

BUSINESS BRIEFS

World Gym moving to new digs

World Gym is relocating its Fort Myers fitness center from Sam's Plaza to Page Field Plaza, 10970 S. Cleveland Avenue, Suite 501. The doors will open at the conveniently located, newly constructed, and expanded facility on Oct. 1.

The new fitness center will be filled with state-of-the-art strength-training equipment, free weights and cardiovascular equipment. The equipment was carefully selected by the World Gym staff that collectively has over 30 years of experience in the fitness industry. The friendly, supportive and helpful World Gym staff is looking forward to welcoming existing and new members to a fun-loving, motivating and healthy environment at affordable prices.

Amenities provided by the new club will include clean, safe, men's and women's locker rooms, child care services and an array of great new services such as Aerobics, yoga, tae kwon do and spinning classes, which will be taught by certified staff. Qualified fitness trainers will be on hand for specialized individual or group training.

For those of you looking for a healthy, affordable and enjoyable fitness experience, come to the new World Gym beginning Oct. 1. The gym is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 939-4080 or visit us at www.worldgym.com. ■

Fox Electronics begins selling to Japan

Fort Myers-based Fox Electronics has launched sales of its new line of XpressO oscillators in the powerhouse Japanese market, marking the company's latest efforts to market the innovative product globally. Fox Electronics has achieved record-breaking sales, following marketing in the North American, European, Chinese and Asia Pacific markets.

"The Japanese market is the most demanding, which is why we choose to launch the XpressO there last," says E.L. Fox, Fox Electronics president. "Japanese companies are very nationalistic and will typically only buy a product if they cannot get it from another Japanese company. At this point there is no Japanese equivalent to the XpressO oscillator, so we look forward to the opportunity to succeed in Japan."

Fox Electronics launched the XpressO oscillator in late 2006 and worked with customers as they tested samples for a number of months. In July, sales began to spike with 43,000 XpressO oscillators sold. On Aug. 7, the company sold 42,000 XpressOs in one day. Sales for the month of August totaled 88,535, which marked a 33 percent increase over July's sales. The company's clients include the world's second largest computer manufacturer.

The XpressO oscillators, a new family of configurable crystal oscillators, can be used for many applications, including computers, test equipment and air conditioning control panels. They cost 20 to 50 percent less than the standard fixed-frequency oscillators that they are replacing. ■

My Safe Florida Home program

Florida is providing free wind inspections and matching grants of up to \$5,000 for qualified homeowners. Grant funds must be used for opening protections, which includes windows, skylights, gable vents, exterior doors and garage doors, and the bracing of gable ends.

>>Who is eligible for free wind inspections?

>> A Floridian whose residence is a single-family, detached, site-built home. Properties not eligible for free home inspections include: Mobile homes or manufactured homes; Apartments; Condominiums; Multi-family Dwellings; and Businesses.

>>How do I request an inspection?

>> Homeowners can apply for a free wind inspection online at www.mysafefloridahome.com or by calling the Department's toll-free My Safe Florida Home helpline: (866) 513-6734.

>>What will the inspection report tell me?

>>The inspection report must: Outline what eligible improvements may be made to your home to increase resistance to hurricane wind damage; Provide a range of how much each improvement would cost to do; Explain what insurance discounts may be available for each improvement; Offer a hurricane resistance rating scale that shows the home's current ability, and future ability with improvements to withstand hurricanes.

NOTE: There are three categories of improvements that are eligible for matching grant dollars. The wind inspection report will detail each of these as they relate to your home, as well as additional improvements that will improve your home's resistance to hurricane wind damage.

>>Does obtaining a free inspection obligate me to make any repairs or upgrades to my residence?

>>No.

>>I have a contract in place to have mitigation repairs done on my house and will cancel it if there is a chance I will get a grant.

>>Canceling a current contract may be costly to you. In addition, the matching grant funds are available only for work completed by a contractor

that has been approved as a My Safe Florida Home participating contractor and for work based on the recommendations in the home inspection report.

>>I can't afford to make repairs on my own. Someone mentioned there may be a program for low-income residents. How do I find out about that?

>>The My Safe Florida Home program is working with local governments and the Volunteer Florida Foundation to offer low-income homeowners an opportunity to strengthen their homes against natural disasters.

>>How much should I expect to save on my insurance premium if I get some of this work done?

>>The wind inspection report will give you an estimate of the discounts you might receive on the wind-portion of your homeowners insurance premium. It will vary depending on the improvements you make. It is important to remember that the premium discount is a small way to reap the benefits of hurricane-hardening your home. The biggest benefit will be the peace of mind of knowing your home and family will be safer if a hurricane hits.

>>What if the program runs out of money before I get my inspection?

>>The Legislature has allocated \$250 million for the first stage of this program. Based on the results of the first phase, we are asking the Legislature to continue to fund the free wind inspections and matching grants for the millions of Florida homeowners who want to invest in hurricane-resistant retrofit measures.

>>Grant eligibility

>>The 2007 Legislature changed the eligibility requirements for grants under the My Safe Florida Home program. You will be eligible for a matching grant up to \$5,000 if you live at least 6 months out of the year in a single-family detached, site-built home that meets the following criteria: have a building permit application for initial construction made before March 1, 2002; insured value of \$300,000 or less; valid homestead exemption; located in the wind-borne debris region; has undergone a hurricane mitigation inspection.

The Power of Personal Service.



Left to Right: John Reingardt, Dennis Kucera, Bill Valenti, John Hodas and John Fritts

Let us introduce you to our unique combination of financial expertise, community service and client relationship building...banking the way you've always wished it could be.

Involvement in the Rotary Club of Fort Myers, United Way of Lee County, Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce – these are just a few ways Florida Gulf Bank demonstrates the power of strong leadership, and the power of personal service...every day.

9101 College Pt. Ct., 332-4440
7580 Winkler Rd., 481-2875
2247 First St., 332-3527
1631 Del Prado Blvd., 242-1270
8870 Daniels Pkwy., 225-7268
Two NEW Locations, Now Open!
Colonial/Six Mile Cypress, 433-6020
Sandoval/Cape Coral, 433-6000

FLORIDA GULF BANK

The Power of Personal Service

floridagulfbank.com



A NEW CONCEPT IN FOOD, FUN, AND DRINK!

PORTION? PRICING? YOU CHOOSE!

CHAR GRILLHOUSE

BREAKFAST:
6:30 - 10:30
EVERY DAY

LUNCH:
11 - 4
MON. - FRI.

DINNER:
4 - CLOSE
MON. - SAT.

HAPPY HOUR:
3 - 7
MON. - FRI.

★★★★ ½ FOOD
★★★★ ATMOSPHERE
★★★★ ½ SERVICE

IN FRONT OF THE NEW
HOLIDAY INN IN FT. MYERS
2431 CLEVELAND AVE. (US41)
239.337.CHAR

*VEGETARIAN FRIENDLY!
*GLUTEN-FREE FRIENDLY!

RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED FOR PARTIES OF 7 OR MORE