



NEW HORIZONS AFTER SUNSET

by John Peacock

When I first started as a Scanning Administrator at Sarasota's Sunset Cadillac through the Academy's Transitional Employment program, I wrote about the excitement—and the nerves—that came with reentering the workforce. Nine months later, I can honestly say this job has been one of the most meaningful experiences I've had in a long time.

From day one, the team at Sunset Cadillac made me feel welcome. Over the months, I've had the chance to meet so many wonderful people, each one reminding me how good it feels to be part of something bigger than myself. It's not just about the work—though I've learned a lot and sharpened skills I hadn't used in years—it's about the confidence this opportunity has given me.



John Peacock at Sunset Cadillac

There was a time when I wasn't sure what my next step in life would look like. But this job reminded me that I still have something to offer. That I still belong in the world.

Looking back, I'm incredibly grateful for the Academy and for my sister, who first told me about it. Without them, I don't know where I'd be today. What I do know is that Sunset Cadillac gave me more than a paycheck—it gave me hope, a second chance, and the courage to start imagining a future beyond this job.

Nine months in, I can feel the difference in myself. I'm more confident now about exploring future employment, and I'm proud of the progress I've made since those first few nervous weeks. If anything, this experience has shown me that it's never too late to rebuild your life—one day, one opportunity at a time.

WARM WELCOME TO CAROLYN DANIELE

by Carolyn Daniele

I had been a snowbird for many years and then we moved here permanently from Martha's Vineyard. Leaving longtime friends behind was difficult. My friends here either moved away or died. I was very lonely. I began crying at inappropriate times. I did not recognize my own symptoms of depression.



I am a coach for people dealing with depression and anxiety and was ashamed that I could not cure myself. I have a background in art, business and service to helping people. None of that interested me anymore.

I came to the Academy hoping that at least I would be busy and maybe make some friends. I joined culinary because it was something I knew how to do. I have learned so much more from being part of the culinary team.

Every morning, I am greeted with smiles and hellos. I am generally shy around too many people. I feel welcome no matter my mood. I can be quiet or talkative. I feel useful and love the results of each day's work and being part of a great team.

Since becoming a member in July 2025 my self-confidence has grown and lately I feel moments of happiness. I look forward to learning many more things in culinary and graphic design team.

I am so grateful for the Academy at Glengary for being available to me and others. I don't know what I would have done without it.



(L to R) Patty Haltinner, Carolyn Daniele and Patrick Callahan



Hope Clubhouse members and Academy staff and members around the boardroom table

YOUNG ADULTS INSPIRE HOPE

by Ian Churchill

Recently, we were honored to have the young adults at Hope Clubhouse visit us. We began with a tour of the Academy at Glengary. After the tour, we engaged our guests in fun and creative projects that showcase what we do daily such as different facets of interacting with technology, i.e., learning how to film an interview with limited equipment, editing footage, and creating atmosphere with background music.

There was a mutual desire to learn about each other's clubhouse, and so we were able to receive creative ideas as well as impart some to them. Hope Clubhouse member Gianna Rozz said "We would love to incorporate media and videos. It's a wonderful idea." Hope Clubhouse member Sheridan Chester said "Whatever clubhouse you go to, you're home." We sincerely agree!

Thank you so much to Hope Clubhouse for taking the time to come see us! We are looking forward to visiting you all soon!



Hope Clubhouse and Academy at Glengary sharing creative ideas.

JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

by Malcolm Barry

The Academy at Bradenton is most grateful for the kindness and generosity of Susan Wood and Tom Faessler of the Wilson-Wood Foundation.

We have received a grant of \$25,000 from the Foundation, which is being used to enable us to provide transportation to and from the Academy at Bradenton, in areas such as Lakewood Ranch and other parts of Manatee County which do not have public transport available. Transportation assistance is essential for members who would otherwise be unable to attend the Academy.

Member Ryan Krejewski said "Thanks to the new transportation assistance, I now have a place to go, where I can build my skills and my confidence."

The Academy at Glengary and the Academy at Bradenton have had a long and successful relationship with the Wilson-Wood Foundation. The support that the Foundation has provided has proven to be immensely valuable.



(L to R) Academy Director William McKeever with Tom Faessler and Susan Wood of the Wilson-Wood Foundation

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