

COMMUNITY

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BEST BETS

LINE DANCING

Today from 9:30-11:30 a.m., Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave., Englewood. Beginners welcomed. CDC guidelines observed. Visit facebook.com/englewoodcountryliners.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Today at 10 a.m., YMCA, 5100 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., Lakewood Ranch. Confidential, supportive environment to develop mutual support. Respite available for caregivers. Alzheimer Association 24/7 Helpline 800-272-3900.

BAZAAR ON APRICOT & LIME

Today, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 821 Apricot Ave., Sarasota. Art, collectibles, clothing, jewelry, a bakery, live music and food. info@bazaaronapricotandlime.com.

NEWTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 2601 Coconut Ave., Sarasota. Vendors dedicated to farmers in Sarasota and Manatee counties. 941-544-3262; newtownnation.com.

SARASOTA FARMERS MARKET

Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., 1 N. Lemon Ave., Sarasota. Year-round market in downtown Sarasota features vendors with produce, plants, artisan goods, and food and drink. Live music

A Thunder by the Bay bonanza

The 25th annual Thunder by the Bay Music & Motorcycle Festival in February raised an event record \$315,000 for Suncoast Charities for Children, surpassing last year's net revenue of \$267,000.

"We are extremely grateful for the generous support received from festival sponsors, individual donors, vendors, dedicated volunteers, and everyone who attended the festival," Suncoast Charities for Children executive director Lucy Nicandri said. "Their combined support allows us to continue with funding allocations to help local children, teens, and adults with special needs and their families."

Nonprofits included:

- **Children First** – New adjustable tables and chairs for preschool classrooms and assistance packages for at-risk children.
- **Loveland Center** – Construction of a new outdoor therapeutic activity area and support for their recreational program in Bradenton.
- **Special Olympics Florida/Sarasota County** – Equipment and activity materials for the "first-ever" Summer Camp Shriver.
- **Florida Center For Early Child-**



The 25th Thunder by the Bay Festival raised \$315,000 for Suncoast Charities for Children. Front row, from left: Lisa Baer (Suncoast Charities), Kristen Theisen (Florida Center), Deborah Jackson (Special Olympics), Brad Jones (Haven), Bob Flanders (Suncoast Foundation), Mary Apostolu (Venice Challenger Baseball), VJ Anderson (Loveland Center), Philip Tavill (Children First), and Lucy Nicandri (Suncoast Charities). Back row, from left, Bob Morrison, Maureen McAuley, Greg Linehan and David Oriente (Suncoast Charities). PROVIDED BY SUNCOAST CHARITIES FOR CHILDREN

hood – Testing materials for occupational therapists and speech/language pathologists.

- **The Haven** – Therapy scholarships for children requiring speech, occupational, physical, feeding, and/or aquatic therapies.

- **Venice Challenger Baseball** – New dry-fit uniform shirts and funding support for individuals who are blind attending summer camp.

- **Suncoast Foundation** – Maintenance and repairs for the agencies listed above.

Special recognition awards included the Big Heart Award, **Steve White**, S&S Motorsports; Volunteers of the Year, **Paul and Barbara Duval**; Unsung Hero Award, **Linda Carson**, ABC7; Community Partnership Award, **Rory Martin**, Sarasota Fairgrounds; Behind The Scenes Award, **Nico Dinca**; Helping Hand Award, **Chuck Downs**; Motorcycle Media Award, **Ron and Deb Galletti**, Born To Ride TV & Magazine; Overall Volunteer Commitment & Dedication Award, **Jim and Helen Reed**; Business Development Award, **Darrell Turner**; Behind The Lens Award, **Tim Britt**.

The 26th Thunder By The Bay is scheduled for Feb. 16-18 at the Fairgrounds. For updates and additional information, thunderbythebay.org

Submitted by *Lucy Nicandri*