

The 10th Annual Wit and Wisdom of Aging Luncheon Panel



HON. LEE E. HAWORTH
Former Chief Judge of the
12th Judicial Circuit of Florida

Sarasota native. Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) US Army Reserve and former Commander of the 199th Judge Advocate General Detachment. Judge. The Hon. Lee Haworth has given a lifetime of service to our country and our community.

After graduating from Sarasota High School, Haworth attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and then law school. He went to work for the state prosecutor's office in Sarasota where he became chief prosecutor. In 1989, he was elected a circuit court judge.

Haworth interrupted his time on the bench to serve during Operation Desert Storm. He led the U.S. joint services investigation of Iraqi war crimes in the Kuwait Theater of Operations and co-authored the official section of the Department of Defense report on Iraqi war crimes in Kuwait for the Secretary of Defense and Joint Chiefs of Staff.

During his 26-year tenure on the bench, Haworth served with distinction on all five divisions of the Circuit Court. Haworth's most notable achievements include the creation and implementation of innovative solutions that addressed the foreclosure crisis during the recent recession and challenges within the foster care system.

During the recession, Haworth served on the Florida Supreme Court's Foreclosure Task Force and chaired the Foreclosure Resource Assistance Network, which gave assistance to citizens in Sarasota County facing foreclosure. His work led to the creation of mandatory mediation between lenders and borrowers and to an initiative that compelled lenders to follow the rules of the court.

Upon his retirement in 2015, Judge Haworth was honored by the Florida Supreme Court with The Chief Justice Award for Judicial Excellence. In the years since, he continues to find ways to serve our community.



JEFF LAHURD
Author and
Historian

Jeff LaHurd loves Sarasota and treasures its history. After moving here with his family as a child in 1950, he graduated from Sarasota High School and earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in counseling from the University of South Florida. A long career working in the criminal justice system followed, but his interest in history and his hometown took him in a different direction.

LaHurd is the author of numerous books including *The Hidden History of Sarasota*, *Sarasota in Vintage Images*, *The Rise of Sarasota: Ken Thompson and the Rebirth of Paradise*, and *Quintessential Sarasota: Stories and Pictures from the 1920s to the 1950s*. He is also a contributing columnist to the Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

Through his books, articles and lectures, LaHurd captures a Sarasota that is increasingly lost to memory. Ask him about Sarasota's past and you will hear about the men and women who built the city—John Ringling, Owen Burns, Bertha Palmer and Ken Thompson. And about buildings lost and saved—the Lido Casino and John Ringling Towers, the Opera House and the Mira Mar Apartments.

Like all historians, LaHurd asks us to honor the past, explore our heritage, and remember what has always made Sarasota such a special place.

For more information about The Wit and Wisdom of Aging Luncheon, go to www.pinesofsarasota.org/wit-and-wisdom

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BEVERLY BARTNER
Award Winning
Broadway Producer

When Beverly Bartner was a young girl, her father introduced her to the theater. It was the beginning of a life-long love affair with the performing arts and a harbinger of the life Beverly would build with her husband Bob. Bob's career was in direct marketing and magazine publishing. Beverly was a schoolteacher. But the theater became their shared passion and producing plays and musicals on Broadway and in London their purpose. Awards and accolades have followed.

Just this year, *To Kill a Mockingbird* won Tony® and Drama Desk Awards and *The Ferryman* won the Tony® for Best Play. Past winners have included *Arthur Miller's A View from the Bridge*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, and *Company*. Other shows produced by Beverly have been nominated for Tony® Awards including *A Little Night Music*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *The Audience*, *Jerusalem*, and *Bea Arthur on Broadway*.

Beverly and Bob moved to Sarasota in 2010 and immediately became involved in the community. Beverly serves on the Asolo Rep's Board of Directors, has been active with the Friendship Center, and is the current Co-Chair with Bob of the new SMH cancer hospital.

Beverly is a former member of the boards of Lehman College Foundation in NY, IHAN (a United Nations NGO), and the Board of the Friends of the Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, Dept. of Pediatrics in CT. She is also an Advisory Director of New York's Metropolitan Opera.

Beverly continues to travel between Sarasota, New York and London, her passion for theater unabated. As a former teacher, Beverly is also committed to raising the next generation of theater lovers by providing opportunities for young people to become involved in the arts, just as her father did for her.