

October 1, 2025

To all our friends and patients,

First of all, Pat and I want to thank you for your continued support over the last 17 years. We have enjoyed every minute of sharing our lives and interests with you and hearing about your families and travels over the years. It has been a rare pleasure providing a different eye care experience, caring for you, our patients, like family, and giving the best of patient care and the best optical products at a fair price.

However, times have changed. Pat and I have become older (and hopefully wiser), and our interests and desires have changed as well. Traveling and photography have become important in my life as these pursuits have opened my eyes to places that I thought only existed in books. Pat wants to devote more time to her quilting, and to take additional classes to become even more proficient in her passion. We still love taking care of you and will continue to do so as long as possible.

Over the last four plus years, I have been approached to sell my practice to large ophthalmology groups which have been underwritten financially by private equity money. I chose to not to do that as I could not in good faith sacrifice your care to a business plan that puts profits ahead of what you truly need for your individual needs. In nearly 50 years since my graduation from professional school, I have yet to see the involvement of people outside of the field of medicine improve patient care in any type of practice. Unfortunately, new doctors, because of their training have been pushed into large, multi-doctor type practices. The regulatory and business requirements of running a medical practice, regardless of the specialty, are not decreasing or going away. This has created a perfect storm of declining availability of doctors interested in private practice and the need for the doctor to spend more and more of his time running the business side of the practice and less time on taking care of you, the patient. Hopefully, that will change over time.

So, in getting to the point of this open letter, I have decided to merge my practice with Dr Eric Nash, an ophthalmologist in Port Charlotte. He is one of the best ophthalmic surgeons that I have ever had the honor of working with. We have become good friends over the years, have similar patient care ideals, and are both committed to providing the best in patient care. In addition, Dr Nash will be able to provide seamless care for those patients needing more advanced care and surgery that I cannot provide.

We have not finalized all of the details of this transition, but the major details that have been agreed upon are that Charlotte Optical, a part of Dr. Nash's practice, will handle eye wear warranties that were agreed upon when you purchased your eye wear, I will continue to see patients at Dr. Nash's practice 4 days a week, both in his Port Charlotte office and his Punta Gorda office, and your medical records will be available in his office if you choose to relocate to a different provider.

My last day seeing patients at the Sandhill Blvd. location will be November 25, 2025 and I plan on seeing patients at Dr Nash's practice starting on January 6, 2026. The Sandhill Blvd location will permanently close on December 31, 2025

Sincerely, Doug and Pat Radish

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