



THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

August 2015

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Collegiate Leadership Experience



CLE Class of 2015 wrapped up the program with their Closing Retreat on August 1. Final evaluations included comments like: "There is a beautiful blossoming city here that is in the process of defining itself and I can be a part...."



Eleanor Ashby with Courtenay Wilson, LJ 1979
and Martha Barrett, LJ 1981

Eleanor Ashby

Eleanor Ashby's life was celebrated on July 29 at Christ Episcopal Church. While we mourn her passing, Leadership Jacksonville celebrates her many contributions to our community and especially to LJ. She laid the foundation for this organization.

If you would like to send a card or note to her family, they can be reached c/o Ms. Stuart Ashby-Fore, 1616 Beach Avenue, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Upcoming events:

LJ 2016 Opening Dinner

Thursday, August 6, 2015
UNF Adam W. Herbert University Center

CLE @ Jaguars vs. Steelers

Friday, August 14, 2015
7:30 p.m., EverBank Field

YU XXVI Opening Retreat

Friday and Saturday, August 21-22, 2015

LJ 2016 Opening Retreat

Friday and Saturday, August 28-29, 2015

Class Notes

1979

Louis DiGiusto is partner and executive trainer with Louws Management Corporation. As a management consultant to top global media, PR and advertising agencies he has coached global agency teams to over \$8 billion in new business wins over the last three years.

1987

Susan Lehr retired from Florida State College at Jacksonville earlier this year.

1989

June 30 was "**Nat Glover Day**" in Jacksonville. Out-going mayor **Alvin Brown** (NLS I) issued a proclamation and awarded Nat a key to the city in recognition for his work as former sheriff and now Edward Waters College president.

Ken Reddick recently served as the gala chair for the 9th Annual Stanton All Class Gala.

1990

We no longer have mailing addresses for several of your classmates. Can you help us reconnect with **William DeSue**, **Deborah Foster**, **Dennis Gallon**, **John Grab**, **Anthony Jenkins**, **Willie Sanders**, **Steward Washington**, **Patricia Webb** or **William Wildrick**?

1992

Lucy Cortese enjoys retirement, especially travel to La Bella Italia, home of her ancestors. Recently she incorporated her lifelong passion for freelance writing into a new business, Lucy's Lines 'N Lyrics. She composes custom verse for special occasions...sublime rhyme anytime. Her memoirs, poetry and fiction can be sampled at www.lucygiardinocortese.com.

1993

Michael Stewart was recognized by the James Lee Coon, Jr. African American History Brain Brawl for his dedication and service to the Brawl over the past year.

1994

Amy Rankin has joined the Jacksonville Symphony as director of public relations.

1995

Wade Barnes has joined the Women's Center of Jacksonville as its voluntary medical director of the Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program. SAFE provides sexual assault forensic medical exams to survivors of sexual violence aged 18 and older in Duval, Baker and Nassau Counties.

Joy Korman has been named chair of the University of North Florida board of trustees.

1998

In addition to service as the president of the International Longshoreman's Association Local 1408, **Vincent Cameron** was just elected to the post of vice president of the international association. Congratulations!

2001

Dorrie Felder retired this year from The Bierman Group. Congratulations!

2003

Zelma Dickerson has been chosen Ms. Senior Jacksonville 2015. In her role Zelma will spend the year advocating for seniors, dispelling myths of aging and helping women believe in themselves. She will also compete for the state title, Ms. Florida Senior America.

2005

We no longer have mailing addresses for a few of your classmates. Can you help us reconnect with **David Dahl**, **Lloyd Martin** or **Michael Reininger**?

2006

Matt McAfee is serving as chair of the board for the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

Connie Stophel recently communicated that she credits her great LJ experience with helping her to become a better leader. Connie is CEO of Episcopal Children's Services, listed by the Jacksonville Business Journal as the 4th largest nonprofit in Duval County.

2007

Tricia Kapustka has been elected to serve on the board of the JAX Chamber North Council. Tricia will receive the John Dillin Professional Award for Service to the Florida Public Relations Association at the Annual Conference on August 11 in Orlando. The award, which honors the spirit and dedication of FPRA's founder Lt. Colonel John Dillin, is the highest and most prestigious award bestowed by the association.

2009

Linda Scaz retired from Haven Hospice in June and has joined the faculty of The Institute for Healthcare Excellence.

2010

Sue Nussbaum has been named president of the board of directors of The Jewish Community Foundation of Northeast Florida.

Ed Perez has joined the board of directors of Dignity U Wear.

2011

Lauren Weedon Hopkins is now working as the regional director of the Jacksonville Regional Office of Catholic Charities.

2012

Penny Zuber is now executive vice president, chief operating officer and chief financial officer at the YMCA of Florida's First Coast.

2013

Laura Sabo is a self-employed consultant with Nolan Sabo, LLC.

2014

Contratulations to **Anthony** and Christina **Padgett** who welcomed Emmaline Rose-Marie into the world on July 13.

PeDro Cohen is wrapping up his time as executive director for the New Town Success Zone and has started work as vice president of social responsibility and executive director of the Johnson Family branch for the YMCA of Florida's First Coast.

Mai Keisling received her Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership degree from the University of North Florida. Congratulations Mai on a job well done.



Mai Keisling, LJ 2014

2015

Jennifer Garizio has joined Ameris Bank as senior vice president, learning and development director. Jennifer was incorrectly shown as LJ 2014 in July's Lead Story.

Jessica Evans has been promoted to senior vice president of commercial banking at Regions.

2016

Kate Mesic has been selected as a member of The Florida Association for Women Lawyers 2015 Class of Leaders in the Law. Selection was based on making a meaningful contribution in the community through legal service or volunteer activities and being a positive role model for the organization's members.

Ali Kasraeian was recognized in June 2015's Health for performing the first UroNav MRI-fusion guided prostate biopsy in the Northeast Florida region, bringing this innovative technology in prostate cancer diagnosis and management to Jacksonville. The technology uses a combination of MRI and ultrasound images for multi-parametric localization and targeted biopsy of the prostate resulting in cancer detection rates approaching 80-90 percent.

Darryl Willie has been named the new executive director for Teach for America Jacksonville, following **Crystal Rountree** (LJ 2010) who has relocated to Denver to work for Teach for America's national office.

Honorary

Jim Bailey was selected chair of the Downtown Investment Authority.

Various

Melissa Nelson (LJ 2012) and **Brian Coughlin** (LJ 2016) are serving as the chair and vice chair of the Litigation section of The Jacksonville Bar Association.

The 12th Annual Women of Influence Awards, presented by the Jacksonville Business Journal, will go to a group of top area women that includes: **Carol Alexander** (LJ 1998), **Jill Bechtold** (LJ 2015), **Rena Coughlin** (LJ 2004), **Dawn Emerick** (LJ 2010), **Annie Grogan** (LJ 2016), **Cheryl Grymes** (LJ 1994), **Audrey Moran** (LJ 1999), **Joanelle Mulrain** (LJ 2015), **Mary O'Brien** (LJ 2007) and **Leslie Slover** (NLS XIII).

Jane Upton (LJ 1984) is serving as chair of the Habijax board of directors. **Ham Cooke** (LJ 2000) is secretary.

Youth Leadership Jacksonville

Jake Mendelson (YLJ XXI), a former Bolles rower and a current student in the Wharton Class of 2016 at the University of Pennsylvania, will represent the USA at the Elite World Championships in Aiguebelette, France. Jake rowed for his country in 2012 as a member of the junior national team and will compete this year by coxing the men's 2+ according to a report from the University of Pennsylvania. The championship will be held August 29-September 6.

Notes of Sympathy

Our condolences to **Eleanor Maxwell** (LJ 2002), her family and friends upon the death of her husband Doug on July 3.

Make a LJ Donation

Many companies sponsor matching gift programs that will match the charitable contributions made by their employees. This is a great way to enhance the impact of your giving. Check with your employer for details.

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