# Mommy's Ime Out September 2015





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Thanks to our contributers this month: Abbey Terlescki, Alana Blazewitz, Crystal Rothhaar, Heather Jones, Jason Cobb, Jason Roberts, Jenn Otterness, Jennifer Kovatch, Jill Bennett, Karen Moore, Leslie Toscano, Lisa O'Driscoll, Melinda Hierholzer, Stacey Burge, Shelly Bishop, Tara Sambuca-Duarte, Tracie McHugh and Victoria Cobb

# LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I wanted to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new members! We have had a seemingly endless trickle of moms joining us, and I couldn't be happier about it.

I moved to LWR in September of 2013 armed with one lone friend - a friend who I had never actually met (we were connected by a mutual friend and had only spoken via email and Facebook). Though we didn't know each other well (we've since changed that!), I realize that I moved here with a bigger advantage than many. Many of us, including several of our new members, move here with little knowledge of the area and a limited support system. Enter LWR Mom's Group!

For me, this group has been instrumental. Not only have I met virtually all of my friends through this group, but the support offered from other moms in the way of help, advice and a listening ear has been so important and helpful. Whether you have one child or five, everyday is a new day with new challenges, ups and downs. Having a built in network of moms willing to share their experiences with you - even though you may not have ever met in person - is priceless.

So for our new members: whether you're new to LWR or just new to us, I encourage you to really make the most of our group. Bring your kids to a play date, join us at one of our family parties, head to a Mom's Night Out, or comment on our Facebook page. I hope that you will find this group to be as welcoming and friendly as I did two years ago.

- Jill

# **BOARD MEMBERS**

President: Jill B., <a href="mailto:lwrmgpresident@yahoo.com">lwrmgpresident@yahoo.com</a>

Administrative VP: Tracie M., lwrmgvp@yahoo.com

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Kids Outings: Melinda H.

Moms Night Out: Lisa O.

Preschool Picasso: Leslie T.









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#### Community Service News

#### Matilda Jane Gives Back



Join us for a trunk show hosted by Valerie at her new home!

Thursday, September 10th 6:00PM-8:00PM

Matilda Jane will donate a percentage of the night's sales to Mothers Helping Mothers and Valerie will also be making a donation. Come shop and enjoy a night out! What? You don't have any daughters or nieces to buy for? That's ok! Matilda Jane has clothes for us moms too!!

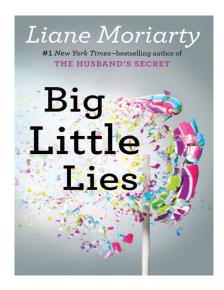
## Preschool Picasso

Farm Animal Craft Day
Thursday, September 10th
@10:00AM

Lakewood Ranch Baptist
Church \$3/child



# Book Club's Book of the Month





We hope to see you on Tuesday, September 22nd

10:00AM to chat

10:30AM class starts

# Moms Night Out



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH AT 6:30PM

### **Dad's Day Out!**

Enjoy some football,
beer and bar food with
the guys
World Of Beer
Sunday, September 20th
at noon

Keep and eye out for a coordinating playdate on our Facebook page for the moms!



Free Playtime at PlayAway!

Keep your eyes on the

Facebook page. This will fill up

quickly when the date and

time is announced!

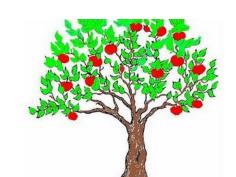
# Monthly Meeting

September 4th at 6PM

Guest speaker Devin Johnson, of Insurance Consultants of Florida, will be discussing Health and Life Insurance.

You can also meet Neirda Lafontant of Funducation to learn about her programs.

# September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Monthly Meeting 6PM	5 Private Barre3 Class@11:30
6	7	8	9 Early Release pool party Book Club 7PM	Preschool Picasso 10AM & Matilda Jane Event 6Pm	11	Yoga on the Ca' dZan Terrace 8:30AM
Rockin' Wings Fest	14	15 MNO at 6:30PM	16	Lifesaving Course for Moms @7:30PM	18	19
20 Dad's Day Out &New Member Playdate @12PM	21	22 Fun to Be Fit @10AM	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30		Saturdays at e All Month!	



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# RECIPE BOX

School is back in session, afterschool activities have picked up and we get crunched for time to make a healthy dinner for the family. Here are a couple ideas to help you out—a prepare ahead of time meatball that can be frozen and pulled out when you need it, and a freezer meal to make the prep work a little more simple. Enjoy!

## Picky Child Approved Mini Veggie-Filled Meatballs

#### Ingredients

1 egg

1/2 cup jarred or homemade applesauce

1/2 cup shredded carrot

1/2 cup chopped spinach

1/4 cup finely chopped onion sea salt and ground black pepper

1 lb. lean ground beef or turkey

1/2 cup soft whole wheat bread crumbs Directions

- 1. In a small bowl stir together the egg, applesauce, carrot, spinach, onion, salt, and pepper.
- In a large bowl combine turkey and bread crumbs. Fold egg mixture into turkey mixture; mix well. Cover and refrigerate for 2 to 24 hours. (This step is important for the bread crumbs to absorb moisture and flavor.)
- 3. Heat oven to 400°F. Shape turkey mixture in 1-inch diameter balls. Place meatballs on a foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan.
- 4. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until no pink remains (170°F).

\*I make a double batch, allow them to cool and then freeze them on a tray for 30 minutes in freezer. Once partially frozen I place meatballs in a freezer safe plastic bag. You can defrost for individual meals in microwave or baked in the oven.

#### Freezer Meal: Chicken Pot Pie

1 onion

1 celery stalk

1 bay leaf

1/3 cup butter

1/3 cup flour

12 oz bag frozen mixed veggies,

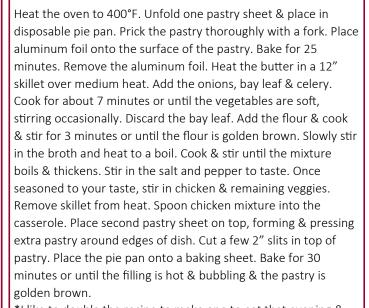
thawed

3 1/4 cup unsalted, chicken stock or broth

2 cups chopped cooked chicken\*\*

Boxed refrigerated pie dough

Refrigerated pie dough should be left out on the counter for an hour before starting to bring to room temperature.



- \*I like to double the recipe to make one to eat that evening & one to freeze. To cook frozen pot pie defrost in fridge overnight. Cook at 375 for 60 minutes cover edges with foil to prevent burning crust.
- \*\*I like to place a whole chicken in crock pot with salt & pepper and cover it with water. Cook on low for 8 hours and you can keep the chicken and the broth (water the chicken cooked in)





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# SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

#### **Manatee County Public Schools**

September 7—No School (Labor Day)
September 9—Early Release

#### **Braden River Elementary:**

September 11—Grandparents' Lunch September 14—Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night September 17—SAC/PTO Meeting September 30—Jumpin' Fun Spirit Night

#### **Freedom Elementary:**

September 15—PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m.
September 18—PTO Mother-Son Night 6:30 p.m.
September 23-24—Picture Day

#### **Gene Witt Elementary:**

No additional information available

#### **Gullett Elementary:**

No additional information available

#### **McNeal Elementary:**

September 2—School Store

September 3-17—Otis Spunkmeyer Sale

September 8—Teachers Helping Hands 8:45 a.m.

September 11—Keva Juice

September 11—Spirit Wear Orders Due September 21—Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

#### **Rowlett Academy:**

September 1—Sponsorship Drive Kickoff; RFA/SAC 6:00PM

September 11 — Blood Mobile Drive September 18— Sponsorship Drive Ends September 19—Boys' Choir at Ray's Game

September 21—Enrichment Begins, Otis Spunkmeyer Kickoff, Rowlett Charter Board Meeting 5:30PM, Student of the Month

Assembly

#### **Wakeland Elementary:**

September 4—Volunteer Work Day September 8-15—Book Fair

September 14-18—Grandparents' Week

September 24—PTO/SAC Meeting and Parent University

October 2—Walk-a-Thon

October 2—Volunteer Work Day

#### Witt Elementary:

September 4—PTO Meeting 2:00 p.m. September 10—Box Tops Collection October 2—PTO Meeting 2:00 p.m.

#### **Private Schools**

#### The Classical Academy:

September 7—No School (Labor Day)
September 11—9/11 Ceremony 8:30 a.m.
September 17—PIE Night (How to Guarantee Your Child Loves Reading!)

#### **Out of Door Academy:**

September 3—Lower School Back to School Night 6:30 p.m. September 7—No School (Labor Day)
September 9—LWR Businesses Open House 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. September 9—Senior Parent College Info Night 7:30 p.m. September 10-11—5<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

September 1—Cyberbullying Presentation 7:00 p.m.

September 16—Middle & Upper School Back to School Night 6:30 p.m.

September 26—Encore/Orchestra and Suzuki Concert 2:30 p.m. September 28-October 1—Lower School Book Swap October 2—Middle School Potluck 5:00 p.m.

#### St. Joseph's Catholic School:

No additional information available

#### St. Martha's Catholic School:

September 4—First Friday Mass at 8:15 a.m.; Noon dismissal September 7—No School (Labor Day) September 18—School Spirit Day

#### St. Stephen's:

September 7—No School (Labor Day)

#### **Tabernacle Christian School:**

September 1—Picture Day
September 1-4—Book Fair
September 4—Grandparents' Day
September 23—"See You at the Pole" 7:3

September 23—"See You at the Pole" 7:3 a.m. (Families meet at flagpole for prayer)

# SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

#### **Local Preschools**

#### All God's Children:

September 1—1st day of school

#### **Goddard School:**

No additional information available

#### **Kiddie Academy:**

No additional information available

#### **Kids R Kids:**

No additional information available

#### **Little Ranchers:**

No additional information available

#### **Mini Mustangs:**

No additional information available

#### **Primrose:**

No additional information available

#### **Sprouts:**

September 1—First day for lunches for T/TH studens

September 7—No School (Labor Day)

September 9—Early Release (No Lunch)

September 14—Staff Meeting (No Lunch)

If you have questions regarding any schools listed or would like to see more schools included, please contact Susan Meyers at

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# SHE'S CRAFTY

#### Magnetic Car Track



Here is a simple transportation craft you can do with your kids to help them learn about the properties of magnets as well as just to have some fun "magic" as they show you how they can make the car go around the track!

Begin by gathering some supplies: a paper plate (not too thick), two magnets per car you plan to make, some construction paper, scissors and markers (or any other means to coloring that you prefer)



Once you have everything, allow your child to create a scene. My daughter decided we would do a school bus, so she created a road for the school bus, stop signs, trees, a school and a few traffic lights on her route. I made the school bus, but of course you child can assist with this part of the project too. My younger daughter assisted with the cutting. She removed the sticky backing to one magnet and adhered the bus to the magnet. If your magnets don't have adhesive, simply glue the paper on. Once done, all you have to do next is place the bus on top and move the second magnet underneath the paper plate to watch it move. Take a moment to see what happens when you reverse the poles of the

magnets. Does the car move better or worse? Faster or slower?









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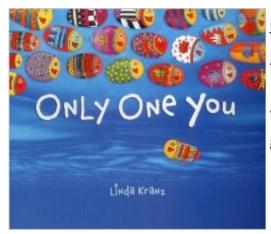


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# KIDS' BOOK CLUB

#### Courage



#### Only One You by Linda Kraus

Adri's mama and papa share some of the wisdom they have gained through the years with their eager son. Their words, simple and powerful, are meant to comfort and guide him as he goes about exploring his world.

#### **Activity while reading**

The book is illustrated using photographs of painted rock fish. Each one is unique, but you will see Adri and his mama and papa on many of the pages. Ask your child what markings they see on mama and papa. Now, encourage your child to see which parent, sometimes both, are on each page.

#### Discussion after reading

Ask your child what makes a person stand out from other people? How can people stand out in a good way at school, at home, on the playground, in a restaurant? (to help you brainstorm ideas, things like taking turns, listening, helping friends, saying good morning, etc) How does it probably feel when you perform standout behavior? Happy, proud, joy, satisfaction?

Adri's parents also said you don't have to follow the crowd. What does it mean to follow the crowd? When might it not be a good idea to follow the crowd? (when the crowd is making bad choices, being unkind, etc.) Ask your child if they've ever made the choice to not follow the crowd.

#### **Craft afterwards**

Paint your own rockfish after a scavenger hunt to search for some big, smooth rocks.

Everyone's fingerprint is unique. Take some time to learn about <u>fingerprint patterns</u>, create a fingerprint of yours and your childs and use a magnifying glass to see how they are alike and how they are different.



# **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

#### August Donation to Mothers Helping Mothers

I'm really impressed this year by our school supply drive. Normally we just have our moms add a couple of things to their own shopping cart and we end up with a hodge podge of school supplies—tons of crayons and glue, a backpack here and there, some pens and pencils and that's about it. We maybe fill up one storage bin. This year, our vice president had the suggestion to create packets of full school supplies. After working with a company who creates bundles of school supplies, we thought we would take the risk and use our president's couponing and money-saving skills and really get us the best bang for our buck. She didn't disappoint. After sending Jill off to Staples with all of the money we collected, she ended up purchasing enough school supplies to outfit 20 kids with everything they'll need. She picked up 754 items!! My trunk was filled with boxes and bags of supplies when I went to drop off our donations at Mothers Helping Mothers! Here is what we donated this year:

25 Spiral Notebooks	14 Colored Pencils packs	11 Pencil Bags
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20 Composition Note- 8 Boxes	of Crayons 11 Pac	ks of lined paper
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books	14 Boxes of Markers	6 Protractors
24 Post-It Notes Pads	8 Pencil Sharpeners	6 Compasses

24 Erasers	8 3" Binders	6 Staplers
24 Clasels	6.5 Dilluers	o Stapiers

32 Dry Erase Markers

8 Scissors 22	Folders

228 Pencils	11 Packs of Note cards

8 Pencil Boxes

# TO YOUR HEALTH

#### Coordination Drills for Kids with Sidewalk Chalk

Take an ordinary, lazy-day activity and add some gross motor skill building to it with these simple ideas!

#### **Line Drawing**

Draw a simple line for your child to walk on putting one foot in front of the other down your sidewalk. Once they master it, make it wigglier with more turns and curves. Have fun and try drawing parallel lines and race each other!



#### **Bean Bag Toss**

Create some different sized targets with varying degrees to throw down. Think skee-ball, but with larger circles. Have your kids toss some bean bags, rocks, pinecones or even pennies at the targets. As they improve, move them a little farther back, or color rings inside your targets and add point levels!

#### "Obstacle" Course

Draw a series of pictures for your children and create an obstacle course. Here are some ideas on what kinds of things to add:

- Draw a series of circles and ask them to hop across them like they were stepping stones on a river.
- Draw two parallel lines and have the kids straddle walk, crab walk or even just try to stay between the lines
- Draw numbers and have them touch the numbers in sequential order
- Draw a bunch of letters scattered on the ground (sight words if you kids are older) and have them jump to the word or letter you call out.

# WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

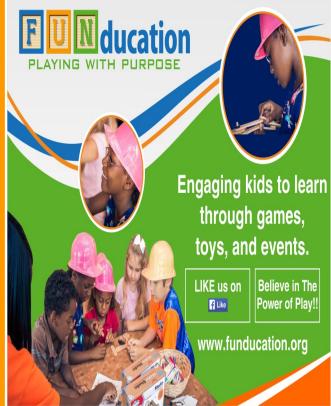
Sunshine News, Summer Party, Paining Party, Kids Outing and More

# Sunshine News!

We welcomed two new baby boys to the group in August! Congratulations to Jessica McIntyre and Sheena Lambright, who both welcomed little baby boys to their families this month. Jessica gave birth to her baby boy Jackson on Saturday, August, 15th and Sheena gave birth to her son Preston on August 18th. Sunshine meals were delivered by

Jennifer Kovatch, Angie Krutchfield, Victoria Cobb, Jill Bennett, Martha Magana, Natalie Davis, and Lisa O'Driscoll. Sunshine meals continue to go out to the Moore family while McKinley is undergoing her initial chemo treatments.

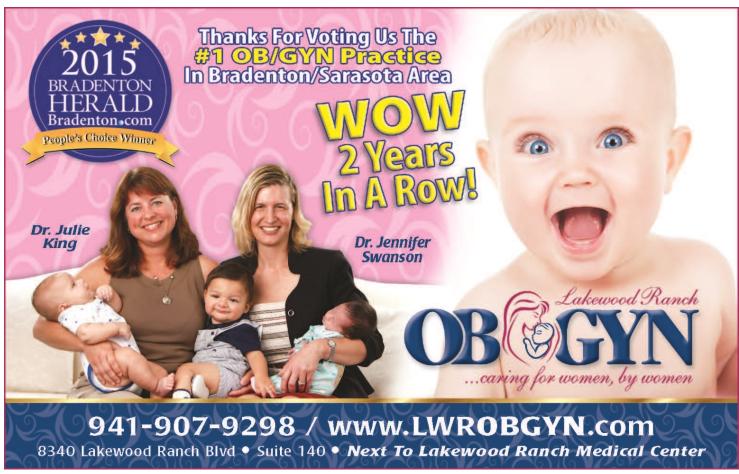
Thank you all for helping deliver sunshine meals!





# END OF SUMMER PAINTING PARTY





# KIDS' OUTING TO MOTE MARINE LAB



# McKinley's Corner



McKinley has all in all had a pretty good August! We've hit a few bumps in the road but nothing that doesn't "come with the territory" at this point. We've started physical therapy, and I'm glad we did. Her left leg is a lot worse than I

thought. She's falling a lot, so I am hopeful physical therapy will help. One of the current chemo meds causes neuropathy and she is trying to keep up with her old pace. The fact is, she can't. Her little foot turns in and the next thing you know, she's on the ground (and trust me when I say a head bump is not a "head bump" in her case). Everything is of concern because of the blood thinner meds so head bumps, especially, are a BIG deal.

We're about half way through this phase (Interim Maintenance) in which two new chemo meds were introduced. With her first two treatments she did have a bit of a hard time, but after yesterday's treatment she was good! The next treatment is the same two chemos but also another lumbar puncture "surgery" in which she is put under again. We got briefed on the next phase, which should start at the end of September or beginning October if her counts remain high enough. This next one is going to be really tough on her. It is the most intense phase yet, per the oncologist, and honestly I'm very nervous for her, myself & Brady. She's going to more than likely go through a lot physically again. These changes, gaining so much weight, her barely walking, were really hard on Brady the first time. She'll probably lose her hair as well...I'm dreading that. I feel like that just signifies "sickness". So please continue praying for her and keeping her and Brady in your thoughts. We can use every single prayer and positivity we can get! Thank you all again for everything. I get stopped

almost daily and am told she's being prayed for and even if I just say "Thank You", know it's not that I'm cutting you short, it's because I'm on the verge of tears and I try really hard to stay strong for her and her brother.

Thank You again.





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# WHAT IS COMING UP

Halloween Party, Monthly Meeting, Dad's Day Out Returns



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www.lwrmomsgroup.com