



# THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

August 2016

CLE PROGRAM \* CLASS NOTES

## *It's time to renew!*

A new fiscal year begins for Leadership Jacksonville in our new location with our new branding. We encourage you to help us make the coming year our best ever.

2016-2017 dues renewal and volunteer opportunities information has been mailed to LJ and NLS alumni. Your dues, contributions and volunteer service make our programming possible, ensuring that new classes enjoy a transformative experience and one that results in more engaged, empowered leadership for our community.



The dues period runs from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Renew your dues and make donations using Visa or MasterCard at the **payment center**. To complete a fillable volunteer form and join the camaraderie in making our programs happen, **click here**.

For your convenience, LJ offers you the opportunity to set recurring monthly donations to LJ. Call Yvonne at 904-396-6263x4 or email **admin@leadershipjax.org** to get the process started.

*Thank you for your support!*



Collegiate Leadership Experience Class 2016 wrapped up their summer with a Closing Retreat on July 30 at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Our thanks to Captain Sean Haley (LJ 2016) for making this special location possible





In previous The Lead Story editions, we thanked our Celebration Sponsors. This month we recognize and thank our 2015-2016 Gold, Silver and Bronze level **PROGRAM Sponsors**:

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\* denotes inkind contribution

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **LJ Board Meeting**

Monday, August 8, 2016  
12:00 p.m., LJ Office

#### **LJ 2017 Opening Retreat**

Friday and Saturday, August 19-20, 2016  
World Golf Village

#### **YLJ XXVII Opening Retreat**

Friday and Saturday, August 26-27, 2016  
North Fork Leadership Center, Middleburg, FL

#### **LJ Office CLOSED**

Monday, September 5, 2016  
in observance of Labor Day

Alumni may purchase a LJ **name tag** with the new logo. To order, make a \$10 payment **online**. In the description block tell us that payment is for a name tag, show your first and last name as you would like it to appear on your name tag (no titles please) and class year. We will forward your tag to you.



**Leadership Connect** is taking a break for the months of July and August, but alumni may continue to sign-up to Connect with future groups. Click **here** to send your name, class year, preferred phone number and email. **Sign up by August 15** to be included in a group for September. More than 175 alumni are already Connecting.

## Class Notes

### 1980

**Stephen Day** has been named by Super Lawyers Magazine as a 2016 Florida Super Lawyer in the category of Insurance Cover. This is Stephen's 8th year to receive this recognition.

### 1987

**Dave Harr** is now Executive in Residence at the Kogod School of Business, American University in Washington, D.C.

### 1993

At the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida's Local Focus, Lasting Impact awards given in late June, **Sherry Magill** received the first-time Nonprofit Advocate award. The Nonprofit Advocate award is described as an individual or entity that "fuels positive public awareness and champions lasting impact of the local nonprofits and the sector."

### 1998

**Donny Mackenzie** has been appointed to The Florida Bar Foundation's board of directors.

### 2006

**Hudson Berrey** retired June 30 from the University of Florida Health Science Center Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation.

### 2008

**Odette Struys** is now working with Brightway Insurance.

### 2013

**Jamie Shelton** has been appointed by Mayor Lenny Curry to the Jacksonville Port Authority Board.

### 2014

Former Senator Bob Graham and **Chris Hand** have co-written a new book, *America, the Owner's Manual: You Can Fight City Hall - and Win*. they were in Philadelphia during the Democratic National Convention to promote the book in advance of its August release.

## 2016

**Sarah Bermudez** has been promoted to market president for the Jacksonville area at Workscapes.



Aiden Mesic

Congratulations to **Dan Foley** and Alex Gayda who wed on July 2 in Los Angeles, California.

**Kate Mesic** and her husband, Jay, welcomed their baby son Aiden on July 11. Congratulations.



Dan and Alex Foley

## Various

A recap of LJ alumni running for elected office on August 30: U.S. House of Representatives 4th District - **John Rutherford** (LJ 1995), **Hans Tanzler** (LJ 1984); U.S. House of Representatives 5th District - **Corrine Brown** (LJ 1979); Florida House District 11 - **Donnie Horner** (LJ 2015); Florida House District 13 - **Keith Walters** (CLE 2013); Florida House District 14 - **Don Gaffney** (LJ 1982); 4th Circuit State Attorney - **Angela Corey** (LJ 1997), **Melissa Nelson** (LJ 2012); 4th Circuit Public Defender - **Charlie Cofer** (LJ 2000); and Duval County School Board District 5 - **Warren Jones** (Honorary). Thank you one and all for your willingness to put your name up for elected service.

Congratulations to the LJ and NLS alumni who were selected by the Jacksonville Business Journal as 2016 Women of Influence: **Jennifer Chapman** (LJ 2008), **Mary Anne Jacobs** (LJ 2015 and NLS XI), **Sabeen Perwaiz** (LJ 2016), **Chris Sapienza** (NLS XIII), **Elana Schrader** (LJ 2007) and **Chris Schwing** (LJ 2015).

IBERIABANK has formed a local advisory board that includes **Dane Grey** (LJ 2014) and **Michael Munz** (LJ 1997). **Abel Harding** (LJ 2013) is the North Florida Market President for IBERIABANK.

**Ken Babby** (NLS XIV) and **Ray Driver** (LJ 2007) have been named to the Board of Trustees for Jacksonville University.

Marks Gray, P.A. shareholders were selected as 2016 Florida Super Layers by Florida Super Lawyers Magazine: **Gerald Weedon** (LJ 1985), **Giselle Carson** (LJ 2005), **Jill Bechtold** (LJ 2015) and **William Corley** (LJ 1992).

## Collegiate Leadership Experience

**Allishia Bauman** (CLE 2012) has been promoted to chief of staff at City Year Jacksonville.

**Elana Farhat** (CLE 2015) graduated from the FBI Citizens Academy. She is the youngest to ever graduate.

**Loren McLendon** (YLJ XVIII/CLE 2013) graduated from Florida A&M University in 2012 with a degree in Biology with Honors. She attended Indiana University School of Medicine where she was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honors Society. She graduated in May and is currently a pediatric resident at UF Health. Her training will continue at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville and Nemours Children's Specialty Care Center in child neurology. She hopes to practice in the greater Jacksonville area upon completion of her training.

**Nicole Saunders** (CLE 2013) graduated from the University of Florida Levin College of Law and is an attorney with Fidelity Information Systems.

## Youth Leadership Jacksonville

**Kush Desai** (YLJ XXVI) was named a Student Leader by Bank of America. Kush participated in a Student Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. and will intern at Communities in Schools of Jacksonville's summer camp program.

**Michael Kerekes** (YLJ XV) is a candidate for Clay County Commissioner District 1.

**Amy Nicotra** (YLJ XXI) graduated from Florida State University in December 2015 with a degree in Criminology. She worked as a legislative assistant in the Florida Senate after graduation and will attend the University of Florida Levin College of Law this fall.

**Will Stross** (YLJ XVII) graduated from the University of South Florida in 2012 with a major in Biomedical Sciences, a minor in Leadership Studies, having completed the Honors College curriculum and played lacrosse for the USF Bulls. He graduated from the Florida State University College of Medicine in May and has returned home to Jacksonville to train at the Mayo Clinic specializing in radiation oncology. He looks forward to practicing in northeast Florida after his training.

**Matt Wilhelm** (YLJ XX) graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and minor in Anthropology in May 2015. While at UF he was a founder of the Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, a researcher at UF Health's Department of Radiation-Oncology and a first author of a paper titled "Pulmonary Vascular Pruning in Response to Radiation." After receiving a Masters in Medical Sciences from the University of South Florida he will begin at Nova Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine this fall.

## Notes of Sympathy

Our condolences to **Pam Paul** (LJ 1995) and her family upon the passing on July 14 of her father, Robert H. Paul III (Bobby).

Our condolences to **Carolyn Gentry** (LJ 1979) and her family upon the death of her nephew Henry Brewster on July 16.



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Leadership Jacksonville, [www.LeadershipJax.org](http://www.LeadershipJax.org),  
40 East Adams Street, Suite 230, Jacksonville, FL 32202