



LEADERSHIP
FLORIDA®

e-Cast

August 2021

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"but for" Key West Experience
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FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Greetings, Leadership Florida members!

We enter this month with new beginnings for many of our Leadership Florida members. By now, you have seen the announcement of our new Leadership Team, which includes the Board of Directors, Region Councils, and Statewide Committee Chairs, being led by Board Chair John Horne (Cornerstone Class 28- Pineapple Nation).



All these exciting beginnings call for a "family reunion" at the **2021 Annual Meeting** at The Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood on November 12-14! Be sure to register soon so you do not miss the opportunity to reunite with your Leadership Florida family and friends. **The response to attend this "out of cycle" Annual Meeting has been fantastic!** New this year is the Leadership Florida Writer's Circle, a chance to hear from your fellow members who have been published. We hope you will show them your *Leadership Florida* love.

So many Leadership Florida members are shining in their personal and professional roles, and we hope you have enjoyed the news on our social media platforms and e-Casts like this one.

Please enjoy this month's e-Cast and see you IN-PERSON very soon!

Wendy Spencer
President and CEO

Wendy Spencer

KEY WEST "BUT FOR" EXPERIENCE

CHANGES IN LATITUDE ~~ CHANGES IN ATTITUDE

The SouthWest Region invites you to
Sail away to Florida's Southernmost Point



**Congratulations to the Southwest Region
for hosting a great "but for" experience!**

All had a wonderful time of connection and fun.
What a great way to enjoy the summer weather,
on the water and with your friends.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 2021
Friday thru Sunday
THE DIPLOMAT - HOLLYWOOD, FL

We will be TOGETHER AGAIN!

START THE WEEKEND - OPENING EVENT
with Kimberly Godwin, President of ABC News
Friday, November 12th | 5:30 p.m.

Incredible Speakers, Beautiful Location, Time with your
Leadership Florida Family

Last day to register at discounted prices: AUGUST 30, 2021

REGISTER NOW

CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS!



Contact **Kristin Mullikin** to be added to the waitlist.
kmullikin@leadershipflorida.org

CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS!

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Leadership Florida's primary concern during the COVID-19 pandemic is the health and safety of its members, their families and communities. The organizational leadership continually monitors the status of the pandemic and adheres to guidelines of CDC and local governments.

OUR NEWEST LIFETIME MEMBER



Mark Pritchett
Cornerstone Class 23
President/CEO
Gulf Coast Community Foundation
Calusa Region

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LEADERSHIP FLORIDA FOR LIFE



JENNIFER McFARREN

Connect Class 6
Manager, Corporate Social Responsibility
Navy Federal Credit Union
Northwest Region

AS A LIFETIME MEMBER OF LEADERSHIP FLORIDA, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS YOU ENJOY YOUR MEMBERSHIP THE MOST?

I always look forward to the annual meeting each year – it's a great way to reconnect with everyone and bring my family along to enjoy some of the most incredible locations across our great state!

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOUR CAREER HAS BEEN AFFECTED BY BECOMING A LIFETIME MEMBER?

Knowing that the Leadership Florida family will always be there as I navigate new seasons of life brings me such joy! I've recently transitioned to a different industry and am so grateful for the network of leaders I can lean on for guidance and support.

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED A "but for" MOMENT IN WHICH THE EXPERIENCE COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT LEADERSHIP FLORIDA?

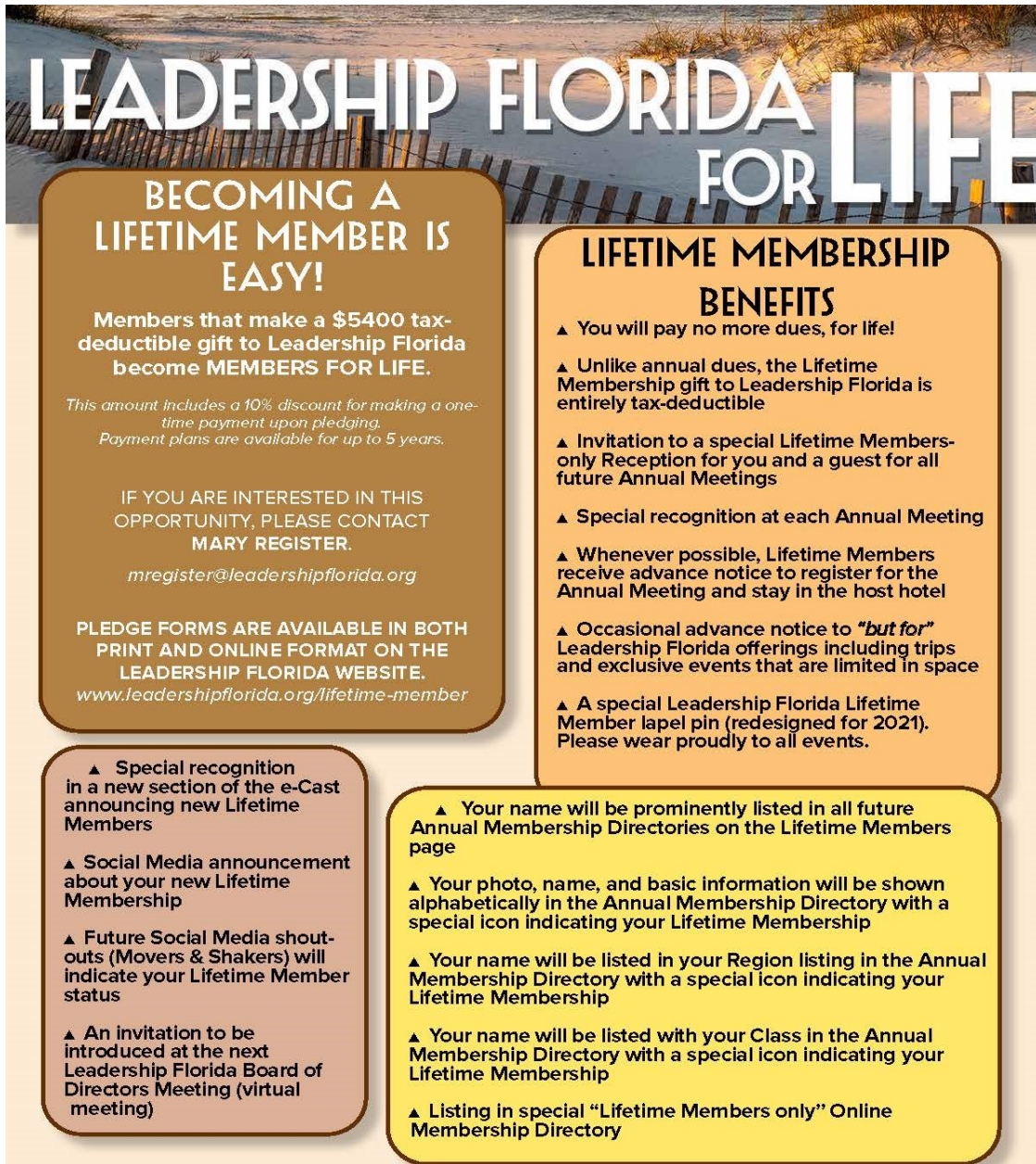
Having the honor to introduce Bryan Stevenson at the 2019 Annual Meeting is a "but for" memory I will forever be grateful for.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE MEMORY FROM YOUR CLASS YEAR?

Our class graduation at Disney World sticks out to me... such a reminder that the friendships established in the past year would forever be a part of who I am!

**Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing with your fellow
Leadership Florida members!**

We are thankful for your commitment to Florida.



LEADERSHIP FLORIDA FOR LIFE

BECOMING A LIFETIME MEMBER IS EASY!

Members that make a \$5400 tax-deductible gift to Leadership Florida become MEMBERS FOR LIFE.

*This amount includes a 10% discount for making a one-time payment upon pledging.
Payment plans are available for up to 5 years.*

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT MARY REGISTER.
mregister@leadershipflorida.org

PLEDGE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH PRINT AND ONLINE FORMAT ON THE LEADERSHIP FLORIDA WEBSITE.
www.leadershipflorida.org/lifetime-member

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ▲ You will pay no more dues, for life!
- ▲ Unlike annual dues, the Lifetime Membership gift to Leadership Florida is entirely tax-deductible
- ▲ Invitation to a special Lifetime Members-only Reception for you and a guest for all future Annual Meetings
- ▲ Special recognition at each Annual Meeting
- ▲ Whenever possible, Lifetime Members receive advance notice to register for the Annual Meeting and stay in the host hotel
- ▲ Occasional advance notice to *"but for"* Leadership Florida offerings including trips and exclusive events that are limited in space
- ▲ A special Leadership Florida Lifetime Member lapel pin (redesigned for 2021). Please wear proudly to all events.

- ▲ Special recognition in a new section of the e-Cast announcing new Lifetime Members
- ▲ Social Media announcement about your new Lifetime Membership
- ▲ Future Social Media shout-outs (Movers & Shakers) will indicate your Lifetime Member status
- ▲ An invitation to be introduced at the next Leadership Florida Board of Directors Meeting (virtual meeting)

- ▲ Your name will be prominently listed in all future Annual Membership Directories on the Lifetime Members page
- ▲ Your photo, name, and basic information will be shown alphabetically in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership
- ▲ Your name will be listed in your Region listing in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership
- ▲ Your name will be listed with your Class in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership
- ▲ Listing in special "Lifetime Members only" Online Membership Directory

Click for more details!

VETERAN MILITARY MEMBER FEATURE



Veteran Military Member Feature

GORDON BAILEY

Cornerstone Class 36
VP, Public Affairs and Community
Engagement
Florida Blue | Guidewell
Army
Northeast Region

When were you enlisted?

I was enlisted in the Army from 1995-1999.

Why did you pick the service branch you joined?

I chose the Army because my grandfather, father, uncle and brother all served in the Army. No one told me we would have to walk everywhere as opposed to the Navy (ships) and Air Force (planes)!

How did your service and experiences affect your personal and/or professional life?

The Army provided me with a great opportunity to both lead others and to learn from great leaders. It also gave me the confidence to make decisions in a variety of circumstances.

What was the most valuable thing you learned during your service?

No one person is bigger than the team.

A subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation



If you are a veteran or currently serving in the military but not listed, please notify us ([click here](#)) to add you to our list to honor. Recognition is promoted for current dues-paying members.

If you are a veteran, but not listed, let us know [here](#).

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX!

Did you receive the new 2021 Leadership Florida Member Directory?



You don't want to miss this!

We have added new sections this year!

- Company Index
- Expertise and Interests Directory
- Honoring our Veteran and Active Military Members

If you have NOT received yours, please let us know by submitting your name and contact information [here](#).

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Congratulations!

Kam Patton, Chair-Elect

Cornerstone Class 31 & Education Class 1

Collier Public Schools

Southwest Region

Congratulations to Kam Patton who was named Naples Daily News "Outstanding Citizen of the Year!" In her more than a decade as superintendent, Kam has



overseen growth at the district, including jumps in state rankings and the high school graduation rate.

Watch for shout-outs on our Social Media venues for these Movers & Shakers. Be sure to give them a "congrats" comment or send them a message.



David Armstrong

Cornerstone Class 18

EQuest Education
Gold Coast Region

Congratulations to Lifetime Member, David Armstrong for being named the president of The St. Nicholas International School in Da Nang, and as Vice President for International Relations for the EQuest Education group in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam!



Jennifer Rominiecki

Cornerstone Class 36

Marie Selby Botanical
Gardens
Calusa Region

Congratulations to Jennifer Rominiecki and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, recognized with the "Woman-Led Business Award" presented by The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce at the 31st Annual Frank G. Berlin Sr. Small Business Awards Ceremony!



Chester Spellman

Connect Class 4

CW Spellman Consulting
Northeast Region

Congratulations to Chester Spellman who joined the American Red Cross of North Florida Board of Directors!

Chester will support the mission of the American Red Cross to mobilize volunteers to serve the Northeast Florida community and respond to disasters.



Leah Carpenter

Cornerstone Class 39

Memorial Healthcare System
Gold Coast Region

Congratulations to Lifetime Member, Leah Carpenter named Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer for Memorial Healthcare System!



Frandley DeFilie

Connect Class 11

FD Initiatives
Southeast Region

Congratulations to Frandley DeFilie, selected as one of the "Top 20 Under 40 Haitian American Young Professionals (YoPros)" by the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida!

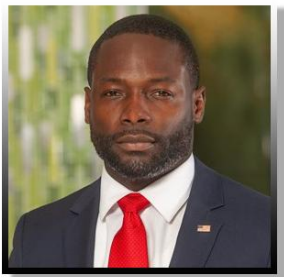


Gary Hartfield

Cornerstone Class 37

Serenity Village
West Central Region

Congratulations to Lifetime Member, Gary Hartfield has been appointed to the following boards: CareerSource Tampa Bay, The Skills Center, and High 5, Inc. (Brandon Sports and Aquatic Center)!



Kimano Edwards

Connect Class 11

Taylor, Day, Grimm & Boyd
Northeast Region

Congratulations to Kimano Edwards on his recent appointment to Jacksonville's Board of Library Trustees by Mayor Lenny Curry!

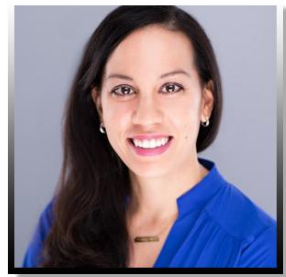


Bill Truex

Cornerstone Class 35

Truex Preferred Construction
Charlotte
Calusa Region

Congratulations to Lifetime Member, Bill Truex appointed 1st Vice President at Florida Association of Counties!



Terin Barbas Cremer

Connect Class 3

Barbas Cremer Law
West Central Region

Congratulations to Terin Barbas Cremer, recognized by Super Lawyers as a top Employment Law Attorney and selected to Rising Stars!



Anna Lebesch
Cornerstone Class 38
 JAXUSA Partnership
Northeast Region

Congratulations to Anna Lebesch appointed by the Clay County Board of County Commissioners to the Clay County Utility Board!



Robert Harris
Cornerstone Class 15
 Harris, Guidi & Rosner
Northeast Region

Congratulations to Lifetime Member, Robert Harris awarded the Jacksonville Women Lawyers Association (JWLA) 2021 Ally Award!



Kalinthia Dillard
Cornerstone Class 39
 Palm Beach County Office
 of Inspector General
Gulfstream Region

Congratulations to Kalinthia Dillard recently recognized in the 2021 edition of Florida Trend's Florida Legal Elite!



Jeffrey Nasse
Education Class 3
 Broward College
Gold Coast Region

Congratulations to Military Veteran, Jeffrey Nasse who has been selected as the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, at Broward College!



Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson
Cornerstone Class 26
 Community Foundation
 of Broward
Gold Coast Region

Congratulations to Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson one of five women honored at the 2021 Girl Scouts Lead The Way luncheon!



Dick Batchelor
Executive Class 8
 Dick Batchelor
 Management Group
East Central Region

Congratulations to Military Veteran, Dick Batchelor who will be one of the Laureate honorees at the Junior Achievement of Central Florida's 44th Annual Mid-Florida Business Hall of Fame!



Makayla Buchanan

Education Class 6

Clay County
Education Foundation
Northeast Region

Congratulations to
Makayla Buchanan
appointed to the St. Johns
River State College Board
of Trustees by
Governor DeSantis!



Eileen Stuart

Connect Class 1

The Vogel Group
Northwest Region

Congratulations to
Eileen Stuart for joining
several other lawyers and
lobbyists in opening the
inaugural Florida office of
prominent Washington DC-
based lobbying firm, The
Vogel Group, and affiliated
law firm, Holtzman Vogel!



La-Shanda West

Education Class 4

Cutler Bay Senior High
Southeast Region

Congratulations to
La-Shanda West on
announcing her candidacy
for School Board District 2
for Miami-Dade County
Public Schools!



Maggie Hightower

Connect Class 3

Nemours Children's
Health System
Northeast Region

Congratulations to
Maggie Hightower and her
recent promotion to
Assistant Vice President,
Grateful Patient Program at
Nemours Children's Health
System!

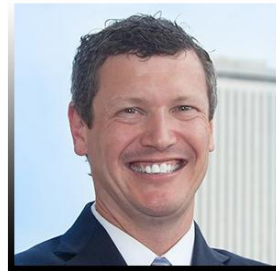


Nemiah Rutledge

Connect Class 11

Body Paradox
Northeast Region

Congratulations to
Nemiah Rutledge and owner
of Body Paradox named
"Small Business Leader of
the Year" by the
JAX Chamber's Health
Council!



David Childs

Cornerstone Class 35

The Vogel Group
Northwest Region

Congratulations to
David Childs who is part of
a group of seven lawyers
opening the inaugural
Florida office of DC-based
law firm, Holtzman Vogel,
and its affiliated lobbying
firm, The Vogel Group!



Congratulations to
Leadership Florida Sponsor,
Duke Energy for investing \$734,000 in
strategic workforce development and
education programs in Florida!

*Company Move
Selected for a Board Position
Career Advancement
Receive an Award
Professional Recognition*

YOU?

Let us know!



**We want to
celebrate with you!**

https://leadershipflorida.formstack.com/forms/2020_member_news

To directly access the form, click **HERE**.

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT



DAVE DeWALL

Member Services Program Assistant |
ddewall@leadershipflorida.org

How long have you been with the Leadership Florida Team, and what is your primary role?

I have worked with Leadership Florida as the Program Assistant for Member Services and Region Events for just under three years.

For which projects or programs would you be a member's contact person?

You can find me collaborating daily with Region Council members in all nine Regions for event coordination, and from December to June, I assist with the yearly Leadership Florida Awards program. I also help with profile changes, dues renewals, and communication updates.

Regarding working with Leadership Florida, do you have any favorite moments you would like to share?

I spent most of my life in Pennsylvania and would say I am generally familiar with the state, including its harsh winters! Leadership Florida has provided me with so many unique experiences and ways to get to know Florida better, that I have to admit, after only a few short years, I am much more familiar with the Sunshine State. Especially since the onset of COVID-19 and the pivot to virtual events, I have worked closely with many members setting up Region and statewide events via Zoom. It has been a pleasure to coordinate with such dedicated and passionate volunteers.

Would you share a little about life outside of Leadership Florida?

Cooking and running have always been hobbies of mine. Whether inspired by a certain food that I tried during time spent abroad or through friends' recommendations, I enjoy seeking out recipes that are both healthy and creative. While it's true that Tallahassee has many large oak trees that are hazardous during hurricane season, it's also a fact that Florida's capital city offers trails and other spaces for jogging. I also believe in the importance of volunteering. As a volunteer, I have hosted and planned dozens of Zoom meetings throughout 2020-2021. For several years I have translated student thank-you letters from Limitless Horizons Ixil, a school in Chajul, Guatemala. Without sponsors, many students in Chajul are unable to attend classes.

And just for fun, if you were to write a book about yourself, what would you name it?

Why, Soitenly, Alex! Both the game show Jeopardy! and The Three Stooges have influenced and inspired me in surprising ways. After all, who hasn't wanted to join the

Clue Crew? Or tried to mimic Moe's famous bowl haircut? Not only did Jeopardy! create a fun family competition during my breaks at home from college, but one question (about the language Esperanto) caused me to move to Florida! So, did The Three Stooges play a role in this interstate move? "Why, Soitenly," as Curly would say. As for me, I'm still figuring that one out.

2021 PLATINUM SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY



Leadership Florida has earned a 2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency! Now, everyone can see our strategy, metrics, and achievements. Check out our updated Nonprofit Profile on Candid [here!](#)

For a combined 88 years, Foundation Center and GuideStar each helped change the world by giving people the information they needed to do good. They combined their talent, technology, data, and leadership to become a new organization, Candid. Through research, collaboration, and training, they connect nonprofits, foundations, and individuals to where the money comes from, where it goes, and why it matters.

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