



November 2018

# THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

Sponsored by

JACKSONVILLE  
**Record & Observer**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY \* YLJ APPLICATIONS \* ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT \*  
CLASS NOTES \* LEADERS WANTED

The Leadership Jacksonville Office will be CLOSED  
November 22-23, 2018 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

REMINDER

**Nominations are OPEN**  
**for Leadership Jacksonville**  
**Class of 2020**



Nominations are open (online only) through **December 14**. Remember you may nominate more than one candidate and candidates only need one nomination.

**Visit the website for program details, selection information, calendar and the link to begin your nomination.**

Please explain the LJ program to your prospective candidates to ensure they have interest before nominating them.



## Employment Opportunity

Leadership Jacksonville is seeking a **Digital Communications and Research Coordinator** responsible for generating and managing digital and non-digital information including blogs, social media, newsletters, yearbook and website for Leadership Jacksonville.

Resumé and cover letter should be submitted by email to **Jill Dame**.

Click above to view job description.

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## Class of 2019



**LEADERSHIP**  
JACKSONVILLE

Thank you to The Bolles School for sponsoring Education Day on October 25.

We acknowledge and appreciate Edward Jones/Pam Gerrish Nelson, CFP for sponsoring breakfast and the University of North Florida for sponsoring the afternoon break.



Kasey Wagner and  
Twyla Ashman



Michael Connor, Tonya Ray  
Bailey, Patrick Johnson and Kelly  
Pourciau



Jen Vihrachoff and Coretta Hill

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## Youth Leadership Jacksonville Class XXIX



**LEADERSHIP**  
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**YOUTH LEADERSHIP**



Smart move.®

Thank you to Fidelity Investments for sponsoring YLJ XXIX "Leading for a Lifetime" program day on October 11.

Ethics and integrity in government and public service were front and center as participants engaged with civic leaders and experienced first-hand how city government operates.



Volunteer speaker  
Ju'Coby Pittman (LJ 1993)



Volunteer speaker  
Gary Flower (LJ 1992)

**ATTENTION!** Family and Friends of Current  
High School Freshmen



**LEADERSHIP**  
JACKSONVILLE

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP**

Youth Leadership Jacksonville applications for the 2019-2020 school year have been sent to participating high schools in Baker, Clay, Duval and St. Johns counties. Help us spread the word.

Current freshmen are eligible to apply for participation (participation is during their sophomore year). The forty-one participating schools submit up to six candidates for consideration. Since 1989 more than 1,300 students have participated in YLJ.

Contact **Meg Folds**, Youth Programs Director, for questions about YLJ and if you would like to know the name of a school's point of contact.

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## 2018 Alumni Luncheon



Lori Boyer with Alumni Relations Chair Lori Day (LJ 2017) and President Clark Robertson (LJ 2012)



Maria Hane (LJ 2002) with President Clark Robertson (LJ 2012) and Courtenay Wilson (LJ 1979)



Laurie DuBow with Alumni Relations Chair Lori Day (LJ 2017) and President Clark Robertson (LJ 2012)

The Annual Alumni Luncheon on October 30 was a huge fun-filled event with more than 195 in attendance. We were pleased to honor **Maria Hane** with the Tillie K. Fowler Distinguished Leadership Award and to extend a special welcome to our new Honorary members **Lori Boyer** and **Laurie DuBow**.

**LJ Class of 2016** was recognized for the second year as the "Best Class".



LJ Class 2016: Front - Billy Wagner, Seth Shapiro, Josh Cockrell, Megan Del Pizzo, Sarah Bermudez, and Ann Sabbag; Back - Dan Foley, Ali Kasraeian, Karen Feagins, Steve Kowkabany, Rachel Bechtel, Jesse Forst, Stacy Aubrey, Chris Kennelly, Michael Huskey and Jeffrey Bernardo



Harold Crow (LJ 2018), Debbie Johnson (LJ 2011) and Kevin Conklin (LJ 2018)



Noah Henderson (LJ 1983) and Barbara Moulding (LJ 1998)



Faith Hall (LJ 2017), Cindy Watson (LJ 2014), Amy D'Olimpio (LJ 2017) and Dawn Gilman (LJ 2018)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Nomination ARE OPEN for LJ Class of 2020**

Monday, October 1, 2018 through Friday, December 14, 2018

### **YLJ XXIX Program Day**

Thursday, November 8, 2018  
"Inside the System"

### **LJ 2019 Program Day**

Thursday, November 15, 2018  
Justice Day

### **LJ Office Closed for Thanksgiving holiday**

November 22-23, 2018

## Alumni Spotlight



### **Clint Pyle LJ Class of 2017**

While Clint is a more recent LJ alumnus, he immediately jumped back in and volunteered with our youth programs, especially Collegiate Leadership Experience. When asked why, Clint replied that he "personally grew and benefited from my LJ experience and I want to make sure future participants have the same positive experience I had." The connections with people impacted him as he really enjoyed the opportunity to meet and interact with such a diverse group. LJ gave him a chance to see Jacksonville from a different perspective and understand what our city truly has to offer.

Alumni Spotlight is brought to you by the Alumni Relations committee and features short interviews with Leadership Jacksonville alumni.

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## CLASS NOTES

### 1982

**Deborah Thompson** received the Rutledge Pearson Award at the 53rd Freedom Fund dinner held by the Jacksonville Branch of the NAACP.

### 1985

**Sarah Van Cleve** was presented the Key to the City by Mayor Lenny Curry during an awards banquet held by Literacy Pros of Jacksonville, a nonprofit that Sarah helped to found 15 years ago. Sara has been actively involved in helping adults in Jacksonville learn to read and founded Literacy Pros to train tutors to help eradicate illiteracy. The nonprofit also established a Sarah Van Cleve Achievement Award in honor of her dedication and leadership.



Jimmy Midyette (LJ 2018) and Robert White (LJ 1995)

### 1988

Congratulations to **George Penick** who retired on June 30 after 10 years as head of school at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Ridgeland, MS.

### 1991

**Nina Waters** was honored by the Jewish National Fund at its Bernard Selevan Tree of Life Dinner in October.

### 1999

**LaTanya Wynn-Hall** was selected as the Florida Head Start Association Administrator of the Year and was recognized at the Awards Luncheon on October 31 in West Palm Beach.

### 2000

**Dave Tuttle** has announced his retirement at the end of the year as executive director of Presbyterian Social Ministries. Dave founded the organization in 2004 as a faith-based social service program.

### 2001

Congratulations to **Mal Redington** who retired from WJXT TV-4 in August after forty years. Mal started at Channel 4 as a part-time camera operator in 1979 and held a number of positions over the years, most recently director of programs and partnerships.

### 2002

**Kristie Naines** joined United Way of Northeast Florida as senior vice president, major gifts.

### 2006

**Kevin Holzendorf**, now serving as vice chair of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority, has been elected to serve on The American Public Transportation Association's Executive Committee. This is a three year term.

**Glenda Washington** was keynote speaker at JAX Chamber's Small Business Center's 25th Anniversary celebration luncheon. Glenda was formerly director of minority business development for the Center. She is currently with Go Topeka Economic Development.

### 2007

**Sandy Golding** is running for Jacksonville Beach City Council, District 3, Seat 6. Our apologies that we didn't catch this earlier.

**Brad Thoburn** was named Michael Baker International vice president and southeast regional transit and surface transportation planning lead.

### 2008



Leila Sundstrom (LJ 2015) and Deidra Johnson (LJ 2018)

**Michael Freed** received the 2018 Jacksonville University Distinguished Alumni Award of Excellence. The award was presented during halftime of JU's homecoming football game.

Congratulations to **Steve Jorgensen** who was named senior vice president of Covenant Health and president of St. Mary's Health System in Lewiston, Maine. Steve began his new position in August.

### 2010

**Paul Tutwiler** received the 38th Annual Successful Role Model Award 2018 from The Greater El-Beth-El Divine Holiness Church.

### 2011

**Marty McAndrew** has relocated to Orlando where he is regional vice president-central Florida middle market banking for Wells Fargo.

### 2012

**Melissa Nelson** has been named to a three year term on the Crime Gun Intelligence Governing Board. This is an initiative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the board meets biannually in cities across the United States.



LJ 2018 alums Kathleen Shaw and Keith Marks

The Port of Corpus Christi has appointed **Clark Robertson** as its Chief Operating Officer. In his new role, Clark will oversee the Port of Corpus Christi's engineering services, environmental planning & compliance, operations, safety and security functions and personnel. Clark is going to complete his term as LJ's board president, commuting or teleconferencing as necessary.

### 2013

Congratulations to **Carson Tranquille** who retired in June after more than 30 years with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. Carson has filed to run for Jacksonville City Council District 2. The election will be in May.

### 2015

**Charlene Shirk** is co-chairing the third annual Real Men Wear Pink campaign to support the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Jacksonville.



Stuart Thompson (LJ 2019) and David Szymanski (NLS 2018)

### 2017

Congratulations to **Stephanie Stephens** on her new position as an early literacy content specialist for EdReports.org, an independent nonprofit providing reviews of K-12 instruction materials.

**Patrick Krechowski** has joined Jimerson & Cobb, P.A. as a partner. Patrick is also serving as co-chair of the Urban Land North Florida Institute's Center for Leadership.

### 2018

Congratulations to **Luke Layow** who was selected as the director of advancement for The Stony Brook School

in Stony Brook, NY.

Congratulations to **Ryan Wannemacher** for being named chief financial officer for JEA (no longer interim!).

### 2019

**Tonya Ray Bailey** has been accepted into the Jacksonville Women's Network.

Congratulations to **Nader Farhat** and his wife Melissa who welcomed their son Rami Bader on September 28 at 5:39 p.m.

### New Leadership Summit

**Greg Kleffner** (NLS 2010) plans to retire from his role as Stein Mart's chief financial officer in the spring. Greg will continue in his role until a successor is appointed, then serve in an advisory role to assist with the transition.

After 14 years, **Jonathan Lever** (NLS 2004) left YMCA of the USA on August 31 to pursue new professional opportunities.



Rami Bader Farhat

### Collegiate Leadership Experience

**Hampton Ray** (CLE 2008) is now with San Jose Episcopal Day School as director of marketing and development.

**Bryan Silva** (CLE 2011) is now a board certified nurse practitioner.

### Various

**Joby Birr** (LJ 2011) and **Charles Jimerson** (LJ 2013) were named 2018 Super Lawyers by Florida Super Lawyers Magazine.

Congratulations to our LJ alumni who were recognized by Jacksonville Area Legal Aid for their extraordinary pro bono legal service: **Crystal Freed** (LJ 2013), An Advocate for Survivors; **Doug Milne** (LJ 1978), a "Go to" Advocate for Decades and **Nina Sasser** (LJ 1985), General Practitioner for Some Most in Need.

**Michael Munz** (LJ 1997) and **Lance Windley** (LJ 2013) have joined the board of trustees of the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens.

Attorney At Law Magazine named its Champion 8 Top Civil Litigators and the group included **Fred Franklin** (LJ 1998), **Jep Barbour** (LJ 1991), **Braxton Gillam** (LJ 2002) and **Charlie Jimerson** (LJ 2013).

Leadership Jacksonville was well represented in the awards given by the Professional Women's Council of the JAX Chamber at its Inaugural Women Connecting Women event in October. **Rosa Beckett** (LJ 2007) received the Corporate Supporter of Women in Business award. **Juliet Negrete-Anderson** (LJ 1997) received the Professional Business Woman of the Year. **Wanda Willis** (LJ 2002) was named the Professional Minority Woman. **Snowden McFall** (LJ 2010) was co-chair of the event.

**Audrey Moran** (LJ 1989) and **Rena Coughlin** (LJ 2004) will be serving another three-year term with the LeRoy Collins Institute, a statewide nonpartisan policy organization.

**Michael Biagini** (LJ 2017) and **Laura Gonzales** (LJ 2018) have been selected to participate in the Urban Land North Florida Institute's Center for Leadership Class of 2019.

## NOTES OF SYMPATHY

Our condolences to **Laura Ureta Grand** (LJ 1989) upon the death of her daughter Yvonne Lisa Grand on May 12 and her husband Walter on September 17.

Our condolences to **Mallory Durden Cooper** (LJ 2000) and **Brenna Durden** (LJ 1998) and their families upon the death of Mallory's mother and Brenna's mother-in-law, Agnes Durden, on October 10.

Our condolences to the family and friends of **George Corrick** (Honorary) upon his passing on October 10. George was previously the dean/vice president of university relations and development for the University of North Florida. He was active at UNF with the initial construction, creation of the Alumni Association and University Foundation. He also taught masters candidates in the UNF College of Education and Human Services prior to his retirement in 1998.

Our condolences to **Michael Corrigan Jr.** (LJ 1997), **Chelsea Corrigan Kennedy** (YLJ XIX), **David Yazdiya** (YLJ XIX), **Emily Corrigan** (YLJ XXI), **Shelby Wood** (YLJ XXII) and **Casey Wood** (YLJ XXV) on the loss of Michael's mother and our YLJ graduates' grandmother, Caroline Corrigan, on October 12.

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Tyrone Gayle** (YLJ XV, 2004-05) who at age 30 passed away of colon cancer on October 25 at Sloan Kettering in New York. Tyrone was most recently in Washington as press secretary to U.S. Senator Kamala Harris from California. Tyrone was a graduate of Clemson University and Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

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## LEADERS WANTED

### Hope Haven

Hope Haven is seeking candidates with expertise in intellectual/developmental differences, lobbying/governmental affairs or actively involved with the Chamber of Commerce for its 2019 Board Cohort. Interested candidates should contact Laura Brunner at 904-346-5100, ext. 247 or [laurab@hope-haven.org](mailto:laurab@hope-haven.org) to schedule a tour and meeting with chief executive officer Stella Johnson.

Candidates for the 2019 Cohort will be invited to attend Hope Haven's March 19, 2019 meeting as a guest prior to election. Orientation for the 2019 Board Cohort is April 9, 2019.

## 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.

[DONATE NOW](#)

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