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Matt Simmons
Jerald L. Wallace
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BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

A program on the economics of "green" building and development by Dr. Jennifer Languell is planned for the October 11th luncheon, sponsored by [Maxwell & Hendry Valuation Services, Inc.](#) The APA has approved the event for 1 AICP/CM credit

There will be no luncheon in November, in lieu of the gala annual social event.

REIS welcomes suggestions for programs from members. Please convey your ideas to [Kim Donnelly](#), (239) 768-4522. Sponsorships for future luncheons are available and [Jim Garinger](#) has all the details: (239) 418-0300.

Nominations for 2012 Officers and Board:

The election of officers and governors for 2012 will take place at the October luncheon. Nominations are:

President: Kim Donnelly
Vice President: Steve Hurley
Treasurer: Sean Ellis
Secretary: Matt Simmons
Governors: Amanda Brock, Roy Hyman, Robin Mixon, Jean Gruss, Steve Kushner, Karen Miller, and Lisa Sands. Kevin M. Fitzgerald would join the board as immediate past president.

Scholarship Programs:

As many as 4 scholarships will be awarded at the end of the year, based on Board review of the applications received. Students from several Southwest Florida colleges and universities are eligible. Details on the scholarships and qualifying criteria are on the [Scholarship](#) page of the REIS website

Horizon Council:

Russell Schropp, chairman of the regulatory task force, conducted a September workshop that focused on the importance of streamlining the approval and permitting process to encourage economic development.

SPIRITS, SPURS, AND . . . SHOPPING!

The REIS annual party will be a "Triple S Shindig" with Spirits, Spurs, and Shopping at The Edison restaurant on November 17. This year's party features a Florida Cracker theme with a southern country menu and toe-tapping tunes from Bob Inkenbrandt. Boots, hats and big belt buckles are all welcome. The silent auction provides a great opportunity to do some early holiday shopping while supporting the REIS Scholarship Foundation, so don't forget your checkbook.

The annual party is exclusively for REIS members and special guests so look for invitations to be emailed in October and make your reservations early.

A few prime sponsorship positions are available if you act quickly - contact Event Chair [Robin Mixon](#) at (239) 334-6870 or 872-3273. Items are also needed for the silent auction to benefit the REIS Scholarship Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

The REIS endowed scholarship fund at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will award \$1000 to Shanti Duggan, a recent FGCU graduate who is returning to school to earn a second degree in civil engineering. Shanti received a scholarship from the REIS Scholarship Foundation last year, helping her achieve a BA in Business with a major in Finance. Her letter of thanks to members of the Real Estate Investment Society is on page 3 of this newsletter.

LEE PERMIT EXTENSIONS CONSIDERED

On October 11 Lee County Commissioners will consider extending unexpired Master Concept Plans, Development Orders and Concurrency Certificates that were omitted from previous county and state extensions. The proposed four-year extension would apply to approvals issued between Jan. 2, 2006 to Aug. 9, 2011. Details about the resolution are at www.leegov.com/dcd/ordinances.



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RECONSIDERING PLATTED LANDS

The platted lands dilemma in Southwest Florida will be discussed in a day-long program titled "Plat-a-Palooza" on Friday, October 14 at Palmetto Pines Country Club in Cape Coral. The program will examine the challenges of historic platted lands communities and consider solutions. Sponsored by the American Planning Association and Reconnecting Lee. Six AICP/CM credits are available. Agenda at www.reconnectinglee.org/. To register send \$10 check payable to Florida Chapter of APA to Alexis V. Crespo, Waldrop Engineering, P.A., 28100 Bonita Grande Dr., Suite 305, Bonita Springs, FL 34135 or call (239) 405-7777.

ZONING VERIFICATION LETTERS

Zoning Verification Letters from Lee County Dept. of Community Development will now only include current zoning, land use category, and allowed uses. The letters used to include more specific information regarding density and planned unit development criteria. The limited scope may hinder sales and financing.

CAPE UTILITY CAPACITY RESERVATIONS

The City of Cape Coral is considering changing the way it levies impact fees on vacant lots where utility services are available. Property owners have already been assessed impact fees when utility services were expanded into their neighborhoods with a second levy due when the lots were built. The city now proposes to change that fee to a "capacity reservation" that would be due now, regardless of whether the lot is built or vacant.

BROCK NAMED TO ADVISORY BOARD

REIS board member Amanda Brock has been appointed to serve on the Brownfields Advisory Board for the City of Fort Myers. The Board reviews and recommends ways to encourage public interest and participation in the Brownfields initiative. The Board also assists in guiding and setting policy for the Brownfield Redevelopment Program to turn around abandoned or under-used property that may have environmental contamination. Amanda is an Environmental and Land Use Attorney with Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, P.A.

DECODING "SUSTAINABLE LIVING"

Third annual Sustainability Conference and Educational Exhibition takes place November 10 at Lee County Elections Center in Fort Myers. Details and registration at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu>.

WATER QUALITY CRITERIA & REGS

Florida's Dept. of Environmental Regulation (DEP) continues to move cautiously toward establishing numeric nutrient criteria for water quality standards to be enforced instead of those adopted by federal regulators. An October workshop in Naples was attended by water quality advocates from all over South Florida, who questioned if the proposed standards and enforcement policies were strict enough. DEP bureau chief Daryll Joyner noted that the agency does not plan to move forward until it has scientifically defensible criteria.

WATER RESERVATION RULES

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is planning a workshop in October to discuss the water reservation rule for the Caloosahatchee River, scheduled to be implemented in 2012. The rule would reserve water for the proposed reservoir in Hendry County with subsequent rules to reserve water for the river and make it unavailable for farming or urban uses.

NEW SFWMD BOSS CLEANS HOUSE

Blake Guillory stepped in as executive director of Southwest Florida Water Management District this month and immediately fired two deputy executive directors and demoted a third as part of an effort to streamline the bureaucracy. He also terminated the District's attorney. The district covers the central Gulf coast, including Sarasota, DeSoto, and part of Charlotte County.

LEE CONSERVATION LANDS GROW

Lee County owns 31,513 acres of classified conservation lands, including 24,229 in the Conservation 20/20 program. The acreage represents about 6% of Lee's total 514,560 acres of land area. Total public and private conservation lands in the County equal 91,100 acres or about 18% of the total land area.

Advertise your business here!
Contact Bill Burdette for details:
(239) 936-1404
bill@burdetteinc.com

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June 24, 2011

Dear *Real Estate Investment Society*,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for awarding me one of the REIS Foundation scholarships. It was a blessing to learn of my selection for this honor. I greatly appreciate your support, and your belief in the value of college education. All too often lack of money prevents or delays the fruition of a dream or goal. Without generous sponsors, such as you, the educational opportunities for students, such as me, would be limited. The quote below expresses eloquently the value of education and your contribution.

Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.

G. K. Chesterton

Spring 2011 marked the completion of my undergraduate degree at Florida Gulf Coast University. By awarding me one of the REIS Foundation scholarships you provided me the opportunity to finish my undergraduate program strong knowing my outstanding financial obligations had been lightened.

Since my graduation, I've been pursuing entry into the Urban Design and Architectural History graduate programs, at the Savannah College of Art and Design, to further build on my educational and career goals of business and land development.

I'm confident the education I received at Florida Gulf Coast University has prepared me well for a successful career as an entrepreneur in land and business development. But I'm even more confident that because of your kindness I will achieve my goals. Your generosity is an inspiration to me and it's my hope that one day I will be able to return the favor to other students working to achieve their educational and career goals.

Thank you again for making this scholarship possible, it will pay societal dividends for years to come and play an immeasurable role in my success.

Warmest Regards,

Shanti Duggan

How can You support the REIS Scholarship Foundation?

1 Contribute an item for the Silent Auction at the Annual Social Event. Wine baskets, gift certificates, and theater tickets are all popular items. Use your imagination! Call Robin Mixon, 239.334.7810.

2 Attend the Annual Social Event and bid on the great items contributed by local businesses. It's a perfect opportunity to do your holiday shopping while supporting scholarships.

3 Make a charitable donation to the REIS Scholarship Foundation, Inc. a registered 501(c)3 corporation. Call Matt Simmons for details, 239.333.1060.