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# Palm Beach Daily News

THE LEADER IN COVERING THE ISLAND



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## Big assessment for Trump club

Mar-a-Lago, two adjacent houses to be billed at least \$489,525 for utilities burial project. and take about nine years to com-

By DARRELL HOFHEINZ Daily News Real Fistate Writer

President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago Club and two adjacent houses are being assessed a grand total of

just-launched project to bury utility project, a multi-year endeavor de-

being assessed \$449,564 as its share between \$90 million and \$92 million

\$489,525 to help pay for the town's of the so-called "undergrounding" signed to eliminate all overhead Under the town's lump-sum, pre- utility lines throughout the town. payment alternative, Mar-a-Lago is The controversial project will cost

plete, according to the most recent town estimates. Townwide property assessments will be used to repay the cost of municipal bonds that will

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Trump President bought the two houses in late 1993.

## **Permits** protect generosity

Town regulation means that groups sponsoring events on the island are held accountable.

By WILLIAM KELLY

Daily News Staff Writer

The departure of more than 20 charities from President Trump's Mar-a-Lago Club last week was, among other things, a reminder that Palm Beach is one of the philanthropic capitals of the world.

The town has a longstanding permit system that officials say is ultimately there to protect the residents whose generosity makes it all possible.

Palm Beach "is unique and it is an attractive community in which to so-

licit funds," Town At-Groups that left Mar-a-Lago torney John expected to make millions. Randolph said. "That

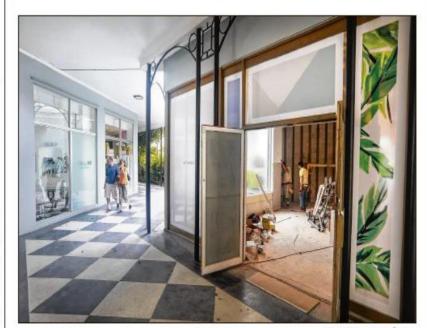
Council years ago, and town councils since, have felt it necessary to enact these regulations."

the Town

The town has regulated charity events since at least the early 1960s. Regulations allow individuals or or-

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#### A DOZEN MORE TENANTS COMING



Bruce R. Bennett / Daily News

Construction workers remodel a space in the Royal Poinciana Plaza on Friday afternoon as visitors walk past. The plaza's management team says the historic shopping center is 95 percent leased with just two spaces still available.

### Plaza brimming with businesses

By ALEESE KOPF

Daily News Staff Writer

Poinciana Plaza are almost fully occupied as the historic its first full season since be-

Operators of the plaza an-Storefronts at the Royal 12 businesses are planning to two spaces left, according to open this fall, including a local organic market and a loshopping center prepares for cal wine academy. Including opportunity and the right the several luxury brands an-location," said Alex Celis, a

nounced last spring and the co-owner of Celis Produce, a existing tenants, the plaza is nounced last week a wave of 95 percent leased with just juice bar. the management team.

"It's all about the right

boutique organic market and

Celis and his brothers, Felipe and Camilo, currently

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#### PLAZA

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operate a store on South Dixie Highway in West Palm Beach. He said they couldn't pass on a chance

to expand to the island.

"There's a lot of opportunity to grow on the is-land," Celis said. "With the north bridge opening up, all of the interesting things happen-ing at the Royal ...

it's a really good destination spot like Worth Avenue during season. It's going to be an all-day event, a place where you can eat, grab snacks, hang out."

Celis Produce offers juices, smoothies, acai bowls and organic produce. The business also sells curated, healthy grocery and pantry items. Celis said he plans to open in October in the former Gucci location. The brothers are working on a special Guoci-themed smoothie or bowl, Celis said. Virginia Philip Wine, Spirits & Academy also will be joining the plaza. Philip, who has a home on the island, was the 11th woman in the world to earn master sommelier status in 2002 and since then has won numerous awards. She's currently wine director at The Breakers

Philip's island academy will be similar to her location in downtown West Palm Beach, offering top wines from around the globe as well as tastings, lectures and education. The island store also will offer liquor and spirits, Philip

"I think Palm Beach makes sense," said Philip, whose sister, Veronica Bauer, also lives in town. "It matches my brand. And The Royal is fantastic. It's a beautiful plaza. It's historical. We're really looking forward to capturing business on both sides of the bridge."

Other brands to open this fall include:

Saint Laurent - A luxury French fashion house offering women's and men's dothes, ready-to-wear leather goods, shoes, jewelry and eyewear.

Magasin - A men's fashion boutique that offers a variety of luxury brands as well as custom pieces.

Maris Collective luxury retail store found in hotels and resorts around the world, including the Four Seasons.

Valentina Kova - An American fashion designer of luxury ready-to-wear women's clothing and fine jewelry.

Cynthia Rowley - An American fashion designer whose Palm Beach collection will focus on whimsical surfwear, casual sunwear and fitness apparel.

St. Frank - A luxury home decor company that

sells chic and cultivated textiles and home goods created by artisans from around the world. The

Vespa iconic, Italian-made motor scooter company.

Paul Labrecque Salon - A

energy. It's going to be a full-service hair, makeup, nail and skincare salon that began in the Upper West side of New York City.

Phillip

Big Flower - A casual resortwear brand founded in East Hampton, N.Y.

Theory — A New York-based men's and women's contemporary fashion label that sells dothes and accessories.

"We dreamed of this list." said Samantha David, chief operating officer at WS Development and head of Up Markets, a division of WS, which owns and manages the plaza. "This list embodies fun, it embodies energy, it embodies new and different, it embodies all of the ingredients of the perfect Palm Beach day."

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