

**REAL ESTATE from 16**

**Wellness Community-Southwest Florida plans Building Hope**

**BUYER:** The Wellness Community-Southwest Florida Inc. (principals: Jay Lockaby, Michael Wolverton, Carol Kalish, Catherine Goshorn and Marshall Pepe), Sarasota

**SELLER:** Lakewood Ranch Corporate Park LLC after conversion with Lakewood Ranch Corporate Park Inc.

**PROPERTY:** 5461 Communications Parkway, Lakewood Ranch **PRICE:** \$1.05 million

**PREVIOUS PRICE:** \$900,000, July 1998

**LAW FIRM ON DEED:** Grimes Goebel Grimes Hawkins Gladfelter & Galvano PL, Bradenton

**PLANS, DESCRIPTION:** **The Wellness Community of Southwest Florida in Sarasota** purchased 4.8 acres in Lakewood Ranch Corporate Park next to a nature preserve for \$1.05 million. The non-profit cancer-support organization plans to start construction in mid-November on a new office complex called Building Hope.

The development, as currently designed, calls for two 5,000-square-foot buildings connected by a covered courtyard. The new campus will feature a teaching kitchen, expressive art studio for children and various gardens.

Sarasota-based Willis Smith Construction Inc. is the general contractor for the project, and Carlson Studio Architecture is the architect.

The goal of the new facility is both to increase the Wellness Community's capacity from 1,500 people a year to closer to 6,000 and to bring the Wellness Community office closer to Manatee County.

The non-profit is seeking to raise \$7 million to cover the project costs and various carrying costs of the new facility.

"The fundraising so far has been very good," says **Grace Carlson** of Aspire a spokesperson for the non-profit. "So with the economy the way it is we are being cautiously optimistic.

The new facility is set to open in the fall of 2009.

The Wellness Community mortgaged the property to Harris NA for \$1.5 million.