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BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

The August 9th luncheon will feature a presentation by Sally Jackson of Lee Memorial Health System on its role in business and real estate. Sponsored by the Paul Sands Memorial - REIS Scholarship.

Lee County Property Appraiser Ken Wilkinson will be the guest speaker at the September 13th luncheon, sponsored by [Pavese Law Firm](#).

A program on the economics of "green" building and development 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.

Educational Workshop:

The September 22 half-day workshop will focus on strategies and solutions for challenging properties in today's market. Details in article at right.

Gala Social Event:

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.

Scholarship Programs:

The REIS endowed scholarship fund at FGCU has been named the Paul Sands Memorial - REIS Scholarship and will receive a portion of money raised in the annual Paul Sands Invitational Slaw Dog Golf Tournament.

Horizon Council:

The Horizon Foundation has raised over \$360,000 in contributions, exceeding the annual goal. The Council will move to new offices in downtown Fort Myers this fall.

PROPERTY STRATEGY WORKSHOP -- DETAILS ANNOUNCED

REIS will present a half-day strategy workshop September 22nd to address issues and solutions for property development in today's market.

"Challenges and Strategies for Property Development Today" will provide ideas and useful information on:

- "Governmental Response to a Challenging Real Estate Market" by Mary Gibbs, Director of Lee County Dept. of Community Development, and Carl Schwing, City Manager for Bonita Springs.
- "Practical Strategies for Dealing with Challenging Properties" by attorneys Denis Noah, of Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, and Steve Hartsell, of Pavese Law Firm, and developer Timothy Byal, of Miromar Development Corporation.
- "Practical Strategies for Developing Challenging Properties" by developer Tom Danahy, of Kitson & Partners Communities, Gordon Walters, remediation engineer with HSA Engineers & Scientists, and civil engineer Michael Morris, of Morris-Depew Associates.

Each session will be followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session. 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](#); and [NAIOP](#) Southwest Florida Chapter.

The workshop begins at 8 am and concludes at noon in the Magnolia Room at Pelican Preserve Town Center in Fort Myers. Admission is \$25 for REIS, ULI and NAIOP members, \$15 for active college students, and \$45 for all others.

Amanda reports that seating is limited and registration is required by Sept. 16. Workshop details and registration at www.reis-swfl.org.



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WHAT SHOULD REAL ESTATE STUDENTS LEARN TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL?

The Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) is planning to launch a real estate major in the fall of 2012. Members of the Southwest Florida community of real estate professionals are invited to help shape this program by providing input through a brief survey. The link to the survey is:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KFCBRXJ>

REIS MIXES IT UP WITH OTHER GROUPS

In July, an impressive contingent of REIS members toured exhibits and networked with members of Lee BIA Commercial Contractors Council,



American Institute of Architects (AIA), Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), and US Green Building Council. The popular annual mixer took place at Royal Palm Yacht Club in Fort Myers.



NEW HEARING EXAM PROCEDURES

Lee County Commissioners have updated procedures for cases and appeals before the Hearing Examiner. To read the amendment, go to <http://www.lee-county.com/gov/bocc/Administrative%20Codes/AC-2-6.pdf>

GOLF SPECIAL FOR REIS MEMBERS!

Pelican Preserve Country Club welcomes Real Estate Investment Society members to tee it up at this exceptional 27-hole private golf course at special guest rates. Call Vanessa Rodriquez at Pelican Preserve Country Club for rates and tee times. (239) 985-1647



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PUBLIC HEARING ON LDC AMENDMENTS

Lee County Commissioners will hold the final public hearing on proposed Amendments to the Land Development Code at 9:30 am, August 9, in Commission Chambers, 2120 Main St., Fort Myers. To review the proposed amendments, go to www.lee-county.com/dcd.

MARKET TRENDS REGIONAL FORECAST

Lee Building Industry Association presents an overview of the new home and residential development industry. Speakers are Land Solutions President Randy Thibaut and Market Research Director Doug Meschko. August 10, 10am - noon, at Hodges University Fort Myers campus. Details / registration at [Lee BIA](http://LeeBIA.com), (239) 936-5525.

FLORIDA REDISTRICTING MEETINGS

Florida's Legislature has begun the process to reapportion Florida's Senate, House and congressional districts. The purpose is to logically divide the state's 18.8 million residents into 120 House districts, 40 Senate districts and 27 congressional districts. Population growth has earned Florida two new congressional seats and one of those districts may be created in Southwest Florida. The deadline to draw the new maps is March 9, 2012. Public officials are holding regional town hall meetings to gather public input. In Southwest Florida there will be two meetings, both on August 31: 8 - 11 am in the Naples Daily News Community Room in Naples; and 6 - 9 pm in the Veterans Park Recreation Center in Lehigh Acres. More information at [Redistricting Florida](http://RedistrictingFlorida.com) website.

LEE COUNTY BUDGET / TAX HEARINGS

Lee County Commissioners plan to begin public hearings to adopt the proposed county budget and property tax rate on September 7. Hearings will be in Commission Chambers in the Courthouse, in Fort Myers.

FORT MYERS PROJECT LAUDED

The **Outstanding Public Redevelopment Award** by the Florida Planning and Zoning Association (FPZA) last month was presented to the City of Fort Myers for the *Downtown Utility and Streetscape Replacement Project*. The award went to the City and The Fort Myers Redevelopment Authority (FMRA).

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