

## LOCAL BUSINESS

# Naples couple succeeds by minding their own business



By John Osborne, Daily News Correspondent

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How do you maintain a healthy relationship even when it's peppered with complex legal issues?

For one Naples couple, the answer is simple:

By minding their own business.

Real estate lawyer Steve Falk is shown in portrait at the office building that houses his business suite, Falk Law Firm, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2016 in Naples, Fla. (Corey Perrine/Staff)

Rhode Island native Dr. Reisha Brown is a veteran pediatrician who opened her own practice — Pediatric Associates of SWFL — at 1008 Goodlette Road in Naples on April Fools' Day 2015. Seasoned attorney Steve Falk founded his eponymous law firm on U.S. 41 North in December. When their powers combined on a blind date a couple of years ago, Brown said the rest was history.



Veteran pediatrician Dr. Reisha Brown opened a new practice, Pediatric Associates of SWFL, at 1008 Goodlette Road in Naples. (David Albers/Staff)

"I did everything wrong on that date," recalled Brown, who practiced medicine in New Jersey before moving to Southwest Florida in 2007. "I'd been on so many horrible blind dates before that one that I even showed up late for it. I thought that date would be just as bad as all the others."

But Brown said her expectations for the arranged meeting changed in an instant, noting that Falk had chosen to wait for her beneath a large oak tree in the outdoor courtyard of a popular local restaurant.



Veteran pediatrician Dr. Reisha Brown opened a new practice, Pediatric Associates of SWFL, at 1008 Goodlette

Road in Naples. (David Albers/Staff)

"I sort of came around a bend, and his green-blue eyes lit up when I first saw him," she said of the fateful day in question.

"The sun was shining brightly and when we looked at each other, we just smiled. That was the beginning of a particularly wonderful date."

A particularly long date, too, she added.

"My other passion is art, and when we were done eating I took him to some outdoor art shows they were having (in downtown Naples,)" she said of their post-lunch stroll. "It was one of the hottest days in March, but I dragged him to every open gallery and he didn't complain at all. The date lasted for hours, and we just had a fabulous time. That's when I knew he was the one."

Judging by the fact that the couple will celebrate their two-year wedding anniversary in June, Falk, a Connecticut native who moved to Naples in 1992, felt the exact same way.

"Everything about her," the real estate attorney answered when asked to describe his wife's most attractive qualities. "She's a wonderful person; a very fun person with a very bubbly personality. And of course she's absolutely beautiful as well."

Falk, who specializes in working with HOAs, said the fact that both he and his wife own their own businesses means the couple understands the challenges involved.

"We both know what it takes to succeed and to grow our own businesses, so we're very understanding of that sort of thing," he said. "And we still have plenty of time left over to enjoy doing things together. We're both beach people, so we love going to the beach. We also love working out together, going for walks and taking bicycle rides together. I can honestly say that our businesses haven't impacted our relationship negatively in any way."

Brown said much, rattling off a list of traits she found most attractive in her spouse.

"My husband is very sweet, very honest, very caring, very thoughtful and he's also a great listener," she said. "The other thing I really love about him is that he always wants me to be happy, so he will go out of his way to make sure that whatever we're doing is something we both enjoy. He's just great that way."

Longtime legal client Michael Bradfield said Falk's desire to please extends to his professional endeavors, as well.

"We've been clients for the better part of 15 years now, and Steve has always been an amazing person to work with," said Bradfield, general manager of Countryside Golf & Country Club in Naples. "He'd have to be for us to work with him so long. He's just a consummate professional who really knows his stuff."

What Falk perhaps knows best, he said, is how lucky he is to have found Brown.

"I couldn't be any happier than I am now," he said.

For more information, see [www.fawklawpa.com](http://www.fawklawpa.com) or call Pediatric Associates of Southwest Florida at 239-325-5437.



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