

LAKEWOOD RANCH COMMUNITY FUND HONORS DARRELL TURNER

The Board of Advisors of the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund is pleased to announce Darrell Turner as the recipient of the Fifth Annual C. John A. Clarke Humanitarian of the Year Award. Mr. Turner, owner of Turner Tree & Landscape in Bradenton, was selected for the honor due to his genuine commitment to the community through his personal investments of time, energy, and resources.

Mr. Turner's broad scope of philanthropy includes providing for the needs of seniors, promoting youth and education, encouraging local businesses, supporting the needs of endangered animals, and promoting the preservation of the environment. His personal and professional involvement with various aspects of the community span more than 28 years of service. As a community leader and activist, Turner continuously sets an example of philanthropy for other individuals and businesses.

State Senator Mike Bennett has known Darrell Turner for many years and has witnessed a "staunch and unwavering commitment to our community and an extraordinary personal dedication to public service." Robert Bartz, President of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, states, "Darrell has been a long-standing valuable asset to the Chamber." Bob Borkowski, Chair of the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund Award Selection Committee, notes, "Mr. Turner exemplifies the high standards of philanthropy recognized by this award, and the Community Fund is pleased to honor him."

The Board of Advisors of the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund will host a reception at 4:00 PM at the Lakewood Ranch Town Hall on October 16, 2009 to announce the recipients of its 2009 non-profit organization grants and to honor the significant philanthropic contributions made to the community by Darrell Turner. The public is invited to attend.

The C. John A. Clarke Humanitarian of the Year Award was established in recognition of John Clarke's lifelong dedication to humanitarian ideals that have perpetuated the high ethical, moral, and professional standards that epitomize his life. Mr. Clarke served as an early visionary in the development of Lakewood Ranch and as a catalyst in the creation of the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund. Past honorees include John Clarke, Don O'Leary, Pat Neal, and Lorraine and Dick Vitale.

The Lakewood Ranch Community Fund was established in 2000 as a donor-advised fund under the umbrella of the Manatee Community Foundation and is governed by a volunteer Board of Advisors. Contributions to the Community Fund are made by residents, corporate sponsors, and through its fundraising events. For further details about the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund, please see the website at www.LWRFund.org.