

# MetroWest 2020 COMMUNITY REPORT MetroWest Strong





### **2020: MetroWest Strong**

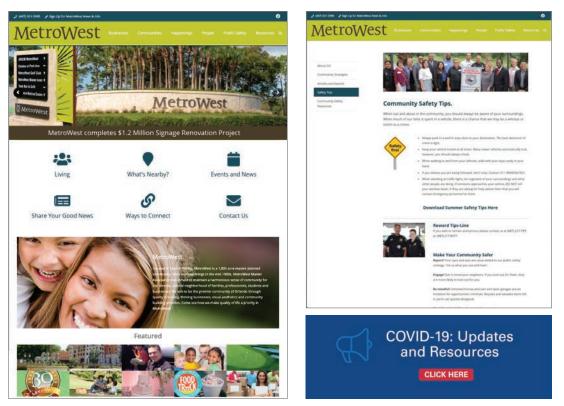
The many challenges presented by COVID-19 require strong community leadership and the ability to make tough decisions. Fortunately, MetroWest Master Association (MWMA) is led by a dynamic and involved Board of Directors. In light of the pandemic, the MWMA Board made the decision to suspend all 2020 community events, including the monthly MetroWest Food Truck Connection, MusicWORKS on July 4, October's National Night Out, and WinterFest in December. This decision was made with the health and safety of the MetroWest community foremost in the Board's considerations. The MetroWest Master Association looks forward to resuming these signature events when conditions regarding



COVID-19 have improved.

## Despite these setbacks, many Master Association initiatives moved forward in 2020.

In 2020, the Master Association continued its successful partnership with Central Florida Lifestyle Magazine to produce MetroWest Lifestyle, a quarterly glossy magazine. Four editions of MetroWest Lifestyle Magazine were produced, highlighting topics such as weddings in MetroWest, local businesses and residents rising to the challenge of the pandemic, back to school safety, MWMA's donations to local schools and First Responders, Shred it with Santa plus the MetroWest Edgewood Ranch Community Charity Challenge. MWMA also unveiled an updated and newly branded website, with a new Public Safety section and links to important COVID-19 information. In addition, we continued to reach out to and engage with our community stakeholders, especially with coronavirus information, via our communications platforms including Constant Contact and Facebook.



We faced a challenging year in 2020 and we will

continue to increase, support and grow the community connections between everyone who lives, works and plays in MetroWest and stay **MetroWest Strong**.

#### **Local Schools Enhance Our Community**

MetroWest is proud of our high-performing neighborhood schools; their upward momentum for academic success continued in 2020, even with the challenges presented by the pandemic.

The MetroWest Master Association supported MetroWest Elementary School and Westpointe Elementary School with a total donation of \$20,000 in 2020.



#### Our top-rated neighborhood schools are:

MetroWest Elementary School 
• Westpointe Elementary School
• Chain of Lakes Middle School 
• Gotha Middle School 
• Olympia High School

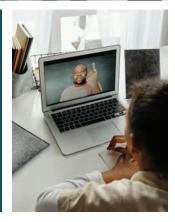












#### Metrowest Welcomed New Businesses In 2020

Despite the pandemic, we welcomed many new businesses to the MetroWest community in 2020 including: uBreakiFix Headquarters, Sodie Doces, Optum, LaGranja Restaurant, Dollar Store, Axiom Bank, Quick Phone Fix, Fuego Smoke Shop, West Vue Apartments, and Millenium MetroWest Apartments. In addition, Brazil Foodmart and Fiorella Daycare both expanded their spaces.

Sales and occupancy statistics for both residential and commercial properties indicate very little available inventory in our community, a testament to the desirability of living and working in MetroWest.









#### Metrowest Benefits From Public Safety Partnership



In 2020, MetroWest marked the seventh year of our community partnership with Critical Intervention Services (CIS), a Florida based company that specializes in enhancing public safety. MetroWest Public Safety Officers (PSO) serve as community liaisons, building relationships with community members, businesses, the Orlando Police Department (OPD), and other law enforcement officials and entities.



Critical Intervention Services

Over the past year, MetroWest PSOs were involved in more than 22,000 community **GARDAWORLD** and business contacts within MetroWest, a clear indicator that the program is unifying owners, businesses, managers and residents to promote the highest standards of public safety.



Also in 2020, MWMA and CIS continued to facilitate the process by which MetroWest communities can implement the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) in order to achieve Crime Free Certification from the Orlando Police Department.

We envision continued success in 2021 and appreciate the support of all our neighbors who strive to ensure the safety of MetroWest residents, businesses and visitors.

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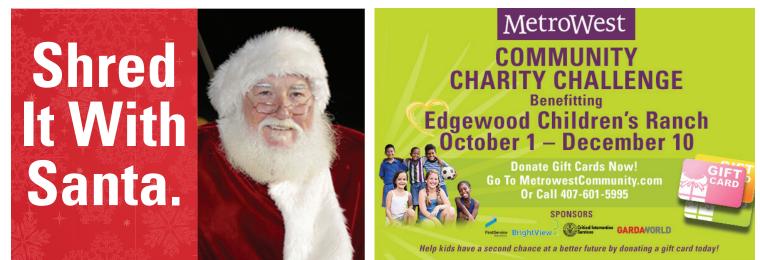
## **Special Events Take New Form**

Well-executed community events have become a tradition in MetroWest; however, the advent of COVID-19 necessitated that special events be cancelled until such time as they can be staged safely.

#### MWMA did move ahead with a new initiative, First Responders Appreciation Month, and a new socially-distanced event, Shred It With Santa.



For First Responders Appreciation Month in September, we recognized first responders with banners around MetroWest and deliveries of tangible tokens of our thanks. Shred It With Santa, staged in partnership with Fairwinds Credit Union, provided safe and secure shredding services with Santa on hand for photos and Santa's Mailbox available for children to drop their letters to him.





Our annual MetroWest Charity Challenge benefiting Edgewood Children's Ranch had to be modified in format to keep participants safe during the pandemic, yet still raised over \$8500 for Edgewood Children's Ranch, with Veranda Park winning the Challenge.





**Connect with us!** Ensure that you don't miss out on any MetroWest news by liking us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MetroWestMasterAssociation/). Also, our website, www.metrowestcommunity.com, provides a wide range of timely news and updates about MetroWest, including events, business, community stories and more.



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