

SPRING 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holiday season has passed, and a new year is upon us. I can't believe my tenure as President is half over. I have enjoyed every moment and look forward to many more as we continue to move forward. The Alumni Board is full of enthusiasm as we continue to plan a variety of events for the membership.

For those who missed our December Holiday luncheon, it was tremendous. Thanks so much to our Program Committee for blending traditions of the past and our visit from Santa with new memories of the beautiful wreaths auctioned for the benefit of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Martin County.

Thanks also to those on the Board working to implement our new website. We have made good strides and are excited about the possibilities this new tool can provide the membership. Stay tuned for more details.

As for our signature program, Youth Leadership, the committee is presenting yet another sterling experience for young budding leaders of tomorrow. My thanks go out to all those who serve on the Youth Leadership Planning Committee.

The list of those to thank is really endless. The Board is comprised of dedicated leaders both as Alumni and throughout the community, and our membership is a select group of leaders that all share the common LEADERship experience.

As we move into the new year, let's remember the purpose of LEADERship Alumni: to support the LEADERship Martin County program; to provide educational and networking opportunities for our members; and to enhance community awareness of members by providing opportunities to evaluate and act on issues affecting Martin County.

I hope to see you all at one of our coming events.

~Mark Mathes



LEADERLINES

MARTIN COUNTY

Happy Holidays



Thanks to Santa aka Ed Bee, Main Elf'ete Francine Beckstead, our Wreath Auctioneer, Reed Hartman and the Christmas Party Planners, Janice Norman and Lisa Marshall, our holiday gathering was a huge success. We raised approximately \$1,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters and donated many unwrapped toys the White Doves Program. Word has it that even those in attendance who were a bit naughty in

2007 still received gifts from Santa. Thank you ALL for attending and for those who could not make it, keep your eyes out for the next bash. 2008 is sure to be a banner year for LEADERSHIP Alumni. We have great plans in store! Happy New Year.

LEADERLINES

MARTIN COUNTY



Martin Youth LEADERship CRIMINAL JUSTICE DAY

Another year of developing Martin County's future leaders has begun. Class 11 of Martin Youth LEADERship consists of 37 students from 5 different high schools, including the Pine School and the Clark Advanced Learning Center.

The 2nd session, Criminal Justice Day, took place in November. On November 13th, the members of the Martin County Youth LEADERship Class 11 were booked into the Martin County Jail on charges of being future leaders in their community. During Criminal Justice Day, the students toured the Courthouse, met with Judges, Prosecutors and Defenders and learned how the court system works, they then traveled to the Martin County Sheriff's Department training center where they learned the types of split

second decisions that our police officers must make each day. During the session lunch break, an inmate from the Martin County Jail came and spoke with the students to encourage them to make smart choices after which they were "booked" into the jail for a tour of the facilities.

Martin Youth LEADERship is an exciting, education program designed for sophomores and juniors from local high schools to learn about the diversity and complexities of our community, while developing their leadership skills. This is accomplished through participation in a nine-month, structured, experiential program that meets one day each month. The next session, Cultural Diversity / Economic Day, is scheduled for December 11th. For more information or to get involved please contact Erica Kinane, erica@kinaneprinting.com.



Class 18 leaders learned what it was like to be a law enforcement officer, a criminal and a jury at the Criminal Justice Day Session on December 6, 2007. Shown in the picture is alumni Tom Bakkedahl, State Attorney, presiding over the grand jury case for the class members. Other alumni who participated in the day were, Masha Ewing (8), Sheriff Crowder (2), Major Bob Pryor (8), Sgt. Doug Pierce (10), Lt. Dennis Fritchie (17), Lt. Tom Harmer (9), Lt. David Dyess (15). Many thanks to the police, sheriff and court staff for allowing our leaders to see how our justice system serves our community.

Florida House of Representatives

Representative William D. Snyder

District 82

Homeland Security and Public Safety, Vice Chair
Energy

Committees:

Safety and Security Council
Utilities & Telecommunications

December 2007

To My Friends in LEADERShip,

The end of a year is always a good time for reflection. As your representative in Tallahassee, I see that Florida stands at a crossroads. Economic stress continues to build in our state. Indications are that Florida's economy is receding and it is imperative that we take positive and constructive steps to reverse this trend.

I believe that continued dependence on the volatile industries of tourism, agriculture, and construction as the main engines for our economy will not serve Florida's interests in the long term. Bioresearch, with its high-paying jobs, market stability, potential for improving the human condition, and its low impact on the environment should provide much-needed stability.

I look forward with optimism to 2008 and believe that with your support, Florida will continue to prosper and provide a wonderful environment in which to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to serve you and count it a privilege to assist you in any way possible.

Happy Holidays,



William D. Snyder
State Representative, District 82

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Congratulations!

Women of Distinction

Leaders Nominated for Soroptimist Women of Distinction 2008 Awards

It is not a surprise that so many graduates of LEADERship Martin County and Martin County Youth LEADRship have been nominated as Women of Distinction this year...congratulations to all these stellar women!

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL NOMINEES

Tara Biek (Class 16)
Stacy Ranieri (Class 10)
Maria Wells (Class 14)

CIVIC/PROFESSIONAL NOMINEES

Kherrri Anderson (Class 17)
Debbie Banta (Class 10)
Jennifer Ferrari (Class 14)
Debbie Lewandowski (Class 16)
Patty Winterburn (Class 7)

VOLUNTEER NOMINEES

Debra Duvall (Class 6)
Sherry Guffin (Class 9)
Robin Hicks-Connors (Class 11)
Victoria Yardley (Class 13)

RISING STAR NOMINEES

Claire Baecher
Zandria Bryant
Nancy Malock
Khushali Shah

All from Martin Youth Leadership Class 10

LEADERS on the Move in the News....

Stacy Ranieri (Class 10) was recently elected President of the Sustainable Treasure Coast, Inc, the non profit spin-off of the Governor's Committee for a Sustainable Treasure Coast. The group is charged with bringing together diverse leaders throughout Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River County to create positive changes in the region that will lead to a more sustainable Treasure Coast.

Chief Edward Morley (Class 10) of the Stuart Police Department, wishes to extend an invitation to all alumni, friends and family, with regards to the dedication of our new Public Safety Complex. The dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony will begin on Friday, January 18, 2008, at 10:00 am. Tours of the new facility will begin immediately after the dedication ceremony and will continue until noon. If you can't make it on Friday, tours will be given on Saturday, January 19th between 10:00am and noon as well. We look forward to seeing you there.

Where Are They Now?

A Focus on Current Alumni

TAUNYA GOLDEN BRYANT: CLASS 4

Since graduating from Class IV of Leadership Martin County I have been very busy in Martin County in the area of volunteerism. I spent ten years with Habitat for Humanity. I was a member of the board and a member of the family selection committee. After ten years I felt it was time to move on. I am presently on the board of the United Way.

My affiliation with the board has allowed me to see many of the great organizations that are making a positive impact on Martin County citizens. I am currently serving as the Chairperson of the Resource Investment Committee. As the Chairperson this allows me to be on the executive board of the United Way, giving me additional insight on the workings of the United Way. I also served on the Martin County Health Initiative from its beginning through the end of 2006. I am also currently serving as president of the local chapter of The Links, Incorporated. The Links, Incorporated is a national organization of primarily African-American women whose main thrust is service locally, nationally and internationally. We also promote the arts and have a strong interest in youth. Just like most graduates of the Martin County Leadership Program, I have been very busy but enjoying every moment.



FRANCINE BECKSTEAD: CLASS 9 (NAUGHTY NINE)

What an honor to be highlighted in LEADERlines! As anyone can tell you, I'm a huge fan of LEADERship Martin County. And especially class "Naughty 9"! LEADERship enriched me with enduring friendships, renewed purpose, and the courage to take on new challenges. And I have great fun with all of those challenges: My job as Director of I.T. for the Clerk of Court (because I work for and with wonderful people); my contributions to LEADERship (because I get to help people grow and learn); and finally, The Barn Theatre, because it's just such a hoot!

So now here's the sales pitch. This winter I won't be on stage, but in front of it, directing "Cemetery Club", by Ivan Menchall. It's a comedy about three middle aged widows who laugh and struggle together through grief, hope and doubts about the future. Please enjoy a performance from Feb 22nd through

Mar. 9th. The Barn is an all volunteer not-for profit theatre that has been in continuous operation for over 35 years. It brought the performing arts to

Stuart, and continues to provide 6 'main stage' shows a year plus several special events. We need scores of volunteers for each show, and I would love to get you involved. Its great fun and a unique playground.

Visit <http://barn-theatre.com> for details, or just give me a call.



AVA PENNINGTON: CLASS 12 ("THE DIRTY DOZEN")

You haven't heard from me in a while! After serving on the Leadership Alumni Board and on the Planning Committee a few years ago, it seems like I might have dropped off the map, but I haven't. For the past year-and-a-half I've been teaching a weekly, interdenominational Bible study. Our class of 120+ includes Treasure Coast women from Martin and St. Lucie counties. I've also been developing a second career as a writer. In the past several years I've had short stories published in eight Chicken Soup for the Soul and two Cup of Comfort anthologies, as well as articles in several nationally distributed magazines. Of course, I'm working on The Great American Novel, and also developing a series of children's picture books. When I'm not writing or teaching, Russ and I keep busy with the two adult boxers we adopted from rescue. It's taken almost two years, but they finally have us trained! Check out my new website to find out more: www.avawrites.com

Where Are They Now?

A Focus on Current Alumni



DAVID CARDNO: CLASS 13 (“NO NAME” THE SAGA CONTINUES...)

My thanks to Sue McVeigh for giving me this opportunity since it enables me to recognize the some of the great collaborations we at the Father & Child Resource Center continue to enjoy with Leadership alumni. Firstly from our own Class 13, L.C. Campbell has served on our Advisory Council since its inception, Jim Leslie attends when he can, Bonnie Landry continues to serve on the Healthy Start Board, Susan Gifford has helped sponsor Indiantown programs and Ray Parrish invites us over to Spectrum to talk to the kids about becoming parents too early – don’t do it!

Our Advisory Council is still chaired by Elliot Paul (Class 6) and we work very closely with HPS- Suzy Hutcheson (Class1), Kathy Derringer (Class 4). The photograph below shows Captain Lloyd Jones (Class6) being recognized for the J.O.T.C.’s collaboration in working with teenage fathers. With all this help, it is hardly surprising to note that our agency has expanded to include a full-time bi-lingual counselor, thanks to a grant from Children’s Services Council (too many alumni to mention!). However the sad reality is that the need to get dads involved in their children’s lives continues to grow apace.

On a personal note my daughter (and most of my money) now go to FSU, and my son is in his final year at South Fork and captain of the soccer team, so this is my last year of announcing soccer games at Bulldog Stadium!



RENEE BOOTH: CLASS 16 (SELECT 16)

As a graduate of LEADERship class (Select) Sixteen, I’m still impressed at how well such a diverse group of professionals interacted--from nonprofit employees to business owners to attorneys, the support shown for each other during our nine months together was astonishing, and continues today! Recently Bank of America Charitable Foundation awarded the Children’s Museum of the Treasure Coast a grant of \$250,000 which will help complete our building campaign. Another wonderful example of the impact a relationship between our private and nonprofit sectors has on quality of life in Martin County and beyond.

SAVE the DATE!

January 24, 2008. The Rivers Coalition is proud to present a fabulous evening at Indian Riverside Park, Jensen Beach, January 24, 2008 6-9 PM for the Rivers Coalition Defense Fund campaign to stop discharges into our estuary. Outback Steakhouse is donating steaks, as well as many other contributing sponsors. Tickets are available @ \$75.00 for singles, \$140 for couples and \$1,000 for tables of 10. Volunteers are needed. It is very important to show our support. LEADERSHIP Martin was there at the inception of the concept of the Rivers Coalition and it would be great to show our continued commitment. Maybe we could get a table or two for 5 couples/friends each for Leadership Alumni? Tickets are going fast. Check the site for ticket ordering information. Please check the site of Riverscoalition.org for more information. Thanks, Sheila

Did you know that L.C. Campbell, Vicki Davis, Jocelyn Lane and Sue McVeigh are HEROES?

American Red Cross Heroes that is. LC and Vicki and are co-chairs for the Martin County chapter's campaign, designed to raise critical funds that support local-only initiatives. Jocelyn Lane and Sue McVeigh are team leaders, busy recruiting other "heroes" who each commit to raising \$1,000 for the chapter. Each hero will raise money in his or her own way – some simply asking for donations while others are hosting soirees as diverse as a "drive-in movie" at someone's house to a sunset eco-tour to raise funds.

If you are interested, please join your fellow leaders who believe that the real heroes in our community are the people who step forward to support and sustain it on an ongoing basis. Contact Jocelyn or Sue to get involved today!

Three Leaders Raise \$90,000 for Samaritan Center

Smith Barney business partners and LEADERship graduates Peter Avonda (Class 16) and Sue McVeigh (Class 14) co-chaired The Great Chef Adventure, a fundraiser for The Samaritan Center for Young Boys & Families, on December 10, 2007. Millie Wood Goldsby (Class 10) is also active with Samaritan Center and served on the event committee. The money raised is used for annual operating support for The Samaritan Center, a residential facility on Cove Road.

ATTENTION! You are on "THE LIST"

This year, your LEADERship Board of Directors formed a new committee based on alumni recommendations. One of the clear messages in our recent survey is that each of us wants to have more opportunities to reconnect with people in our individual classes...you know, the people with whom you did "hard time."

The Membership & Retention Committee is committed to:

- updating and maintaining our files with the most current contact information
- organizing our individual classes by recruiting representatives from each class, and
- better informing our members on upcoming events and activities.

E-mail us today and we will check our files to make sure your contact information is updated.

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