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From the South Florida Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2020/06/26/2020-power-leaders-in-real-estate-part-2.html>

## 2020 Power Leaders in Real Estate (Part 2)

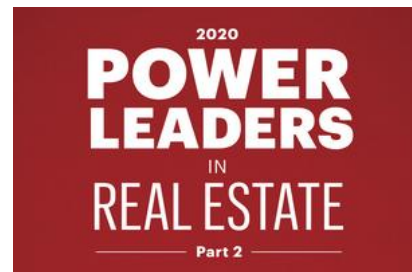
Jun 26, 2020, 7:09am EDT

Ever since South Florida was pioneered in the 1800s, real estate has shaped the region's economy. More than 100 years later – through depressions, recessions, and economic tumult – that continues to be the case.

The persistent force behind the local real estate market remains the property owners, developers and real estate brokers who power what remains a significant driver in the South Florida economy.

Though persistent, the individuals reflect the uniquely dynamic nature of South Florida's real estate marketplace. While 39 are making at least their fifth appearance on the list, 15 are newcomers to the list. Most are frequently mentioned in the pages of the *South Florida Business Journal*, as they make their mark across the community.

As South Florida emerges from the fallout of recent events, these modern-day pioneers will be the ones who continue to shape the region's economy and our future successes.



BETHANY BICKLEY FOR AMERICAN CITY BUSINESS JOURNALS  
2020 Power Leaders in Real Estate – Part 2

### Moishe Mana

Chairman, Mana Group

Miami

Mana is an Israeli-born, self-made billionaire. He began his career in New York City in the 1980s. Mana now focuses on Wynwood, downtown Miami and the region to make South Florida a global hub to facilitate trade relations between the Far East, Latin America and North America, and create an international hub for art, culture and business.

Birthplace: Tel Aviv

Education: Attended Tel Aviv University

[www.manamiami.com](http://www.manamiami.com), 305-573-0371

### Douglas Mandel

Executive managing director, Marcus & Millichap

Fort Lauderdale

Mandel leads a 10-person team focused on investment sales of office, industrial and retail properties throughout the state of Florida. The firm is the fourth-largest commercial real estate brokerage and a leading lender in South Florida.

Birthplace: Princeton, New Jersey

Education: B.A., The Ohio State University

I'd like to learn how to: Kitesurf

Favorite smartphone app: Waze

Favorite season and location: Winter in Colorado

Favorite professional development book: "Differentiate or Die" by Jack Trout

Favorite sports team: The Ohio State Buckeyes

[www.mandelpartnerscre.com](http://www.mandelpartnerscre.com), [douglas.mandel@marcusmillichap.com](mailto:douglas.mandel@marcusmillichap.com), 954-245-3465

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### **David Martin**

President, Terra

Miami

Martin heads the integrated real estate development firm with projects valued at more than \$10 billion. He focuses on improving lives and enhancing neighborhoods through innovative design and intelligent planning.

Birthplace: Gainesville

Education: MBA, University of Florida

First car: Toyota Celica

Childhood hero: My mother

Favorite decade: The '90s (high school and college)

Favorite smartphone app: Microsoft Teams

Favorite TV network: Amazon Prime Video

Favorite season and location: Winter in Miami

Favorite professional development books: "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell and "Good is the New Cool" by Afdhel Aziz

Favorite movie director: Martin Scorsese

Time travel: Past or future? Past

I'd like to have drinks with: Bill Gates

[www.terragroup.com](http://www.terragroup.com), [dmartin@terragroup.com](mailto:dmartin@terragroup.com), 305-416-4556

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### **Steven E. McCraney**

President and CEO, McCraney Property Co.

West Palm Beach

McCraney leads one of the most active private developers of industrial properties in the Southeast. It specializes in e-commerce, fulfillment, third-party logistics and distribution developments in major markets in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas.

Birthplace: Georgia

Education: B.S., Villanova University

First car: Fiat 128 (nickname "Rust Buggy")

Childhood hero: Batman

I'd like to learn how to: Paraglide

Favorite smartphone apps: Landglide and Zillow

Favorite TV network: NBC

Favorite season and location: Spring in Round Hill, Jamaica

Favorite movie director: Quentin Tarantino

Guilty pleasure: Homemade apple pie

Bucket list: Finish climbing the Seven Summits or do a cycling trip from San Francisco to Savannah, Georgia

I'd like to have drinks with: Thomas Jefferson

[www.mccraneyproperty.com](http://www.mccraneyproperty.com), [smccraney@mccraneyproperty.com](mailto:smccraney@mccraneyproperty.com), 407-852-0701

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### **Steve Medwin**

Executive managing director, Newmark Knight Frank

Miami

Medwin represents owners, investors and occupiers of commercial real estate. Over his nearly 30-year career, he has completed over 1,000 commercial transactions in 25 states, valued at over \$2 billion. In 2019, he was his company's ninth highest-producing industrial broker in the nation.

Birthplace: Providence, Rhode Island

Education: B.A., economics, University of Vermont

First car: 1977 Ford Maverick

Childhood hero: Larry Bird

I'd like to learn how to: Play the guitar

Favorite decade: The 1990s

Favorite smartphone app: Waze

Favorite TV network: Netflix

Favorite season and location: Winter in Miami

Favorite movie director: Quentin Tarantino

Last concert attended: The Black Keys

Favorite meal: Bone-in filet

Guilty pleasure: Rare Japanese whisky

I'd like to have drinks with: Bill Murray

[www.miamiwarehousespace.com](http://www.miamiwarehousespace.com), 305-350-0923, [steve.medwin@ngkf.com](mailto:steve.medwin@ngkf.com)

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### **Carlos Melo**

Principal, Melo Group

Miami

Melo leads one of South Florida's most active residential real estate developers since the principals of the family-owned and -operated firm arrived in Miami from Argentina in 2001.

Birthplace: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Education: Graduate, School of Architecture, University of Belgrano

Favorite decade: 2010s

Favorite TV network: Discovery Channel

Favorite book genre: Biographies

Favorite movie director: Sebastian Ortego

Time travel: Past or future? Future

Favorite drink: Celery juice

Favorite meal: Grilled octopus

I'd like to have drinks with: Frank Lloyd Wright

[www.themelogroup.com](http://www.themelogroup.com), 305-438-1001

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### **Martin Melo**

Principal, Melo Group

Miami

A CPA and developer, Melo leads a residential real estate developer active since the principals of the family-owned and -operated firm arrived in Miami from Argentina in 2001.

Birthplace: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Education: Graduate, School of Economics, University of Belgrano

I'd like to learn how to: Fly an SR71

Favorite decade: 2000s

Favorite smartphone app: Garmin Pilot

Favorite season and location: Spring in Buenos Aires

Last concert attended: Elton John

Favorite drink: Louis XIII

Guilty pleasure: Alfajores

Bucket list: Fly an F4 Phantom

Favorite movie: "Crocodile Dundee"

[www.themelogroup.com](http://www.themelogroup.com), 305-438-1001

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**Brad Meltzer**

President, Plaza Construction

Miami

With over 30 years' experience, Meltzer is responsible for the firm's general operations, including development, forecasting and client management across all of Plaza's market regions.

Birthplace: New York City

Education: Master's degree, architecture, Tulane University

First car: Used 1980 Trans Am

Childhood hero: Julius Erving

I'd like to learn how to: Relax

Favorite decade: 2010-2019

Favorite smartphone app: Tripit

In a movie, I'd be played by: Billy Crystal

Bucket list: Play Augusta National

I'd like to have drinks with: Leonardo da Vinci

[www.plazaconstruction.com](http://www.plazaconstruction.com), [bmeltzer@plazaconstruction.com](mailto:bmeltzer@plazaconstruction.com), 786-693-8700

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**Craig Menin**

President and CEO, Menin Development

Delray Beach

Menin began his career as a commercial real estate broker in New York City and started his commercial real estate company by acquiring properties in Virginia, Tennessee and Florida. In 1995, he established a Florida division. Menin has since acquired, built and improved over \$1.5 billion in commercial real estate nationwide.

Birthplace: New York

Education: Georgetown University

First car: Toyota Celica

Favorite decade: The next one

Favorite season and location: Summer in Colorado

Favorite book genre: Biographies

Favorite movie director: Christopher Nolan

Time travel: Past or future? Past

Last concert attended: The Rolling Stones

Favorite drink: Tequila

Favorite restaurant: Lionfish in Delray Beach

Favorite book: "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand

I'd like to have drinks with: John Coltrane

www.menin.com, Info@menin.com, 561-282-5000

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### **Jeff Meran**

Senior managing director, Mill Creek Residential

Boca Raton

Meran oversees all aspects of the company's Florida multifamily development business. Over the past 15 years he has developed over 7,000 multifamily homes in South Florida, with a total capitalization of over \$2 billion.

Birthplace: Philadelphia

Education: B.A., international relations, University of Pennsylvania; J.D., University of Miami

Childhood hero: Michael Jordan

Favorite TV network: ESPN

Favorite season and location: Winter in South Beach

Favorite movie director: Steven Spielberg

Time travel: Past or future? Definitely the future

Last book I read: "Life" by Keith Richards

In a movie, I'd be played by: John Krasinski

Favorite movie: "Almost Famous"

I'd like to have drinks with: Adam Sandler

www.mcrtrust.com, 561-998-4467

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### **Neil Merin**

Chairman, NAI/Merin Hunter Codman

West Palm Beach

Over 40 years ago, Merin founded the South Florida commercial real estate firm he still runs today. It is consistently ranked one of South Florida's largest real estate companies.

Birthplace: New York City

Education: B.S.B.A., Boston University

First car: Chevy Nova hatchback

Childhood hero: James Bond

I'd like to have drinks with: My father (I lost him 40 years ago)

I'd like to learn how to: Fly a float plane

Favorite decade: Early 1970s

Favorite smartphone app: Google Voice

Favorite TV network: PBS

Favorite season and location: Summer in the Adirondacks

Last concert attended: Bob Weir and Wolf Brothers

Favorite drink: Single malt Scotch

Guilty pleasure: Mentally spacing out in the middle of the day

[www.mhcreal.com](http://www.mhcreal.com), [nmerin@mhcreal.com](mailto:nmerin@mhcreal.com), 561-471-8000

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### **Stuart A. Miller**

Executive chairman, Lennar Corp.

Miami

Miller spent 21 years as CEO of Lennar until stepping down in 2018. He oversaw the company's growth to become one of the nation's leading homebuilders, with urban, golf course, active adult and suburban communities across the U.S. The company is the region's largest home builder by starts, and South Florida's second-largest public company. Miller had been CEO since 1997, and held various posts since his arrival in 1991 at the company his father started.

Education: B.S., Harvard Business School; J.D., University of Miami

[www.lennar.com](http://www.lennar.com), 305-229-6400

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### **Bob L. Moss**

Founder and chairman, Moss & Associates

Fort Lauderdale

Moss founded his company with two projects and two employees in 2004. Today, the privately held, award-winning construction firm has more than 600 professional employees handling projects nationwide.

Birthplace: Charlotte, North Carolina

Education: Associate degree, construction technology, Central Piedmont Community College

First car: 1965 Malibu SS

Favorite smartphone app: Pro Wend Finder

Favorite TV network: FOX

Favorite season and location: Summer in North Carolina

Favorite movie director: Clint Eastwood

Last concert attended: Dolly Parton

Favorite drink: Chardonnay

Favorite movie: "The Mule"

[www.moss.com](http://www.moss.com), [bmoss@mossem.com](mailto:bmoss@mossem.com), 954-524-5678

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**Dev Ramesh Motwani**

President and CEO, Merrimac Ventures

Fort Lauderdale

Motwani heads a diversified real estate investment and development company. He is co-developing the Four Seasons Hotel and Residences on Fort Lauderdale Beach, building a few luxury apartment projects, and closed on two hotel funds with partner Driftwood Hospitality.

Birthplace: St. Charles, Missouri

Education: B.S. economics and public policy, Duke University; M.S., real estate development, Columbia University

First car: Toyota 4Runner

Childhood crush: Angelina Jolie

Favorite decade: The '90s

Last book I read: "Essays" by Warren Buffett

Favorite drink: Clase Azul Reposado tequila

Guilty pleasure: Laspada's

In a movie, I'd be played by: George Clooney

[www.merrimacventures.com](http://www.merrimacventures.com), [dev@merrimacventures.com](mailto:dev@merrimacventures.com), 954-522-6556

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**Nitin Motwani**

Managing partner, Miami Worldcenter Associates

Miami

Motwani has served as the managing principal of Miami Worldcenter since 2006, overseeing the predevelopment of the \$4 billion, 27-acre mixed-use real estate project in downtown Miami.

Birthplace: St. Charles, Missouri

Education: Bachelor's degree, international relations, Duke University; M.S., real estate development, Columbia University

First car: Ford Mustang Cobra

Childhood crush: Alyssa Milano

I'd like to learn how to: Play the guitar

Favorite decade: 2010-2020

Favorite smartphone app: Docusign

Favorite TV network: Netflix

Favorite season and location: Winter in Miami

Favorite movie director: Francis Ford Coppola

Time travel: Past or future? Past

Guilty pleasure: Mind-numbing TV



I'd like to have drinks with: Mike Milken

www.miamiworldcenter.com, 305-895-8914

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### **Jose Muñoz**

President and CEO, BCC Engineering

Miami

Muñoz leads a fast-growing Florida engineering firm. He has 24 years of experience on major transportation projects, including some of the largest design-builds ever constructed in Florida.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: Civil engineering, Florida International University

First car: BMW 318i

Childhood hero: Steve Austin ("The Six Million Dollar Man")

I'd like to learn how to: Metalwork

Favorite decade: The '80s

Favorite smartphone app: 1Password

Favorite season and location: Summer in Wyoming

Favorite drink: Glenlivet 12 and a couple ice chips

Favorite meal: Steak, rice, black beans and fried plantains

In a movie, I'd be played by: Jon Favreau

I'd like to have drinks with: Elon Musk

www.bcceng.com, info@bcceng.com, 305-670-2350

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### **Thomas P. Murphy Jr.**

Chairman and CEO, Coastal Construction Group

Miami

Murphy got his contractor's license at 19 and today leads one of the largest construction management/general contracting firms in Florida. It currently has more than \$4 billion in active commercial and residential projects throughout the state.

Birthplace: Washington, D.C.

Education: Dropped out of the University of Miami after one semester

First car: 1957 Chevy

Childhood hero: My dad

Favorite decade: Right now, watching my boys take over the business and watching my family grow

Favorite smartphone app: Smartphones are the biggest distraction in the history of mankind

Favorite book genres: Mystery, suspense and Tom Clancy

Favorite movie director: Steven Spielberg

Favorite drink: Stoli Elit martini

Guilty pleasure: Boating

[www.coastalconstruction.com](http://www.coastalconstruction.com), 305-559-4900

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### **Michael Neal**

CEO, Kast Construction

West Palm Beach

Neal leads the fourth-largest general contractor and 12th-largest private company in South Florida.

Birthplace: Hollywood

Education: B.A., building construction, University of Florida

First car: Ford Pinto (nickname "The Flamethrower")

I'd like to learn how to: Fly a helicopter

Favorite smartphone app: Navionics

Time travel: Past or future? Future

Favorite meal: Fresh seafood

Favorite sport: Fishing

Favorite sports team: Florida Gators

[www.kastbuild.com](http://www.kastbuild.com), 561-689-2910

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### **Ryan Nee**

First VP, district manager, Marcus & Millichap

Fort Lauderdale

Nee leads all Florida offices and 200 investment sales agents at the region's fourth-largest commercial real estate brokerage.

Birthplace: Conroe, Texas

Education: B.S., finance, University of Florida

First car: Nissan NX

Childhood crush: Kelly Kapowski from "Saved by the Bell"

I'd like to learn how to: Be better at golf

Favorite decade: The '90s

Favorite movie director: Martin Scorsese

Bucket list: Great white shark diving

Favorite author: Michael Lewis

I'd like to have drinks with: Vince Vaughn

www.marcusmillichap.com, rnee@marcusmillichap.com, 954-245-3400

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### **Peggy Olin**

CEO, OneWorld Properties

Fort Lauderdale

In 2009, Olin created OneWorld Properties to provide marketing and sales services for residential developments for domestic buyers and those from 57 countries. The company has logged over \$4 billion in residential sales and over 3,000 units sold.

Birthplace: Lima, Peru

First car: 1987 Plymouth Reliant (bought from my grandfather's friend for \$500)

Childhood crush: Mel Gibson

I'd like to learn how to: Speak Mandarin

Favorite decade: The '90s

Favorite smartphone app: Headspace

Favorite TV network: Netflix

Time travel: Past or future? Past

I'd like to have drinks with: Mark Zuckerberg

www.owbprokers.com, 954-514-7492

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### **Mike Pappas**

President and CEO, The Keyes Co./Illustrated Properties

Miami

Pappas heads a company with 50 offices, more than 3,500 associates and nearly \$7 billion in annual real estate sales and services. Keyes is the region's 10th-largest commercial real estate brokerage. Pappas joined as a sales associate in 1980 and was named president in 1992.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: B.S., business and Spanish, Wake Forest University

Childhood crush: Barbara Eden

Favorite decade: This one

Favorite smartphone app: The Five-Minute Journal

Favorite TV network: Don't watch TV

Favorite season and location: Summer at the lake

Time travel: Past or future? Today

I'd like to have drinks with: My wife

www.keyes.com, 305-779-1926

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### **Jorge Pérez**

Chairman and CEO, The Related Group

Miami

Pérez is committed to building a better South Florida. For over 40 years, his ability to identify emerging trends to create vibrant urban communities has made him one of the most influential names in real estate, with a pipeline of over 100,000 units.

Birthplace: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Education: Bachelor's degree, economics, Long Island University C.W. Post Campus; master's degree, urban planning, University of Michigan

First car: 1960 Ford Falcon

Childhood hero: My father

I'd like to learn how to: Relax

Favorite decade: The '60s

Favorite smartphone app: Art Binder

Guilty pleasure: British TV series

In a movie, I'd be played by: Groucho Marx

I'd like to have drinks with: Jean-Paul Sartre

www.relatedgroup.com, 305-460-9900

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### **Miguel Pilgram**

Founder and CEO, The Pilgram Group

Fort Lauderdale

Pilgram is a third-generation, U.S. Navy veteran who previously spent 10 years as global fleet security manager for Norwegian Cruise Lines. His family-owned company is involved in commercial, residential and maritime real estate acquisition, valuation, renovation, management and term lending.

Birthplace: Los Angeles

Education: U.S. Navy

www.pilgram-group.com, 954-595-2200

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### **Sergio Pino**

President and CEO, Century Homebuilders Group LLC

Coral Gables

Pino leads South Florida's 17th-largest homebuilder, and one of the largest Hispanic homebuilders in the nation. Established in 1995, the company has acquired, developed and/or managed over 70 communities with over 16,000 homes in Miami-Dade

and Broward counties.

Birthplace: Havana

Education: Attended Miami-Dade Community College

First car: Mustang Fastback '69

Childhood hero: My father

I'd like to learn how to: Play guitar

Favorite smartphone app: Google

Favorite TV network: CNN

Favorite season and location: Summer in Miami

Time travel: Past or future? Future. After experiencing the past couple of months, I would love to see how this decade is referred to in the past tense.

I'd like to have drinks with: Barack Obama

[www.centuryhomebuilders.com](http://www.centuryhomebuilders.com), [flaygre@chbsfl.com](mailto:flaygre@chbsfl.com), 305-599-8100

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### **Gopal Rajegowda**

Partner, Related Cos. Southeast

West Palm Beach

Rajegowda has over 15 years of experience managing mixed-use real estate acquisition and development with Related Cos. Projects include the Hilton West Palm Beach, the reimagination of Rosemary Square, and the development of the 360 Rosemary office building in West Palm Beach.

Birthplace: Bronx, New York

Education: B.S., mathematics, Cornell University; Master's degree, real estate, Columbia University

First car: Nissan Pathfinder

Childhood hero: Michael Jordan

I'd like to learn how to: Draw

Favorite decade: 1990s

Favorite smartphone app: Nest Smarthome

Favorite movie director: Satyajit Ray

Last book I read: "The Little Book of Lykke: Secrets of the World's Happiest People" by Meik Wiking

Favorite author: Salman Rushdie

Favorite sport: Running

[www.related.com](http://www.related.com), [sjofeczyk@related.com](mailto:sjofeczyk@related.com)

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### **Brent Reynolds**

CEO and managing partner, Nolan Reynolds International

Coral Gables

Reynolds is primarily responsible for the firm's strategic growth and development activities. He identifies and creates opportunities that are aligned with the company's strategic plan of acquiring, financing, planning, permitting and developing high-value developments. His exposure to a wide variety of project types, as well as various kinds of regulatory obstacles, makes him adept at integrating the company's operations into new markets quickly and efficiently. He was previously the acquisitions and development manager with UBC and a project manager for Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.

Education: B.S., engineering and finance, University of Delaware

[www.rninternational.com](http://www.rninternational.com), [info@rninternational.com](mailto:info@rninternational.com), 305-529-9928

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### **Matthew Rieger**

President and CEO, Housing Trust Group

Miami

Housing Trust Group has developed more than 4,000 units of multifamily housing and completed real estate transactions of more than \$2 billion in commercial, land and residential developments across Florida, the southeastern U.S. and Arizona.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: B.A., geography, University of Florida; J.D., Nova Southeastern University

First car: 1965 Ford Mustang convertible

Childhood hero: Larry Bird

I'd like to learn how to: Break par

Favorite decade: 2010s

Favorite smartphone app: Audible

Favorite TV network: Golf Channel

Favorite season and location: Summer in the mountains

Favorite movie director: Wes Anderson

I'd like to have drinks with: Howard Stern

[www.htgf.com](http://www.htgf.com), [info@htgf.com](mailto:info@htgf.com), 305-860-8188

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### **Craig Robins**

President and CEO, Dacra; co-founder, Design Miami

Miami

Robins is an entrepreneur, real estate developer and art collector. He founded Dacra in 1987 and focuses on developing creative communities like the Miami Design District, which integrate art, design and architecture to accelerate asset value and enrich urban life.

Birthplace: Miami Beach

Education: B.A., University of Michigan; J.D., University of Miami

First car: Old VW Bug convertible

Childhood hero: Muhammad Ali

I'd like to learn how to: Kitesurf

Favorite decade: Not the '20s

Favorite smartphone app: Reminders

Favorite TV network: I only watch NBC Nightly News

Favorite season and location: Spring or fall on the Grand Canyon

Favorite book genre: All types of nonfiction

Favorite movie director: Quentin Tarantino

Time travel: Past or future? I like the present

I'd like to have drinks with: Moses

[www.dacra.com](http://www.dacra.com), 305-531-8700

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### **Rafael J. Roca Jr.**

Division president, Southeast Florida, DR Horton

Coconut Creek

Roca heads the regional division of South Florida's second-largest homebuilder, with 848 housing starts as of June 2019, up from 697 the year prior. Founded in 1978 in Fort Worth, Texas, the company today builds homes from New Jersey to Hawaii and south to Florida.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: Bachelor's degree, Florida International University

Favorite city: Miami

Guilty pleasure: Dessert

Bucket list: Seeing more of Europe

Favorite drink: Red wine

Favorite sport: Football

[www.drhorton.com](http://www.drhorton.com), [rroca@drhoton.com](mailto:rroca@drhoton.com), 954-949-3000

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### **Gian Rodriguez**

Managing principal, Cushman & Wakefield

Miami and Fort Lauderdale

Since joining Cushman & Wakefield in 2011, Rodriguez has represented such landlords and property owners as Bridge Development Partners, Principal Financial Group, Bristol Group, Duke Realty, CenterPoint Properties, Terranova and Terra Group, and industrial users including AnsaldoBreda (now Hitachi Rail), Red Bull Distribution Co., Towne Air Freight and Agro Engineering.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: B.A., public relations, University of Florida

First car: A beaming, beige 1985 Dodge Aries K Car

Childhood hero: Dan Marino

Favorite decade: The late '90s and early 2000s

Favorite TV network: HBO

Favorite season and location: Winter in Miami

Time travel: Past or future? Future

I'd like to have drinks with: Tiger Woods

[www.cushmanwakefield.com](http://www.cushmanwakefield.com), 305-371-4411, [gian.rodriguez@cushwake.com](mailto:gian.rodriguez@cushwake.com)

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### **Stephanie Rodriguez**

VP, leasing and development, Duke Realty

Fort Lauderdale

Rodriguez is responsible for the leasing of 8.5 million square feet of industrial property in South Florida, as well as identifying new development opportunities in the market. She currently is president of NAIOP South Florida and is a member of the CIASF board of directors.

Birthplace: Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania

Education: B.A., political science and Russian area studies, Pennsylvania State University

I'd like to learn how to: Improve my photography skills

Favorite decade: The '90s

Favorite smartphone app: Instagram

Favorite season and location: Late summer in Utah

Favorite book genre: Historical fiction

Last concert attended: Chris Stapleton and Brothers Osborne

Bucket list: Machu Picchu, Peru

[www.dukerealty.com/markets/south-florida](http://www.dukerealty.com/markets/south-florida), [stephanie.rodriguez@dukerealty.com](mailto:stephanie.rodriguez@dukerealty.com), 954-453-5671

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### **Alex Rosemurgy**

CEO, Rosemurgy Properties

Boca Raton

Rosemurgy leads the privately owned commercial real estate development, investment and management firm. Portfolio assets include multifamily, self-storage, retail, office and undeveloped land. The company is nearing completion of Uptown Boca, which includes 180,000 square feet of retail and 456 luxury apartments.

Birthplace: Fort Lauderdale



Education: Florida State University

Favorite smartphone app: Do Not Disturb

Favorite TV network: CNBC

Favorite movie director: Guy Ritchie

Time travel: Past or future? Future

Favorite meal: Stone crabs or conch salad (only in the Bahamas)

Favorite movie: "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"

Favorite season and location: Summers in Colorado

[www.roseurgyproperties.com](http://www.roseurgyproperties.com), [aroseurgy@roseurgyproperties.com](mailto:aroseurgy@roseurgyproperties.com), 561-299-3305

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### **Pike Rowley**

Managing director, Florida, Avison Young

Fort Lauderdale

Rowley helped originate and grow Avison Young Florida from 25 people in one office to 200 people in seven offices. He oversees South Florida's eighth-largest commercial real estate broker, with \$1.04 billion in sum sales/lease volume. Prior to his current post, Rowley was president of Flagler Real Estate Services.

Birthplace: Coral Gables

Education: Clemson University

First car: 1963 Volvo station wagon

Childhood crush: Former state and national tennis champion Laurie Fleming, who I married 45 years ago

I'd like to learn how to: Think like a millennial

Favorite decade: The '60s

Favorite smartphone app: Google Maps

Favorite TV network: ESPN

Favorite book genre: Fiction

Favorite movie director: Steven Spielberg

Favorite restaurant: The Smokin' Pig in Clemson, South Carolina

I'd like to have drinks with: Greg Martin

[pike.rowley@avisonyoung.com](mailto:pike.rowley@avisonyoung.com), 954-903-1796

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### **Jaime Saavedra**

VP and general manager, Turner Construction Co.

Miami

Saavedra joined Turner's Miami office as a field engineer in 2000, serving as superintendent, cost engineer, project engineer and, eventually, manager of preconstruction services, manager of the special projects division, and business manager for Miami's main office. He was named to his current role in 2017.

Birthplace: Nicaragua

Education: B.S., building construction, University of Florida

First car: Honda Civic

I'd like to learn how to: Build a car engine

Favorite decade: 1990s

Favorite smartphone app: SFBJ

Favorite professional development book: "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen R. Covey

I'd like to have drinks with: Bill Gates

[www.turnerconstructioncompany.com](http://www.turnerconstructioncompany.com), [jsaavedra@tcco.com](mailto:jsaavedra@tcco.com), 786-621-9062

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### **Dan Schauer**

Senior principal geologist, national manager of construction services, Geosyntec Consultants

West Palm Beach

Schauer joined the firm in 1988, bringing experience in geology, geotechnical engineering, environmental assessment and materials testing, adapting his skills to the firm's rapidly construction services practice. In his current post, he has extended Geosyntec's project execution approach to the company's construction services portfolio and facilitated entry into new growth markets.

Education: B.S., geology, University of Florida

[www.geosyntec.com](http://www.geosyntec.com), [contact@geosyntec.com](mailto:contact@geosyntec.com), 866-676-1101

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### **Ryan Shear**

Managing partner, PMG

Miami

Shear manages the development of a growing real estate portfolio with over \$10 billion in assets. He oversees acquisitions, financing, construction, design, marketing, sales and operations, focusing on new residential high-rises in the urban cores of Miami, New York, Orlando, Phoenix and Denver.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: B.A., Goizueta School of Business, Emory University

First car: '96 Ford Mustang

Childhood hero: Chris Farley

I'd like to learn how to: Place commas, correctly

Favorite decade: I'll always be a '90s kid

Bucket list: Finding a good woman to start a family

Favorite restaurant: Anywhere serving chili on a ski mountain

I'd like to have drinks with: Barack Obama

[www.propertymg.com](http://www.propertymg.com), [info@propertymg.com](mailto:info@propertymg.com), 305-917-1070

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### **Ron Shuffield**

President, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices EWM Realty

Coral Gables

Shuffield heads a real estate brokerage with 900 associates and staff across 10 offices in South Florida. He was named 2015 Business Leader of the Year by the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, and 2013 Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Power Leader of the Year.

Birthplace: Malvern, Arkansas

Education: B.S.B.A., University of Tennessee, Knoxville

[www.ewm.com](http://www.ewm.com), [shuffield@ewm.com](mailto:shuffield@ewm.com), 305-960-2525

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### **Scott Skidelsky**

President, Florida, Balfour Beatty

Fort Lauderdale

A former lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps, Skidelsky was named to his post in 2017. In 2019, he led the Florida business to \$550 million in revenue and over \$1 billion in new contracts.

Birthplace: Chicago

Education: B.S., general engineering, University of Illinois

Favorite season and location: Winter in Fort Lauderdale

Last book I read: "The Ride of a Lifetime" by Robert Iger

Last concert attended: 2019 Tortuga Music Festival

Guilty pleasure: Running along Las Olas Boulevard and Fort Lauderdale Beach

Favorite author: W.E.B. Griffin

Favorite restaurant: Jackson's Prime in Fort Lauderdale

[www.balfourbeattyus.com](http://www.balfourbeattyus.com), [sskidelsky@balfourbeattyus.com](mailto:sskidelsky@balfourbeattyus.com), 954-585-4000

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### **Jackie Soffer**

Chairman and CEO, Turnberry

Aventura

Soffer's real estate development group specializes in retail, hospitality, residential and commercial projects, including Aventura Mall, Solé Mia and a hotel connected to the Miami Beach Convention Center.

Birthplace: Miami

Education: B.A., Italian, University of Colorado

www.turnberry.com, 305-937-6200

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### **Jeff Soffer**

Chairman and CEO, Fontainebleau Development

Aventura

Soffer heads the development company whose properties and projects include the Fontainebleau Miami Beach, the region's largest hotel, as well as the JW Marriott Miami Turnberry Resort & Spa and Turnberry Ocean Club Residences, the latter two under licenses to use the Turnberry name. Soffer also owns the Big Easy Casino in Hallandale Beach.

Birthplace: Miami

www.fbdev.com, 305-937-6262

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### **Barry S. Sternlicht**

Chairman and CEO, Starwood Capital Group; chairman, Starwood Property Trust

Miami Beach

Sternlicht heads the private alternative investment firm he formed in 1991. Starwood Capital Group focuses on global real estate, hotel management, oil and gas, and energy infrastructure. As chairman of Starwood Property Trust, he oversees the largest commercial mortgage REIT in the U.S. He also is a board member of Invitation Homes, the largest publicly traded investor, owner and operator of single-family homes in the U.S. He has founded or grown Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, a leading global hotel and leisure company; W Hotels; and St. Regis Hotels. SH Group, his new hotel management company, owns and manages the Baccarat Hotels & Resorts and 1 Hotels brands.

Birthplace: New York

Education: B.A., Brown University; MBA, Harvard Business School

www.starwoodcapital.com, 305-695-5200

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### **Ken Stiles**

CEO, Stiles

Fort Lauderdale

Stiles leads the region's seventh-largest general contractor, the fifth-largest commercial real estate developer, the 12th-largest commercial real estate brokerage, and 24th-largest private company.

Birthplace: Fort Lauderdale

Education: Elon University

First car: Ford Explorer

Childhood hero: My father, Terry

Favorite decade: 2000s

Favorite smartphone app: Zoom

Favorite movie director: Quentin Tarantino

Last concert attended: Tortuga Music Festival

Bucket list: Fish the Great Barrier Reef for black marlin

Favorite restaurant: alette in Healdsburg, California

Favorite sports: Football, rugby and golf

www.stiles.com, kenneth.stiles@stiles.com, 954-627-9137

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### **Craig S. Studnicky**

Founder and CEO, International Sales Group

Miami

Studnicky heads the integrated luxury real estate sales and marketing firm representing properties throughout South Florida. He manages over 600 licensed agents, selling to clients throughout the U.S., South America, Asia and Europe. The company has marketed and sold more than \$16 billion in luxury properties across more than 125 buildings over the last 25 years.

Birthplace: Newark, New Jersey

Education: Virginia Tech

First car: Toyota Celica

Childhood crush: Lisa Hurley (in the first grade)

I'd like to learn how to: Speak fluent Spanish

Favorite decade: 2000-2009

Favorite smartphone app: Instagram

Favorite movie director: Steven Spielberg

Last concert attended: Pink Floyd

Favorite drink: Single malt Scotch

www.isgworld.com, craig@isgworld.com, 305-931-6511

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### **James D. Tate**

President and co-owner, Tate Capital

North Miami

Tate's latest projects include the development and \$92 million sale of Allure, a 282-unit luxury multifamily project, and the acquisition of the Bahia Mar hotel and marina. Tate has developed, acquired, owned and operated over a \$1 billion in multifamily, office, industrial, hotel and commercial real estate.

Birthplace: Miami Beach

Education: B.A., economics, University of Florida

First car: Black Ford LTD II

Childhood hero: My father, Stanley G. Tate

I'd like to learn how to: Fly a jet

Favorite smartphone app: Waze

Favorite season and location: Summer in the North Carolina mountains

Favorite movie director: Martin Scorsese

I'd like to have drinks with: Warren Buffett and Mark Cuban

[www.tatecapital.com](http://www.tatecapital.com), [jimmy@tatecapital.com](mailto:jimmy@tatecapital.com), 305-891-1107, ext. 202

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### **Michael C. Taylor**

President and CEO, Current Builders

Pompano Beach

Taylor joined Current Builders in 1982 following graduation. Today, he leads the region's eighth-largest general contractor and construction company, with \$247 million in 2019 gross billings.

Birthplace: Chicago

Education: Bachelor's degree, construction management, University of Florida

First car: 1966 Dodge Dart

Childhood hero: Batman

I'd like to learn how to: Play the piano

Favorite decade: 1970s

Favorite smartphone app: Wine Searcher

Favorite TV network: Food Network

Favorite season and location: Fall in Napa Valley

I'd like to have drinks with: Winston Churchill

[www.currentbuilders.com](http://www.currentbuilders.com), [mtaylor@currentbuilders.com](mailto:mtaylor@currentbuilders.com), 954-977-4211

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### **Pete Tuffo**

President, Suffolk

Miami

Tuffo has grown Suffolk's work in the region to annual revenue exceeding \$800 million, with notable projects including the Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood Hotel & Casino expansion, PortMiami Terminal A, and Ritz-Carlton Residences.

Birthplace: Rochester, New York

Education: B.S., construction management, Western Michigan University

First car: Dodge Daytona

Childhood hero: My father

I'd like to learn how to: Play guitar

Favorite decade: The '90s

Favorite smartphone app: Zillow

Favorite TV network: ESPN

Favorite season and location: Fall in the Northeast

Favorite book genre: Historical

Favorite movie director: Martin Scorsese

[www.suffolk.com](http://www.suffolk.com), 305-374-1107

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### **Santiago Vanegas**

Founder, president and CEO, Habitat Development

Miami

Vanegas leads a company with almost two decades of real estate experience. Habitat is developing Smart Brickell, overseeing the vision, direction, development and overall marketing for the project. The company also has developed four boutique hotels: Habitat Residence 1, Habitat Residence 2, the Miami River Hotel and the Jefferson Hotel. The company will develop the Smart Brickell Hotel.

Education: Master's degree, economics, Universidad del Rosario

[www.habitatgroup.com](http://www.habitatgroup.com), 786-577-4394

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### **David Wantman**

CEO, WGI

West Palm Beach

Wantman leads a firm with more than 600 associates in 18 offices in six

states. A leader in technology-based solutions for public infrastructure construction and real estate development, it makes significant capital investments to provide tomorrow's infrastructure solutions today.

Birthplace: New York

Education: B.S., engineering, University of Florida

First car: Ford Bronco

Childhood hero: President Ronald Reagan

I'd like to learn how to: Relax and sleep

Favorite TV network: CNBC

Favorite season and location: Winter in Colorado, summer in Florida

Favorite book genre: Fiction

Favorite movie director: Francis Ford Coppola

[www.wginc.com](http://www.wginc.com), [david.wantman@wginc.com](mailto:david.wantman@wginc.com), 561-687-2220

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**Nick Wigoda**

Executive managing director, Newmark Knight Frank

Miami

In 2012, Wigoda had the idea of turning the former Westview Golf course (back nine) into a master-planned industrial/business park that is now called Eastview Commerce Center. Tenants began occupying space the park last year at the completion of the sixth building.

First car: Isuzu Trooper

Childhood crush: Daryl Hannah in "Splash"

I'd like to learn how to: Be fluent in Spanish

Favorite decade: 1990s

Favorite smartphone app: Waze

Favorite TV network: Whatever my teenage kids allow me to watch with them

Favorite season and location: January in Miami, February in the Colorado mountains

Favorite book genre: History

Favorite movie director: Ethan Coen

Time travel: Past or future? Both

I'd like to have drinks with: Winston Churchill

[www.ngkf.com](http://www.ngkf.com), [nick.wigoda@ngkf.com](mailto:nick.wigoda@ngkf.com), 305-982-4110

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**Bernard Zyscovich**

Founder and CEO, Zyscovich

Miami

Zyscovich is an award-winning architect who is internationally recognized as a leader in holistic master planning and Real Urbanism. In 2016, he won an AIA Miami Award of Merit in Urban Design for Plan Z for Miami, an initiative to reimagine the Rickenbacker Causeway.

Birthplace: Philadelphia

Education: Miami Dade College; Università di Architettura; Pratt Institute

First car: Ford Falcon

Childhood hero: I wanted to be Superman

I'd like to learn how to: Play jazz piano

Favorite decade: The 1960s

Favorite TV networks: BBC, NPR and Netflix

Favorite local sports team: Miami Heat

In a movie, I'd be played by: Harvey Keitel



Favorite movie: "The Big Lebowski"

[www.zyscovich.com](http://www.zyscovich.com), [info@zyscovich.com](mailto:info@zyscovich.com), 305-372-5222

**Jeff Zbar**

Correspondent

*South Florida Business Journal*

