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# urban update

summer '09 biannual newsletter



All Aboard! The UDKS Team on one of Molley's Trolleys outside our CityPlace Office

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## a letter on the firm *By Ken Tuma*

*With the completed merger of Urban Design Studio and Kilday and Associates into Urban Design Kilday Studios, we have a new look. We are pleased to debut our new company logo, which is reflective of the proud history of the firms:*



With the new corporate look, we also expanded our CityPlace office, adding an additional wing and relocating/enlarging the conference room (special thanks to our friends at Glidden Spina & Partners for help with the design). When the economy turns around, we will have another one of our famous open house parties and show off our new space!

Overall, the merger has been very successful as our two companies have blended all aspects including our employees, computer systems and projects.

### Shifts in the economy

As 2009 unfolds, we are seeing significant work in long range planning. Clients are using this time to look at underutilized assets and positioning their properties for the

highest and best use when the market picks up. There has been a significant influx of "vulture" funds looking for land deals. However, in the micro market of Palm Beach County it appears the market has not dropped enough for these entities to purchase land.

### Green Movement

As part of our office expansion, we have made some efforts to make our office more GREEN. You will notice a change to the lighting in the office as we are switching out halogen lights with CFL's and LED's. We have also increased our green effort by recycling office paper and by reducing the amount of paper unnecessarily printed. Several UDKS employees have recently passed the LEED exam, bringing the office total up to 5 LEED-certified professionals on staff.

### Staff Events

- Collene Walter recently served a four-year term as Chair of the state Board of Landscape Architecture. She was appointed by Governor Jeb Bush in 2000.
- Ken Tuma as a panelist for a Technical Advisory Panel for an Urban Land Institute event for the City of Margate, Florida. Specializing on revitalization!
- Our 2008 Holiday party at the CityPlace Opa restaurant was one for the record books.

- We are anticipating our upcoming company picnic and baseball game at Howard Park!

*Kerry Kilday and I have enjoyed the change and are dedicated to the future of UDKS. We are having a very positive experience and look forward to many years of working together!*



Ken Tuma

Kerry Kilday

## firm overview

*Urban Design Kilday Studios features an award-winning team of Urban Designers, Planners, Landscape Architects and Graphic Designers and significant experience in master planning, landscape architecture, and graphics. We specialize in governmental approvals and land planning for both the public and private development sectors. and are well-respected for our ability to act as a liaison between its clients and government agencies.*

As a newly merged firm, we will remain dedicated to the quality of communities we design and live in and deliver the highest standard of design and professional service to our clients. Collectively, we have expanded our scope of services to focus on green practices, with a strong commitment to sustainable practices in site and landscape design. We offer assistance in addressing site sustainability and "building green" to help create the more cost- and energy-efficient development project possible. Our staff includes five (5) Leadership in



Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional landscape architects and planners. Our extensive history in the local development community has created an extensive network of professional consultants including architects, engineers, and marketing firms. We direct our projects along the most time-efficient path, with the goal of producing the best possible project for the specific need. We appreciate all of our clients and look forward to working with them as Urban Design Kilday Studios!

## inside this issue:

- Going Green...more than a slogan [insert]
- We've Moved!
- Life and Work in CityPlace
- Featured Plant - Crape Myrtle
- SoSo Streetscape Complete
- West Boynoth gets a new Mainstreet
- Lakeside Medical Center Expansion

## our team:

9 registered landscape architects

7 land planners

4 project managers

6 designers holding degrees from various fields

2 graphic designers