



Chamber – LEADERship – Alumni

The Stuart/Martin County Chamber held their **Holiday Trade Show** at Flagler Center on November 20. The Adult LEADERship & LEADERship Alumni participated with their table to promote how they make a difference in our community with their education, networking and volunteering.



Cindy Groover (30) & Cindy LaConte (7)



Cindy Groover (30), George Stokus (25), & Sarah Baker (29)



Michael Dadko (12) & Tom Munhollen (28)



Randy Pennington (26) & Wife, Cindy LaConte (7) & Dan Hulen (20)

IN THIS ISSUE

HOLIDAY SHOW	1
<i>Chamber/LEADERship</i>	
MESSAGE	2
<i>Chelsey Matheson</i>	
YOUTH DAY	3
<i>Economic/Non Profits</i>	
UNITED WAY	3
<i>Awards</i>	
ADULT DAY	4
<i>P.C. Chamber</i>	
CHAMBER EVENTS	4
<i>December</i>	
BULLETIN BOARD	5
<i>Announcements</i>	
ALUMNI BOARD	5
<i>2024 – 2025</i>	
WEB ADDRESS	5
<i>Information</i>	
ALUMNI ADDRESS	5
<i>Pay Dues</i>	




Happy Holidays

Merry Christmas

And

Happy New
Year

Message from the President, December 2024

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for being a part of the incredible network that is LEADERShip Martin County Alumni. Our Alumni are embedded in every facet of our community. Many thanks to each of you for helping make the place we call home so special.

In August, the LEADERShip Alumni Board of Directors embarked on a strategic planning project, guided by the excellent expertise of Tim Kinane. Our goal was to develop a three-year plan to effectively focus our efforts on programs and experiences that add value to our members' lives ... to ensure that we are giving back to the people who give so much to our community. In addition, we wanted to make sure Martin County Youth LEADERShip has the resources it needs to continue providing excellent leadership-development opportunities for the next generation.

I'm pleased to announce that we approved our strategic plan in November. With it, we formalized our mission to inspire continuous professional and personal growth in the LEADERShip Martin County community and our vision of a strong LEADERShip Alumni network that nurtures meaningful connections, opportunities and ideas that strengthen the Martin County community and future generations of leaders.

Key to our plan is the goal of creating value for our members.

- ⇒ *LEADERShip Martin County* is a singular program where we gained unique perspectives on the inner workings of the county, valuable leadership skills, and lasting relationships with people we may never have known otherwise.
- ⇒ *LEADERShip Alumni* is a continuation of that experience as well as an unrivaled conduit to forge connections among decades of LEADERShip classes.
- ⇒ *Our strategic plan* provides a path for us to focus our attention on nurturing those connections and offering exclusive educational and professional development opportunities.

The most important component to all of this is you! *Do you have program ideas that would benefit your fellow Alumni and/or the Youth LEADERShip participants?* The quickest way to get the most out of your Alumni membership is to share your feedback or - better yet - your expertise as a volunteer on one of our committees. The more energy and perspectives we can incorporate, the richer and more beneficial our programming will be.

You can connect with us anytime via email at info@leadershipmcalumni.com or Facebook. Or, feel free to contact any of our board members directly. We are all eager to hear from you!

I wish you all a joyous and peaceful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Chelsey Matheson

President, LEADERShip Martin County Alumni



Students Study the Foundation of Treasure Coast Economy

Forty Students from this year's **Martin Youth LEADERship Program** participated in **Economics Day** on November 19. This was the second monthly session of the year and was coordinated by Kate Muscarella from EW Consultants, Inc. (Class 29) and Joanna Greene from Martin County Government (Class 32). Economics Day offered students a way to learn about banking, small business ownership, the local economy and non-profits on the Treasure Coast.

The day began at First Citizens Bank where Sarah Baker (Class 29), VP and Financial Sales Manager, provided the students with the fundamentals of personal banking, how to build credit, fraud scams and more. Students shared their knowledge of banking and had their questions answered by the First Citizens Bank personnel.

Brad Love (Class 19) and owner of Ampersand Graphics were the next stop for MYL students. Brad has generously donated the polo shirts for hundreds of MYL students over the years. Students toured the facility and learned about small business ownership in general and the specifics of the print making business. Ampersand treated students to yet another shirt, incorporating their class name of "Aliens Exist 26".

Their next stop was the 10th Street Community Center where Tami Karol (Class 32) discussed the ups and downs of owning a small business. Students learned about the funds which go into our local economy through salaries, benefits, taxes, sales of products, investment, etc. and how these funds also leave our economy through spending in a variety of needs and wants. They also learned some specifics about the insurance industry, particularly auto insurance ins and outs.

Following lunch, which was underwritten by EW Consultants, the final speaker of the day was Jessica Levy (Class 34) Director of Marketing and Communications for the United Way and her colleague Jaclyn. The United Way personnel spoke about the importance of the United Way and other non-profits along the Treasure Coast. Through interactive games, students saw the challenges of ALICE families (those often living paycheck to paycheck) and played a Jeopardy-themed game to demonstrate what they have learned.

Zweben Bike Drive in 11th Year

Tara class 27 and Gene Zweben class 26, held their Annual Bike Drive on November 21 to a packed audience of donors and supporters. Carol Houwaart Diez class 28, CEO of United Way was in attendance as the Zweben's partnered with United Way and the Toys for Tots program to provide bicycles to the youth whose families are facing financial insecurities.

The Live United Award was presented to Zweben Law Group for their decaded long commitment to supporting United Way through their annual Bike Drive at the United Way Community Leaders Celebration Luncheon held at Sailfish Point County Club. Amy Bottegal class 28, was presented the Unsung Hero Award for her significant behind-the-scenes impact on our community at the luncheon.



Adults Spend Day In School



LEADERship Class 34 went back into the classroom for Education Day, thanks to Martin County School District. They spent the day visiting and getting updates.



The class enjoyed a great lunch at Martin County High School Tiger's Den. Shown are all the high school student chefs who cooked and served lunch.



A special thank you to LEADERship Alumni and Education Day Planning Committee: Tim Kinane (1), Dr. Leslie Judd (21), Jeanne Dunn (28), Beth Beltran (28), School Board Chair Jen Russell (33) and Dr. Tracey Miller (27).

UPCOMING Stuart/Martin Chamber Events

You must RSVP all Events at 772-287-1088, ext. 112

Dec. 3, Tues., 7:45am, **Business B4 Breakfast**, **The Grace Place**, 1550 SE Salerno Road, Stuart

Dec. 10, Tues., 7:45am, **Business B4 Breakfast**, **Stuart Business Systems**, 830 NE Pop Tilton Place, Jensen Beach

Dec. 17, Tues, 11:45 am, **Council of Chambers Lunch Honoring**, **Martin County Sheriff William Snyder**
Boys & Girls Club of Martin County, 551 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. , Stuart

Dec. 18, Wed., 5:30-7:00pm, **Business After Hours**, **Marriott Hutchinson Island Resort**, 555 NE Ocean Blvd. Stuart



**LEADERship Alumni Board
2024-2025**

President

Chelsey Matheson
Florida Atlantic University

Vice-President

Kate Muscarella
EW Consultants, Inc.

Treasurer

David Sarno
Valley National Bank

Recording Secretary

Jon Milton
Milton Engineering Consultants

Corresponding Secretary

Jeremy Harris
Growth Squad

Directors

Sarah Baker
First Citizens Bank

George Dzama
Martin County Government

Frank Fender
TeamLogic IT

Elisabeth Glynn
Cleveland Clinic

Joanna Greene
Martin County Government

Christina Hunter
Martin County Clerk of Court

Charlene Lyons
YMCA of the Treasure Coast

Melissa Zolla
The Firefly Group

Ex-Officio

Past President
Cindy Groover
Community Ambassador

Class Representative
Blaine Isbell
Corporate TeamIP

Youth Planning Chair
Diana Bruton
Treasure Coast Realty

LEADERship Prog. Director
Cindy LaConte
Stuart/Martin County Chamber

LEADERlines Editor
Nancy Sailer

Bulletin Board

POST YOUR NOTES

Sheriff William Snyder (7) who has

been sheriff of Martin County for the past 12 years is retiring in January. He has endorsed his Chief Deputy John Budensick, an Alumni of class 30. A retirement luncheon to honor him is December 17th



Cindy (7) and Patrick (4) LaConte are Grandparents of their first **Grandchild Olivia Lucia Laconte**,

born 9/28 at 1:37 am at 8 lbs 15 oz and 21.25 inches. Cindy says "All are healthy and happy", our congratulation to the entire **LaConte Family**.



David Earle (6)

passed November 8. He was the LEADERship Alumni in 1998 – 1999. David was an Attorney at Law with Ross, Earle, Bonan, Ensor & Carrigan P.A.



The funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.



Alumni Purpose

The purpose of LEADERship Martin County Alumni is to support the LEADERship Martin County Program; to provide education and networking opportunities for our members; and to enhance community awareness of our members by providing opportunities to evaluate and act on issues affecting the community.

Note: Our monthly newsletter can now be viewed on our website www.LeadershipMCalumni.com

LEADERship Alumni
P.O. Box 794
Stuart, FL 34995-794