



Ruth Lawler is a Baby Boomer born in St. Louis post WWII who moved to Manatee County as a toddler in 1951. She attended Manatee County schools, including Manatee Junior College, and graduated from South Central Florida with a degree in Design Drafting in the late 1960s. Ruth moved to Virginia and worked at Newport News Shipbuilding doing design drafting for two years prior to joining VISTA Volunteers, where Ruth served in Philadelphia for a year. Ruth met her husband John Lawler in Philadelphia, and they bought and moved onto a sailboat in the late 1970s, living

aboard for two and a half years prior to purchasing a home in Bradenton.

Ruth had a career in real estate spanning 35 years, selling over 1,000 homes in Manatee County. While active in her career, she was also quite involved in local community boards, not-for-profit organizations and civic activities.

Ruth is currently Chair of Manatee Democratic Environmental Caucus — one of 21 Florida Chapters, Democratic Precinct Captain of 333, and serves on Manatee Democratic Candidate Support Committee and DEC.

Ruth will be speaking on the impact Project 2025 would have on our environment should Donald Trump win the presidency. She will also be speaking on the proposed 2026 amendment “The Right to Clean Water”. This amendment protects your right to clean and healthy waters, from the safety of your drinking water supply, to being able to walk along your favorite shoreline without harmful algal bloom