

Development team ready to dive into Lake Ruby deal

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Buena Vista Corp., which is planning to develop 214 acres on Lake Ruby in the south Orange County tourist corridor, has been quietly assembling a staff to launch the project.

Formerly called Marbella, the Lake Ruby development is to include hotels, condos, and office, entertainment and retail space.

The property is north of State Road 535 on the west side of Interstate 4, with about two miles of I-4 visibility. The project team so far includes a former Walt Disney Development Co. project director, a former senior associate with time-share giant Central Florida Investments and a former local partner of a national planning company.

John Ott, formerly with Disney, has signed on with Buena Vista as vice president of project management. Jeff Wallace, formerly with time-share mogul David Seigel, has been appointed director of real estate acquisitions. Ott worked on some of the original land sales for what became Disney World. Chuck Bell, a former partner with EDSA, has become Buena Vista Corp.'s land-planning director.

Others on the project team are: Myron Brown, vice president of technology; Dwight Tabales Vegas, asset manager, and Henry Schumann, finance director.

Sham Maharaj, a former Toronto hotel developer, formed Buena Vista Corp. in 2004 after acquiring the Lake Ruby property. Maharaj says detailed plans for the property, including its name, will be disclosed soon.

High and dry

Wharton Smith Construction is using a Portadam system to provide dry conditions for work in a retention pond in St. Cloud. Work is to be finished in August.

Leasing . . .

Tom McFadden, Bo Bradford and Mindy Boelhm of Advantis Real Estate Services Co. had a busy first quarter at Airport Distribution Center in Orlando, negotiating more than 120,000 in space leasing. . . .

Rock Properties Inc. leased 2,130 square feet of office space at 1111 E. Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park. Jeffrey W. Bloom of Coldwell Banker Commercial NRT handled the transaction.

Nishi Enterprises and Stanley Steemer together took more than 6,600 square feet of industrial space at Goldenrod CommerCenter in east Orlando. Michael Heidrich of NAI Realvest was the broker. . . .

Eraclides, Johns, Hall & Gelman P.A. rented 2,264 square feet of office space for three years at 1900 Summit Tower Blvd. in Maitland. Jeffrey Bloom of Coldwell Banker Commercial NRT and Paul Reynolds of Trammell Crow Co. negotiated. . . .

Seneca Communications took 3,920 square feet of office/warehouse space at Springview Industrial Park in DeBary. Michael Heidrich of NAI Realvest represented the landlord. . . .

The former Offices of Southland in south Orlando has been renamed Gateway Business Park by the new owner. Advantis Real Estate Services Co. in Orlando won the leasing assignment for the 286,000-square-foot complex. . . .

Dynetech Corp. rented 22,000 square feet of space at 7414 Kingspointe Parkway in south Orlando. Tom McFadden and William Bradford, both of Advantis Real Estate Services Co., and Ray Romano of CB Richard Ellis negotiated the transaction. . . .

Virtual Technology Corp. took 10,205 square feet of office space at Three Resource Square in the Central Florida Research Park. Ida Rood of Crescent Resources and Sarah Castor of Strictly Commercial were the brokers.

Grimco Inc. leased 10,210 square feet of space at Airport Distribution Center in south Orlando. Richard T. Davis Jr. of Grubb & Ellis and Tom McFadden of Advantis GVA, handled the deal. . . .

Countrywide Home Loans rented 2,280 square feet of office space at The Offices at Veranda Park in MetroWest. Paul P. Partyka of NAI Realvest and Howard Lee of Tower Realty negotiated. . . .

Phillips Environmental Services of Clearwater took 5,250 square feet of space at Hanging Moss CommerCenter in southeast Orlando. Michael Heidrich of NAI Realvest and David Murphy of CB Richard Ellis were the brokers. . . .

Centerline Homes rented 2,700 square feet of office space at the 615 Herndon Building in Orlando. Michael Gerrity of Gerrity Realty Advisors and Michael Heidrich of NAI Realvest were the brokers.