



LEADERlines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LEADERSHIP MARTIN COUNTY ALUMNI



CLASS 35 UPDATE: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DAY

Class 35's Health and Human Services Day wasn't just a success—it was a triumph.

Led by the incredible Jill Ball and flawlessly executed by Samantha Suffich, Brandon McCallister, Joanna Greene, and Sharon Kinane, the day was a masterclass in community engagement.



Special thanks also go to volunteers Cindy Groover and Stacy Little for their vital assistance, and to Tim Kinane, whose LEADERSHIP segment was a highlight of the afternoon.

The journey began and ended at the 10th Street Community Center, with the Boys & Girls Club serving as our gracious "home base" for the day. Participants enjoyed a comprehensive look at local resources through a "packed" schedule featuring insights from: Council on Aging, Healthy Start Coalition, Cleveland Clinic, United Way, Project SEARCH and Tykes & Teens.

From neonatal care to senior services, the full spectrum of local health and human services was on vibrant display.

HEALTH DAY CONT'D

The class also enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by the Boys & Girls Club kitchen and traveled in style via the club's bus—a true testament to the community's generosity.

As the day drew to a close, Angela Hoffman, VP of the Stuart Martin Chamber, shared inspiring words on the lifelong value of the LEADERShip program, reminding everyone that the real journey begins at graduation.

The excitement peaked with the announcement of three Class 35 Representative candidates: Maygan Milton, Bob Ohrn, and Meghan Shirey.

Who will take the podium? The winner will be revealed—and will deliver their speech—at Graduation on May 7. Don't miss out; secure your tickets today to witness the final results!

You're Invited!

CLASS 35
GRADUATION

THURSDAY, MAY 7th

MONARCH COUNTRY CLUB
1801 SW MONARCH CLUB DR.

Graduates: **FREE** | General Guests: **\$80**
Alumni & Planning Committee: **\$60**

Cocktail Hour Begins at **6pm**
Dinner to be Served at **7pm**

SUGGESTED ATTIRE:
Cocktail with a Hint of Simsoc
Past & Current Grads: Come Donning Your Room Color

Sponsorship Opportunities are Available for this Special Evening!

MARTIN CHAMBER FOUNDATION

FOR MORE INFO OR TO SPONSOR:
aducote@stuartmartinchamber.org | 772.284.3007

RSVP @ stuartmartinchamber.org/the-chamber/leadership

2025-2026

LEADERSHIP ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Kate Muscarella

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Chelsey Matheson,
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Chris Vaccaro,
Class 34 Representative

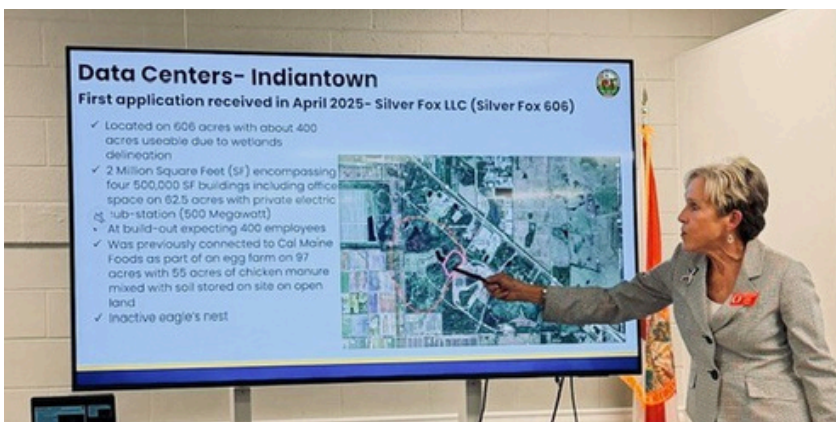
ALUMNI UPDATES



STUART BEACH CLEANUP



On April 25, an intrepid group of LEADERShip Alumni and friends gathered at Stuart Beach for a morning beach cleanup. The volunteers were happy to discover that the beach was not too choked with debris and even found some fun treasures along the way (including some beautiful seashells). Special thanks to **Keep Martin Beautiful** for providing the cleanup supplies.



INDIANTOWN DATA CENTER LUNCH & LEARN

This month's lunch and learn featured the data center that had been proposed in Indiantown presented by Taryn Kryzda, Village Manager (Class 13). Taryn gave a full briefing on the proposal. Though the developer has since withdrawn the application, this event is an example of the incredible opportunities within our Alumni network to connect directly with key decision makers about important initiatives happening in our community.

Many thanks to City of Stuart Recreation's 10th Street Community Center for hosting us and Ellie's Deli for the delicious lunch.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

LEADERShip Martin County Alumni was delighted to present Henry Baker with this year's Nancy Sailer Youth LEADERShip Scholarship.

Henry is graduating from Jensen Beach High School and plans to pursue a degree in environmental engineering. A longtime employee and volunteer of the Environmental Studies Center, Henry is passionate about environmental science and conservation. Henry also exhibited exceptional leadership potential, serving in executive positions in JBHS's Math Honor Society, PTSA,

Pickleball Club and JV Soccer Team. He also logged hundreds of volunteer hours with United for Jensen/Fellowship of Youth Christian Athletes, Treasure Coast Community Church, Earth Savers, and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Student Visionaries of the Year Program.

The Nancy Sailer Youth LEADERShip Scholarship is presented each year to a Martin County senior who has completed the Martin County Youth LEADERShip Program. The award is \$8,000 over four years, funded through charitable donations from members of LEADERShip Martin County Alumni. Awards are granted through a competitive application process scored by a LEADERShip Alumni review committee.

Congratulations, Henry! You are off to great things.



APPLY TO THE LEADERSHIP MARTIN COUNTY ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Did you love your LEADERShip experience? Keep the magic going and help shape the future of LEADERShip Alumni as a member of the Board of Directors! Applications are due April 30.

[Download the Application](#)

BECOME A LEADERSHIP ALUMNI *Champion*

Sponsorship Level Details Full benefit descriptions for each sponsorship level.

<p>01 Friend of Youth LEADERShip \$100 <i>Every great community starts with one person saying yes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Name listed in program newsletter ✓ Thank you recognition on social media ✓ Certificate of appreciation from the Foundation <p><i>Perfect for: Individuals, sole proprietors, and anyone who wants to be part of the LEADERShip community.</i></p>	<p>02 Community Advocate \$250 <i>Show your community that you invest in its leaders.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Everything in Friend, plus: ✓ Name listed on Foundation website sponsor page ✓ Year-round recognition in all digital newsletters <p><i>Perfect for: Small businesses, families, and individuals who want meaningful community visibility.</i></p>			
<p>03 Civic Partner \$500 <i>Recognized at every event as a builder of community.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Everything in Advocate, plus: ✓ Recognition by name at all LEADERShip events ✓ Inclusion in event programs and printed materials ✓ Recognized in year-end community impact report <p><i>Perfect for: Local businesses wanting event visibility and civic brand alignment without a major investment.</i></p>	<p>04 Supporting Sponsor \$1,000 <i>Your logo alongside Martin County's leadership community.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Everything in Civic Partner, plus: ✓ Logo placement on Foundation website ✓ Logo on all event materials and signage ✓ Feature post on LEADERShip social media channels ✓ Listed in all digital communications to network <p><i>Perfect for: Regional businesses and professional service firms looking for sustained brand recognition.</i></p>			
<p>05 Community Sponsor \$2,500 <i>Visible at the intersection of business and civic leadership.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Everything in Supporting, plus: ✓ Invitation to Youth LEADERShip programming sessions ✓ Recognition at Alumni networking events ✓ Highlighted in year-end impact report with logo <p><i>Perfect for: Companies invested in workforce development and talent pipeline in Martin County.</i></p>	<p>06 Leadership Sponsor \$5,000 <i>A defining partner in Martin County's leadership ecosystem.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Everything in Community, plus: ✓ Logo recognition in all Foundation digital communications ✓ Featured partner on website homepage ✓ Named recognition at all major events ✓ Priority invitation to all programs and alumni events ✓ Direct access to LEADERShip alumni network <p><i>Perfect for: Established regional businesses and institutions that want to be recognized as a community pillar.</i></p>			
<p>07 PRESENTING SPONSOR \$10,000 <i>The defining partner of LEADERShip Martin County Alumni Foundation for Youth.</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #F0F0F0; padding: 5px;"> <p>Visibility & Recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Top logo placement on ALL materials ✓ Named in every event and communication ✓ Featured on website as Presenting Partner ✓ Logo at every event with premium placement </td> <td style="background-color: #F0F0F0; padding: 5px;"> <p>Program Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speaking opportunity at the major annual event ✓ Invitation to specific programming and sessions ✓ Named in all alumni and civic communications </td> <td style="background-color: #F0F0F0; padding: 5px;"> <p>Network & Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Priority access to LEADERShip alumni events ✓ Year-round social media recognition ✓ Naming opportunity discussion available </td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Perfect for: Organizations that want to own their positioning as the primary leadership development partner in Martin County.</i></p>		<p>Visibility & Recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Top logo placement on ALL materials ✓ Named in every event and communication ✓ Featured on website as Presenting Partner ✓ Logo at every event with premium placement 	<p>Program Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speaking opportunity at the major annual event ✓ Invitation to specific programming and sessions ✓ Named in all alumni and civic communications 	<p>Network & Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Priority access to LEADERShip alumni events ✓ Year-round social media recognition ✓ Naming opportunity discussion available
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Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Youth LEADERShip Scholarship Fundraiser	Alumni Networking Event	Leadership Speaker Luncheon
<p><i>The flagship annual fundraising event. Premium visibility with Martin County's leadership community.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prominent event signage ✓ Recognition during program ✓ Social media promotion ✓ Named in all event communications ✓ Sponsor visibility with civic leaders 	<p><i>Connect your brand with established alumni leaders across all sectors of Martin County.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Name on all event invitations ✓ Recognition during networking ✓ Social media feature post ✓ Visibility with business and civic leaders 	<p><i>Align with thought leadership and professional development in Martin County.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Logo on event materials ✓ Introduction by Foundation leadership ✓ Social media recognition ✓ Featured in post-event communications

CONTACT US

to get started!

COMMUNITY CORNER

Martin County Forever

by Merritt Matheson, Class 32



On November 5, 2024, nearly 64% of Martin County voters approved Martin County Forever, a referendum for a half-cent local sales surtax for a period of ten years. Funds from the sales tax are being used to acquire and preserve environmentally significant land in four key areas: Indian River Lagoon watershed, Loxahatchee-St. Lucie headwaters, Pal-Mar wetlands, and “Blueways” urban waterway sites.

With the passage of the sales tax referendum, Martin County now has the dedicated funding to acquire environmentally sensitive lands. These funds are being used strategically, with community input and expert guidance, to protect our most critical areas before they’re lost to development. How much funding? The sales tax will raise an estimated \$18 million a year over 10 years for a total of about \$183 million. Given that early collection of sales tax is exceeding projections and population growth, the projected total revenue is expected to surpass \$223 million! In addition, the County is expecting to at least double the amount raised by the sales tax by aggressively pursuing funding from federal and state partners.

Oversight and guardrails are paramount to this initiative. Clear guidelines were approved by voters through the referendum that limit how the funds can be used and that ensure transparency throughout the process:

- Purchasing land (fee simple title) from **willing sellers**
- Purchasing land only within the four identified zones
- Acquiring perpetual conservation easements
- An annual audit must be conducted
- Creation of an Environmental Lands Oversight Committee (ELOC)
- 5% of the total cost of acquiring the property can be used to help with habitat restoration including removing exotic vegetation and implementing a prescribed fire program

As a founding member of the Martin County Forever initiative and Vice Chair of ELOC, I can attest to the care and attention to detail throughout this process to ensure that the funds raised through this sales-tax program will be utilized for their stated intention: to conserve and protect our precious, unspoiled spaces for the benefit of our environment, our water quality, and our unique way of life in Martin County.

The initiative is already off to a running start. Just 18 months since the program’s inception, we celebrated acquisition of over 3,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land throughout the county. Highlights include an over 1,700-acre perpetual conservation easement in Bar-B-Ranch in Indiantown and a one-acre parcel north of the House of Refuge on Hutchinson Island stretching from the Indian River Lagoon to the Atlantic Ocean. And we are just getting started. In recognition of this landmark initiative by the Martin County Forever volunteers, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners and County staff, we were recently honored with a Keep Martin Beautiful Environmental Stewardship Award.

Martin County Forever will be maintained and updated throughout the life of the initiative, ensuring that citizens stay informed on progress and opportunities to get involved. I encourage you to visit www.martincountyforever.com to learn more.



Ready. Set. IMPACT!



Now Accepting Applications for **LEADERShip** Martin County Class 36

This immersive 10-month leadership development program is designed for professionals who are ready to level up their careers while building deep roots in our community. LEADERShip is an all-access pass to the engines that make Martin County run!



THE EXPERIENCE: Behind-the-Scenes Access

On the 1st Thursday of the month, from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM, you'll step away from your desk and into the field. Each session gives you a 360° perspective of a specific pillar of our community, featuring exclusive tours and candid conversations with industry titans to include:

- Environment & Agriculture
- Education
- Economic
- Government
- Public Safety
- Health & Human Services
- History, Arts & Culture

TAKE the LEAD

Whether you are a seasoned executive or an emerging mover & shaker, Class 36 will challenge you to think bigger and lead better.

THE GROWTH:

Level Up Your Leadership

Beyond the tours, Class 36 is an investment in you. Every session includes a **Leadership Skill Deep Dive**. We move beyond the surface to help you:

- **Learn to Lead** with more influence and clarity.
- **Audit your strengths and weaknesses** through professional self-assessment.
- **Expand your network** by bonding with a cohort of diverse, high-achieving peers.

Amber Ducote, Program Director
aducote@stuartmartinchamber.org

772-284-3007

Applications are available online now.
stuartmartinchamber.org



STUART/MARTIN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Don't miss your chance to be part of the next legacy of leaders in Martin County.

Upcoming Events

LEADERSHIP MARTIN COUNTY ALUMNI



In the aftermath of devastating hurricanes, entire communities are left in need of assistance



From Forecast to Aftermath: Expert Guidance for Hurricane Season

May 19, 2026
8:30 am - 10:00 am

Meet the Experts

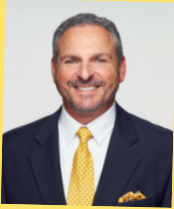
- Forensic Structural Engineer Jon Milton brings nearly 30 years of experience investigating storm-related damage and will share practical strategies to help you prepare for the upcoming hurricane season.
- Emergency Management Director Sally Waite has more than 23 years of experience in disaster preparedness and response, offering deep insight into community readiness and resilience.

Martin County Public Safety Complex
800 SE Monterey Road, Stuart

REGISTER TODAY

www.leadershipmcalumni.com

Bulletins



Michael Dadko (Class of 12) recently earned the title of **Managing Director at Janney** and was recognized again by **Forbes as a Best-in-State Wealth Advisor for Florida.**



Joseph Connelly (Class 28) of Recovery Insurance Adjusters was elected **Secretary of the Windstorm Insurance Network Board** for the 2026 term.



Carolyn Timmann, Martin County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller (Class 5), was **reappointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to a four-year term on the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Systems Council (CJJIS).** She currently chairs the Council which provides statewide oversight of justice systems and data, facilitates critical access and security, and promotes collaboration between criminal justice agencies.

YOUR NEWS HERE

SHARE YOUR UPDATES
WITH YOUR ALUMNI
COMMUNITY!

info@leadershipmcalumni.com

Stuart/Martin Chamber of Commerce

MAY EVENTS

May 7 LEADERShip Graduation
Monarch Country Club

May 12 Business B4 Breakfast
Jensen Beach Ballroom

May 13 Business at Lunch
Monarch Country Club

May 20 Business After Hours
Frazier Creek Brewing & Distilling

LEADERShip Martin County Alumni

Our Mission:

To inspire continuous professional and personal growth in the LEADERShip Martin County community.

Our Vision:

A strong LEADERShip Alumni network that nurtures meaningful connections, opportunities and ideas that strengthen the Martin County community and future generations of leaders.

Sponsors Needed! Annual Installation of Officers and Youth Scholarship Fundraiser

Contact
info@leadershipmcalumni.com
to learn more.