

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2006

Contact: Anne Kazel-Wilcox
Gold Coast Communications
(561) 741-1010
akazel@goldcoastcommunications.com

Mixing Real Estate & Art
-- New Tampa Arts Festival "Under the Oaks" Launches with Support from Real Estate Community: Former Commissioner Hopes Other Real Estate Owners Will Follow --

Tampa, Florida – It has long been a policy of Tampa and other cities to promote the arts by requiring that new commercial developments dedicate a percentage of their budgets to showcasing art, or donate monies to the cities for public art. When Capital Realty Investors, a commercial real estate investment firm, purchased a luxury office building in New Tampa, however, the art had already been addressed. But former Hillsborough Commissioner Ben Wacksman, who leads Capital Realty, wanted to show additional support for local arts. "Our property goes mostly unused on the weekends, yet it's a beautiful setting upon acres of land with a lake and dozens of 100 year-old oaks," said Wacksman. "Why not put the property to work on the weekend to benefit the arts?" And so, the New Tampa Arts Festival is now born with the first annual showcase to be held on Saturday & Sunday, November 18th and 19th at the property, Palm Lake at Tampa Palms, located at 15310 Amberly Drive. The fine arts festival marks a new annual tradition that will showcase more than 50 artisans, and is expected to help expand Tampa's rich history of fine arts beyond the city center to the suburbs.

"There are commercial properties throughout Tampa that can serve as a showcase for fine arts talent," added Wacksman. "We want to lead by putting property to work, enhancing the recognition of our fine artists and our city's rich arts history. We'd like to see commercial property owners throughout the city offering their locations to host fine and performing arts throughout the year. The opportunities are endless, and we certainly have a growing population that will appreciate additional venues."

At the New Tampa Arts Festival "Under the Oaks", artists will compete for a prize purse of nearly \$10,000, with some of the area's finest local artists exhibiting. Mediums are expected to range from oils and acrylics, photography, glass and ceramic, to sculpture, glass, murals, a variety of fine crafts and more. Look for artists to depict Florida nature and wildlife at its best, capture photographic moments in time to be treasured forever, depict contemporary takes on

traditional ideas, and mold graceful figures into lasting sculptures. Exhibitors will include renowned local artists such as Michael D'Andrea, Peter Streit, Susan Livingston, John Costin, Ellen Marshall and Michael Parker among others.

Commented Art Keeble of the Arts Council, "This exciting, high quality new show has the potential to be one of the area's finest arts events."

The New Tampa Community Council will help host the Festival, which is open to the public and will run from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Attendees are welcome to picnic under the oaks or along Palm Lake, and a variety of food and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Sponsors of the New Tampa Arts Festival include Capitol Realty Investors, the New Tampa Community Council, Arts Council of Hillsborough County, First in Real Estate, IntelliSpace Solutions, Bank of Tampa, and New Tampa Junior Women's Club. Artwork images are available upon request

Capital Realty Investors LLC, www.crillc.com, is a leading commercial real estate investment firm focused on strategic investments throughout the state of Florida. The firm owns over one million square feet of properties including office, industrial, retail and resort properties in Florida. Palm Lake at Tampa Palms is an 86,000 square-foot, Class-A office building which is 100% occupied with a tenant waiting list. Capital Realty Investors, based in Tampa, is led by former Hillsborough County Commissioner Ben Wacksman.

Directions to Palm Lake at Tampa Palms from I-75:

From the north, exit I-75 at Bruce B. Downs Blvd. heading south. Travel approximately 2 miles and make a left on to Amberly Dr.

From the south, exit I-75 at E. Fletcher Ave. heading west. Go approximately 3 miles. Turn right on Bruce B. Downs Blvd. and travel approximately 1 _ miles. Make a right on to Amberly Dr.

###