# **LEADERlines**



June 2025

## Retiring After 35 Years of LEADERship

Nancy Sailer, is retiring from the LEADERship program after turning 90 years old in April. She spent the last 35 years establishing, mentoring and working to promote the Stuart Martin County Chamber's LEADERship Program. At the time she was working as the Office Manager for the Martin County Chamber of Commerce.



Nancy Sailer receiving Flowers and Plaque from Alumni

In 1990 she established the Martin County LEADERship Program which has graduated 34 Classes, bringing the total number of Alumni to 1005. Sailer also established the LEADERship Martin County Alumni Program in 1991 and the Martin Youth LEADERship Program in 1996, with 26 Classes graduating.

Thanks to Joe Catrambone, CEO of Stuart Martin County Chamber, for trusting in Nancy's desire to put a team together to promote each of these programs. It has been a very rewarding journey for her, being able to meet and work with so many Leaders who served on the Planning Committees and Board of Directors. Thanks goes out to all for making Martin County LEADERship so successful.

When Nancy retired from the Chamber in 2014, the LEADERship Alumni renamed their Youth LEADERship Scholarship to the "Nancy Sailer Youth LEADERship" Scholarship. The Alumni program has awarded 27 scholarships to local students who graduated from the Youth LEADERship Program and are pursuing college degrees.

After 14 years of publishing the Alumni's monthly LEADERlines Newsletter, this will be the last issue that Nancy and her husband will publish. She looks forward to spending more time with her husband, Jack, and their large family that includes 12 great-grandchildren and continuing to work in her beautiful flowering garden.

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#### **UPCOMING EVENT**

June 5, 5 to 7 pm
Installation of Officers
at
Stuart Boathouse
49 SW Seminole Street
Downtown Stuart
RSVP

 $Register\ Online$ 

## **LEADERship Martin County Class 34 Graduation**

It was an evening to celebrate **LEADERship Martin County Class 34** graduating at The Stuart Yacht and Country Club. They were joined by many of their family and alumni friends. Congratulations to Chris Vaccaro, Class 34 Representative, who spoke about how awesome the program was for the class.

Our thanks to the LEADERship Planning Committee members, and to the Cocktail Hour Sponsors: Closets by Design, The Hope Center for Autism, R.V. Johnson Insurance, The GPS Group/Engel & Volkers, Zarro Mortgage Group, LaConte Engineering and Stuart/Martin County Chamber of Commerce.

Class 34: Jamie Bond, Nick Cannon, Richard Carlson, Jennifer Carter, Cullen Caston, Audra Creech, Jenai Ferguson, Matthew Graham, Gary Guttveg, Kathryn Hudson, Ginger Kirila, Joshua Kloster, Nicole Laliberte, Jessica Levy, Josephine Lovaglio, Joanna Mangan, LaRhonda McBride, Susej Meleqi, Rocco Napoli, Kyle Offringa, Derek Ortado, Amy Pritchett, Daniela Quinn, Samantha Rosenberg, Joshua Russell, Jeanna Shanahan, Erika Sinclair, Joanne Sweazey, Chris Vaccaro, Thomas Walker, Charles Watson, Amanda Welsh, Matthew Wisehaupt.









### Class 26 Youth Students Graduate

Martin Youth LEADERship graduated 38 students from four Martin County schools on April 29, 2025. The 26<sup>th</sup> class, self-named "Aliens Exist 26" presented their mini-Capstone projects before graduating to a crowd of parents, teachers, school board members and community leaders.

Martin Youth LEADERship Program Chair **Diana Bruton** (16) kicked off the day at the Cummings Library with **Alec Connolly** (11). Students gave their mini Capstone presentations. They had previously been assigned to one of six groups and were tasked with potential solutions to community problems thought up by their predecessors from the previous MYL class. Students gave presentations and participated in a peer-to-peer question and answer session for each group. Capstone included online games and quizzes to demonstrate what they had learned throughout the academic year after they attended each of their seven previous sessions. The fierce competition was a creative way of giving students a "final exam", with winners receiving gift cards for their prowess.

The day continued with a luncheon and Graduation ceremony at Monarch Country Club. Students demonstrated to their parents, teachers, local business leaders and other guests their public speaking skills. The program would not be possible without the support of our Sponsors: **LEADERship Martin County Alumni**, Martin County School District, Stuart/Martin Chamber of Commerce, Children's Services Council, Out2News, Publix Supermarkets, Ampersand Shirt Shack and Treasure Coast Realty as well as numerous session contributors.

Class 26 is made up of students from all four of Martin County's High Schools.

Congratulations to the following young leaders:









## Jeanne Dunn Retires from Youth LEADERship

Jeanne Dunn announced her retirement from Martin Youth LEADERship after nearly a decade with the organization. She gave her time and mentoring skills to each student who went thru the Youth Program making it highly recommended by the parents of the students who graduated. Jeanne will be missed. She received flowers at Youth Graduation.

Her announcement catalyzed the decision to re-examine the Martin Youth LEADERship program. The LEADERship Martin County Alumni Board decided in April to suspend the youth program for the upcoming academic year. As of this writing, the Board has voted to separate itself from the



youth program and encourages alumni from the adult program, as well as other community leaders, parents and interested parties, to brainstorm about creating a new organization to support a Youth LEADERship program. See the Call to Action below:

#### Calling All Leadership Alumni—Your Experience Matters!

The future of the Youth LEADERship program is evolving, and we need the expertise and passion of our Alumni to shape the next generation of leaders. As someone who has benefited from leadership development, you understand the power of mentorship, guidance, and community-driven impact.

Now is the time to step up and support the restructuring efforts to ensure the program meets the needs of today's youth while preparing them for tomorrow's challenges. Whether it's offering insights, mentoring participants, contributing resources, or advocating for the program, your role is crucial to its success.

Here's how you can help:

- Share your experiences and ideas to guide the new program structure.
- ✓ Get involved in mentorship opportunities and inspire future leaders.

The initial brainstorming session will be held **Tuesday**, **June 10 at 7:30 am at the Chamber**. Those interested in attending and learning more can contact Jeanne at 772-486-4695 or at <a href="mailto:martinyouthleadership@gmail.com">martinyouthleadership@gmail.com</a>.

## **UPCOMING Stuart/Martin Chamber Events**

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

June 3, Tues., 7:45am, Business B4 Breakfast, Forest Hills Memorial Park, 2001 SW Murphy Road, Palm City

June 11, Wed., 11:45am, Business At Lunch, Tami Karol Insurance, Piper's Landing Yacht & Country Club 6160 SW Thistle Terrace, Palm City

June 17, Tues., 7:45am, Business B4 Breakfast, TooJay's Restaurant, 2504 SE Federal Hwy., Stuart

June 18, Wed., 5:30-7:00pm, Business After Hours, Circa69, 3750 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach

June 24, Tues., 7:45am, Business B4 Breakfast, Harbor Place at Port St. Lucie, 3700 SE Jennings Road, Port St. Lucie



LEADERship Alumni Board 2025-2026

**President Kate Muscarella**EW Consultants, Inc.

Vice-President Christina Hunter Martin County Clerk of Court

**Treasurer David Sarno**Valley National Bank

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Past President Chelsey Matheson Florida Atlantic University

Class 34 Representative Chris Vaccaro Congruity HR

LEADERship Martin County Program Coordinator

> LEADERlines Editor Chelsey Matheson

# **Bulletin Board**

POST YOUR NOTES





Jon Milton, (14) will become the Chair of the Youth LEADERShip Scholarship Committee now that Nancy Sailer is retiring

from that position. He also serves on the Alumni Board now as Recording Secretary and was a Past President in 2008. Jon is the owner of Milton Engineering.



Chelsey Matheson, (30) will become the Editor of the LEADERlines now that Nancy Sailer is retiring from that position. She will also be the Past Presi-

dent of the LEADERship Alumni Board. Chelsey works for Florida Atlantic University.





Will Carson, (8) passed recently. He owned Forward Electric but retired and moved to the Villages in Florida.

His son Bill took over the business operations but has since sold the business here in Palm City. Bill and Will's daughter are both LEADERship Alumni.



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# 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