

Where do you shop?
By Liz Scheele

Being new to Bratenahl a couple of years ago, we asked this same question and of course got the barely suppressed chuckle out of the long time residents. Little did we know that this would be the very first question asked by friends and acquaintances whenever you say you live in Bratenahl. You can count on it. Not, how do you like the community? Do you live in a house or condo? But, where do you shop?

Now, it is me and my husband who turn to each other as we are trying to suppress the giggles over the inevitable question. While Bratenahl is indeed its own little oasis, you would think that the residents had neither the ability nor the desire to move beyond our three-mile range to find food. Trust me, I am not about to go hungry!

We are, most often on a daily basis, beyond the confines of our new community. And guess what; there are grocery stores galore. Most of us have moved to Bratenahl for a life near the lake from other neighborhoods in the area. For that reason, many prefer to return to their former stores out of loyalty, brand preference and because it is quicker and more efficient to shop in familiar surroundings. You all know the experience of shopping in a new store. There is usually far more aimless wandering than actual product selection. It takes twice as long for far fewer items. Then you usually make a second trip to the well loved store for the items to which you have become so dedicated.

So please fear not. If you are considering life in Bratenahl there will be food on your table. It will be purchased at any one of a number of groceries, convenient, take out or even restaurants in the area.

Now when you are asked the inevitable question you can respond – “Anywhere we like!”