

Accolades

■ **The Westminster Kennel Club**, established in 1877, remains America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs. Sarasota resident **Sydney LeBlanc Good** will be among the judges



Sydney LeBlanc Good

of the 144th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. This will be LeBlanc's first Westminster judging assignment, as she will officiate several breeds during the preliminary showmanship and competition, held at Pier 94 in New York City on February 9-11.

Good is assigned to judge Whippets, Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, English Setters, Irish Setters, Vizslas, Weimaraners and Wirehaired Vizslas. All 'Best of Breed' winners she selects will go on to advance in the Hound and Toy Groups that following Monday evening, and the final Best in Show competition, held at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening.

For more than 60 years, Good has been involved in the sport of dogs. She is approved to judge numerous Sporting, Hound, Working, Toy and Non-Sporting breeds. Good's vast experience has provided her the opportunity to observe a number of dogs with the utmost obedience, agility and pedigree, as well as have discussions with the world's most renowned breeders.

She has personally owned multiple Doberman Pinschers, Poodles, Vizslas, Whippets, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Chihuahuas and Brussel Griffons. "I am looking forward to judging the top dogs from all over the country!" says Good. "It is an awesome thrill and honor to be officiating such a prestigious event."

Appointments

■ **Diana L. Dill** has joined the **Education Foundation of Sarasota County (EFSC)** as chief development officer, announced EFSC President Jennifer Vigne.



Diana L. Dill

In her new role at EFSC, Dill serves as the principal fundraising officer for EFSC. She is responsible for the oversight, planning and implementation of a comprehensive fundraising program that secures significant financial resources. This includes managing all major gift functions, planned and annual giving, special campaigns, and fundraising events.

Dill most recently was regional development officer and vice president of development for Feeding America local affiliates throughout a 10-county region, including Meals on Wheels and Food Bank of Manatee. Prior positions include 11 years as executive director of Take Stock in Children of Manatee County (TSIC). In that role, Dill led daily operations of a college readiness, mentor and scholarship program for 400 students and 200 volunteers. She received four state excellence awards for her work with TSIC.

Dill's community involvement includes serving on the boards of Cradle to College Foundation, Bradenton Kiwanis Club and Citizens' Financial Advisory Committee. She is a member of Manatee Chamber of Commerce, Lakewood Ranch Business Alliance, and Gulf Coast Latin Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, visit EdFoundationSRQ.org.

■ **Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.** has announced that **Evelyn Almodovar** has been selected to serve as the organization's new Program Director. In 2013, Almodovar founded an international nonprofit which focused on assisting children in the Dominican Republic so they can have access to basic needs and educational opportunities.

Almodovar holds a BA from Post University in Human Services and Counseling and is currently completing a Master Degree in Public Administration. She has led initiatives around non-profit development, community organizing and understanding the systematic issues in communities that act as unintentional barriers to individuals accessing its resources.

■ Centerstone's Regional Chief Executive Officer **Melissa Larkin-Skinner** has been named a member of the Direct Support Organization for the **Statewide Council on Human Trafficking** by Florida House Speaker Jose R. Oliva. Her appointment is effective immediately and expires October 24, 2021.

A licensed mental health counselor with 25 years of experience in mental health and addiction prevention and treatment, Larkin-Skinner has worked with children and adults of all ages in diverse programs including inpatient, outpatient, crisis intervention, intensive community-based and child welfare. She has designed and operated innovative programs to meet community needs, including the first children's Community Action Treatment (CAT) team in 2004. CAT has been adopted as Florida's statewide model serving youth who are struggling with severe mental health, behavioral and co-occurring disorders, along with their families.

Larkin-Skinner regularly provides state and federal policy feedback and engages in legislative advocacy as a mental health and addiction subject-matter expert in Tallahassee and Washington, DC. She has led Centerstone in the rapid expansion of treatment services for individuals

fighting opioid addiction, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in hospital, clinic and jail-based sites. She currently serves as the only behavioral health provider on the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission.

■ At its November, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, the **Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority** unanimously elected Commissioner **Kristin Incrocci** as Chairman for 2020. Chairman Incrocci served previously as Vice Chairman in 2019. She was appointed to the board in March of 2017 to Manatee County – Seat 1 and reappointed in January of 2019 by then Governor Rick Scott. Completing the officers for the Airport Authority board will be John Stafford as Vice Chairman, and Doug Holder as Secretary.

Real Estate News

■ **Cindy Esselburn** has joined **RE/MAX Platinum Realty** as a Realtor in the Venice office. With 17 years of local real estate experience, she brings extensive market knowledge and strong negotiation skills.



Cindy Esselburn

Esselburn is active in the Venice Area Board of Realtors (VABR), serving on the Board of Directors for five years and as President of the Board in 2015. She has been involved in community outreach and high school scholarship efforts, and currently serves as Director for Stellar MLS. She also serves on the Affordable/Attainable Workforce Housing Committee for Florida Realtors.

She earned the VABR 2016 Volunteer of the Year and 2017 Realtor of the Year awards. She is a Seniors Real Estate Specialist (SRES) and Certified Negotiation Specialist (CNE), and holds the Short Sales & Foreclosure Resource (SFR) and At Home With Diversity (AHWD) designations.

The Venice office is located at 307 W. Venice Avenue. Esselburn can be reached at (941) 786-4731 or cindyesselburn@gmail.com.

Nonprofit Board News

■ The Board of Directors of **The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee** approved its new slate of officers for 2020 at its December meeting. **Randon Carvel** will serve as the new president of the board.

"My goals as the new president will include continuing to raise valuable resources in order to provide for those members of our community who still have real needs in spite of the economic gains most of our community has experienced," Carvel said. "In light of the amazing growth of our local Jewish community, now with

approximately 35,000 people living in Jewish households, we hope to engage them in even more meaningful ways both on our incredible re-imagined 32-acre campus and by bringing Federation to them throughout our two-county area."

Past President **Michael Ritter** noted, "During the last two years, through the hard work of our talented staff and lay leadership, we've made great progress toward realizing our vision of redeveloping our 32-acre campus, as well as successfully launching our capital campaign required to fund the project. We also completed our first community-wide population study in 18 years, which will provide the Federation and other Jewish organizations valuable information about the needs and wants of our community members.

Other officers will include **Michael Ritter**, Immediate Past President; **Ian Black**, Vice-President Campus Utilization; **Merrill Wynne**, Vice-President Development; **Stacy Hanan**, Vice-President Capital Campaign; **Bob Israeloff**, Treasurer; **David Millstone**, Secretary and Governance Officer; and at-large officers: **Tom Bernstein**, **Roz Goldberg**, **Anne Spindel**, **Peter Wells** and **Patti Wertheimer**.

New board members include **Joel Morganroth**, **Mark Smotkin** and **Larry Zaslavsky**. Dr. Morganroth serves as a Trustee of Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

Mark Smotkin is from York, Pennsylvania, and was a partner with Ernst & Young, specializing in transactional tax law, primarily serving the private equity industry. **Larry Zaslavsky** is a CPA and an attorney who spent his career purchasing and running many small to medium-sized companies.

Other directors include **Sepi Ackerman**, **Marsha Eisenberg**, **Linda Lipson**, **Bunny Skirboll**, **Len Drexler**, **Lauren Fineman**, **Mary Gratehouse**, **Wayne Ruben**, **Alan Silverglat**, **Mel Taub** and **Michelle Mitchell**. Lifetime members of the Board of Directors include **Barbara Ackerman**, **Alan Ades**, **Tom Bernstein**, **David Chaifetz**, **Roz Goldberg**, **Lewis Hanan**, **Lois Stulberg** and **Patti Wertheimer**.

Cycling off the board this year are **Al Ernst**, **Simone Knego**, **Iris Nahemow**, **Nancy Roucher** and **Andrea Sukin**.

■ **The John and Mabel Ringling Museum of Art** has a new slate of officers and appointed four members to the board. **Nancy J. Parrish** will serve as Board Chair, **Jeffrey R. Hotchkiss** as Vice Chair, **Edward M. Swan, Jr.**, CFA as Treasurer and **Dr. Sarah H. Pappas**, as Secretary for the next fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2020. The Honorable **Dennis Archer**, **Leon R. Ellin**, **Leslie (Les) Victor Pantin** and **Debra Short** were named to the Board.

Nancy J. Parrish, Chair, is a private investor and collector. Nancy was founding co-chair of Human Rights Watch, northern California Chapter. She served two terms as Development Trustee of Friends of UCSF's Dept. of Psychiatry's

Hospital Board, focusing on the creation of a children's center. Nancy served as a board member and Chief Negotiator with the federal government for Plum Orchard Foundation, whose mission was to preserve the historic Carnegie estate within the Cumberland Island National Seashore.

She currently serves as vice president of The Children's Guardian Fund of Sarasota. Before 1996, Nancy was founder and managing partner of Parrish, Smith Associates, a southern-based consulting firm. Nancy is a native Floridian. She is married to Chuck Parrish, co-founder of Phone.com (PHCM) now Openwave Systems, Inc. (OPWV) and Chairman of the Board of Family Independence Initiative.

Jeffrey R. Hotchkiss, Vice Chair, is a retired President of Teradyne, a Boston based manufacturer of systems for the testing of electronic products.

Edward M. Swan, Jr., CFA, Treasurer. He was a captain in the U.S. Air Force. Ed has over 35 years of experience in institutional investment management, marketing and enterprise management.

Dr. Sarah H. Pappas, Secretary Her experience in Florida's higher education system includes 44 years of holding progressively more responsible positions at three community colleges and the University of Central Florida. She served as president of State College of Florida (formally Manatee Community College) from 1997 until 2008. From 2008, she served as President of the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation.

The Honorable Dennis Archer is the Chairman and chief executive officer at Dennis W. Archer, PLLC. His areas of practice include appellate, arbitration, commercial and business litigation, and labor law.

Leon R. Ellin serves as chief financial officer and Executive vice president for Voit Corporation, headquartered in San Antonio, Texas.

Leslie (Les) Victor Pantin is Founder and President of Pantin/Berber Silverstein Public Relations. The firm, whose services include media and community relations, social media, crisis communications and special events, is a unit of Berber Silverstein Group (BSG), a full service advertising, marketing and media placement agency. Debra (Deb) Short grew up in the Midwest and attended the University of Missouri-Columbia, majoring in Art History. However, after 25+ years in the retail management and buying arena for Bealls Department and JC Penney Department Stores, Short was fortunate to find her way back to her first love, the appreciation of art, by volunteering at The Ringling.

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