

# Sponsors of Wine Fest see where money goes



World War II nursing veterans Marian Boyer, left, of the U.S. Navy and Millie Dost of the U.S. Army are 91-year-old Bradenton twins who will be aboard the Rotary Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., in June.

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As the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch handed checks to grant winners, sponsors of the annual Suncoast Food & Wine Fest learned how their money will help community.

The club hosted a luncheon April 5 at the Polo Grill in Lakewood Ranch as a way to thank sponsors and highlight programs that will benefit from the annual festival, which raised \$100,000 to distribute to the nonprofit organizations.

Each recipient had the opportunity to thank sponsors and to talk about where their grant dollars will be spent.

"This luncheon is such a wonderful and rare opportunity for sponsors to see what their money is supporting," club Ways and Means Committee Member Laurie Hagberg said. "People are very generous when they get to hear the heartfelt stories of the people they are helping."

There were 71 applicants for the grants.

Ways and Means Committee Chairwoman Jennifer Grondahl presented checks to: Adopt-A-Village in Guatemala, Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota, Child Protection Center, Children First, Easter Seals Southwest Florida, Family Network on Disabilities of Manatee-Sarasota, Family Partnership Center of Manatee County, Feeding Empty Little Tummys, Foundation for Dreams, Harvest United Methodist Pack-A-Sack, Instride Therapy, Manasota BUDS, Manasota Lighthouse for the Blind, Manatee Elks' Feeding Empty Little Tummys and Manatee Glens.

Also, Manatee Technical Institute East Campus, Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Mothers Helping Mothers, Orange Ridge Bullock Elementary School, Rotary Camp Florida, Rotary Gift of Life of Florida, ShelterBox USA, Southwest Florida Honor Flight, Teen Court of Sarasota, Children's Guardian Fund, Inc., Cancer Support Community Florida Suncoast, Tidewell Hospice, United Way 2-1-1 of Manatee County, We CARE Manatee and the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch's Clean Water project.

For more information about the club or the 2012 Suncoast Food and Wine Fest, which will be Nov. 10, visit [www.lakewoodranch-rotary.com](http://www.lakewoodranch-rotary.com) or call 870-0002.