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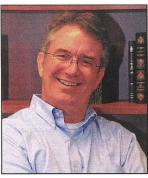
## GOODNEWS! Wants to Know...

## What brought you to South Florida?

The Good News is more than just a newspaper. It's a resource with eternal impact designed to inspire readers to positive action. Perhaps the best way to do that is by shining a light on those community and business leaders of faith who impact South Florida in profound ways. However, our goal is for you to get to know them on a more personal level, in a way that brings our community together. We'll take them out of their business attire and have the kind of conversations you'd have at a backyard barbecue - sharing stories with a friend. To build relationship, we'll make this a regular monthly feature.

So, let's get the conversation started with our first question...

## What brought you to South Florida?



I came to South Florida because I was following a beautiful woman. Rosemary finished her undergraduate degree in elementary education and applied to school boards all across the nation. The Broward County School Board was the first to respond. I was trying to get her to marry me so I left graduate school at the University of Tennessee to go the graduate school at FAU. Moses followed a pillar of light. I followed a beautiful woman.

Dr. Bob Barnes, Chief Executive Officer, Sheridan House Family Ministries

Dr. Bob Barnes

I grew up in Jacksonville, Florida and met the love of my life in College in 1970. Her family owned Ireland's Inn Beach Resort and after a very rewarding career in the corporate world, left Highpoint, NC and returned to Fort Lauderdale to join the family business in 2002 and begin the redevelopment of this iconic site.

-Andy Mitchell, President/CEO, The Fairwinds Group

I moved to West Palm Beach in 1993 to attend Palm Beach Atlantic University. I met my wife in college and after graduation we decided to stay. No matter how hot or expensive it gets to live here, it's home and I can't imagine living anywhere else

-Beau Heyman, Executive Director, First Care Women's Clinic

What brought me to South Florida? The explosive growth and resultant opportunity that this growth created. Of course, coming from the Midwest, the weather was a major draw

-William C. Davell, Attorney, May, Meacham & Davell, P.A.

I wanted to get away from the cold weather in Buffalo and came to South Florida to pursue a career as a Golf Professional.

-Bill Hobbs, Director, Urban Youth Impact

I absolutely love Florida, especially South Florida. I was a kid in Miami, then the Tampa area. I move to Gainesville for college and met my future wife, who was from Wellington. We later ended up back in South Florida and never left. All three of our wonderful children were born right here. I hope I will live the rest of my years in this beautiful paradise!!
-Charles L. Bender III, Founding CEO, Place of Hope

Haha. I had no choice. The doctor brought me into South Florida at North Miami General Hospital. #native.
-Robert W. "Chip" Lafferty, P.E., President & CEO, Hill York







Andy Mitchell





Bill Hobbs Charles Bender

Chip Lafferty

At the age of three, I was so tired of the cold winters in Winchester, Massa chusetts that I decided to load the family into the station wagon and move to Florida! No, the real story is that I lost my father suddenly when he was only 28 years old and my mother decided a couple of years later that she would rather raise her two sons (3 and 5 years old) in sunny Florida. At that time we had one relative here and we moved to Fort Lauderdale. Now just about everyone in the family from New England has moved to Florida and loves living in the Sunshine State. I still live and serve in the district that I moved to in 1971.

-Chip LaMarca, Broward County Commissioner, District 4

I grew up in South Florida but went away to college in Alabama and always hoped to be able to come back. Since my spiritual walk was greatly impacted down here, I was really excited that the Lord called me back home to do youth ministry, and I could in turn have that impact on others - now over 25 years later I can see the big picture of how His plan came together!

-Chris Lane, Executive Director, First Priority of South Florida

What brought you to South Florida? Providence! My father was born here in 1919 to parents who moved here from Illinois in 1910. He married my mother from Tampa during the War and stayed here in the Fort Lauderdale area to rear a family. I was blessed to be the beneficiary of that decision.

-H. Collins Forman, Jr., P.A.

I came here to visit my parents temporarily. That's been thirty years. Still not sure if I'm staying.
-Pastor Daryl Nelson, Calvary Chapel of the Palm Beaches

My family had been coming to the Ft. Lauderdale area every year since I was a baby, eventually bought a home here and later my parents moved here permanently. Years later, when my dad was losing his battle with prostate cancer, I moved here from the Dominican Republic where I was serving as a missionary--and was given one of the best jobs of my life as a hotel general manager on Deerfield Beach. For the past 14 years, I've also been serving as a missionary at FAU with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship.

-Deborah Cusick, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship

FAU Campus Volunteer

South Florida was home to aging family members, and that's primarily what led towards my parents coming back to this area after a long career in military service. When I had my own family to care for, following marriage and career development, I too moved back here to be part of caring for aging family members. South Florida is the place that God has used to grow generations of my family, and along with the great weather, multi-cultural people, and abundant professional/personal opportunities it is a pleasure to call this home.

-Dennis DeMarois, Director, The Gathering Palm Beach County