



COURTESY

This Miami penthouse is listed for \$8.5 million. The 10,663-square-foot, two-story unit on the 51st floor of Biscayne Beach Residences has 5 bedrooms, 5 full and two half baths, 14-foot ceilings, a private elevator, sauna and a private rooftop deck with pool and summer kitchen. It also has 6 parking spaces. Thom Filicia designed the interiors to bring the style of the Hamptons to the shores of Biscayne Bay.

## Penthouse designed by ‘Queer Eye’ interior design pro

BY ROBYN A. FRIEDMAN

A newly completed \$8.5 million Miami penthouse has a celebrity connection. The unit was designed by Thom Filicia, the interior design expert on the hit show “Queer Eye for the Straight Guy.”

The 10,663-square-foot, two-story penthouse is on the 51st floor at Biscayne Beach Residences, a 51-story condominium project. Filicia designed the interiors of the project to bring the chic bohemian style of the Hamptons to the shores of Biscayne Bay.

“The inspiration behind the styling of the Biscayne Beach penthouse was to connect the subtle serenity of waterfront living with the vibrant energy of Miami’s urban spirit,” Filicia said.

“By blending a soft color palate and natural elements with a dynamic mix of texture and patterns that are both raw and refined, we created an environment that is bold and

### PRIME PROPERTY

A look at South Florida’s high-end real estate

sophisticated, yet inviting and approachable.”

The unit has five bedrooms, five full and two half baths, 14-foot ceilings, a private elevator, sauna and a private rooftop deck with a pool and summer kitchen. It comes with six parking spaces.

“There’s no other unit this size in Edgewater, downtown or Brickell,” said Karen Elmir, a real estate agent with Cervera Real Estate in Miami. “It’s wonderful to offer buyers a perfectly appointed, never-before-lived-in penthouse that is ready for immediate occupancy.”

Biscayne Beach Residences features an on-site beach club complete with bayfront pool and man-made beach.

It also has a sixth-floor amenity level with two tennis courts, a second pool and hot

tub, basketball court, summer kitchen and a residents’ dog park.

The building is in Miami’s Edgewater neighborhood, just north of downtown. “It’s the new upcoming area,” Elmir said. “You’re minutes from Miami Beach and the airport and close to the Design District, Wynwood and downtown Miami.”

The \$8.5 million asking price includes the furniture, but if the buyer wants to purchase the unit without it, the price is negotiable, Elmir said.

According to Filicia’s website, he is the founder of New York City-based design firm Thom Filicia Inc. and has worked with Tina Fey and Jennifer Lopez, among other clients. He was named one of the “Top 100 Designers” by House Beautiful.

He also operates a to-the-trade showroom, called Sedgwick & Brattle, featuring products from the Thom Filicia Home Collection.

# SunSentinel MONEY

## Improperly installed antennas may start fire

By RON HURTBISE

Outdoor antennas that aren't properly installed can attract lightning into your home and start a fire. They can also indirectly attract voltage from nearby lightning strikes that can fry your TV and other electronics, experts say. DirectTV and U-verse customers might be tempted to buy an outdoor antenna to pull in Miami's CBS affiliate, WFOR-TV, 4. The channel has been blacked out on those systems since July 17 due to a dispute over programming fees. When the channel will return is anyone's guess. Each entity has warned the dispute could last into the NFL season, Miami Dolphins

season games begin in September. The most effective way to pull in all available local channels is to install an outdoor antenna, just like during the pre-cable days. Prices start at \$20 online and at big-box retailers. When antennas are installed correctly, grounding provides lightning or other electricity that enters the antenna with a safe, low-resistance path into the earth. According to the website antennas-junkies.com, "Without this path, lightning will find another way to get to the earth [and] that could be through your antenna cable and/or even worse, your house." If lightning sends electricity

into an outdoor antenna, the current has to go somewhere. If it's not grounded, the current will follow its easiest available path — through the antenna's coaxial cable, through the exterior wall of your house, then into your TV and possibly anything connected to it, such as a satellite receiver, DVR, stereo receiver, speakers, and onward. Grounding won't safely divert current that enters a house in the event of a rare direct lightning strike. Nothing can prevent havoc in that event, and every summer brings news reports of lightning striking homes through rooftop



When using an outdoor antenna, spitting the signal to reach multiple TVs could cause a drop in image quality.

See ANTENNAS, 2D

### DOREEN'S DEALS

## Spa and restaurant deals run through Sept. 30

Sunnyorg's spa and restaurant month is truly a double delight this year.

We all can renew and relax, dine and save as the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau kicks off deals Aug. 1-Sept. 30. Last year, the offers were only available in September. See the deals at Sunny-

org. The annual spa fest offers 50 percent savings on luxurious treatments at

50 Broward County's most exclusive spas. Most services are priced at

\$99. Gratuity is not included. Go to Sunnyorg.com. Choose from massages and reflexology, facials, manicures and pedicures, and wraps. Some offers also include add-on services for an extra fee, and free access to hotel amenities, private pools, relaxation rooms, saunas and steam rooms, so plan to stay and settle in.

Options include a full body massage with bonus foot and scalp massage for \$99 at The Spa at Lago Mar Beach Resort & Club in Fort Lauderdale. Or, opt for a trendy CBD herbalistic ritual manicure and pedicure at the newly upgraded Diplomat Spa in Hollywood. The 50-minute session is \$99. It includes access to the resort's pool, so bring your suit to show off your freshly painted fingertips and toes.

Other palaces that pamper on the list include the A-Laya Spa at the Bonaventure Resort & Spa, Karma Seven Day Spa in Plantation, Spa Atlantic at the Atlantic Hotel, St. Somewhere Spa at the Margaritaville Hollywood Beach Resort and Mynd Spa and Salon (the newly rebranded Red Door Salon & Spa) at the Galleria Fort Lauderdale.

But wait! There's more. Miami Spa Month continues its second month of \$109 deals through Aug. 31 with more than 45 participating spas. See the offers, sponsored by the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, at MiamiSpaMonth.com/offers/temptations.

Now, let's eat. Sunnyorg's two-month dining fest features more than 65 participating restaurants during Greater Fort Lauderdale Restaurant Month. Try some of the area's finest eateries and nibble on specially created three-course meals starting at \$35 through Sept. 30. Gratuity is not included and reservations are recommended.

Carnivores can get their fix at Fort Lauderdale steakhouses Jackson's Prime, The Capital Grille, Morton's and Steak 954. The Boathouse at the Riverside Hotel, Doc De's, Vienna Wine Bar, Spazio and Cafe Maxx also are participating. So many choices. I love trying new restaurants during this promotion, but making a decision can be daunting. To stretch your dining dollars, our dining critic wisely suggests trying expensive or scenic restaurants where meals

See DEALS, 3D



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## Niche stores may be coming

Region recently lost major chains such as Sears and Kmart

By MARCIA HEROUX POUNDS

There's a saying that "when one door closes, another opens." In retail, it's true.

If you live in South Florida, you may have noticed that some major chain stores such as Sears and Kmart leaving your neighborhood. At the same time, you could see new stores popping up, some with less familiar names such as Aldi and TruFoods.

Nationally, large stores are closing, "but there's just as many, if not more, stores opening," said Katy Welsh, senior director for Colliers International, a real estate and investment management company with South Florida offices.

"The general public says, 'Oh no, another store closing!' But we look at it as 'thank goodness.' Look at how much more money the shopping center is going to make with that space," Welsh said.

Zach Winkler, retail lead in South Florida for commercial real estate services firm Jones Lang LaSalle, agrees. "People like to talk about the doom and gloom. But when I look at the numbers, it's telling the opposite story. There are new concepts."

Gyms, schools, urgent care centers, grocery stores, theaters, sports complexes and day care centers are leasing spaces once occupied by former Sears and other stores, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers in New York.

South Florida also is seeing different types of stores opening in strip malls. These include discount stores, smaller grocers, medical marijuana dispensaries and clinics, and fitness centers and game rooms, experts say.

Welsh said the tri-county region is attractive to retailers because of its year-round shopping and robust tourism. "Compared to the rest of the country, we have a strong market," Welsh said.

See STORES, 3D

## Top Workplace nominations being accepted

By DAVID LYONS

For the sixth consecutive year, the South Florida Sun Sentinel is inviting people to nominate their employers for the Top Workplaces awards.

The recognition gives companies and nonprofit organizations a chance to boost employee engagement, attract and retain top talent and transform the workplace culture. More often than not, it means maintaining policies that recognize employee achievement, placing trust in what they do and giving meaningful consideration to their ideas.

"Top Workplaces put the employee at the center of things and focus on creating the right environment to unleash potential and inspire performance," said Doug Claffey, CEO of Energage of Philadelphia, the Sun Sen-

tinel's research partner for Top Workplaces.

In 2000, it was management guru Peter Drucker who said, "Culture eats strategy for breakfast." That statement is even truer today.

The researchers at Energage have observed that we now work in a world where the best culture wins, not the best strategy. The business world is evolving so quickly that strategy or market position alone will no longer protect a business. It is only an engaged workforce and a vibrant workplace culture that will allow an organization to thrive.

### Last year's winners

Last year, the Sun Sentinel invited nearly 35,000 employees in South Florida to help identify the best places to work. Nearly

13,000 employees were surveyed, and 71 employers stood out on the Top Workplaces list.

The program is divided into three categories according to the number of people employed in the tri-county region. Small organizations have fewer than 125 employees in South Florida; midsize have 125-399; large have 400-plus.

The top-rated employers are honored in front of their peers during an awards luncheon.

For its efforts last year, the InterContinental Miami hotel won the large company category, mainly for placing high levels of trust in employees who serve the hotel's guests. For Jamal Samad, a loss prevention supervisor, management's faith keeps his attitude on the job.

"For me, it's all about the cul-

See AWARDS, 2D

