

COMMUNITY IN  
**ACTION**



**June 2020 to May 2021**

# LARCS A YEAR IN *Review*

**T**his year will undoubtedly be remembered for the global pandemic that impacted our way of life and placed a damper on our 20th year anniversary as a community. Despite the significant impact that COVID-19 had on operations, community events and recreational programs, LARCS delivered on its mission and purpose to enhance the lifestyle for thousands of Ladera Ranch residents. Starting in April 2020, the Board and staff worked closely to pivot and shift from large-scale events to small events and online virtual activities. Recreation programs were modified and communications with residents via email newsletters (Ladera Happenings), LaderaLife.com and social media became more important than ever.

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# THE COMMUNITY

From the design of its neighborhoods and villages, to the planning of events, programs and activities, Ladera Ranch is a special place designed to encourage interaction and foster a strong sense of community. Where neighbors meet in the cul-de-sacs for evening conversations, and where exclusive events offer unique experiences and memories to last a lifetime.

Since Ladera Ranch is a community, and not a city, residents rely on Ladera Ranch Community Services to create the lifestyle programming that is a significant part of the Ladera lifestyle that many enjoy and other communities strive to emulate. Developers from all over the world continue to tour our unique master planned community.

**ROOTS AND WINGS** “There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One is roots; the other, wings.” — Hodding Carter

Ladera Ranch is a place founded on the hopes of our children. It’s a place that provides roots and wings, so that one can live life to its fullest. With miles of running and biking trails that complement the nine villages, there’s a place for everyone who seeks the balance between nature and neighborly, to call home — a home that will provide lasting memories and lasting connections.

## THE ROLE OF LADERA RANCH COMMUNITY SERVICES (LARCS)

LARCS is an independent community services organization (CSO) that builds a strong social fabric by encouraging neighborhood interaction through technology, programs, activities and the spirit of volunteerism. LARCS promotes communications among neighbors, organizations, alliances and businesses through LaderaLife.com and publications to keep residents informed.

Ladera Ranch Community Services (LARCS) is an independent 501(c)(4) nonprofit public benefit corporation with an independently elected governing Board of Directors.

As an unincorporated community, LARCS is similar to a municipality’s community services department providing the following services to the community:

- Community Events
- Recreational and Social Programs and Classes
- Roots and Wings Magazine
- Neighborhood Block Parties Reimbursement Program
- Laderalife.com (Community Website)
- Ranch Hands Volunteer Program
- Community Clubs and Groups
- LARCS Scholarship Program
- Teen Leadership Council
- New Homeowner Welcome Receptions
- Event Planning Committee
- Technology Advisory Committee
- Community Outreach Committee
- Leave a Legend Program (Bricks)



**DID**  
YOU KNOW?!

LARCS is funded primarily through a Community Enhancement Fee paid at the sale or resale of any home in Ladera Ranch.

First-time sales:  
**1/8% of the purchase price**

Resales:  
**1/4% of the purchase price**

# LARCS LEADERSHIP and STAFF

FOSTERING A SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM, NURTURING A LEGACY OF SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**BARTON WARNER**  
CFO

**ARMANDO RUTLEDGE**  
President

**JAY ROGERS**  
Secretary

**GREG SINK**  
Vice President

**JOYA CELIK**  
Non-Voting Member

**DALIA VIERA**  
Non-Voting Member

**ROB CAMPPELL**  
Director at Large

## LARCS COMMITTEES



Supports the recruitment, coordination and recognition of all Ladera Ranch residents who volunteer their time and talent to support LARCS committees, programs, events, activities and community outreach programs.

**Members:**

Janet Campbell, Eric DeVoe, Jim Finken, Anthony Guiso, Harpreet Kaur and Lea Prokopowicz



Provides ideas and recommendations to the LARCS Board of Directors that will ensure cost effective and quality community events that promote a unique community spirit for the residents.

**Members:**

Dana DeVoe, Alison Duff, Janene Koerner, Jill Lau, Christine Reves, Stephanie Stein and Sienna Thornburg



Provides opportunities for teens to come together for leadership development and community outreach.

**Members:**

Aditya Narayanan, Aleena Ali, Alex Bryan, Amrita Kaur, Aneri Narayan, Apoorvi Singh, Arjun Narayanan, Ava DeVoe, Braden Rozema, Carson De Filippo, Dylan Fingerish, Emily Larson, Emma Megerian, Gweneth Scott, Izzy Searle, Lindsey Esplin, Megan Zimmerman, Noel Mardikian, Rachel Warner, Raj Bhatt, Rayyan Ali, Sandhya Ganesan, Shaurya Sharma, Shirin Dunker and Suhina Sharma



Provides insights, strategies and ideas that promote greater use of LaderaLife.com - Ladera Ranch's community website.

**Members:**

Emre Celik, Bob Daly, Robert Lozano, April Sather, and Jason Walsh

## LARCS STAFF

**ASHLEY BLAIR** | Community Services Director  
[ashley.blair@fsresidential.com](mailto:ashley.blair@fsresidential.com)

**DAVID ROBERTSON** | Communications Manager  
[david.robertson@fsresidential.com](mailto:david.robertson@fsresidential.com)

**JOANNE KOPENY** | Events and Programs Manager  
[joanne.kopeny@fsresidential.com](mailto:joanne.kopeny@fsresidential.com)

**LINDA BENSADOUN** | Community Services Coordinator  
[linda.bensadoun@fsresidential.com](mailto:linda.bensadoun@fsresidential.com)

**TAMARA BUSH** | CSO Special Projects Coordinator  
[tamara.bush@fsresidential.com](mailto:tamara.bush@fsresidential.com)



# EVENTS



**SPRING CELEBRATION**



**TRAIL OF TREATS**



**LIVE NATIVITY**



**SANTA PHOTOS**



**FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT**



**STORY TIME**



**AMAZING TEEN RACE**



**MOTHER'S DAY MASTERPIECES**

EVENT	ATTENDEES
Photo Contests (5)	178
Food Truck Fridays (20)	3650
Virtual Family Yoga Class*	10
Virtual Movie Nights (2)	50
Story Times with Bellise (10)	675
Social Media Contests	50
Patriotic Fire Truck	750
Virtual Freedom Run*	500
Agents of Discovery	364
July 4th Flag Ceremony & National Anthem	1000
Shredding Event	300
Family Campout Home-Style	209
Power Fusion 101 Yoga Class*	20
Photo Scavenger Hunts (3)	300
Drive-In Movies (4)	2075
Power Fusion 101 Yoga Class*	10
Teens Painting in the Park	24
Virtual Wine Tasting	14
Trail of Treats Drive-Thru	1200
James Ransom 5K*	250
Virtual Craft Fair	100
Go Green Ladera	215
Veterans Day*	500
Cruisin' with the Claus'	800
Santa Photos	600
Live Nativity*	400
Menorah Lighting*	229
Hot Chocolate & Holiday Lights	450
Letters to Santa	500
Bunny Photos	650
Eggs-travagant Drive-Thru	1200
Go Green Ladera	300
Family Gardening Workshop	30
Mother's Day Masterpieces	51
Composting Workshop	30

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS**

Food Drives (2)	75
Play Well Africa Lego Bricks Collection*	300
Diaper & Wipes Drive	25
School Supplies Collection Drive	100
Toy Drive	250
Care Packages	50
Goodwill Donation Sites (2)*	6995

**COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITIES**

Blood Drives (10)	415 donors
Most Patriotic Home Decorating Contest	13 homes
Halloween Home Decorating Contest	35 homes
Scarecrow Decorating Contest	5 homes
Holiday Decorating Contest	42 homes

\*Community Partnership Event

# COMMUNICATIONS

This year was an exceptional year. The global pandemic changed life as we knew it in a matter of weeks. In addition to a high level of uncertainty that our residents faced, the closure of facilities and the LARCS and LARMAC offices, transitioning from in-person events to online activity and virtual events, required a shift in how we communicated with our residents.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



Resident communications increased with an emphasis on social media. Instagram and Facebook were the main platforms for social media. These channels were used to disseminate information regarding the status of access to facilities and the changes in the event and programming calendar. These social channels were used to monitor issues and resident concerns that we kept the Board of Directors updated on.

## PROMOTING POSITIVITY

ShineOnLaderaRanch was a campaign that was launched on Facebook and Instagram with the goal of keeping spirits up. From positive quotes to fun giveaways that promoted our local restaurant businesses, residents engaged and appreciated the light-hearted positive campaign in the midst of so much negativity surrounding the pandemic and prevalent sentiment.



## LADERA HAPPENINGS

Early on in the pandemic, Ladera Happenings was increased from being sent twice per month to weekly. The email analytics showed that residents were eager to stay abreast of the updates and news by LARCS and LARMAC. Additionally, there were special event and amenity announcements that were distributed separate from the weekly edition of the community newsletter.

## ROOTS AND WINGS

The summer issue of Roots and Wings became known as the 'pivot' issue since it was well into production and had to be completely revamped with the cancellation of the summer events and programs. Staff pivoted and created a new issue that focused on Ladera's hometown heroes who were featured on a video call which was



appropriate for the time. The cover featured civic and business leaders, teachers, volunteers and Board members. Early on, LARCS and LARMAC considered cancelling the summer issue but decided to retain it because of the need for residents to stay informed and for the sake of maintaining a sense of familiarity among residents who anticipate the quarterly publication.

# RANCH HANDS VOLUNTEERS



The Ranch Hands are residents of Ladera Ranch that volunteer within the community and work alongside the LARCS team to help support the many great community events and activities. The Ranch Hands assist with event setup, cleanup, and of course interacting with the residents during the event. You will see the Ranch Hands throughout the community assisting with LARCS operated or sponsored events. Volunteering at the events and activities put on by LARCS and supported by Ranch Hands volunteers is just one way for you to be involved in your community and make a difference in your hometown.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS: 1,407 HOURS

Aditya Narayanan	Bob Daly	David Thornsberry	Jennifer Powers	Lily Ririe	Rachel Bova
Aleena Ali	Bohdanna Witiuk	Diane Andrikos	Jennifer Seoane	Linda Bensadoun	Rachel Warner
Alex Bryan	Braden Duff	Dominic Moreno	Jill Lau	Lindsey Esplin	Raj Bhatt
Ali Bhola	Braden Rozema	Drew Hallbeck	Jill Reder	Lisa LeBlanc-Kobus	Rayyan Ali
Alison Duff	Brian Fitzpatrick	Eileen Parker	Jim Finken	Lori Hardin	Regina Virk
Amanda Picariello	Carl King	EJ McCullough	Johnny Devecka	Lori Jackson	Robert Campbell
Amrita Kaur	Carolina Basave	Ella Johansson	Joshmar Bravo	Lorraine McCullough	Robert Lozano
Amy Griffin	Casey Micheil	Emily Larson	Joya Celik	Lyn Chute	Ross Roberts
Amy Johansson	Cathee Kaitanjan	Emma Megerian	Justin Rogers	Maciek Prokopowicz	Ryan Rowe
Aneri Narayan	Catherine Hollinger	Emre Celik	Kade Ward	Maleah Huynh	Sam Lau
Angie Beckham	Chantelle Nashed	Eric DeVoe	Karen Gabriel	Mark Hallbeck	Sandhya Ganesan
Anmol Kaur	Charlie Rice	Evan Toner	Karen Walsh Nguyen	Mary Ann Galante	Sarah Mester
Ann Ruppenthal	Chelsea McLatcher	Fran Martineau	Kari Rydell	Mary Lou Lambert	Scott Weisgerber
Anthony Guiso	Chris McAndrew	Gail Louie	Katherine Lee	Mason Reder	Shaurya Sharma
Anya Searle	Christina MacKinney	Gayle Davis	Kathryn Ririe	Matt Allison	Shirin Dunker
April Sather	Christina Ramsey	Georgette Shrake	Kayla Hallbeck	Megan Oliver	Sienna Thornburg-Rowe
Araceli Carreon	Christine Abuharoon	Greg Sink	Kel Lee Nowak	Megan Schmid	Sophie Picariello
Arjun Narayanan	Christine Lock	Gweneth Scott	Kelli Robertson	Megan Zimmerman	Stephanie Ramsey
Armando Rutledge	Christine Melgren	Hailey Davis	Kelly Hallbeck	Michelle Lee	Stephanie Stein
Aurora Djurdjulov	Christine Reves	Hamid Chaudry	Kelly Tobias	Michelle Strazzeri	Steven Bova
Austin Bush	Claire Hess	Harpreet Kaur	Kim Diaz	Naomi Nguyen	Steven Lefevre
Ava DeVoe	Claudia Perry	Heidi Healy	Kim Mai	Natalie Chaudhry	Suhina Sharma
Balagopal Narayanan	Corie Gibson	Isabel Catalano	Kimberly Brown	Nathan Bensadoun	Susie Markow
Barbara Lee	Dalia Viera	Isabella Searle	Kristen Nguyen	Nathan Chaudhry	Suzanna Picariello
Barbara Reinmiller	Dana DeVoe	Jaden Bryan	Kristen O'Malley	Nicholas Bova	Thuan Mai
Barton Warner	Daniella Hernandez	Janene Koerner	Kristina Schroeder	Nina Adams	Tiffany Cook
Beth Toner	Danny Prokopowicz	Janet Campbell	Lakshmi Narayanan	Noel Mardikian	Tina Catalano
Bill Markow	Dave Watson	Jason Walsh	Laura Sampson	Olivia Chaudhry	Todd Stearns
Blakely Walters		Jay Rogers	Lea Prokopowicz	Pat Ward	Tom DeBellis
					Vic Abuharoon
					Vincent Chaudhry





# LARCS SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to the 2021 LARCS Teen Scholarship and Saddleback College Scholarship Award recipients. These programs recognize the efforts of outstanding local students who will grow up to be our future leaders. This year, LARCS awarded a total of \$15,000 to exemplary teens who were anonymously selected based on overall academic performance and service to their community.

## *teen scholarships*



**AMRITA KAUR**  
United States Military  
Academy West Point



**MACEY LEONARD**  
Brown University



**RYAN LITTLE**  
University of Georgia



**SUHINA SHARMA**  
University of California,  
Berkeley



## SADDLEBACK COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Congratulations to Ladera Ranch resident, Stephanie Smith, the recipient of the 2021 Ladera Ranch Community Services Endowed Scholarship.



**STEPHANIE SMITH**  
Marketing





# LARCS CLUBS, GROUPS, AND PROGRAMS

## LARCS CLUBS

- Chinese Joy Luck Club
- Chinese Table Games
- Jewish Community
- Ladera Ranch Book Club
- Ladera Ranch Dads
- Ladera Ranch Poker Club
- Ladera Ranch Tech Community
- Mama Love Dance
- Non-Toxic Ladera Ranch

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

- AYSO Ladera Ranch
- Boy Scout Troop 787
- Boy Scout Troop 2020
- Capo Girls Softball
- Cub Scout Troop 689
- Girl Scouts of Ladera Ranch
- Ladera Football League
- Ladera Ranch Acres of Love Chapter
- Ladera Ranch Civic Council
- Ladera Ranch Little League
- Ladera Rancho Chamber of Commerce
- South OC Youth Rugby
- YMCA Adventure Guides
- Lion's Heart

## RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

### **BABYSITTERS TRAINING, CPR AND FIRST AID**

Class prepares teens for emergencies when caring for children of all ages.

### **BASICS OF SKATEBOARDING**

A detailed introduction to skateboarding.

### **CPR/AED/FIRST AID CERTIFICATION**

Class covers CPR, choking relief and use of an Automated External Defibrillator for adults, children and infants.

### **EVOLUTION SWIM**

Helps students transition from being aquatic naive to being accomplished swimmers.

### **GATORS SWIM CLUB**

A year-round competitive conditioning swim program.

### **GUITAR & UKULELE**

Teaches chords, strums and songs.

### **INTRO TO GATORS**

Helps students master the four major swim strokes.

### **LADERA RANCH TENNIS**

Helps students develop the strokes of the game with an emphasis on the technique and consistency.

### **MUSIC TOGETHER**

Provides rich musical experiences through songs, rhymes, movements and instrumental jam sessions.

### **SKYHAWKS**

Sports development program for preschool age children.

### **STROLLER STRIDES**

A fitness program that moms can do with their babies.

### **WATER POLO**

Teaches beginning athletes the fundamental skills and tactics of water polo.

### **YMCA FITNESS CLASSES**

Classes include Active Older Adult, Aqua Fit and Boot Camp

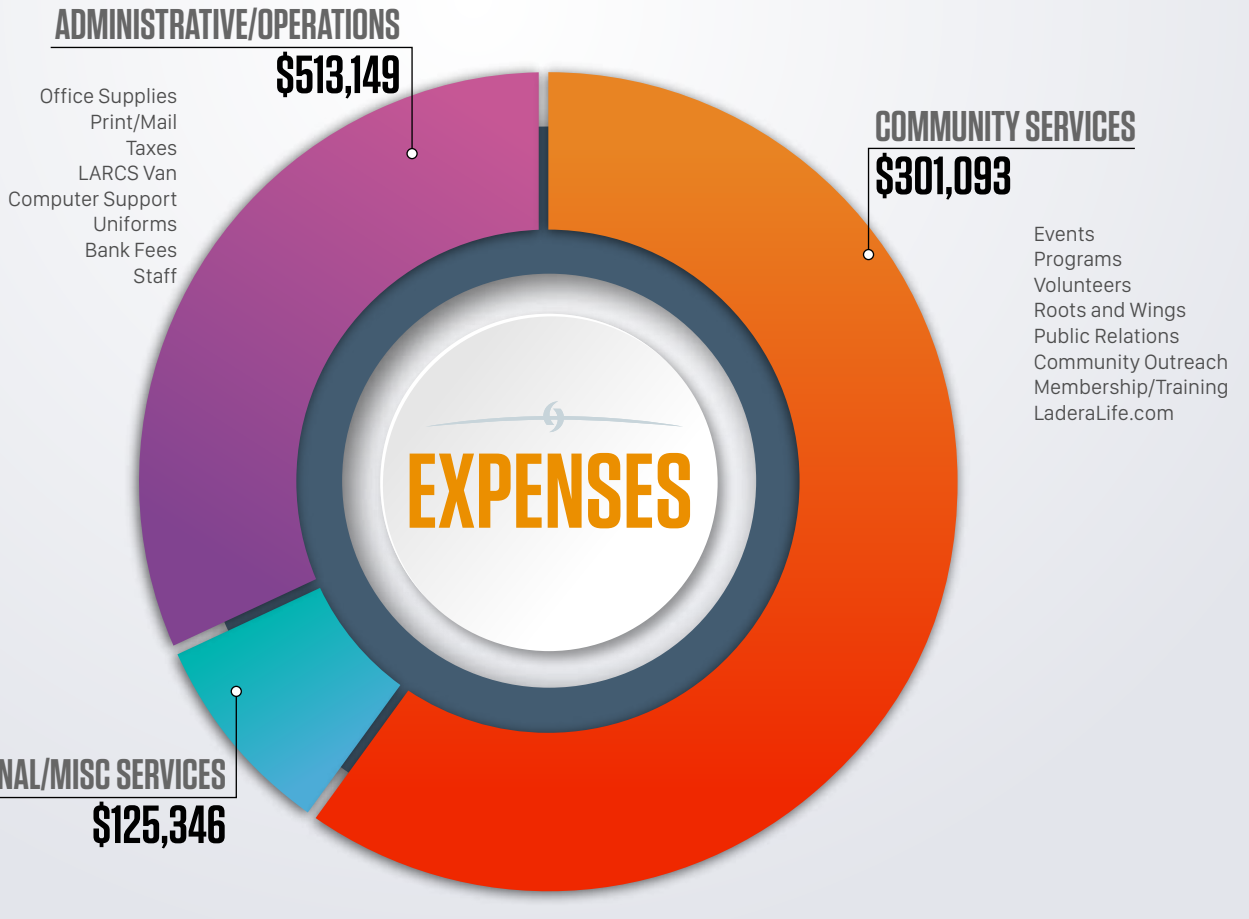
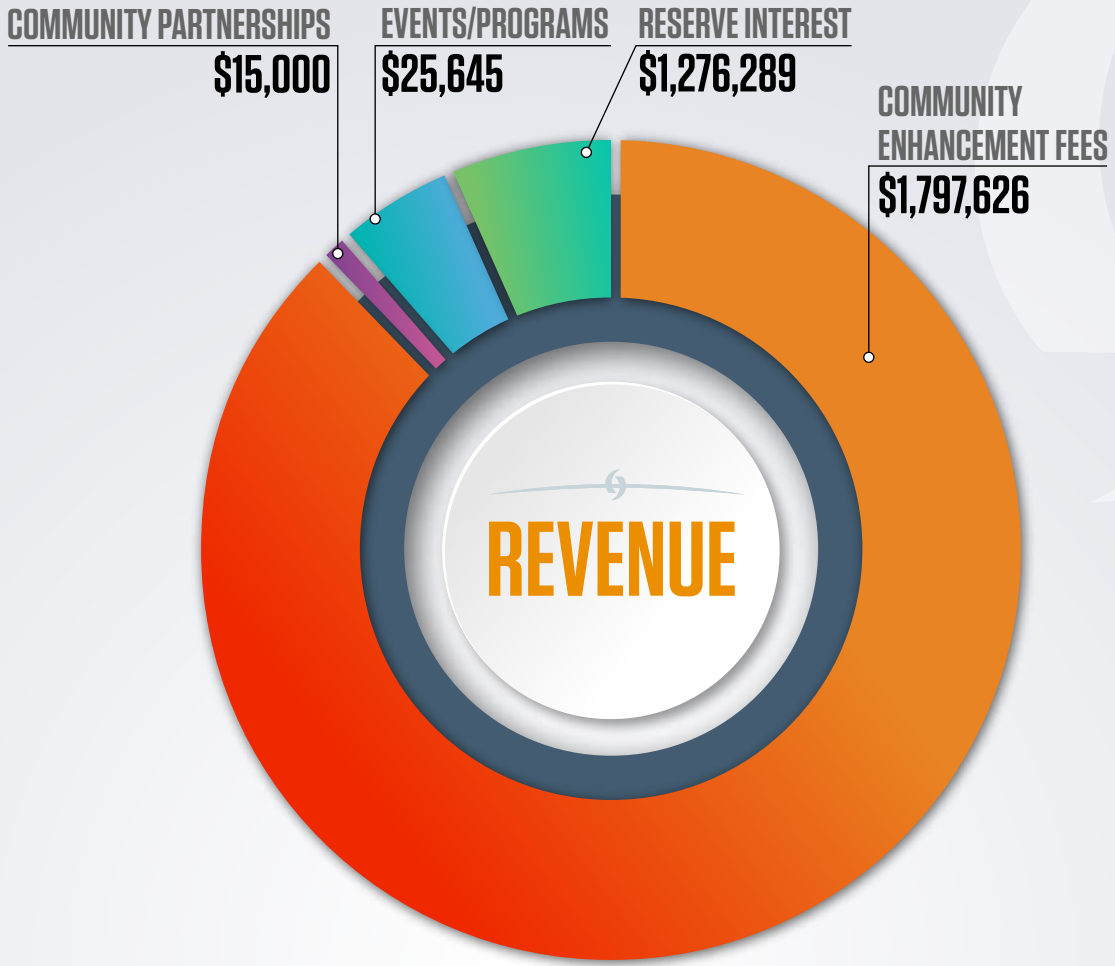
### **YOGA (Toddlers, Kids, Teens & Adults)**

Students concentrate on linking breath, body and movement in a traditional yoga flow.





# FINANCIAL





# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you to our Community Partners who are part of the Ladera family and community. Their presence and support at local events is appreciated.

## EMERALD



## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



## BRONZE



## NON-PROFIT & CHARITY PARTNERS

FRIENDS OF THE LADERA RANCH LIBRARY • GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF ORANGE COUNTY • JAMES HENRY RANSOM FOUNDATION  
LADERA RANCH CIVIC COUNCIL • LADERA RANCH RELAY FOR LIFE • LADERA RANCHO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
1ST LAR MARINE BATTALION • GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE • LADERA LEGS • AMERICAN RED CROSS

LARCS  
*Year*  
in REVIEW  
IN PICTURES

