



e-newsletter



Coral Gables Country Club reopens in grand style

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Above: Mayor Don Slesnick, Creative Director Nadia Di Donato and Liberty President Nick Di Donato preside over the ribbon cutting.



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BY ONELIA COLLAZO MENDIVE / GABLESHOMEPAGE.COM

DEC 02 2010

The newly restored Coral Gables Country Club celebrated its reopening in grand style on Tuesday, Nov. 30 as approximately 1,000 people attended the festivities and got a look at the renovations.

The renovations cost \$3 million, according Stacey Hawkins, marketing manager, Liberty Entertainment Group. Liberty president Nick Di Donato and wife Nadia Di Donato welcomed Coral Gables residents, South Florida community members and

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Canadian guests to the opening launch party. Nadia Di Donato, Creative Director – Liberty Entertainment Group, oversaw the new look of the club.

On hand to celebrate the occasion were Coral Gables Mayor Don Slesnick, Vice-Mayor Bill Kerdyk, Commissioners Maria Anderson, Wayne E. "Chip" Withers and Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera.

Coral Gables Chamber Chair John O'Rourke and chamber President & CEO Mark Trowbridge presented Liberty president Nick Di Donato with a proclamation commemorating the official reopening of the country club.

Art, live music, dancing and champagne kept the guests entertained as they toured the newly redone club.

On display at the reopening was a free public art exhibit of works by Salvador Dali and other masters that will continue to be open to the public Dec. 2-5 to coincide with Art Basel Miami Beach.

The facility is now open to the public and does not require a membership. The venue is available for weddings as well as other social and corporate events.

In addition to the event space the Country Club houses the Liberty Caffe and the Coral Gables Athletic Club.

The Toronto-based Liberty Entertainment Group took over in June 2009 and signed a 30-year lease to run the historic, city-owned club built in 1924. It had been closed since April 2008 after the previous management Granada LLC stopped paying its monthly \$22,500 loan payment for over a year. The club's Liberty Caffé opened to the public in May and the athletic club opened in July.

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Superlative, avant garde, news coverage!

Submitted by [holmesrip2](#) on December 8, 2010.

Dear Reporter Collazo Mendive, Photographer Alvarez, and Gables Home Page Readers:



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I am thrilled that we have our wonderful, publicly owned, and publicly accessible, brilliantly managed (by the Liberty Entertainment Group), Coral Gables Country Club open to us again, thanks to Nick DiDonato and company.

I must say that, regretting as I do having missed the opening, I am grateful to the reporter and photographer for excellent, user-friendly, coverage of the Grand Opening.

I am as lazy as anyone, and looking at the many photos, and watching the You Tube speech by Mr. DiDonato, made learning about what I missed extremely easy. THANK YOU!

Having gone to the Country Club in the past couple days, I am even more impressed by the extraordinary glass wall which Mr. DiDonato made after demolishing the former concrete wall. Now that is innovation and BEAUTY!

Likewise, poor as I am, I am also tremendously impressed by the INEXPENSIVE MEALS AT LIBERTY CAFFE.

Honestly, I cannot afford most restaurants, but I can afford Liberty Caffe's prices -- under \$5.00 always -- for great pizzas, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Likewise the breakfasts I'm looking forward to taking my fiancee and her daughter to.

Aren't we lucky to be a part of Mr. DiDonato's family!

Sincerely,

Jackson Rip Holmes

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