

Rancho Living

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

IN THIS ISSUE:

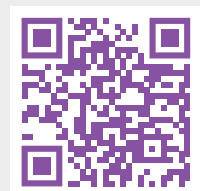
HOMETOWN HISTORY
2026 GRADUATES
SAFETY & SCOUTS
EVENTS & PROGRAMS

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STAY IN TOUCH

Don't miss out on updates from SAMLARC! Per Civil Code, SAMLARC sends out important notices regarding assessments, budgets, policies, and more. This information is sent to the most recent address on file with SAMLARC. Homeowners are required by Civil Code to update their address every year. If you have recently moved or have a preferred mailing address, please visit samlarc.connectresident.com to update your address on file (or make the request in writing to SAMLARC). Thank you for helping us support a connected community!



@samlarc



@samlarc



samlarc.org

SAMLARC 101

Business Office

Assessments, common area maintenance, lifestyle events, and home improvement applications

22342A Avenida Empresa, Suite 102-A
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
949-709-0010

Open Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Beach Club Office

Access cards, common area maintenance, and amenity reservations

21472 Avenida de Los Fundadores
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
949-858-1390

Open Daily
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., extended to 7:00 p.m.
during the summer season through September 1

Facility hours:

Open Daily
6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Lagoon hours (through September 13):
Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
and Fridays
6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Mondays and Thursdays
Noon - 7:00 p.m.

Management & Support

SAMLARC is professionally managed by
FirstService Residential.

For questions or assistance, call 949-858-1390,
or for after-hours needs, contact the
FirstService Residential 24/7 Customer Care Line
at 800-428-5588.



LETTER FROM THE BOARD

As the height of summer arrives, our community is celebrating milestones that remind us of where we've been, who we are, and the shared responsibilities that carry us forward. This July 4th is especially meaningful, as we honor not only our nation's 250th anniversary, but also SAMLARC's 40th year of building a vibrant, connected Rancho Santa Margarita.

This season offers an opportunity to reflect on the values that unite us: pride in our hometown, respect for one another, and a commitment to preserving the quality of life that makes SAMLARC so special. Just as America's founding ideals encourage active participation in community life, so too does our local commitment to safety and stewardship. We encourage all residents to remain mindful of community guidelines — particularly the importance of safe pathways and the prohibition of e-bikes — to help protect pedestrians and ensure that our shared spaces remain welcoming for all (p.7).

We're also proud to highlight the accomplishments of SAMLARC families in this issue! Congratulations to the graduating classes of 2026 — take a peek at p.6

for some of the bright minds carrying our community into the future. In addition, we invite you to learn about the new StoryWalk at Solana Park: an Eagle Scout project that blends family recreation and reading in the great outdoors.

As we celebrate SAMLARC's 40th anniversary, we are reminded that our community's success is built not only on intentional planning, but on the everyday actions of residents who care deeply about where they live. Whether enjoying summer events, volunteering your time, or simply looking out for your neighbors, each of you plays an important role in shaping our future.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for being part of this extraordinary community. We look forward to celebrating throughout the year as we honor both our nation's history and four decades of SAMLARC life.

Here's to a safe, festive, and memorable summer!

SAMLARC Board of Directors

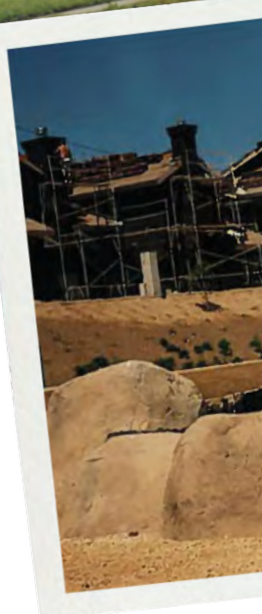
Jeff Halbreich, *President* | Deborah Christensen, *Vice President* | Greg Wieckert, *Chief Financial Officer*
Jeff Beardsley, *Secretary* | Edie Carpenter, *Director* | Greg Schnieders, *Director* | Madona Shaheen, *Director*

HOMETOWN HISTORY

SAMLARC's community development began in 1983, when Anthony R. Moiso and the Santa Margarita Company purchased 5,000 acres of ranch land to create a "different kind of master-planned community." Moiso invited master urban planner Richard Reese to design an innovative "urban village" beneath the Saddleback mountains — and Reese was so intrigued by the potential of the Plano Trabuco Valley that he cancelled a long-awaited trip to Greece and started drafting. He shaped a hometown where families could put down roots for those who come after them, create a diverse town, and enjoy common spaces together.



Richard Reese
SAMLARC Master Planner



Over the next several years, the community of Rancho Santa Margarita blossomed: homes sprouted, neighborhoods unfurled like petals, and the Lago Santa Margarita began to sparkle. The first homes were sold in 1986, and the group of early community pioneers began to establish the local traditions we still love today, such as the July 4th Star Spangled Spectacular! The committed residents built more than just neighborly bonds: they also fueled the collective drive toward official cityhood in 2000.

Since the election of the inaugural homeowner Board of Directors in 1987, SAMLARC has evolved into a keystone community organization. SAMLARC continues to prioritize long-term vision, local volunteerism, exciting events, beautiful common spaces, and welcoming community spirit. The Board's dedication to upholding this vision never wavers. The town's blueprints have turned into SAMLARC's reality: a hometown where thousands of families have spent the last four decades building a lifetime of memories. We look forward to connecting the community for the next forty years and beyond!



CLASS OF 2026!

Congratulations to the hardworking scholars of the Class of 2026! The SAMLARC Board of Directors would like to honor the accomplishments and bright futures of our local graduates. Your journeys are just beginning — cheers to the new adventures ahead!



MAYA ALVES

Trabuco Hills High School



REBECCA CARLOS

Trabuco Hills High School



JOSHUA CHICKERING

Arroyo Vista Middle School



TRENT CHICKERING

Orange County School of the Arts



CARTER HALBREICH

Melinda Heights Elementary School



SAMANTHA HERNANDEZ

CSU Fullerton



DYLAN HOFFMAN

RSM Intermediate



JOSHUA HUGHES

Trabuco Hills High School



MATTHEW HUGHES

Trabuco Hills High School



LANDON PEREZ

Trabuco Hills High School



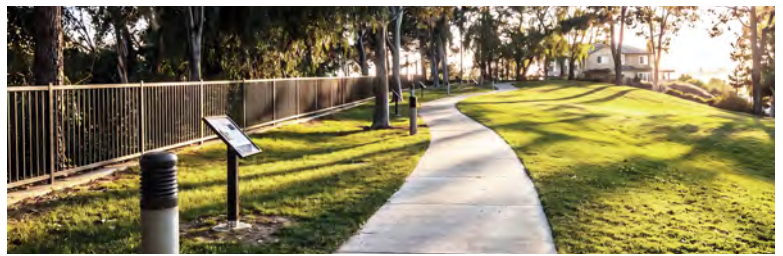
AVA THEL

Tesoro High School



ANNIKA WILSON

Trabuco Hills High School



SAMLARC proudly partners with local Scouts who want to give back in lasting ways. The newest example of that commitment is at Solana Park, where a StoryWalk installation invites families to read a children's book with "pages" installed throughout the park. This new amenity was completed as an Eagle Scout project by Kyle Gaghan of local Troop 727 and blends his enthusiasm for reading, nature, and giving back to the community.

Exposure to verbal and written storytelling supports brain development and helps children build essential communication and comprehension skills. Combining literacy with fun outdoor activities makes a simple story take on new life. Kyle led the project from concept to completion — organizing volunteers, sourcing materials, and overseeing the construction of durable, weather-resistant story panels. Keep an eye out for fresh stories and new characters with the changing of the seasons!

By supporting local youth activities like scouting, sports, and volunteerism, SAMLARC continues to enhance community spaces while fostering leadership, service, and connection.

LAKESHORE REMINDERS

With beautiful views, an easy 1.1-mile stroll, and plenty of sunshine, the Lago Santa Margarita is one of SAMLARC's prized amenities. Thousands of visitors will stroll, cycle, and make memories around the Lakeshore this summer — and creating a welcoming environment for all to enjoy is a community effort!

The Board of Directors appreciates the community's concern around the increase in e-bike visitors to the Lake — as well as SAMLARC's parks and trails. In 2023, the Board adopted a policy to prohibit unauthorized motorized vehicles on SAMLARC property. The City's RSMCC §12.08.030(a) prohibits unsafe operation of e-bikes, electric scooters, etc. SAMLARC has implemented additional security patrols around the Lake, new signage, e-newsletter reminders, social media campaigns, and a community postcard to encourage safe and positive community behavior.

SAMLARC is also collaborating with Orange County Sheriff's Department and the City to increase law enforcement operations and implement large-scale signage. Education, visibility, and partnership creating a safer and more enjoyable experience for everyone.

One way that individual residents can support a safe Lakeshore is to "see something, say something, do something." Trash, fishing debris, and pet waste should be placed in the appropriate receptacles. If you notice broken equipment, unruly behavior, or pets off leash, please call the SAMLARC team. Mission Viejo Animal Services can assist distressed wildlife, and dangerous behavior always warrants a 911 call. It takes a village to keep Rancho Santa Margarita one of California's safest cities: these simple steps can make a big difference. These efforts reflect neighbors looking out for one another — let's each lend a hand to keep our Lakeshore safe and enjoyable for all.

2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SAMLARC's Board of Directors leads the Association's fiduciary obligations, operations, and future goals. Each Director is elected by the Membership to serve a two-year term.

Preliminary applications for the 2027-2029 Board of Directors will be accepted through October 12, 2026. To learn more about serving on the Board, please visit [SAMLARC.org/board](https://samlarc.org/board) or scan the QR code.

SUMMER EVENTS

For more information on each event, scan the QR code or visit [SAMLARC.org/events](https://samlarc.org/events)!



Share your favorite photos to info@samlarc.org or @samlarc for a chance to be featured on our social media streams, e-News, or Rancho Living magazines!

SAMLARC's exciting events are designed to bring the community together. Whether you're snacking on popcorn at Screen on the Green or grooving along to Music at the Lake, we invite you to create great memories with family and friends. Mark your calendars for these events just around the corner.

- ▶ Star Spangled Spectacular | July 4
- ▶ Music at the Lake | July 17
- ▶ Screen on the Green | July 24
- ▶ Great Rancho Campout | July 31-August 1
- ▶ Music at the Lake | August 14

MUSIC AT THE LAKE

July 17, August 14 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Lakeshore Amphitheater

Make the most of warm summer nights and join us for Music at the Lake, where the water, sunset, and talented local musicians set the scene for a laid-back night out. Bring a chair or a blanket, come early to claim a great spot, and treat yourself to dinner from local food trucks before you settle in and enjoy the show.

Each night has its own lineup of music (and bites) to please a crowd. On July 17, Tim Apple takes the stage, with dinner available from XCLUSIVE Mexican Food Truck and Kona Ice serving up icy sweets. On August 14, wrap up the series with Typical Gypsies for a final lakeside night of music (stay tuned on SAMLARC's social media for the food truck reveal).

Best of all, this event is free so invite a friend, bring the family, and enjoy a relaxing evening by the Lake.

We'd love to see your favorite snapshots of life at SAMLARC! Please share photos and stories with us at info@samlarc.org, [SAMLARC.org/stories](https://samlarc.org/stories), or by tagging @samlarc on social media. You might just see a familiar face on our social media streams, e-Newsletters, or a future edition of Rancho Living!

. INTRODUCING . VIVA LAS VEGAS

A glimmering night on the town with casino flair.

Check out p.10 for more details!



SCREEN ON THE GREEN: HOPPERS

July 24 | 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. | Central Park
Movie begins after the sun sets (around 8:15 p.m.)

Grab your favorite picnic blanket, pack up the lawn chairs, and come soak up a perfect summer evening at Central Park — because Screen on the Green is all about easy, family-friendly fun under the stars. Hoppers is coming on July 24, giving you the chance to spread out on the grass, get cozy, and enjoy the movie-night magic with neighbors and friends. Come early and make it a full night out: treat yourself to a meal from Chick-Fil-A, then top it off with something sweet from Screamin' Ice Cream — the ideal combo for an outdoor show.

Beyond the silver screen, you'll find activities that make summer nights feel extra special. Little ones can enjoy a meet and greet with characters from the film, and grab fresh popcorn when it's ready! SAMLARC's Emerald Partner, Hurd Homes, is also bringing a delicious complimentary candy stand! Bring the family, invite a friend, and make a few memories right here in the park!



GREAT RANCHO CAMPOUT

July 31 – August 1 | 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Trabuco Mesa Park

Dust off your boots and round up the family! SAMLARC's annual Campout is coming to Trabuco Mesa Park with a Western theme we can't wait to share: Where the West Begins. Join neighborhood families for a one-night getaway under the stars filled with classic camp fun, great food, and a little adventure for all ages.

Bring your tent and sleeping bags to Trabuco Mesa Park starting at 12:00 p.m. on July 31! Games and activities will kick off at 5:00 p.m., including a water balloon toss and a giant water slide to stay cool. Kids will also enjoy a special glimpse into the Old West with a cowgirl coaching them on lasso techniques and fun rope tricks. Come hungry, because In-N-Out will be serving up dinner! As the sun sets, get comfortable for an outdoor showing of Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, complete with popcorn, and wrap up the night with a cozy campfire favorite — s'mores. When the stars come out, it's time to head to bed...and wake up to a fresh pancake breakfast in the brisk morning air!

Be sure to pack campout essentials like a tent, sleeping bag, pillow, and extra blankets (it may be chilly!), comfy PJs and a fresh change of clothes, flashlights or battery-operated lanterns, low-backed chairs or picnic blankets, and plenty of water for a sunny summer adventure.

Wristbands are required to participate and must be obtained by purchasing tickets online only. Tent set-up begins at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, and spots cannot be reserved before that time. Please plan to have camp fully broken down by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 1. Tickets are on sale now!





VIVA LAS VEGAS

September 19 | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | Beach Club

Get ready for a glamorous evening inspired by the sparkle, style, and swing of classic Las Vegas! Head to the Beach Club for Viva Las Vegas — a high-energy night designed for neighbors to indulge in an immersive experience packed with entertainment, music, and interactive fun.

From the first toast to the last encore, Viva Las Vegas is built around great company and a fun, festive atmosphere. Guests will be welcomed with classic drinks and a buffet dinner, setting the tone for a lively night out. Feeling lucky? Try your hand at mock gambling with a full casino-style setup, including 12 blackjack tables, 2 roulette tables, and 2 craps tables, complete with pit bosses to keep the action moving. It's all the excitement of a casino floor — just for fun.



PARTNERS MAKE THE PARTY

Thank you to our SAMLARC Lifestyle Partners for making SAMLARC's events special! In addition to giving back to the community, SAMLARC Partners enjoy event booth space, social media shoutouts, and more! The 2026 event calendar is open for sponsorships — for more information, contact info@samlarc.org.

Diamond Partners

Andre Landscape, Hoag Urgent Care, CitySide Fiber

Emerald Partners

Spa Gregories, Shannon Miller, Hurd Homes

Interested in joining this year's Partners Program?

Connect with us at [SAMLARC.org/partners](https://samlarc.org/partners).

A highlight of the evening will be the Vintage Vegas Variety Band, performing crowd-pleasing hits spanning the 1960s through today, while dressed in iconic Sinatra style. Expect familiar favorites, danceable tunes, and the kind of showmanship that brings the spirit of old-school Vegas to life.

To capture the memories, guests can step into the photo booth and pose in front of a decorative backdrop, then take home a printed 4x6 photo featuring the SAMLARC logo — a perfect keepsake from a night worth remembering.

And because no Vegas night is complete without a little surprise, guests will also enjoy interactive entertainment throughout the night, including closeup magic and conversations with The King — who may have a tune or two to bring the house down.

Mark your calendar for September 19 and get ready to dress up, step out, and experience a little Vegas — SAMLARC style.



SAMLARCONNECT TEXT PROGRAM

From events to pool projects, SAMLARC is constantly bustling. As you plan your family's activities, it's easier than ever to keep abreast of SAMLARC events and facility updates. **Sign up for our SAMLARConnect Events list!** Receive texts reminders on important event dates, pool info, and more. Visit [SAMLARC.org/sms](https://samlarc.org/sms) to get started.

PROGRAMS & CLUBS

PROGRAMS

Mission Viejo Nadadores Swim School

The Mission Viejo Nadadores Swim School teaches the skills necessary for a lifetime of safety, fun, and love for the water. Classes have been developed with a loving and specific approach to the physical and intellectual development of each swimmer.

Skyhawks Basketball & Volleyball Camps

Skyhawks Sports Academy Basketball programs emphasize teamwork, respect, and sportsmanship. Designed for children 4.5-12, the programs introduce a lifelong love of basketball and active lifestyles. Skyhawks' knowledgeable coaches use a variety of games and activities to support fundamental skills and fun.

Sweet Spot Tennis

Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your game, Sweet Spot Tennis offers fast-paced tennis classes for both youth and adults. Focus on footwork, fitness, and stroke improvement with energetic drills led by certified coaches.

Evolve Pickleball

Join our Pickleball classes and clinics for all ages and skill levels! Enjoy this fun, fast-paced sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. Learn the game, improve your skills, and have a blast.

Gentle Yoga

From gentle stretches to calming breathwork, Gentle Yoga's sessions are designed to help participants release tension and find deep relaxation. All fitness levels are welcome and invited.



Summer 2026

CLUBS

SAMLARC Clubs offer a great way for residents and guests to connect, learn, and have fun together. Looking to sharpen your Monopoly skills? Try your hand at Board Game Night. Discover new games, enjoy friendly competition, and connect with fellow Members in a relaxed, social setting. The Movement Club is designed to promote health and wellness for women through fun mat exercises at the Lake. Participants inspire one another through movement, mindfulness, and shared encouragement.

WANT TO START A CLUB OR PROGRAM?



Scan the code or visit
SAMLARC.org/lifestyle
for more info!



SAMLARC

22342 Avenida Empresa, Suite 102-A,
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