

Two months ago I wrote about relatively undiscovered areas to find gulf access waterfront. This month I will look at where to find land. Though the obvious choice for real amounts of land lies to the east in Golden Gate Estates, for this article I am going to focus on a couple of areas West of Interstate 75 that offer homesites of at least half an acre.

One of the reasons I most wanted to write about where to find roomier homesites is a recent visit I paid to the Collier County Economic Development Council's website. The predictions of what Collier County will be like by the time our children are buying their own homes are truly staggering. Our County was the "2nd fastest growing Metro Market between 1980 and 2000" in the entire nation! In 2000, the census revealed 251,377 people living in Collier County. By 2010, we are expected to grow to 350,300 year-round residents. By the year 2020 the Naples area will have 451,400 people. And by 2030 there will be a projected 548,800 people living and working in Collier County!

Okay so now that I've scared you, where can you really find a little room to breath? One undiscovered neighborhood is Quail Woods Estates. Hidden behind another unfinished development that has had its share of legal and

financial troubles, there is no hint of what is to be found from its simple entrance on the south side of Immokalee Road. A private, gated enclave of 62 homesites just under to just over an acre, this neighborhood has been a "sleeper" for years. Each custom built

Finding Land in Naples

• *Our county was the "2nd fastest growing Metro Market between 1980 and 2000" in the entire nation*

• *In 2010, we are expected to grow to 350,300 people living here year-round. By the year 2020, the Naples area will have 451,400 people.*

• *By 2030, there will be a projected 548,800 people living and working in Collier County.*

home is set back from the road at least 90 feet giving the beautiful homes on this one lane road the feeling of a country estate.

Right next door, also with its entrance on the south side of Immokalee Road is Four Seasons. This neighborhood also offers homesites just around an acre in size, many with a view on

one of the small lakes. Many houses were built from the late 1970's through the early 1980's. What we are now beginning to see here is that some of these houses are being torn down and replaced by newer, larger homes taking advantage of the spacious lots and beautiful views. I expect to see many constructions projects going on here as the land values just keep rising.

The Granddaddy of all in Naples is Pine Ridge Estates, a loosely knit neighborhood of about 700 homesites ranging from just over 1 acre to over 5 acres. Over the last 5 years, this community has been undergoing a huge transformation as small older homes are being torn down in favor of sprawling family estates. Lot prices have doubled and tripled in the last decade, especially those on the sparkling Mockingbird Lake. Because of its prime location so close to town and the beach this has become a real favorite.

Mara Muller is a full-time (and then some!) REALTOR with John R Wood, Inc. Her focus is helping families with all their Real Estate needs. She has lived in Naples since 1996 with her husband and two young daughters. She is also an active PTA member and volunteer at Pelican Marsh Elementary School. Please call her at 659-6172 for information or visit her website at www.marasellsnaples.com.



The Pointe Shoppe

Dancewear for Ballet, Jazz & More!

Open for business in the Vanderbilt Galleria

(Between Airport Rd & Goodlette Rd on Vanderbilt Beach Rd)

Phone 593.5390

Featuring:

- Bloch
- Capezio
- Danskin
- Harmonic
- Natalie
- KD Dance
- Mirella
- Body Wrappers
- Bloch, Chacott & Freed Pointe Shoes