

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT SOCIETY

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Past President Hal Tate

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

Lee County Property Appraiser Ken Wilkinson will explain real estate value trends and projections at the September 13th luncheon, sponsored by [Pavese Law Firm](#).

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.](#)

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 following slate will be presented at the September luncheon with elections held at the October luncheon.

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:

Funds from the REIS Scholarship Foundation, the Paul Sands Invitational Slaw Dog Golf Tournament, and recent donations are being transferred to the REIS endowed scholarship fund at FGCU, the "Paul Sands Memorial - REIS Scholarship," raising that fund to nearly \$23,000.

Horizon Council:

REIS will be a co-sponsor of the annual Industry Appreciation Event in September in Fort Myers.

Education Summit:

Former President Hal Tate will represent REIS at the Market Watch Education Summit in Estero October 5th.

STRATEGY WORKSHOP EXPANDED

The American Planning Association (APA) Florida Chapter is co-sponsoring the REIS strategy workshop September 22nd. The half-day event "Challenges and Strategies for Property Development Today" will address design, development, governmental, environmental and legal issues. AICP planners will earn 4 CM credits, pending APA approval

Speakers include: **Mary Gibbs**, Director of Lee County Dept. of Community Development; **Carl Schwing**, City Manager for Bonita Springs; attorneys **Denis Noah**, of Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, and **Steve Hartsell**, of Pavese Law Firm; **Gordon Walters**, remediation engineer with HSA Engineers & Scientists; civil engineer **Michael Morris**, of Morris-Depew Associates; and developers **Timothy Byal**, of Miromar Development Corporation, and **Tom Danahy**, of Kitson & Partners Communities, .

Each session will be followed by a panel discussion. Attendees are encouraged to submit specific questions or topics in advance to Education Chair [Amanda Brock](#).

The workshop is sponsored by Urban Land Institute ([ULI](#)) Southwest Florida; [Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, P.A.](#); [HSA Engineers & Scientists](#); [APA Florida Chapter](#), and [NAIOP](#) Southwest Florida Chapter.

Admission is \$25 for REIS, ULI, APA and NAIOP members, \$15 for active college students, and \$45 for all others. Seating is limited and registration is required by Sept. 16. Details and registration at www.reis-swfl.org.

GOOD TIMES AHEAD!

The REIS annual party will be at The Edison restaurant on November 17. To reserve prime sponsorship positions or contribute to the silent auction to benefit the REIS Scholarship Foundation, contact Event Chair Robin Mixon Contact [Robin](#) at (239) 334-6870 or 872-3273. The sooner you secure your sponsorship, the more you'll benefit from promotion of this popular event.



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LEE AND CHARLOTTE MARKET TRENDS

Urban Land Institute (ULI) Southwest Florida presents annual Market Trends program, featuring the latest market data by Mike Timmerman of Fishkind and Associates, on Sept. 8 at The Quarry on Immokalee Road in Naples. REIS members are welcome to attend at the ULI member rate. Information and registration at <http://swflorida.uli.org/>

BUSINESS GROWS IN CAPE CORAL

In July, 119 new businesses registered in Cape Coral. The south business district has been especially active with 58 new businesses opened from January through July 12, reports Cape Coral Economic Development Office. Listings of all business registrations available at [EDO Download Center](#)

RECESSION - RESISTANT MARKETS

In an August 16 story *Forbes* magazine and Zillow.com rated Fort Myers as second among "America's most recession-resistant cities for real estate," with Sarasota rated #7 and Punta Gorda rated #18. The study analyzed stability and appreciation in median home prices. Fort Myers had a 2.9% appreciation rate in the first quarter and 3.7% appreciation in the second quarter.

ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM

This symposium will focus on the three elements – the building, the street, and the master plan - that result in efficient use of resources, encourage reduction in vehicle miles traveled, and provide the social framework to achieve personal health goals. Presented by Urban Land Institute (ULI) Southwest Florida October 7 at the Art of Olympians Museum in Fort Myers. Information and registration at <http://swflorida.uli.org/>

FGCU NEEDS YOUR ADVICE

What do you think college students should learn about the real estate business to prepare for successful careers? The Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) is planning to launch a real estate major in the fall of 2012 and requests your advice on the courses to be taught by providing input through a brief survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KFCBRXJ>

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

COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS TO CHANGE

Collier County Commissioners are scheduled to approve one of 5 options for reapportioning the 5 commission districts at a public hearing at 9 am Sept. 13 in Commission Chambers in Naples. Collier Commissioners are elected by the voters in the districts they represent. Data and proposed maps at <http://www.colliergov.net/>

Lee County Commissioners are also considering options for new commission districts and will hold a public hearing on the proposed districts at 5 pm Sept. 13 in Commission Chambers in Fort Myers. Lee Commissioners are elected by voters countywide. Data and proposed maps at www.lee-county.com/gov/BoardofCountyCommissioners/Pages/Redistricting.aspx.

FREE ENTERPRISE LECTURE

"Environmental Moral Imperatives: How Government Regulation Kills Americans and Produces Immoral Results" by Professor J.R. Clark, Probasco Chair of Free Enterprise at the Univ. of Tennessee at Chattanooga, will be presented October 13 at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU). The program is part of the BB&T Free Enterprise Lecture Series presented by the Lutgert College of Business at FGCU. Details: jhernand@fgcu.edu.

LEE EDO AND VCB OFFICES MOVE

The Lee County Office of Economic Development (EDO), including the Horizon Council, Horizon Foundation, and Industrial Development Authority, and the Visitor and Convention Bureau (VCB), including the Tourist Development Council, have moved to 2201 Second St. in Fort Myers. The EDO phone number, (239) 338-3161, and VCB number, (239) 338-3500, remain the same.

LEE COUNTY BUDGET / TAX HEARINGS

Lee County Commissioners plan to hold public hearings to adopt the proposed county budget and property tax rate on September 7 and 21. Hearings will be at 5 pm in Commission Chambers in the Courthouse, in Fort Myers. The draft budget and staff recommendations are available on the [Lee County website](#). County Manager Karen Hawes recommended increasing millage rates for the General Fund and Libraries but Commissioners have decided to maintain or reduce the General Fund rate.

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