapman and Marisa Powers | Blalock Walters, P.A.

While you're busy running your business, are you also protecting your business? It's critically important for business owners to protect themselves in the ever changing world of labor and employment law, but this is often overwhelming. Get up to speed with the experts, ask those burning questions, while better protecting you, your business, and strengthening your business model.

Learn more from these two prominent attorneys about:

- **Overtime (exempt vs non-exempt)**
- **Handbook Policies**
- **Best Practices for Hiring and Exiting (firing)**
- **Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**



Tuesday, March 5 | 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Manatee Chamber of Commerce

Lakewood Ranch Office | 4215 Concept Court, Lakewood Ranch

\$30 Manatee Chamber & MYP Members

\$27 Non-Profit Chamber Members | \$45 Future Members

Chamber Provides Members with Opportunity to Advocate

PANCAKES & POLITICS
POLITICS

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Every year prior to the start of the 60-day Florida Legislative Session, we convene our state lawmakers in a roundtable discussion with our Chamber members - appropriately called Pancakes & Politics. We do this to connect our business leaders with the state's top decision makers and provide an important forum to advocate key legislative priorities that affect our business community and overall quality of life. This year's pre-session event was particularly important as the Manatee Legislative Delegation added two new members with the election of Representatives Tommy Gregory and Will Robinson. They join veteran lawmakers Representative Wengay Newton and Florida Senate President Bill Galvano.



Today's Students Are Tomorrow's Workforce

One of the Manatee Chamber's priorities is strengthening our current and future workforce. Local students are the foundation of tomorrow's employment base locally. We have a number of opportunities for you and your co-workers to get involved with students of all ages. Save the dates for these upcoming opportunities the Chamber provides for you to impact our future.

Project TEACH Friday, May 17

Spend one hour with 4th grade students discussing the importance of first impressions and how their education can tie to their future career choices and success.



Business & Education Partnership Awards Friday, September 27

Celebrate local business partnerships with the Manatee County School District and find out how your company can participate!



Big Bank Theory October and November

A financial literacy program for high school seniors. Spend a few hours helping students with a hands-on simulation to learn the importance of budgeting and sound financial choices.



Enjoy the Tastes of Manatee!

Chamber Members receive a special discount on tickets to the Annual Culinary Crawl where you will have an opportunity to taste appetizers and small plates at five restaurants while touring on a luxury coach bus. There are three different routes to choose from and final details on stops is coming soon.

Culinary Crawl | Saturday, June 8 | 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM

If you would like to promote your business through a Culinary Crawl sponsorship, please contact Terri Behling for more Information:
941-748-4842, ext. 172 or TerriB@ManateeChamber.com.
To purchase tickets, go to ManateeChamber.com/Crawl

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Proud 2011 Chamber Business of the Year

Thursday, February 14 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM

MYP Networking Social

Waterline Marina Resort & Beach Club

5325 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, 34217

Manatee Young Professionals (MYP) members and guests are invited for casual business networking at Waterline Marina on Thursday, February 14 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. There is no cost to attend for paid MYP members, or for those who join on the spot. Cost is \$10 for all others. Complimentary appetizers and a cash bar are included. No RSVP necessary.

Saturday, February 23 • 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MYP Community Service Project

Prospect Riding Center

34250 State Road 70 E., Myakka City, 34251

Manatee Young Professionals (MYP) volunteers are needed from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM to help with maintenance on the “sensory trail” which will include brush clean up as well as painting obstacles. Please wear close-toed shoes and dress appropriately for outdoor work. RSVP is required to Kimberly Henley 748-4842 ext. 139.

Wednesday, February 27 • 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

MYPower Networking Lunch

Rusty Bucket

257 N. Cattleman Rd., Sarasota, 34243

MYPower Luncheons give young professionals the opportunity to promote your business products and services. Come willing to share a fun fact about yourself, pick up tips on professional and or personal development, enjoy a great lunch and one-on-one networking. This month's speaker is Jeff Ryan with Manatee County Government. Cost: \$15 for paid MYP members, \$20 for all others.

Friday, March 15 • 5:00 PM

MYP Night with the Pirates

LECOM Stadium

1611 9th Street W., Bradenton, 34205

Join Manatee Young Professionals (MYP) members and guests for a night at the ball park as our Pittsburgh Pirates take on the Tampa Bay Rays. Gates open at 4:00 PM and game starts at 6:05 PM. Tickets are \$20. We will meet at the Kona Tiki Bar. RSVP by Monday, March 11 to Kimberly Henley at 748-4842 ext. 139.

It's a Great Time to Join MYP!

Membership Is Open to Individuals 21-40.
 Cost is \$60 for individuals whose company is a
 Chamber Member and \$80 for all others.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Discounted Pricing to Select Chamber Events
 No Charge to Attend MYP Networking Socials
 Reduced Cost to Attend MYP³D Professional
 and Personal Development Series
 Participation in Community Service Projects

Community Service Project Palmetto Youth Center



connect



mix



help



grow



Be On the Lookout for More
 Networking Opportunities
MYPonline.com

MYP Social

Ed's Tavern



Check out photos and upcoming events at MYPonline.com

THANK YOU MYP WORKFORCE PARTNERS:

THANK YOU FRIENDS OF MYP SPONSORS:





It Was a Great Day on the Course at the Chamber's 34th Annual Golf Tournament

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors, Donors and Volunteers. Congratulations to Our Winners!

Presenting Sponsor



Hole-In-One Sponsor

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Own Your Own Hole



Putt for Wine
Sponsor



Chamber Challenge
Sponsor



Dr. William Colgate

Closest to
the Pin



Longest Drive
Women's



Longest Drive
Men's



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NDC Construction • O'Bricks Irish Pub & Martini Bar • Pittsburgh Pirates • Robert Toale & Sons Funeral Home
Sarasota Bradenton International Airport • Transaction & Litigation Council Corp.

Our friends at Bradenton Country Club who took great care of us:

David Taylor, General Manager • Brian Lake, Head Golf Professional
Kelly Price, Sales Director • The entire Bradenton Country Club staff

*Thank you to our loyal and hard-working volunteers who provided
a ton of fun and hospitality during the tournament.*





Congratulations to Our Tournament Champs:

1ST PLACE

Team: Edward Jones
James Morrison, J.B. Tucker,
Wes Robinson, Jason Chambers

2ND PLACE

Team: Cablish & Gentile, CPAs, LLC
Val Cablish, Dave Szabo,
Jim Gentile, Homer Cablish

3RD PLACE

Team: Premier Community Bank
Chris Perkins, Cameron Kolesa,
Evan Berlin, Nick Devito

HOLE IN ONE:

No winner this year!

Closest To The Pin Winners:

Cameron Kolesa
Wes Robinson

Longest Drive Men's Winner:

Cameron Kolesa

Longest Drive Women's Winner:

Karisa Rhode

Chamber Challenge Winners:

Cameron Kolesa
Mike Novak

Ball Toss Winner:

Jamie Fones

*A special thank you to LeMoyne Johnson,
Johnson Photomaging, for all the wonderful
team photos captured on the greens!*



Foundation for the Future:

New Space for Bradenton Operations Starts New Chapter for the Chamber

Opportunity for Your Company to Support the Campaign and Receive Permanent Recognition

Last year we said good-bye to our Bradenton office building to make way for brand-new space for the Chamber in the City's mixed-use parking garage project. This is an opportunity for us to enhance our member experience, promotion, and programming, better facilitate collaborative meetings to tackle tough issues, and create an even more welcoming environment for the many residents and visitors who use the Chamber to connect with local businesses. We thank the City of Bradenton for this partnership.

Our "Foundation for the Future" campaign is under way and we are more than halfway to our goal! There are several levels of support to allow all Chamber members to become part of the campaign, including several opportunities that include permanent signage and exposure in our new space. If you would like more information, please contact Jacki Dezelski at 941-748-3411.

It is so exciting to watch as the project progresses. We anticipate an early summer

move-in and celebration with our membership (Good thing we're experts at ribbon cuttings!) We are asking all members to consider supporting this project with their contribution to our capital campaign.

In the coming year the Manatee Chamber will continue to deliver meaningful value to you—the success of our members is at the center of our mission. Thank you for the continued investment you make in your business, your Chamber, and our community.



Conceptual Renderings of Exterior of Chamber Space within the Project



June 2018 Groundbreaking



Residential . Commercial . Industrial

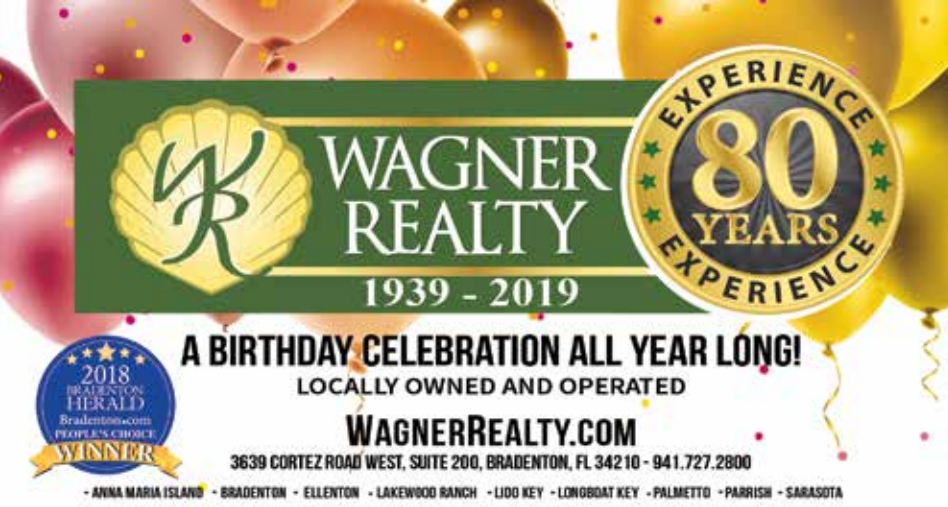


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Thank You to These Chamber Members Who Have Already Committed Their Support to the "Foundation for the Future" Campaign

Legacy Builders



Cornerstone Supporters



Foundation Supporters

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Senior Management Team - Manatee County
Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, Inc.
Wagner Realty | Willis Smith Construction

Mission Supporters

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Bradenton Herald
Carraway Consulting
Jacki Dezelski and Mike Kennedy
Kevin and Jo-Ann DiLallo
The Educated Franchisee

Feld Entertainment, Inc.
K+P Benefits Consulting Group
Leadership Simplified
Suncoast Gems TeamHealth
Ernie and Cindy Withers

Business Supporters

Esposito Law Group, PA
Brian and Bethany Carter
Bill Colgate, MD
Steve and Krista Hall
Bill and Tara Poulton
Will Robinson
Phyll and Dianna Baker
W. Bruce Body
Christy Cardillo
The Beach Bistro
Kerry and Suzanne Ward

Terri and Chris Behling
Bruce Patneaude
Accurate Benefits Solutions, LLC
Cassandra Burns and Christopher Berry
Diana Greene, PhD
Sharon Hillstrom
Karen Holbrook, PhD
John and Allison Nash
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How the BBC Is Serving Your Business in 2019



2019 is a great year to take advantage of the many benefits the BBC has to offer. If your business is a member of the BBC, be sure to look for your new BBC member decals and electronic logos upon your membership renewal. Use your electronic logos on all of your electronic media platforms and be sure to display your decal on your office window or door. We have additional decals available to use on your commercial vehicles by contacting the BBC office.

The "Guide to Better Business Directory" is now available. Did you miss placing an ad in the directory or are you just now thinking about joining the BBC? Don't worry, the guide publishes again in July. This Guide provides a directory of BBC members that have gone through a screening process in order to receive special BBC designation. BBC members are committed to building and maintaining great customer relations. Shop local and use this Guide, and the BBC, as a trusted resource for local businesses.



Attending a Coffee Club or Business After Hours? Stop by the registration table to pick up your BBC sticker and let others know you are a proud member of the Better Business Council.

To learn more about the Better Business Council, contact BBC Manager, Dawn Plavak at 941-748-1325 or DawnP@ManateeChamber.com. BBC office hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-Noon.



Better Business Council Advisory Committee

Front row: Mike Wick, Gator Air Conditioning; Ken Clark, Clark Financial Partners; Bill Meeks, William Meeks Attorney at Law, P.A.; Tom Scholz-Kool Stuff II. **Back row:** Robert Ringler, Hughes Exterminators; Phill Baker, Boyd Insurance & Investment Services; Tim Lester, Tim Lester International Realty; Pam Tessieri, Bradenton Herald; Bill Edwards, Armstrong Brothers Plumbing; Dennise Berger, Regions Bank; David Manning, Spirit Movers; George Manson, Manson Roofing; and Dawn Plavak, BBC Manager.

Not pictured: Duane LaFollett, Robert Toale and Sons Funeral Home @ Manasota Memorial Park, Gus Sokos, Demetrios' Pizza House and Joe Hwang, Lakewood Ranch Medical Center.

MANATEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



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Top BBC Referral Categories in December

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coffee club



On behalf of the Manatee River Fair Association's Board of Directors, it is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 103rd Manatee County Fair! This year's theme, "It's A Big Deal" represents how important the fair is to the citizens of Manatee County. Each year, the fair provides an opportunity to promote our agricultural industry and heritage. We wish to express our sincerest appreciation to our staff, community volunteers, as well as you, the citizens of Manatee County, for your support and dedication in making each of these fairs even more memorable than the last.



Countless hours of time go into producing this annual event, which provides exceptional agricultural and artistic exhibits, an exciting midway, a wide variety of quality musical acts, as well as a multitude of ground and strolling acts, which entertain both the young and young at heart.



Every year children from across Manatee County make their first trip with family and friends to the Manatee County Fair. It is this first experience, which leaves lasting memories that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. We take great pride in providing a place where citizens can stroll under large oak trees, rekindle old friendships, as well as make new memories. We hope you were able to join us for corn dogs, cotton candy, and strawberry shortcake as we celebrated the 103rd Manatee County Fair!



-William "Pat" Kennedy, President



Manatee River Fair Association, Inc.
1402 14th Ave. W., Palmetto, FL 34221
941-722-1639
ManateeCountyFair.com



business after hours



The 2019 Business After Hours got off to a roaring start with a combined event in Palmetto from Bowled Life Café and A Little Twisted Yoga Studio. It was a perfect combination of eats and treats for Chamber members to meet and greet.

Along with all the fantastic networking opportunities in the perfect flow between these two neighboring small businesses, Chamber members were treated to an evening of scrumptious menu samples, a sangria-taste-off, and lots of opportunities to explore the many yoga, meditation, and quirky shopping opportunities in this little corner of Colonial Plaza.

Saving the best until last, some terrific door prizes were awarded to help get everyone off to a healthier start. From private yoga sessions to hosting a private event with the purple people feeder, everyone came away with something. If not a prize, then certainly an evening of new or renewed connections. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came out to support these two small businesses.



Bowled Life Café
929 10th St. E.
Palmetto, FL 34221
941-417-7856
[Facebook.com/BowledLife](https://www.facebook.com/BowledLife)



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new members

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about the many member benefits available to you.
Let us help you take full advantage of your membership.
All members are welcome! Your RSVP is appreciated.

Tuesday, February 19 | 7:45 - 9:30 AM

Manatee Chamber Lakewood Ranch Office
at the McClure Center
4215 Concept Court, Lakewood Ranch 34211

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Wednesday, March 6

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Eliza Ann's Coastal Kitchen
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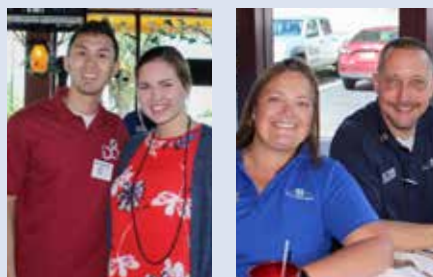


BREAKFAST

Tuesday, February 26

7:30 to 9:00 AM

Mattison's City Grille
Bradenton Riverwalk
101 Riverfront Blvd., Ste. 120
Bradenton 34205



Chamber Member Cost to Attend: \$15

Register online at ManateeChamber.com/Events.

Questions? Call Cara Misiewicz at 941-748-4842, ext 122
or email CaraM@ManateeChamber.com

Power Connection Breakfast and Power Connection Lunch are members-only networking events.

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X30Fit.com



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member news

SaraBay Suncoast Realty is pleased to announce the following realtors from their company were installed as officers on the 2019 Women's Council of REALTORS - Manatee. Sherry Grooms, President; Elise Jakub, Treasurer; Ashley French, Director of Programs and Events.

Allure Medical announces the hire of Sara Roberts as south territory marketing manager over its new Florida offices.

Pittsburgh Pirates and Bradenton Marauders are excited to welcome Mary Lanzino as Coordinator, Marketing & Community Relations.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast proudly announces their 2017-2018 Big Brother & Big Sister of the Year: Mrs. Cheryl Maymon of Punta Gorda and Mr. Cliff Smith of Ft. Myers have been selected as the 2017-2018 Big Brother & Big Sister of the Year.

SCORE Manasota earned the rare Diamond Chapter status after receiving a Platinum Award for the fifth consecutive year.

The chapter was awarded its fifth consecutive Platinum status based on a review by Dr. Ralph Warmack, District Director of SCORE Southwest Florida.

Walters & Associates, CPAs and Bobbitt, Pittenger & Company, PA today announced the merger of their firms effective December 1, 2018. The combined firm will operate under the name Walters & Associates, CPAs, under the direction of Mr. Doug Walters as Managing Partner.

Hartwell Capitol Consulting LLC (HCC) announced today the addition of consultants Capt. Walt Steiner USN (Ret.) of Lakewood Ranch and Roman Katynski of Parrish to the HCC group. Steiner will concentrate on Navy and Defense policy, legislative issues and local business development as Vice President. Katynski will concentrate on energy and waste to energy technologies, energy procurement and energy and utility audits.

Modern-Wealth, LLC, welcomes Linda Parisi to their team.

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calendar



Please carefully
note meeting
locations

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 **Learn Something New**

FEBRUARY

Fri.	1	Small Business Council Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Manatee County Central Library
		MYP Leadership Committee Meeting	12:00 - 1:00 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
Tues.	5	BBC Advisory Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
Wed.	6	Leadership Manatee - Land Use & Transportation Day		
		 Power Connection Lunch	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Fratello's of Bradenton
		Healthcare Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
		LMAA Reception for Leadership Manatee Class	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Thurs.	7	Education and Workforce Partnership Committee Mtg	12:00 - 1:00 PM	School Board Building
Fri.	8	Transportation Committee Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Tues.	12	 Business After Hours	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Humane Society of Manatee County
Wed.	13	 Headliners Membership Luncheon: Healthcare	11:30 AM - 1:15 PM	Pier 22
Thurs.	14	Technology Committee Meeting	3:30 - 4:30 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
		 MYP Networking Social	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Waterline Marina
Fri.	15	Chamber Friends Committee Meeting	11:45 AM - 1:00 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
Tues.	19	 Biscuits & Benefits Member Reception	7:45 - 9:30 AM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Wed.	20	Leadership Manatee - Human Needs Day		
		Executive Committee Meeting	7:45 - 9:00 AM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
		 Power Connection Lunch	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Longhorn Steakhouse of Bradenton
Fri.	22	 Breakfast with the Chairman	8:00 - 10:00 AM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Tues.	26	 Power Connection Breakfast	7:30 - 9:00 AM	Mattison's
Wed.	27	 Seminar: Grow Your Business & Succeed with Google	9:00 - 11:00 AM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
		 MYPower Networking Lunch & Ten Minute Tip	11:45 AM - 1:00 PM	Rusty Bucket
		Board of Directors Meeting	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Thurs.	28	 Coffee Club & Ten Minute Takeaway	7:45 - 9:00 AM	Blake Medical Center

MARCH

Fri.	1	MYP Leadership Committee Meeting	12:00 - 1:00 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
Tues.	5	 Seminar: Labor & Employment Law	2:00 - 4:00 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
		BBC Advisory Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Chamber Office at Bank OZK
Wed.	6	 Power Connection Lunch	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Eliza Ann's Coastal Kitchen
		Leadership Manatee Graduation Dinner	6:00 - 9:00 PM	IMG Academy Golf Club
Thurs.	7	Education and Workforce Partnership Committee Mtg	12:00 - 1:00 PM	School Board Building
Fri.	8	Transportation Committee Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room

FEB 12
5:00-7:00 PM

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FEB 14
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April 25 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Bradenton Area Convention Center
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