



# Manatee CHAMBER of COMMERCE *Current*

The Official Publication of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce

September 2017

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#### 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.

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Chamber news and happenings



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## ABOUT THE COVER



Always one of the best celebrations of the year, the 2017 Small Business of the Year Awards packed the Fete Ballroom with more than 300 guests. We honored 31 finalists and announced four winners for these prestigious awards. Turn to page 8 for more coverage.

Cover Photo by  
Johnson PhotoImaging

### NETWORKING AT A GLANCE

#### Business After Hours

September 12 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Willis Smith Construction

#### MYP Networking Social

September 14 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Mattison's City Grille

#### Coffee Club & Ten-Minute Takeaway

September 28 • 7:45 - 9:00 AM  
Connect Bradenton



## Manatee Memorial Hospital Grows with Community, Breaks Ground on \$33 Million New Emergency Care Center

Manatee Memorial Hospital's commitment is to provide the citizens of Manatee County with the finest in healthcare services possible. In keeping with this commitment, Kevin DiLallo, Chief Executive Officer, the Board of Governors of Manatee Memorial Hospital and honored guests recently gathered for a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Emergency Care Center on the hospital's campus.

The new Emergency Care Center is more than doubling the size of the existing ER space at 46,000 square feet. It will use approximately two acres of existing land on the hospital's campus along Second Street East. Space for the Emergency Care Center involves the recently demolished Annex Building. The cost for the new center will be approximately \$33 million.

The new Emergency Care Center plans include a dedicated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) covered drive access with three staging and support areas for their vehicles.

Other features include 48 treatment spaces organized in four nursing team clinical

care areas. Within the 48 spaces there will be 24 universal exam rooms, 8 fast track rooms and 16 super track rooms, which are functionally able to flex as needed based on demand.

The new center will have:

- Three behavioral health rooms
- Two resuscitation rooms
- One bariatric room with integral patient lift
- One gynecology room
- Two negative pressure/contact isolation rooms (one of which is designed to facilitate a high containment patient).

Emergency Care Center personnel will have convenient access to imaging, surgery, cath labs, as well as patient care areas such as ICU and Medical/Surgical units. The projected completion date is fall 2018.

The new center is highly anticipated by staff. Last year, 82,000 patients visited Manatee Memorial's ER, and that number is projected to grow by 16% within the next five years.

Manatee Memorial Hospital, a proud member of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, has served the residents of Manatee County for 64 years and is a major provider of high quality medical services to our community.

For more information on the programs and services offered at Manatee Memorial Hospital, please visit our website: [www.manateememorial.com](http://www.manateememorial.com). You can also keep up with what's happening at the hospital by liking us on Facebook, following us on Google+, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter @ManateeMemorial.

**Ambulance Entrance**



**Entrance**



**Waiting Room**







## Chamber Advocates for Affordable/Workforce Housing and Redevelopment Solutions

We believe diverse housing options, including affordable/workforce housing, are necessary to meet the needs of our community's workforce today and into the future. Sufficient, attainable housing has a direct impact on the strength of our business climate and the ability of businesses to grow.

With state and federal housing funds in decline, and low to moderate income workers forced to spend greater than 30% of their income on housing, we have a compounding workforce challenge and serious quality of life issues to address. The lack of affordable/workforce housing in our community remains a challenge for local businesses, and is specifically a challenge for recruiting young professionals.

The Manatee Chamber is a strong advocate for affordable/workforce housing and infill redevelopment policies that incentivize diverse options that provide interconnectivity and mixed-use live, work, and play environments that are also pedestrian-friendly. We are encouraged by the recent efforts of Manatee County Government as it pursues policies to address this critical issue.

Recently, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a new Chamber-backed program that will provide financial incentives and impact fee relief to encourage developers to include affordable housing in their projects. This "Livable Manatee" program is expected to provide workforce housing for both single-family homes and rental units. Land use restriction agreements that run with the land will ensure housing costs remain affordable.

Additionally, the County is considering adopting a new Southwest District (SWD) Redevelopment Strategy. This initiative, coupled with the recent Urban Corridor Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan revisions and passage of the infrastructure sales tax, creates an opportunity to aggressively grow the SWD Tax Increment Finance fund while enhancing quality of life in southwestern Manatee County. The strategic use of SWD funds directed toward a catalytic development project will attract private investment and spur economic development opportunities to revive a time worn area of our County.

The Chamber supports the County's initiatives to address issues related to affordable/workforce housing and we will continue to advocate for funding, policies, and programs at the state and federal level. We believe these efforts will contribute to the retention of our current and future workforce by creating economic opportunities and lifestyle choices through a diverse mix of housing options, infrastructure, multi-modal transportation, social and business opportunities.



*Current 14th St. W. Corridor View(above) and County Southwest District Vision of the Corridor (below).*



*Chamber Infill Committee and Downtown Redevelopment Committee engaged in discussion to support the County's SWD Redevelopment Strategy.*

## If Not the Chamber, Then Who?

Working on issues that affect local businesses and our quality of life is central to the Chamber's program of work. It's also the side of our Chamber that not every member realizes their membership investment supports. If the Chamber isn't researching, discussing, and advocating on behalf of the business community, then who will? All of these issues engage our members through the Chamber's many committees and task forces. Want to hear more about how you can add your voice and perspective? Contact Michael Gallen at 941-748-4842, ext. 124.

# Congratulations 2017 Small Business

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Manatee Small Business of the Year Awards Luncheon was held on Friday, August 11 at the Fete Ballroom in Lakewood Ranch. This annual community-wide celebration acknowledging the significant impact small businesses have on our local economy is hosted by the Manatee Chamber of Commerce and the Bradenton Herald.

The awards program began in 1980 and recognizes small businesses and non-profit organizations for quality and excellence as exemplified by growth, productivity, customer service, job creation and overall contribution to the community. There were 173 nominations this year and the winners were chosen from among the 31 finalists. In speaking at the event, Alan Prewitt, BB&T, stated, "We're here today to recognize outstanding and successful small businesses and non-profit organizations that play a significant role in creating a quality environment for visitors and residents to live, play, and work here in Manatee County. Everyone knows a small business owner or non-profit for whom doing things "right" is the right way to do it."

"Small businesses are the life-blood of the Chamber and our community," added Kevin DiLallo, CEO of Manatee Memorial Hospital and Chairman of the Board of the Manatee Chamber. "Over 90% of our member business are defined as 'small business.'" Small business is big business in Manatee County and the Chamber dedicates significant resources to helping our small business members succeed.

The Manatee Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the 2017 Manatee Small Business of the Year Winners:

## Arts & Eats Restaurant and Gallery

Donna Slawsky and Jim Copenig

Category I - Small Business under \$250,000



Located in the Village of the Arts, Arts & Eats is a relatively new business in Manatee County, with a small employee base – but big on impact to our community fabric. These entrepreneurs have made their presence known by creating a vibrant business model within the core of our community.

They pride themselves on treating their employee's right, from health care to home cooked meals, and they've received a number of accolades within their industry demonstrating the love, care and passion that goes into all facets of their business. This business gives back to the community by providing support to many local charitable causes, including significant contributions to Manatee Children's Services, Feeding Empty Little Tummies, and the Creative Percussion Ensemble.

Donna and Jim's decision to uproot their lives in New York and bring their worldly knowledge to Manatee has been a coup for our community. They have contributed to revitalization efforts in the Village of the Arts district in Bradenton, while bringing international world-class cuisine to their tables in a home dining environment that includes an eclectic local arts gallery, coupled with musical entertainment and "mom & pop" creature comforts. Their motto is fitting, "enter as guests, leave as a friend."

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# of the Year Award Winners

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## **Williams Wealth Management Group, Inc.**

**Derek Williams and Beth Deyo**

**Category II – Small Business \$250,000 to \$1 Million**



Williams Wealth Management Group prides itself on exceeding customer service expectations, regularly providing personalized assistance in an industry that has become more transactional. Through technological improvements, they were able to take their concierge service to the next level by having mobile offices available. They enjoy little client turnover and a 90 plus percentage client retention. This innovative team was able to do all this while increasing flex hours and time off for their employees, in addition to encouraging wellness and preventive care for employees.

Emphasizing the importance of community service, they encourage their staff to get involved locally, many serve on community boards and support organizations such as PACE Center for Girls, the Denis V. Cooper Foundation, among others, also providing pro-bono services to those in need. Recently they received the Royal S Kellogg award and the USF Fast 56 award.

## **Blalock Walters, P.A.**

**Jonathan Fleece**

**Category III - Small Business over \$1 Million**



Blalock Walters has a historical commitment to our community. When you have been in business for over 90 years, you must be something right. They recognize the value of providing service opportunities for their employees and leverage their large employee base, making tremendous contributions in our community. They pay for employees entrance fees in numerous local charitable runs/walks including Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Arthritis Foundation, Centerstone's Walk for Life, to name a few; participate in Adopt-a-Family, SunCoast Blood Bank mobile unit and The Food Bank of Manatee.

They believe by having their employees involved in the community helps build professional and leadership skills while boosting morale, team building and motivation. Additionally, implementing a "BeWell" corporate wellbeing program focuses on employee's health, happiness and productivity.

This company has a history of leadership to many of Manatee-Sarasota regions major civic and charitable organizations in addition to a number of cultural and educational institutions including Bradenton Area Economic Development Corporation, Goodwill Industries Manasota, Goodwill Foundation, Kiwanis Club, South Florida Museum, New College of Florida, the Manatee Chamber of Commerce and many others.

## **PACE Center for Girls**

**Amy Wick Mavis**

**Non-Profit Organization**



PACE Center for Girls began their important work in Manatee County nearly 30 years ago and has been an integral part of our community since. Over the years, they have increased their effectiveness and productivity by introducing web-based data systems helping them in their mission. They have improved the quality of life for their employees by offering competitive benefit packages, health and wellness programs, flexible work hours and regularly measure employee engagement.

With success comes growth. PACE has tripled their budget since 1995, allowing them to enhance and grow their services, requiring additional space. So expect to see this worthwhile non-profit expand its footprint in the near future – of course with the assistance of "Quacky."

PACE provides girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. They get to the root cause of what has gotten their girls off track, so she can face it and develop the tools and skills needed to heal or overcome her past. Their outcomes support the validity of their work - and the data demonstrates this. They change lives!

# 2017 Small Business

## Congratulations to the 2017 Manatee Small Business of the Year Finalists:

Ace's Live, Renee Bennett and Greg Jones

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast, Joy Mahler, Christina Witt, Susan Flynn and Fermin "JJ" Miranda

Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County, Inc., Dawn Stanhope

Bright Futures Daycare & Preschool, Taniel Macy

Clean As A Whistle of Manatee, Deborah Cassidy

Eckerds Pharmacy, Vikram Rao

Esprux Technologies, Philip Nace, Ashley Nace and Cary Veith

Family Partnership Center, Katrina Bellemare, Julie Rothfeld and Robin Rowland

Feathers and Tails Hideaway, Katie O'Neal

Gilbert Design Build, Ernest Gilbert and Evan Gilbert

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Mary Anne Servian

HOPE Family Services, Inc., Laurel Lynch

Humane Society of Manatee County, Rick Yocum and Valerie Bliss

Kids 'R' Kids - Lakewood Ranch, Gregg & Debra Kinney

Kool Stuff II, Tom Scholz

The Islander, Bonner Joy

The Library Foundation, Inc., Sherry Ohler and Ava Edhe

Manatee County Habitat for Humanity, Diana Shoemaker

O'bricks Irish Pub & Martini Bar, Mike Carter and Rick Willats

Richards Plumbing Repair, Inc., Richard Krause, Jr.

Shoreline Financial Partners, Danny Wood and Gardner Sherrill

Spa NorthWest, Kathleen Gallen and Paul Ramshaw

Suncoast Professional Photography, David Wilson and Bonnie Harmsen

SWAT Networking-Successful Women Aligning Together, Robyn Spirtas

TIFF's Initiative, To Inform Families First, Christine Olson

Turning Points, Adell Erozer

Veteran Air Conditioning, Kevin Henault

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Shoreline Financial Partners

### 2017 AWARD JUDGES

John Horne, Anna Maria Oyster Bar

Karen Stewart, Manatee County  
Government

Jon Stuart, Manasota SCORE  
Elizabeth Trent, BB&T





# of the Year Awards

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# Join Us at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Business & Education Partnership Awards on September 22



You are invited! Join us on Friday, September 22, from 7:30-9:00 AM at the Auditorium at Freedom Village as we honor businesses, government, and community organizations for their dedication and commitment to the students of Manatee County.

It will be a wonderful morning full of celebration for the great things happening in our schools and classrooms thanks to the involvement of our community partners. We'll also enjoy a performance by the dance team from Bayshore High School.

We received more than 100 nominations for this year's awards. Partnerships are critical to the success of our students, our teachers and to the overall strength of our school district. These partnerships meet many needs, expand programming, and enhance education in Manatee County public schools. The accomplishments that come out of these partnerships will amaze you and the stories will move you to tears.

**When:** Friday, September 22 from 7:30-9:00 AM

**Where:** Freedom Village – Auditorium  
6406 21st Ave. W., Bradenton 34209

**RSVP:** No cost to attend; Carey Miller, 941-748-4842, ext. 113  
CareyM@ManateeChamber.com

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2016 Business & Education Partnership Award Winners

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A Program of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, September 14 • 5:00 – 7:00 PM

**MYP Networking Social**

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

Join other local young professionals for casual business networking, complimentary appetizers, and a cash bar. This event is free for paid MYP members and \$5 for guests. Don't forget to bring a friend!

**Next Month's Networking Social:**

October 12 – Fuzzy's Taco Shop - Bradenton

Thursday, September 21 • 3:00 – 7:30 PM

**MYP Community Service Project**

**Adopt-a-Family & Angel Tree Registration**  
**Salvation Army**  
1204 14th St. W., Bradenton, 34205

Volunteers are needed to assist with the registration of hundreds of families for Angel Tree & Adopt-A-Family programs.

Volunteers will help greet, verify DOB/documentation and enter shoe sizes and toy wishes into our database.

To volunteer, call 941-748-4842, ext. 139 or e-mail [info@ManateeChamber.com](mailto:info@ManateeChamber.com)

**Next Month's Community Service Project:**  
**Humane Society of Manatee County**

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

**MYPower Networking Lunch**

**Cedar Reef Fish Camp**  
7420 55th Ave. E., Bradenton, 34203

MYPower Luncheons give young professionals the opportunity to promote your business products and services and help MYP members find new customers for you!

Cost: \$15 for paid MYP members, \$20 for all guests.

RSVP is required: Call 941-748-4842, ext. 139 or email [info@ManateeChamber.com](mailto:info@ManateeChamber.com)

**Next Month's MYPower Lunch Date:**  
October 25 – Demetrios' Pizza House

## MYP Community Service

Just for Girls



## MYP Bartending Ship-Shape Showcase



connect



mix



help



grow



Be On the Lookout for More  
Networking Opportunities  
[MYPonline.com](http://MYPonline.com)



# MYP August Social

Pier 22



## MYPower Networking Lunch at The Beach Bistro



Check out photos and upcoming events at [MYPonline.com](http://MYPonline.com)

THANK YOU MYP  
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THANK YOU FRIENDS OF MYP SPONSORS:





# Bagels & BENEFITS

## MEMBER RECEPTION

**Thursday, September 21**  
**7:45 - 9:30 AM**

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

### Need to brush up on your Chamber member benefits?

This reception is a great opportunity to learn more about the Manatee Chamber, meet the staff, and hear 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.

**Register online at**  
**[ManateeChamber.com/Events](http://ManateeChamber.com/Events)**

For more information or to RSVP, contact Cara at [CaraM@ManateeChamber.com](mailto:CaraM@ManateeChamber.com) or 941-748-4842, ext. 122.

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## Medical Marijuana in the Workplace: What Employers Need to Know

Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 AM @ Pier 22

### Panelists:

- Amy Ronshausen, Deputy Director, Drug Free America Foundation
- Ann Breitingner, Esq., Healthcare Attorney, Blalock Walters, P.A.
- Anne Chapman, Esq., Labor/Employment Attorney, Blalock Walters, P.A.
- Julio Gonzalez, Florida Representative, District 74
- Jeremy Herz, VP of Compliance, Alltrust Insurance
- Melissa Larkin-Skinner, CEO, Centerstone

RSVP by calling the Drug-Free Workplace Alliance at 727-828-0211 ext. 109



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### LUNCH

**September 20**

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Half Shell Seafood House**

5231 University Pkwy., Ste. 109  
Sarasota, FL 34201

**October 4**

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Bonefish Grill**

7456 Cortez Rd. W.  
Bradenton, FL 34210

### Chamber Member Cost to Attend: \$15

RSVP to Cara Misiewicz at  
CaraM@ManateeChamber.com  
or Register online at

ManateeChamber.com/Events.  
Power Connection Breakfast and

Power Connection Lunch  
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# CHAMBER EXPO 2017 NOVEMBER 8



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#### For more information:

Cara Misiewicz

CaraM@ManateeChamber.com

941-748-4842, ext. 122

#### Corporate Sponsor • \$2,000 (ONLY 4 AVAILABLE)

- Premium placement DOUBLE exhibit space
- Company logo on sponsor signage at event
- Recognition in all Manatee and Sarasota Chamber event promotion
- Ten (10) complimentary admission tickets

#### Grand Prize Sponsor • \$1,500

- Premium Placement 10' x 10' Exhibit Space (ONLY 1 AVAILABLE)
- Grand Prize Drawing held at your booth
- Recognition on all Grand Prize signage at Event
- Recognition in all Manatee and Sarasota Chamber event promotion
- Six (6) complimentary admission tickets

#### Goodie Bag Sponsor • \$1,500 (ONLY 1 AVAILABLE)

- Premium Placement 10' x 10' Exhibit Space
- Company Logo on all Goodie Bags handed out at Registration
- Recognition in all Manatee and Sarasota Chamber event promotion
- Six (6) complimentary admission tickets

#### Map Sponsor • \$1,500 (ONLY 1 AVAILABLE)

- Premium Placement 10' x 10' Exhibit Space
- Exclusive Company Logo on all Event Maps handed out at Registration
- Recognition in all Manatee and Sarasota Chamber event promotion
- Six (6) complimentary admission tickets

#### Bar Sponsor • \$850 (ONLY 3 AVAILABLE)

- Premium placement 10'x10' exhibit space, sponsor recognition at bar
- Opportunity to hand out promotional items from bar
- Recognition in all Manatee and Sarasota Chamber event promotion
- Four (4) complimentary admission tickets

#### ***Reserve Your Booth by September 20 to PICK YOUR SPACE!***

(includes skirted table, two chairs, curtain backdrop/sides, sign and four event tickets)

**10' x 10' BOOTH • \$350**

**10' x 10' CORNER BOOTH • \$425**

**ELECTRICITY • \$50**

*Cancellations after October 27 will be invoiced*

**REGISTER ONLINE**  
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We are excited to announce our new "**Headliners**" series delivering "Hot Topics and Cool Speakers" to our membership.

## Imagineering Better Tomorrows How to Create Your Own Best Future

Joe Tankersley is a writer, futurist, and former Walt Disney Imagineer. He combines his broad experience as a storyteller with a deep knowledge of strategic foresight to help organizations create compelling visions for better tomorrows.

Joe was a writer/producer for Walt Disney Imagineering for 20 years. While there, he led creative teams on projects for Epcot, Magic Kingdom Park, Disney's Animal Kingdom, Disney's Hollywood Studios, and the Disneyland Resort in California.



Join us to be inspired and empowered as he applies the knowledge and skills gained by his years working for the world's most successful entertainment company to help others "Imagineer their best tomorrows."

THANK YOU TO  
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**Thursday, October 5**

**11:30 AM - 1:15 PM**

Stone Hall at the  
Manatee Performing Arts Center  
502 Third Avenue West, Bradenton

**\$30 Manatee Chamber and  
MYP Members  
\$45 Future Members**

**RSVP: 941-748-4842, ext. 123  
ManateeChamber.com/Disney  
LisaR@ManateeChamber.com**

## UP NEXT IN THE HEADLINERS SERIES

**October 19**

Protecting Florida Businesses  
Featuring Florida CFO  
Jimmy Patronis

## SEMINAR

## HR Tools to Strengthen Your Business

As a business leader it's important to understand the responsibilities and challenges associated with managing your employees. Make a smart investment and join us to gain critical insight into human resource topics that will help you lead your team confidently and effectively while strengthening your workforce and your business.

Topics include:

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- Build an Employee Handbook
- Prepare for Change in Leadership
- Succession Planning
- Onboarding
- Talent Evaluation
- Hiring
- Performance Reviews

Our panel of HR experts:

- Tom Becker - University of South Florida
- Stuart Charlson - ConsultStu, LLC,
- Alicia Kenney - Patrice & Associates
- Howard Kilman - Manasota SCORE
- Richard Randolph - Manasota SCORE

THANK YOU TO  
OUR SPONSORS:



**Monday, September 25**

**2:00 - 4:30 PM**

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

**\$30 Manatee Chamber and  
MYP Members  
\$27 for Non-Profit Organization  
Members  
\$45 Potential Members**

## OUR NEXT SEMINAR October 4

Google My Business:  
How to Improve Your Business  
Listing in Online Searches

# CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

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For a full itinerary  
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[ManateeChamber.com/Greece](http://ManateeChamber.com/Greece)

# Congratulations BBC Members!

The Better Business Council congratulates these BBC members named as finalists and winners for the 2017 Small Business of the Year Awards.

Bright Futures Daycare & Preschool  
Gilbert Design Build  
Kool Stuff II  
Richard's Plumbing & Repair, Inc.  
Spa NorthWest, LLC  
Blalock Walters, P.A. - Winner: Category III  
Williams Wealth Management Group, Inc. - Winner: Category II

## Do You Have a BBC Story to Share?

Did you receive a BBC referral that helped you make a sale? Did a consumer seek out your business, specifically because you were a BBC member? Have you used our complaint process as a consumer? Was it successful? Please share your comments or ideas at [BBC@ManateeChamber.com](mailto:BBC@ManateeChamber.com).

## WHY Join the BBC?

### CREDIBILITY & CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

Consumers do business with those they can trust. Membership with the BBC gives your business credibility in the consumer eye and identifies your business as one which adheres to higher ethical business standards and practices.

### EXPOSURE

**IN PRINT:** The "Guide to Better Business" Directory  
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### REFERRALS

The BBC receives hundreds of requests for business referrals with priority given to BBC members.

### SET YOUR BUSINESS APART

Endorsing and agreeing to uphold the BBC's Code of Ethics sets your business apart from others.

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**Dawn Plavak, BBC Manager**  
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[ManateeChamber.com/BBC](http://ManateeChamber.com/BBC)

### Top BBC Referral Categories in July:

Roofing

Landscaping

Home Repair/Remodeling

### Welcome to Our Newest BBC Member:

Held & Haddad, LLC  
dba Coastal Printing  
of Sarasota



BBC Members Johnson Printing and CSI Networks attended July's Coffee Club at "Historic" Manasota Memorial Park & Funeral Home.



Two of our newest BBC members attended Business After Hours at Blake Hospital in July: Rodney Allen & Associates (left) and Minuteman Press (right).



# business after hours



Firkins Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep/Ram Auto Group treats the needs of each individual customer with paramount concern. We are Bradenton's Premier CDJR dealer, located at 2700 1st Street West and our additional new location at 2601 1st Street East. You can schedule a test drive, your next service appointment or order that factory part/accessory you need. Our website literally puts Firkins Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep/Ram at your fingertips.

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# coffee club



Thank you to everyone who came out to the Coffee Club on July 27. The team at Luxevo Corporation and Luxevo Vacations wanted to give a special acknowledgement to Cara and the staff at the Manatee Chamber for making it seem easy to pull off this event. We also wanted to thank John Smith at Fratello's Chicago Pizzeria for graciously donating the delicious breakfast pizzas.

We are truly honored to be apart of the Chamber and this amazing community! If anyone has questions about Luxevo Corporation or Luxevo Vacations, please do not hesitate to contact us or feel free to just drop in.

We are looking forward to hosting the first Manatee Chamber Business After Hours event of 2018 this coming January. See you there!

## Luxevo Corporations

5783 Manatee Ave. W. Ste. 104  
Bradenton, FL 34209

LuxevoCorp.com | 941-782-5273 ext. 2101

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# new members

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1000DegreesPizza.com  
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## **24-7 Floors**

6497 Parkland Dr., Ste. B, Sarasota 34243  
24-7floors.com  
(941) 281-2958  
Floor Coverings, Carpet, Hardwood Floors

## **Amarco Restoration**

1990 Main St., Ste. 750, Room B500  
Sarasota 34236  
amarcorestoration.com  
(941) 549-8200  
Water, Flood and Disaster Damage

## **Apogee Private Investigations**

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Lakewood Ranch 34211  
apogeeinvestigations.com  
(941) 580-4075  
Investigative Services and Security

## **Art Studio & Gallery of Jerri Phillips**

7216 US Hwy. 301 n., #101  
Ellenton 34222  
ArtisticFlorida.com  
(941) 809-5059  
Art Galleries and Artists

## **Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Realty**

8319 Market St., Lakewood Ranch 34202  
susancole.realtor  
(941) 907-2000  
Real Estate - Residential

## **Brad Stoddard Painting**

1753 Cattleman Rd., Sarasota 34232  
bsplicfl.com/  
(941) 377-3238  
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## **Broyles Financial, LLC**

13440 Parker Commons Blvd., #103A  
Fort Myers 33912  
BroylesFinancial.com  
(239) 771-8783  
Health Insurance

## **Caddy's at the Pointe**

801 Riverside Dr. E., Bradenton 34208  
caddys.com  
(941) 708-3777  
Restaurants, Cafes and Taverns

## **Edward Viltz**

4654 State Rd. 64 E., #123  
Bradenton 34208  
(941) 744-6567  
Individual Members

## **Five Star Pizza**

5942 34th St. W., Ste. 110  
Bradenton 34210  
fivestarpizzasrq.com  
(941) 251-4491  
Restaurants, Cafes and Taverns

## **Floodpros USA**

1159 Sarasota Center Blvd.  
Sarasota 34240  
floodprosusa.com  
(941) 212-2500  
Water, Flood and Disaster Damage

## **Floors 4 Pros**

2108 Whitfield Park Loop  
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floors4pros.com  
(941) 666-8640  
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Tampa 33634  
FloridaMakes.com  
(727) 218-6995  
Consulting Services

## **Florida Real Estate Advisors**

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Bradenton 34209  
freal.com  
(941) 714-0000  
Appraisal Services

## **Focus Wealth Strategies**

1812 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton 34205  
focuswealthstrategies.com  
(941) 776-0589  
Financial Planning and Services

## **Green-Packer, LLC**

green-packer.com  
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Packing and Moving Supplies

## **Law Office of Tamara J. Williams**

7910 N. Tamiami Trail, Ste. 205  
Sarasota 34243  
tamarajwilliamsllaw.com  
(941) 210-7116  
Attorneys

## **Mastercraft Restoration & Construction**

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mastercraftbuilder.com  
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## **Nperspective**

nperspective.com  
(941) 350-7833  
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## **Nutriage, LLC**

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nutriagehealth.com  
(267) 273-6552  
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## **Palm View Marina**

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palmviewmarina.com  
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Marinas and Boat Supplies, Sales and Service

## **Patriot Tax & Accounting Services, Inc.**

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patriottaxandaccounting.com  
(941) 556-9090  
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## **Performance Copying & Printing**

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performancecopying.com  
(941) 351-5500  
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## **Pottery as Art**

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potteryasart.com  
(941) 702-8923  
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prospectridingcenter.com  
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sacredritestattoo Bradenton.com  
(941) 755-9960  
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## Shoreline Financial Partners

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Bradenton 34205  
shorelinefinancialpartners.com  
(941) 745-2201  
Retirement and Trust Planning, Wealth Management

## SmartStyle

5810 Ranch Lake Blvd., Bradenton 34202  
SmartStyle.com  
(941) 753-8208  
Hair Salons and Barber Shoppes

## SmartStyle - Lockwood Ridge

8320 Lockwood Ridge  
Sarasota 34243  
(941) 351-6457  
Hair Salons and Barber Shoppes

## Stone Environmental Services

6151 Lake Osprey Dr.  
Sarasota 34240  
universalwastedisposalfl.com  
(941) 628-5693  
Environmental Services and Products

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1990 Main St., Ste. 725  
Sarasota 34236  
tannenbaumscro.com  
(941) 316-0111  
Attorneys

## TCDesigns

2424 Calamonga Lane, Sarasota 34239  
TCDesignsFL.com  
(941) 400-5257  
Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations

## TeamHealth

206 2nd St. E., Bradenton 34208  
TeamHealth.com  
(941) 745-7564  
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# Chamber Friends are Here to Help!

Chamber Friends are seasoned members well-versed in Chamber benefits and services to help you get the most out of your membership. These "ambassadors" of the Chamber help us welcome new members, re-engage existing members, and ensure that all feel connected.



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Historic Manasota Memorial  
Park & Funeral Home  
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**Chamber**  
**FRIENDS**

Ambassadors for the Manatee Chamber of Commerce

Interested in Becoming  
a Chamber Friend?  
Contact Cara Misiewicz  
at 941-748-3411



# ribbon cuttings



**Apogee Private Investigations**  
Grand Opening  
nick@apogeeinvestigations.com  
941-580-4075  
apogeeinvestigations.com



**Artisan Eye**  
Grand Opening  
5489 Lena Road  
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211  
941-242-2020  
artisaneyelwr.com



Photo provided by Island Photography

**Beach House Restaurant**  
Remodel  
200 Gulf Dr. N.  
Bradenton Beach, FL 34217  
941-779-2222  
beachhouse-restaurant.com



**Community AIDS Network**  
Remodel  
408 7th St. W.  
Palmetto, FL 34221  
941-366-0461  
cccsrq.org



**Dance University**  
Grand Opening  
5002 Lena Rd.  
Bradenton, FL 34211  
941-374-9589  
danceufl.com



**DetailXPerts Sarasota - Manatee County**  
Grand Opening  
bo.mortensen@detailxperts.net  
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detailxperts.net/sarasota-manatee-county



**Focus Wealth Strategies**  
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**Law Office of Tamara J. Williams**  
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Sarasota, FL 34243  
941-210-7116  
tamarajwilliamsllaw.com



**Manatee YMCA Nifty Thrifty Shop**  
Grand Opening  
627 10th St. E.  
Palmetto, FL 34221  
941-212-4652  
manateeymca.org

# member news

**Blalock Walters, P.A.** is pleased to announce that four attorneys have been selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® 2018. Clifford L. Walters, III has been selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America in the field of Real Estate Law; Charles F. Johnson was selected in the practice area of Real Estate Litigation, Matthew J. Lapointe was selected for Corporate Law, and Robert G. Blalock was selected for Trusts and Estates.

**Mauldin & Jenkins** is pleased to announce the appointment of Melodie A. Rich as the firm's newest partner.

**Sarasota Orthopedic Associates** has promoted Sandi Wall to Chief Marketing Officer and Julie Gladden Barré, MD has joined its team of physicians. Dr. Barré is Board Certified in Sports Medicine.

**Gulf Coast Property Management** welcomes Hogan Chappell, who has joined its team as a Property Project Manager.

**Manatee County** became the first county in Florida to earn Platinum certification from the Florida Green Building Coalition. This is the culmination of years pursuing the recognition, said Manatee County Energy Manager Diana Robinson. "The advantage is showing the community we are in fact being good stewards of the planet," Robinson says.

**Osceola Pines** has been selected as Florida's Outstanding Tree Farm of 2017. Congratulations to John and Allison Nash for their outstanding forest stewardship to optimize wildlife, especially wild turkey, and integrate that with timber production. They joined the Florida Forestry Association to get connected to information and resources and have received technical and financial assistance from the National Wild Turkey Federation, Florida Forest Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and other partners.

**Ryntal Property Management** proudly announced the promotion of Kimberly Gnadt to Operations Manager and the addition of Cynthia Link to the Property Management Team.

**Intech Printing & Direct Mail, Inc., and Coastal Printing** were recognized as two of Florida's top printing and graphic communications companies in the state at the Printing Association of Florida's (PAF) 2017 Florida Print Awards competition.

**Carlson, Meissner, Hart & Hayslett** is proud to announce that Terri Cromley has been named both "2017 Florida Legal Elite" and a "2017 Super Lawyer" by Florida Trend magazine.



**MVP (Mobile Video Party)**  
Grand Opening  
mvp@mobilevideoparty.com  
941-896-9227  
mobilevideoparty.com



**New Path Academy**  
New Location  
2611 26th St. W.  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
941-747-8726  
newpathacademy.org



**Olivera's Martial Arts**  
Grand Opening  
501 Village Green Pkwy., Ste. 20  
Bradenton, FL 34209  
941-242-5499  
OliveraBJJ.com



**Respectable Receptacle, LLC**  
Grand Opening  
2341 Porter Lake Dr. Suite 205  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
941-391-2467  
RespectableReceptacle.com



**Rusty Crickett's**  
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615 15th St. W.  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
941-745-1313



**Tuffy Auto Service Center**  
Grand Opening  
6025 E. State Rd. 70  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
941-751-1818  
tuffy.com



# calendar

SEPTEMBER

Fri..	1	Small Business Council Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Bradenton Board Room
Tues.	5	Legislative Committee Meeting BBC Advisory Committee Meeting	3:30 - 4:30 PM 4:00 - 5:00 PM	Bradenton Conference Room A Bradenton Board Room
Wed.	6	Power Connection Lunch Healthcare Committee Meeting	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM 4:00 - 5:00 PM	Outback Steakhouse - Cortez Bradenton Board Room
Thurs.	7	Headliners Series: Constitutional Officers	11:30 AM - 1:15 PM	IMG Academy Golf Club
Fri.	8	Transportation Committee Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Bradenton Board Room
Tues.	12	Legislative Committee Meeting Business After Hours	3:30 - 4:30 PM 5:00 - 7:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room Willis Smith Construction
Wed.	13	Leadership Manatee Healthcare Day Chamber Friends Committee Meeting	11:45 AM - 1:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Thurs.	14	Technology Committee Meeting MYP Networking Social	3:30 - 4:30 PM 5:00 - 7:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room Mattison's City Grille
Fri.	15	Planning Retreat & Leadership Conference		
Sat.	16	Planning Retreat & Leadership Conference		
Tues.	19	Legislative Committee Meeting	3:30 - 4:30 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Wed.	20	Chamber Executive Committee Meeting Power Connection Lunch	7:45 - 9:00 AM 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room Half Shell Seafood House
Thurs.	21	Bagels & Benefits Member Reception MYP Community Service Project - Angel Tree	7:45 - 9:30 AM 3:00 - 7:30 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room Salvation Army
Fri.	22	27th Annual Business & Education Partnership Awards Breakfast MYP Leadership Committee Meeting	7:30 - 9:00 AM 12:00 - 1:00 PM	Freedom Village Bradenton Board Room
Mon.	25	Seminar: HR Tools for Small Businesses	2:00 - 4:30 PM	Lakewood Ranch Board Room
Tues.	26	Chamber Board of Directors Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Wed.	27	Leadership Manatee Education Day MYPower Networking Lunch	11:45 AM - 1:00 PM	Cedar Reef Fish Camp
		Infill Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Thurs.	28	Coffee Club & Ten-Minute Takeaway	7:45 - 9:00 AM	Connect Bradenton
Fri.	29	Downtown Redevelopment Committee Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room

OCTOBER

Tues.	3	BBC Advisory Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Wed.	4	Seminar: Google My Business Power Connection Lunch	9:00 - 11:00 AM 11:30 AM - 1:15 PM	Bradenton Board Room Bonefish Grill - Cortez
		Healthcare Committee Meeting	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Bradenton Board Room
Thurs.	5	Headliners Series: Imagineering the Future	11:30 AM - 1:15 PM	Manatee Performing Arts Center
Fri.	6	Small Business Council Meeting	8:00 - 9:00 AM	Bradenton Board Room

Network & Connect  
 Learn Something New

**SEPT 12**  
5:00-7:00 PM

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Bradenton 34205

**SEPT 28**  
7:45-9:00 AM

**coffee club**  
and a Ten-Minute Takeaway

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Tropicana OJ, Ten-Minute Takeaway,  
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CONNECT BRADENTON  
600 Old Main Street  
Bradenton 34205



# Friday, October 13

## Bradenton Country Club

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM | Registration & Lunch

12:30 PM | Shotgun Start

Awards Banquet Following Play

RAIN DATE: October 16



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**ManateeChamber.com/Golf**

**ENTRY FEE: \$795 Foursome - \$195 Individual**

**REGISTRATION INCLUDES:**

Lunch Buffet • Goodie Bag • Signature Golf Shirt • Range Balls

Greens Fees • Contests & Prizes • Golf Cart • Door Prizes

Beer and Soft Drinks on the Course • Awards Banquet with Cash Bar Following Play

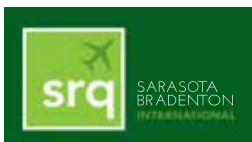
**Four Person Scramble - Amateur Players Only**

*At least one player per team must be a Chamber member*

**INFO & RESERVATIONS:** Cara Misiewicz | CaraM@ManateeChamber.com | 941-748-3411

**Register Online at ManateeChamber.com/Golf**

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