

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT SOCIETY

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Tom Woodyard
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BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

The December 9th luncheon meeting will feature "Lee County Goals for 2009" by Ray Judah, chairman of the Lee County Board of County Commissioners.

"Economic Development" is the topic for January 13th luncheon, presented by Jim Moore, director of Lee County Economic Development Office.

Reception for Commissioners:

REIS reception to honor the new Lee County Board of Commissioners will be December 10, at Edison National Bank, hosted by Edison National Bank and Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law.

Charitable Donations:

REIS board has adopted a formal policy and criteria for charitable giving by the organization. Details will be published on the REIS web site.

Scholarship Programs:

The two latest REIS Scholarship Foundation awards will be presented at the December luncheon meeting.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Tom Woodyard reminds everyone to consider the Foundation in their end-of-year tax strategies. The Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 organization, able to accept charitable donations. REIS underwrites all expenses of the Foundation, which enables 100% of contributions to be awarded as scholarships. For details, contact Tom at (239) 425-6000.

Membership Renewal:

REIS memberships expire December 31. Renewal notices will be sent by email to all current members in late November. Annual dues remain at \$125 and may be paid online with VISA or MasterCard, or by check. Members are encouraged to verify or update their contact information on the web site to ensure they receive renewal notices.



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REIS HONORS LEE COMMISSIONERS

REIS welcomes the Lee County Board of County Commissioners to a holiday reception at Edison National Bank on December 10. The traditional event allows REIS members to become acquainted with the commissioners and other government leaders in a relaxed, social setting. Sponsored by Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law, and Edison National Bank. Open to members and special guests, by invitation only.

WANTED: BASEBALL STADIUM SITE

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners is seeking Developers and/or Land Owners to partner on a new Spring Training Facility for the Boston Red Sox. A minimum of 80 acres is being requested for the potential facility. All proposals shall include a full property legal description, STRAP number, address, survey, and any known development restrictions and environmental issues. It is the County's desire that the property be offered on a donated or nominal consideration basis. Deadline for proposals is December 23. Contact is Cindy Logan, (239) 533-8883.

BONITA OPENS PERMIT OFFICE

City of Bonita Springs Community Development Department has opened a permit intake counter in Suite 111, 9220 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs. Agent and developer appointments continue to be in the main Department offices in Suite 109. (239) 444-6150.

LEHIGH COMMUNITY PLAN

Final draft of the Lehigh Acres Community Planning Study is now available at <http://www3.leegov.com/dcd/>. The Study is the basis for a proposed amendment to the Lee Comprehensive Plan and will be presented to County Commissioners at Management & Planning Meeting, 1 pm Monday, December 1. Public hearings to be scheduled.

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REIS MEMBER PROFILES

REIS members may now update their information directly on the new REIS web site, www.reis-swfl.org. In order to access this and other member-only features, you must log on with your user name (your e-mail address) and your password. If you don't know your password, please request it from Bill Burdette, via bill@burdetteinc.com. Once you've logged in, you may change your password. Members may also download the REIS membership list from the site, to facilitate networking among members.

CLIMATE PROSPERITY PROJECT

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report has been updated to include the Climate Prosperity Project. The project seeks to create jobs and protect the natural environment of Southwest Florida through innovation, efficiency, and conservation in the use and reuse of all resources. The project asserts to be the most cost-effective method of promoting renewable energy and clean technologies, and protecting the environment. Information on the Climate Prosperity Project is at www.globalurban.org.

CHAT ONLINE WITH LEE EDO

In late October, Lee County's Economic Development Office (EDO) launched a "Live Help" feature on its web site, www.leecountybusiness.com, which allows online users to chat live with a support representative. "Such live, instantaneous support allows our office to provide professional, hands on assistance in order to help our clients meet their objectives" said Jim Moore, EDO Director. Live Help is available M-F 8:30am - 4:30pm.

SITE SELECTION RESOURCE

Lee County Office of Economic Development is developing a portion of the LeeCountyBusiness.com website to support site selection. Still in its infancy, the section will provide information you can use in your efforts to choose a home for your clients and bring increased business into Lee County.

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"BEST PARTY IN YEARS!"

Said more than one partygoer at the REIS Gala Annual Social Event on Nov. 13. The lively event, organized by REIS board members Kim Donnelly and Janie Hooker, took place at "The Edison," at Fort Myers Country Club. Members and their guests feasted on

an array of appetizers, 3 southern-style



buffets, plus a tantalizing dessert room. The duo "Thin Ice" provided entertainment throughout the evening.



Entertainment and other treats were underwritten by:

- Ringland Construction
- Reliance Bank
- Roetzel & Andress
- Woodyard & Associates
- Pavese Law Firm
- Compass Construction
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