

US 41 medians' savior is Lutz's own Natural Designs

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By Debbie Carson, Staff Writer

LUTZ--The mystery company that offered to take care of Lutz's US 41 medians, and medians in Brandon, is no longer a secret. It's Natural Designs, located on Clement Road.

Owners Phil Petresky and Jim Rhodes have operated the landscaping and maintenance company for nearly 30 years on the quiet Lutz road. No signage in front of their building touts their existence.

Petresky said that he had read about the situation in the newspaper and wanted to help. He contacted the county about taking over the US 41 medians.

To save the county \$30,000 annually, the Public Works Department was searching for a private entity to step forward and take over the medians' care. If no such party could be found, the county would have uprooted much of the shrubs and trees in the medians and signed the median back over to the Florida Department of Transportation.

US 41 is a state-owned roadway, though it is maintained by the county.

For more about Natural Designs' plans for the medians, pick up the Sept. 17 edition of The News/Community News and The Laker.
