

SUSAN *Robinson*



Some people are born entrepreneurs and some people come to it later in life. Susan Robinson reinvented herself as an entrepreneur after a long corporate career. Robinson took an early retirement package from her last corporate job and, feeling she was too young to retire, started two local companies because she saw a need and filled it. The first, Key Concierge, has been in operation for 16 years as a high-end property management company offering clients confidence that their properties are well cared for while they are away.

Key Concierge also provides comprehensive concierge services from airport pickups and event management to stocking groceries and finding household staffing. The company grew from Robinson's own concern about her home here while she was pursuing her corporate career. Robinson launched her second company, Key Culinary Tours, four years ago because she identified a need for more innovative and fun activities for Sarasota visitors. That business grew from a client's request for a historical tour, and Robinson has combined that with neighborhood culinary walking tours.

"People are looking for unusual and extraordinary experiences, and our tour company's role is to help them get to know Sarasota's history and about our awesome restaurants and neighborhoods," she said. "Our tour guides are like ambassadors who help our guests love Sarasota as much as we do. Half of our tour customers live here and the other half are visitors. Each enjoys the opportunity to try restaurants in neighborhoods they may not have known about." In addition, Robinson does customized bespoke international tours. In her spare time, she and her husband like to kayak, travel to unusual destinations and spend time in their home in New Hampshire.