



J.L. WALLACE, INC.  
General Contractors  
Construction Managers  
STABILITY • INNOVATION

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# DUAL IMPACT

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## Projects At or Near Completion

- Tuffy Automotive Center
- SunTrust Bank at Coconut Trace
- St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church (pictured below)
- Bentley Village Assisted Living Facility Renovation



## J.L. Wallace Completes St. Katharine Drexel Multi-Use Buildings

by David Grossman, Project Manager

In early 2009, the Diocese of Venice and St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church contracted with J.L. Wallace, Inc. for the design and construction of an 11,200 SF multi-use facility on the church's campus in Cape Coral, FL. The first step in the process was to determine the best use of the available acreage on the church grounds. Collaboration between the Diocese, architect, and contractor resulted in the creation of two, mirror-image, 5,600 SF buildings connected by a covered breezeway in

area with waiting room.

The covered breezeway is highlighted by an inlaid cross designed using grey concrete tiles outlined with black pavers as the focal point of the walkway. It also provides church members with the opportunity to place memorial stones within the cross and in the brick paver passageway.

Prior to the beginning of construction it was discovered that a bald eagle had built a nest in a tree on the property. State and federal laws protect this species and construction was required to be delayed until the end

of nesting season and the eagles had left the nest. Generally this would include the period from May 15<sup>th</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition to laws restricting construction in the area, the Florida Fish and Wildlife

Commission required that a cash bond be posted by the Diocese as insurance that the eagles would not be disturbed. The bond becomes refundable if the eagles return to their nest and produce live fledglings at least once in the three year period following completion of construction.

The entire permitting process to allow

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front and a garden in the central courtyard.

The interior spaces offer a total of eight fixed wall rooms along with each building featuring a flex-space area that can be divided into one, two, or three rooms through the use of built-in moveable partitions. In addition to the multi-use rooms, the buildings offer office space, a conference room, media room, and reception





# The Renewing of the Mind

by Jerry Wallace, President

Change is hard, and our brain always seems to figure it can find a way around it. “Maybe I should change my mind” – when was the last time you heard someone say that? Probably not recently.

The brain gets very attached to its own views and habits, reacting to any inkling of change not with fluid adaptation but with increased rigidity. Okay, so then we will just use willpower to overcome that resistance and...and, well, doing that generally just results in the resistance becoming even stronger. It is just a fact: the more we sense that a change might alter our current habits and routines, the more tenaciously we hold on to those habits and routines, and the less likely we are to notice new possibilities for improvement.

In this quickly changing world in which we live, the only seeming constant is change. With our present ever-looming economic recession, there is more pressure than ever for “out of box” thinking and leading the required change or be left behind. Not just thinking about it or talking about it, but leading it and implementing it has become imperative. Given such, we must understand our natural resistance to change and the chains that may hold us back and prevent tomorrow’s best.

This depth of resistance to change can be seen historically in patients who have suffered heart problems severe enough to require surgery. Despite painful and debilitating symptoms before their surgeries and the clear understanding after surgery that death can result from failure to change their unhealthy habits, only one person in ten actually makes the lifestyle changes required for heart-healthy living! That finding was one revealed at a conference devoted to global innovation. The first challenge the luminaries at the conference took on was ending the crisis in health care (a popular subject these days) and some in the audience were anticipating that this dream team of experts might reveal some stunning scientific or technological advance, maybe an intricate microscopic redesign of the human genome, which would make everyone better overnight. Instead, what was learned was that despite all our society’s advances, the root causes of our health crisis haven’t changed in half a century. Fifty years prior, the medical community had demonstrated that 80% of the health care budget was consumed by five behavioral issues, and that is still where we are. The five issues, by the way, were smoking, excessive stress, too much alcohol, overeating unhealthy foods, and insufficient exercise.

There is great truth in the saying that the more things change, the more they stay the same. That is our “left

alone” brain’s goal: to stay the same, regardless of what you want or desire. And it is remarkably good at achieving that unless you take steps to break this cycle of repetition.

New tools for change, validated by measures of what works and what doesn’t, have been confirmed by research on emotional intelligence and change, revealing some crucial factors to consider.

Faith in the unseen future or imagining the best outcome in advance is a powerful draw toward future change. Envisioning a new action or state in vivid, multi-sensory detail will fire up the same brain circuits and cells that are actually involved in doing that activity or making that change. This can significantly increase your chances for success with any potential

***We can change our whole life and the attitude of people around us simply by changing ourselves.***

**Rudolf Dreikurs**

change by connecting to the feeling of the positive up side of why it is important for you and your future to change. This allows all kinds of uncommonly accessed inner reserves to be mobilized to help move you through the necessary steps of change.

Another revealed factor of success is to get as many neurons firing in concert as you can. In other words, big energized change is better than incremental change. So when you decide to change, make sure it is something that emotionally connects with your end objective, accept the fact that it will tilt your brain systems out of the ordinary but that it is worth doing, and then whole-heartedly commit to doing it. If you keep the back door open, you will likely use it.

Lastly, teaming up and sharing your change intentions with others and enlisting others who can help you do what you intend to do further solidifies your commitment. An even stronger factor than just a commitment is a renewing of your mindset.

Many promises or commitments are beyond the capability of the one making the promise. It is what’s on the inside that ultimately determines what happens on the outside. The renewing of our minds is a process where wisdom and truth become the foundation of our thinking—and eventually our behavior. Unless you engage in this particular process, there will be no lasting improvement that a renewed mind guarantees.

***Wisdom is knowing what to do; virtue is doing it.***

**David Starr Jordan**

***There are three things extremely hard: steel, a diamond, and to know one’s self.***

**Benjamin Franklin**

# RCH Reflections

## RCH Nearing Completion of Dawson Home

by Patti Lacy, Project Coordinator

Royal Corinthian Homes is in the finishing stages of completing the Dawson home in *River Point* in the Verandah Community.

John and Kathy Dawson have 4 grown children and are still very active in their trucking company based in Eagan, Minnesota. Two years ago their youngest child went off to college and, utilizing modern technology to stay connected to their business, John and Kathy took off in their motor home to explore the options of living in a warmer climate. They decided on Fort Myers and the Verandah Community.

John and Kathy write, "*Royal Corinthian personnel are so awesome; Patti our Project Coordinator, DeWayne-Project Manager, Ron-Sales Consultant, and Jerry the company owner, are all just great to work with. We took a house plan and Royal Corinthian revised it to our liking and now we feel we have a beautiful home. Our kids are excited to be able to come "home" and not feel that they are just on vacation.*"

The Dawson's do indeed have a very beautiful home! A *Sater Design* plan, customized for the Dawsons, has 3,252 SF of living area and a total area of 4,616 SF and includes 3 bedrooms, 3½ baths, 3 car garage, study, formal living and dining rooms, leisure room, and nook. Their 33' freeform swimming pool was designed as "cloud" shape and includes a 6x6 circular spa heated by natural gas available to Verandah residents.

John and Kathy really wanted a wine room, so the floor plan was modified accordingly. Their wine room features a beautiful, artistic metal scrollwork entry gate, lovely dark distressed wood flooring, a barrel ceiling, ebony distressed cabinetry with matching custom wine rack and stemware holder, granite countertop, bar sink, a 57 bottle Monogram wine chiller, sconce, and indirect lighting. The wine room is adjacent to the formal dining room and is visually enhanced by the Italian themed, round precast columns defining the dining area.



The master bedroom has zero-corner sliding glass doors opening to the lanai, while the master bath has its own outdoor privacy area complete with paver deck, custom built wood gate, and wiring for a future wall fountain.

Other features of the home include a wet bar in the living room, double step-up ceilings in the kitchen, living and dining rooms. Coffered ceilings are showcased in the leisure room and study with single step-up ceilings in the master bedroom and two guest bedrooms. Both guest bedrooms have their own private bath and walk-in closet.

There are two gas fireplaces; one in the leisure room flanked by a customized built-in entertainment center. The other fireplace is found on the lanai and with its precast arched trim, continues the Italian theme outdoors, creating a cozy gathering spot for evening relaxation. A custom-built arched TV niche above the fireplace provides cable and electric for the Dawson's flat screen TV. A nearby summer kitchen features a 30" Monogram grill with rotisserie.

The laundry/sewing room was custom designed by Kathy (actually John did help) and includes oversized double windows for maximum natural sunlight, a peninsula cutting and sewing center, special drawers for her sewing materials and an upscale built-in ironing center. To add extra pizzazz to her laundry/sewing room, Kathy selected the extremely popular new color for laundry appliances, "metallic red."

All the materials, colors, and finishes John and Kathy selected are just stunning and RCH will be very proud to present this home to the Dawsons in the very near future.

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*Wishing all our clients, building partners, and friends a very  
Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2010*



**St. Katharine Drexel** (continued)

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construction in the “eagle buffer zone” was reworked by the State of Florida Game and Wildlife Commission in 2008 and J.L. Wallace, Inc. was among the first contractors in the state to request an “eagle permit”. Because the entire process was new in the 2009 nesting season unexpected delays were encountered in working through all the details with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and the permit was finally issued in early June.

An already abbreviated construction period now became critically curtailed when we could not start the project due to the permitting delays until approximately three weeks after the eagles had abandoned the nest. All exterior work had to be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup> or when the eagles returned to the nest, whichever was earlier. Throughout the construction period the site was visited periodically by a Florida Fish and Wildlife officer to confirm that the nest was undisturbed. Beginning in September the visits increased to at least once a week. Ap-



proximately two weeks prior to the “official” nesting period we were notified that eagles were seen in the area. At this time an officer was assigned to watch the nest for mating activity. We were now in a critical time crunch to complete all outside construction before the eagles mated. Fortunately all of our scheduling was done with the plan to complete the exterior of the buildings in advance of the Octo-

ber 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

All of the subcontractors were made aware of the issues involving the eagles and the time constraints we would be working under before signing a contract with us. When notified that the eagles had returned everyone stepped up to complete exterior construction before they mated. Under the watchful eye of the Florida Fish and Wildlife officer we were kept informed of all eagle activity and were able to complete all construction, interior and exterior, prior to the eagles returning to the nest.