



**Community Appearance Board  
WOW Award Winner  
July 2012**

**John and Jannifer Cohen  
1300 Southwest 19 Street  
Fort Lauderdale**

***River Oaks Association -- Commissioner Romney Rogers – District IV***

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River Oaks is a beautiful downtown neighborhood adjacent to the New River on the east bank just before the river heads out west along Marina Mile. This community is home to some of the finest ship builders and outfitters in the Marine industry. That's how John and Jannifer Cohen met... both worked in the marine industry in the northeast United States. They decided to move to the "Yachting Capital of the World" - Fort Lauderdale - back in the late 70's. They first settled in Croissant Park, but quickly moved only a few blocks south and west to the stunning oak lined streets of River Oaks with a larger lot and house to start their family.

The location was perfect, close to the ocean, downtown and the marine folks. They could not find anything they liked better than this spacious corner home that rests on two and a half lots completely canopied in live oaks. In 1984, they adopted their son Michael and made River Oaks their permanent home.

That's when they started the civic association for River Oaks along with 8-10 neighbors to address neighborhood issues. They would meet at each other's homes and created the logo for the association. Quickly, more and more neighbors joined in and they had to move their meetings to the neighborhood church.

The house has been continually improved over the years, inside and out, without changing the architectural charm of the early 50's prevalent throughout the neighborhood. Over the years they improved the landscape that started with just a few oaks and nothing else. They added a lovely cobblestone style driveway and painted the home with lively, but warm colors. Other not so noticeable but important upgrades include impact windows and doors.

Now that their son is grown, they have thought about buying elsewhere, but love the neighborhood and the large lot size, which can be difficult to find. This is one of the unique features of the neighborhood that has been retained during the years of development. Fort Lauderdale and River Oaks is their home!

The Fort Lauderdale City Commission and the Community Appearance Board proudly present the WOW Award for July 2012 to John and Jannifer Cohen and thank them for enhancing their neighborhood and the City of Fort Lauderdale.

We are pleased to present you both with a certificate of appreciation from the City Commission and a gift certificate from Kelly's Landing to celebrate the recognition.





