Walking the Walk

Ambience and diversity draw residents to a Coral Springs institution

Robert Weinstein
The South Florida landscape is littered with the dead or dying husks of unsuccessful retail centers. Although places such as the Aventura Mall and Sawgrass Mills continue to thrive, it seems as though the era of the once-bustling Designer Row in Coral Springs, has gone the way of the dinosaurs. Walking the Walk of Coral Springs is to highlight the professional community. In the past, my observation has been — that everybody was very focused on themselves, ‘How do I promote my business?’” says Sternbach, a longtime Coral Springs resident. Sternbach selected Coral Springs, which is renowned for its schools and its infrastructure.

“The Walk is its royal palace. Restaurants alone run the gamut from romantic, date-night places such as Mythos and Gold Coast Grill — each of which is individually owned — to places for a quick bite such as Sir Pizza and Elevation Burger. While some of the shops and restaurants are indeed franchises — the Starbucks, for example, was among the first in South Florida and remains among Broward’s busiest — for the most part, they’re not the typical Olive Garden or Outback chains. Sternbach mentions a particular establishment that he’s looking forward to having the Walk of Coral Springs, which is scheduled to open this summer, right next to Mythos. With locations in Weston and Boca Raton, the shop sells high-end, imported cheeses from all over the world, and will serve up fresh sandwiches and subs. ‘It’s a franchise, but it’s a very unique franchise,’ Sternbach says. ‘There’s no question it’s a done I’m very excited about this place opening because I have no doubt that they’re going to attract a lot of attention right next door to us. And a lot of people who might not know about Mythos will come to them and say, ‘Oh, look, there’s a great restaurant downtown.‘’

Sternbach is also eager to point out what he calls a ‘lost-secret.‘ Namely, that The Walk has plentiful parking in the rear of the complex. Visitors then can stroll the breezeways, complete with their own shops, stores and services, as they wend their way through the complex, enjoying the play of sunlight and the splash of the fountains.

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And yet, the sprawling Walk of Coral Springs has managed to truly flourish over the years by offering an alternative. South Floridians — particularly residents of Coral Springs and Parkland — continue to flock to the 18-acre outdoor complex for its mix of restaurants, retail shops, professional services, live music and regular events. For information on upcoming events, call 954-340-6070. You can also visit The Walk of Coral Springs on Facebook.

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Elevation Burger
8210 W Atlantic Blvd Coral Springs, FL 33065 954-579-0544

Chick N’ Treats
8357 W Atlantic Blvd Coral Springs, FL 33071 954-510-8035

Applebee’s II
2729 N. University Drive Coral Springs, FL 33065 954-796-0330

Blue Moon Fish Co.
4685 N. University Drive, Coral Springs 954-344-6644.

The Walk of Coral Springs is located at 2600-2900 University Drive. For information on upcoming events, call 954-340-6070. You can also visit The Walk on Facebook.

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Along with fellow tenant Jeff Ratushny of Internet Sales Solutions, Sternbach created the merchants association to better promote the plaza, and promote the association, and Ramatoul serves as vice president.

The Walk is an outdoor retail shopping plaza that opened in the fall of 2001. Sternbach is its manager and serves as president.

“The merchandise is co-operating to market and promote. The Walk is as promoting as the very own Branch of Broward Shopping, and providing professional services,” says Sternbach, a succinctly enthusiastic person who quickly finds the credits with his neighbors. "This is a collective effort by the merchants."

A native Canadian, Sternbach celebrated his 15th year as a Coral Springs resident on June 1. As a child, he spent summers with relatives in Bel Air, observing the summer shops in those local as well as the garment trade at North Miami Beach’s Lummus’ Plaza. However, when he was looking to relocate his family from Toronto, Sternbach selected Coral Springs, which is renowned for its schools and its infrastructure. Sternbach observed that when he first built his house, it was on the outskirts of Coral Springs. Now, it’s in the middle. He also notes that single-thumbed shopping plazas, such as the once-Budgetting Designer Row in Coral Springs, have gone the way of the dinosaurs.

If development is king, then The Walk is its royal palace. Restaurants alone run the gamut from romantic, date-night places such as Mythos and Gold Coast Grill — each of which is individually owned — to places for a quick bite such as Sir Pizza and Elevation Burger. While some of the shops and restaurants are indeed franchises — the Starbucks, for example, was among the first in South Florida and remains among Broward’s busiest — for the most part, they’re not the typical Olive Garden or Outback chains.

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