



# The Miramar Way <sup>December</sup> 2020



## Happy Holidays... Happy Holidays!

It's the most wonderful time of the year — here on Miramar Way.

Yes, we know, it is a very different holiday season from what we are used to, but still, it is the holidays, things are looking good along The Way, and it *is* the holiday season, isn't it?

Our clubhouse and gates have been decorated and our community is looking marvelous.

No, we won't be having our usual Miramar holiday party, but we can still celebrate the holidays in our own homes and, with the new Covid vaccines now being rolled out, there is every reason to believe that we will soon be able to resume normal activities with our Miramar neighbors and friends.

Until we can, please be mindful and respectful of our Covid restrictions

(new signs have been placed at the gates to the pool and on the Clubhouse doors) and have a very joyful holiday season.

Best wishes to all, and to all a good time!



## Spectacular Holiday Light Shows – Nearby and Free!

In a year that can certainly use some brightening up, how would you like to see some spectacular holiday lights within just a very few short miles of Miramar? Well, there are two places you can go and be absolutely dazzled.

The UTC mall has an incredible array of holiday trees and lights, and they even change colors as you watch them. A drive through the area surrounding the Mall is well worth your time. And if you go on a Saturday night before Christmas, you can even see fireworks at 9 pm over the lake behind Dillard's.

Other holiday events at UTC include:

- Light shows choreographed to music, every night on the half hour between 6:30 and 9:30 pm. Viewing areas around Cattleman.



- Holiday movies under the stars: Fridays and Saturdays, 7 pm, West District (parking area across from DSW).
- Horse-drawn carriage rides (\$5 per passenger), Thursdays - Saturdays from 6-10 pm and Sundays from 6 - 8:30 pm. Pick up/drop off at Mall at UTC valet area. Rides provided on first-come, first-served basis.

- Ugly Sweater Alley: West District, between BurgerFi and Ethan Allen
- Giant holiday greeting card displays, decorated by local schools.

Visit the Mall's website at <https://mallatutc.com/events/> for more information.

Another great place to see holiday lights is in the Cedar Hollow neighborhood of Sarasota. To get there from UTC, continue south on Cattleman to Fruitville Road, then turn left on Fruitville and right on Honore. Take the first right at the roundabout onto Camus Street and behold all of the lights on Camus and Bunyan Streets.

It is truly amazing what this neighborhood does every Christmas. We are sure you will enjoy it.

# New Miramar On Site Assistant Introducing Sheri Douglas

We have a new On Site Assistant working in the Miramar Clubhouse, but she may not be new to everyone — since Sheri Douglas and her multi-poo dog, BaBee, are longtime residents here in Miramar.

Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Sheri moved to Florida in 2003 and says she “Loves living in the ‘sunshine state.’”

Sheri is retired from SMR, Schroeder-Manatee Ranch (the parent company of Lakewood Ranch founded by the Uihlein family, owners of the property upon which Lakewood Ranch is located, which has been responsible for developing the property). Sheri worked at SMR for 10 years as a Lakewood Ranch Ambassador, with her last years as Manager of The Lake Club Information Center.

Prior to that, she worked for Pat Neal, at Neal Communities, as Community Sales Representative at several different communities, including Presidio and Thornhill at the Country Club in Lakewood Ranch.

In Dayton, Sheri’s career encompassed Real Estate sales of new homes, as well as serving as Manager and Sales Consultant for Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Sheri enjoys traveling anywhere, taking long walks, reading good books and visiting family and friends, including her identical twin who lives in Tierra Verde in Pinellas County.



Sheri has been working here at Miramar for a week now and she says, “It’s been great! There is quite a lot to learn and I’m looking forward to meeting new residents, seeing everyone else, and catching up on everything.”

Below is a little more information about our new On Site Assistant.

**The Miramar Way:** What do you like best about living in Miramar?

**Sheri:** One of the reasons is the fabulous location. The convenience of having shopping, restaurants and highway access close by is such a plus.

Another reason is the Miramar community. It is beautiful and has

lots of curb appeal. I love living in the Lakewood Ranch area.

The best reason... I have made lifelong friends here since moving in almost eight years ago. I’ve met such wonderful people.

**TMW:** What made you decide to apply for the Assistant job?

**Sheri:** It seemed like a FUN job and a perfect “fit” for me with my background. With retiring last June, I’ve missed being around people and not working. Not wanting to return to a full time job, it offered me some flexibility and part time hours. And...I can WALK to work!

**TMW:** What section of Miramar do you live in?

**Sheri:** I live in Lagoons I in a first floor end unit condo.

**TMW:** When things are normal, what is your favorite local place (restaurant or attraction) that you like to visit and why?

**Sheri:** I was a frequent guest at the Lucky Pelican and visited Main Street Lakewood Ranch often. I particularly enjoyed listening to the music at MST.

Sheri can be found in the office in the Clubhouse on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9am to 2pm. Anyone stopping in is required to wear a mask, as Sheri will be doing. You can email her at: [miramaramin@cscmsi.com](mailto:miramaramin@cscmsi.com).

## Board Actions – Stay Tuned

Did you know that maintaining our gates is one of the biggest expenses we have here at Miramar?

In order to better manage this expense, the Board is studying the gate system we currently use, to determine if there is a better, more cost effective system we can in-

corporate. The Board will soon be installing new, digital signage around the Clubhouse. This will allow for more dynamic, timely messaging of announcements and events.

The Board will also soon be replacing the video cameras and recorders in the Clubhouse with new and

improved units. This will allow for better monitoring of the pool and Clubhouse area, to enhance our security and the safety for our residents.

Stay tuned for additional information and updates in the coming weeks.

# Landscaping Anyone?

We all know there has been a lot of work undertaken in recent weeks to improve the landscaping here on Miramar Way. Board member Tony Olender, who has spearheaded the landscaping efforts, reports that the Oak trees have been replaced, the accent trees have been planted, and the gates have new signage and landscaping, but that is just a start.

In early 2021, once the frost threat has passed, all dead and missing shrubs will be replaced right up to the front doors, and mulch will be installed to finish the look. In addition, the outside of our walls, facing University Parkway and Lorraine Road, will be cleaned up and mulched as well.

But that will not be the end of it. And here is an opportunity not to be passed up: the Board is looking for YOUR input and help!

Tony is seeking volunteers from each Sub-Association (Links and Lagoons I, II, III and IV) to help plan our future landscaping efforts, which will include replacing dead and missing shrubs on the sides and backs of buildings, mulching the sides and backs of buildings, managing regular seasonal plantings at the gates and the Clubhouse, and taking on selective beautification projects

Since the Board has decided that the effort to replant and care for the sides and backs of residences will be paid for with available "excess sur-

plus funds" from each Sub-Association (based on its specific financial position), residents of the Sub-Associations should have a say in these future landscaping decisions.

So, here is your chance to bring to fruition the projects that **YOU** have been asking for by **VOLUNTEERING**.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact our new On Site Assistant, Sheri Douglas at [MiramarAdmin@cscmsi.com](mailto:MiramarAdmin@cscmsi.com), or contact Tony directly at [tonyolender@hotmail.com](mailto:tonyolender@hotmail.com).

The first landscaping committee meeting will take place in early January via Zoom so if you are interested in volunteering, please let Sheri or Tony know as soon as possible.

## Miramar on FB!



How many of you know that Miramar has its own Facebook page? It's your FB go-to, to catch up with your neighbors and activity in our community.

Check it out at **Miramar at Lakewood Ranch**. New pictures and information will be added regularly.

Be sure to give it a lot of likes so that realtors and prospective new buyers will know what we already know: Miramar is a wonderful place to live and play.



## Miramar Book Club

The Miramar Book Club kicked off its year with a session over Zoom and will continue to meet remotely until further notice. Mark your calendar for the following upcoming Book Club meetings.

### January 1

*A Well Behaved Woman*  
by Ann Fowler

A fascinating novel about the newly rich and socially shunned Vanderbilts. It deconstructs the notion of wealth, social status, marriage, power and woman's equality through the eyes of the main book's character Alva Smith.

### February 9

*The Orphan Collector*  
by Ella Marie Wiseman

A historical tale with chilling twists and turns. Set during the flu epidemic in Philadelphia, this book explores the depravity to which some will sink in adversity, but also illuminates the strength of family bonds and the resilience of the human heart.



### March 9

*Call your Daughter Home*  
by Deborah Spera

This debut novel follows three fierce southern women in an unforgettable story of motherhood and womanhood. It takes place in 1924 in Branchville, South Carolina, where the three women come to a crossroads.

### April 13

*A Woman of No Importance*  
by Sonia Purnell

This story sheds light on the shadowy world of wartime espionage and the career of one of the Allies' most effective spies in the battle against Nazi Germany, Virginia Hall.