

## Appointments

■ **MBJ Group**, a talent management company, recently led the search for the new executive director of the **Animal Rescue Coalition** (ARC), a not-for-profit organization with programs designed to reduce overpopulation in local animal shelters and make Sarasota and surrounding counties true no-kill communities.

With a background in finance and operations, **Mary Dietterle** took the helm of the nonprofit in February. During her 20-year



Mary Dietterle

career, she has held several executive-level business management positions. Most recently, she led the business operations and organizational development for the energy division of a global supply chain manager with offices in North America, Europe and Asia.

In her new role, Mary will continue ARC's mission of proactively offering spay and neuter programs, comprehensive adoption support and various other preemptive initiatives to reduce pet overpopulation.

Sarasota residents and co-owners Jim and Mary Beth Bos founded MJB Group in 2000. The company focuses on four areas, including facilitating searches for nonprofit and for-profit organizations, working with professionals in career transition, utilizing career assessments to assist organizations in the hiring process and coaching senior-level executives.

■ **Cutting Loose Salon** has promoted four of its stylists. **Emily Parris** was promoted to Senior Stylist (University location); **Mackenzie Foote** was promoted to Stylist (University location); **Taliyah Woodruff** was promoted to Designer Stylist (University location); **Abby Dimmler** was promoted to Stylist (Lakewood Ranch location).

Cutting Loose in the Square at UTC Plaza, 8429 Honore Avenue, University Park. Cutting Loose is in River Club Plaza, 5820 Ranch Lake Boulevard, #112 in Lakewood Ranch.

■ Transaction and litigation real estate attorney **Nancy E. Cason** has been named Managing Partners for the Sarasota law firm of **Syprett, Meshad, Resnick, Lieb, Dumbaugh, Jones, Krotec & Westheimer, P.A.** Cason holds the AV Preeminent rating, the highest possible rating from the Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings.

Cason serves on the Twelfth Circuit Judicial Nominating



Nancy E. Cason

Commission, her second appointment to the position by the Governor. She has been selected as a Florida "Rising Star" for the last five consecutive years, by Super Lawyers (Thomson Reuters), and is Secretary for the Sarasota County Bar Association Board of Directors. In 2015 she was recognized by Legal Aid of Manasota for her pro bono legal service, and she has served previously on the Board of Directors for Girls Inc.

■ **Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources** Director **Sarabeth Kalajian** has been appointed to the **State Library Council**, which serves as the advisory board for the Florida Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services. Kalajian will be responsible for assisting the division in the development of statewide information services for Florida citizens. The nine-member council includes representatives from the public, academia, special and multi-type cooperative libraries.

"It's not only an honor to be appointed to the council, but also very humbling," Kalajian said, adding, "Libraries play an important role in all of our lives, and I'm looking forward to sharing Sarasota County's philosophies and programs with our statewide partners." To learn more about Sarasota County's library system, visit [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net).

■ **Community AIDS Network** (CAN) has promoted **Lori Denny** to the position of Director of Marketing and Communications. Denny is an experienced marketing professional and former business owner. With many years in the small business for-profit world, Denny joined Community AIDS Network, a local non-profit organization serving the community for over 25 years, to dedicate her efforts for the direct benefit of people in need.

■ **The Sarasota YMCA** has announced the appointment of **Laura Gilbert** to President and



Laura Gilbert

Chief Executive Officer. After serving as the interim President and CEO since October 2016, Gilbert will continue to guide the operations of the Y while planning for future growth. As a 20-year employee of

the Sarasota YMCA, Gilbert has served the Y in many capacities including Director of Contracts, VP of Operations and Interim President and CEO.

Gilbert is the first woman to lead the organization in this role in its 71-year history. A graduate of Florida State University, Gilbert earned her MBA at St. Leo University and is a Certified Fundraising Executive. She is also a member of The Association of YMCA Professionals, North American YMCA Development Organization and the Association for Fundraising Professionals.

■ **The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce** has added two new staff members, **Megan Neal** and **Darlene Martin**, and the promotion of **Craig McGonigal**.

Megan Neal, Membership & Events Coordinator will assist the Membership Team as the go-to person for events and member related questions. Raised in Sarasota, she spent most of her days growing up on our gorgeous Gulf beaches and is a graduate of the University of South Florida. Outside of her professional pursuits, she spends her time writing, enjoying time with her wonderful husband, traveling to her favorite Disney parks, and being a proud aunt to 17 beautiful nieces and nephews.



Megan Neal

Darlene Martin, Membership Investment Representative will be responsible for bringing in new Chamber members. Hailing from New York originally and growing up in Atlanta, GA. Martin is a graduate of Kennesaw State University in Georgia with an associate's degree in Business Administration and comes to us with over two decades of sales and business-to-business experience working to increase value to customers. She resides in the Sarasota/Bradenton area and enjoys the beaches, the water and practicing hot yoga for the past 5 years.



Darlene Martin

Craig McGonigal, formerly the Membership & Events Coordinator, was recently promoted to Membership Engagement Manager. McGonigal's new role, will be working with members to ensure satisfaction and assist with member engagement.



From left: Del Carr, assistant professor in physical therapy, Priscilla Glanville, professor in language and literature and Crystal Gambino, associate professor in natural science.

## Accolades

■ **State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota** (SCF) congratulates three SCF professors who have received leadership excellence awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).

**Del Carr**, assistant professor in physical therapy, **Crystal Gambino**, associate professor in natural science, and **Priscilla Glanville**, professor in language and literature, all received the NISOD Excellence Awards. NISOD is an organization committed to promoting excellence in teaching, learning and leadership.

SCF employees nominate faculty members based on their work for the year. The previous year's NISOD winners from SCF evaluate their applications and choose the winners. NISOD Excellence Award winners have attended continuing education courses on cutting edge topics in higher education. They also have presented information to their peers. For more information on SCF, visit [SCF.edu](http://SCF.edu).

■ **Leadership Sarasota County** hosted **Celebrate Outstanding Leadership Awards** on April 18. They honored three influential graduates of the Leadership Sarasota County program in three categories: **Lifetime of Leadership**, **Impact In Action**, and **Leadership Sarasota Dedication**.

From the Leadership Class of 2002 **Kathy Lehner** was honored with the "Lifetime of Leadership" Award. Kathy been involved with the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce where she has been a member since 1991 and served as board chair as well as with Venice MainStreet where she served as board president. She began her career in real estate more than 20 years ago and currently works for Premier Sotheby's International Realty.

**Tim Self** was the honoree for the "Impact In Action" Award. Tim is Senior Vice President of Investments at Insignia Bank and a graduate of the 2014 Leadership Class. He has been active in the Sarasota business community since 1996 and has served on the boards of several organizations including Women's Resource Center, Designing Women Boutique, Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Sertoma Club of Greater Sarasota, and, most recently, national Sertoma, Inc.

Since 2002, **Monica Van Buskirk** has been involved

as a volunteer, board member, and donor to the Van Wezel Foundation, and now serves as its President and CEO. Under Van Bus Kirk's leadership The Foundation realized double-digit annual growth and won numerous awards, including the 2014 Frank G. Berlin, Sr. Best Cultural Organization of the Year award from the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. Monica was honored with the "Leadership Sarasota Dedication" Award.

## Board News

■ **Goodwill Manasota** has announced its 2017-2018 Board of Directors. **Peter Crowley** is the chairman of the board with immediate past chair **Rob Morris** holding the title of chair emeritus. **Drayton Saunders** is serving as secretary/treasurer.

Goodwill's 2017-18 directors are **Steve Boone**, **Debbie Douglas**, **Rae Dowling**, **Rod Hollingsworth**, **Sandy Kirkpatrick**, **Lisl Liang**, **Alan Maio**, **Alex Floethe**, **Brad West** and **Richard Wharton**. Lifetime member is **Stu Gregory**.

Crowley has served on the Goodwill Manasota board of directors since 2004 and served as chair in 2010. Newest board member Alex Floethe is the managing partner at S'macks Burgers & Shakes.

## Real Estate News

■ **Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate - Atchley Properties**, a locally owned real estate firm specializing in residential, luxury and commercial properties, has announced that **Angela Rose** is appointed as the Executive Vice President of Sales and Business Development. This addition accompanies the brokerage's new affiliation with the Better Homes & Gardens International Franchise Network.

Having more than three decades, Rose has garnered recognition as a top-selling, multi-million dollar producer, consistently closing 60+ transactions per year. She is a licensed Florida Realtor, a recent graduate of Harvard University's Master Negotiation Institute, and has earned her Master Training Certificate from the AT-D's Master Training Program. ☺

Send Your News to:  
[westcoastwoman@comcast.net](mailto:westcoastwoman@comcast.net)

You can now find this column on our website. Visit us there at:  
[www.westcoastwoman.com](http://www.westcoastwoman.com)