

Accolades

■ Barbara Ford-Coates, Tax Collector for Sarasota County



Barbara Ford-Coates

has earned a special designation for excellence in the field of financial operations. The process involved for consideration of the **Legacy Award** is rigorous and includes a comprehensive review of the financial functions of the Tax Collector's Office, to include a meticulous review, by a judging panel, of the Tax Collectors' financial records, practices and use of technology.

"The Legacy Award is one of the most significant honors the Florida Tax Collectors Association awards a local Tax Collector," said Association President, Sharon Jordan, of Suwannee County. Barbara Ford-Coates has earned the designation for excellence in the field of financial operations."

A five person judging panel made up of government financial executives from throughout Florida examined the Tax Collector's processes as related to the following four areas of competency: Innovation & Automation; Perfect Annual Audit Report; Customer Focus; and Budgeting.

Ford-Coates has consistently earned the Excellence in Financial Operations Award after exhibiting proficiency in these four areas of expertise. However, for the 2017 Legacy Award, Ford-Coates demonstrated that her office had even further enhanced its financial operations.

Tax Collectors carry out State of Florida work at the local level on behalf of Florida's citizens including property tax collections and enforcement; drivers' licenses and motor vehicle services; hunting and fishing licenses; birth certificates, and so much more.

■ USF Sarasota-Manatee's Dr. Kathy Black



Dr. Kathy Black

is keeping notable company these days, from famed TV writer Norman Lear and Disney executive Michael Eisner to U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn. The professor of aging studies and leading force behind **Age-Friendly Sarasota**, a local initiative that urges the development of amenities

accessible at every stage of life, has been included in Next Avenue's "Influencers of Aging."

This top-50 list recognizes advocates, researchers, writers and others who "push beyond traditional boundaries" to change our understanding of aging. The annual list goes back two years and includes, in addition to Lear, Eisner and Sen. Klobuchar, such notables as former U.S. HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, the late Glen Campbell, journalists Maria Shriver and Ellen Goodman, and U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine. It's compiled by Next Avenue, an initiative of AARP and PBS.

Black was nominated this past spring by AARP Florida Director Jeff Johnson. Black said the acknowledgement recognizes not just her recent work with Age-Friendly Sarasota, but her career that started as a nurse and later a graduate student in gerontology 30 years ago at the University of Southern California. She came to USF Sarasota-Manatee in 2002.

Appointments

■ **Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP** (SLK-Law.com), a full-service business law firm, recently welcomed **Jan Oglesby** as its marketing coordinator.



Jan Oglesby

Oglesby brings over 20 years of experience in marketing communications, branding and event planning to Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick. She has worked in several industries, including finance, healthcare, corporate law, forensic engineering and private aviation.

In her new role, she will provide marketing support to the Sarasota office as well as be a key member of the marketing team for firm-wide marketing initiatives. Oglesby will also serve as a community ambassador for the firm and regularly represent Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick at community meetings and activities.

While in Denver, Colo., she previously worked in a marketing role for a law firm and served as a 911 operator for the Aurora Police Department. Her other experience includes working as a radio news reporter and announcer and as a TV news producer and reporter.

■ **Faith Blackburn** has joined the Venice, Florida, office of **MAX Platinum Realty**. She focuses on residential real estate and new construction in Venice, Englewood, Nokomis and the West Villages.

A native of Pennsylvania, Blackburn has a 20-year background in educational technology with



Faith Blackburn

the Baldwin-Whitehall School District in Pittsburgh. After retiring, she worked as a software consultant. RE/MAX Platinum Realty Venice office is located at 307 West Venice Avenue, Venice.

■ **Christine Sensenig, Esquire, of Hultman Sensenig + Joshi** presented an interactive presentation at the International Risk Managers Association's Young Risk Professionals seminar in Dallas, Texas. The purpose of the seminar was to educate Risk Managers about having an impact and role when their companies are faced with harassment, discrimination and retaliation complaints. The seminar was attended by over 100 Risk Managers and the presentation was then filmed for future continuing education use by the International Risk Managers Association.

■ **Venice Regional Bayfront Health** has named **Dawn Beljin, R.N., B.S.N., M.B.A.**, the hospital's chief nursing officer (CNO) responsible for overseeing the nursing staff and related operations across the 312-bed, acute care hospital.

Prior to joining Venice Regional, Beljin was CNO at Dallas Medical Center, a full-service acute care hospital.

Previously, she opened a physician-owned, for-profit hospital in Texas and served as the chief operating officer. She also has served as director of emergency and inpatient services for a not-for-profit community hospital. Her previous nursing experience includes intensive care, post anesthesia care, and charge nurse at an outpatient surgery center.

■ **Sheriff Tom Knight** promoted three deputies to the rank of Sergeant. **Sergeant Xavier Beorlegui** began his law enforcement career in 2003 with the Florida Highway Patrol and joined the sheriff's office in 2009. Since then, he has worked in the Patrol Bureau, Tactical Unit (TAC), Emergency Response Team (ERT), and most recently Special Investigations.

Sergeant Patrick Busenburg began his law enforcement career in 2005 when he earned his Corrections certification and joined the sheriff's office as a Corrections Deputy. Busenburg has earned certifications in both Hostage Negotiations and Crisis Intervention.

Sergeant Stacey Eve began her law enforcement career in August 1994 when she was hired as a Corrections Deputy and eventually transferred to



Sergeant Stacey Eve and Sheriff Tom Knight

the Patrol Bureau. With more than 35 compliment letters, Sergeant Eve is recognized by her supervisors as hard working, organized, and committed to the agency's philosophy of Rightful Policing.

■ **The Sarasota Music Conservatory**, a local nonprofit organization, has added three new faculty members to their staff of music teachers: **Natalie Helm**, cello; **Giuseppina Ciarla**, harp; and **Denise Hoff**, piano. Helm is the principal



Natalie Helm

cellist with the Sarasota Orchestra. She received her Bachelor of Music from Curtis Institute of Music and her Artist Diploma from the Colburn School.

Ciarla, originally from Italy, is the principal harpist with the Sarasota Opera Orchestra. Hoff earned her Master's of Music Degree from the Manhattan School of Music and has over 20 years of teaching experience.

The Sarasota Music Conservatory offers group and private music lessons for students of all ages and levels. Enrollment is offered throughout the year. For more information, call 941-726-3020 or go to sarasotamusiconservatory.org.

Board News

■ **The Sarasota Young Professionals Group (YPG)**, a program of **The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce**, has announced its **2017-2018 Board of Directors**:

Chair: **Robert Young**, Icard, Merrill, Cullis, Timm, Furen & Ginsburg, P.A.; Immediate Past Chair: **Ashley Leon**, Northwestern Mutual; Member at Large: **Murray Devine**, Community Foundation of Sarasota County; Finance Liaison: **Jeff Kattrein**, Coldwell Banker;

Engagement Chair: **Brandon McAllister**, Sarasota Memorial Health Care System; Government Issues Chair: **Jamie Minton**, Girls, Inc.; Programming Chair: **Lauren Joseph**, Sarasota Orchestra; Annual Events Chair: **Leroy Presley**, Intertape Polymer Group

Volunteer Chair: **Branan Jacobs**, Magnify Good; Communications Chair: **Elizabeth Reynolds**, Innovative Agent Services; Recruitment Chair: **So-fie Wachtmeister**, Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium; Partnership Chair: **Carl Watkins**, Allegiant Private Advisors.

For additional information, contact YPG Coordinator, Mimi Cirbusova, at mcirbusova@sarasotachamber.com or 941-556-4038.

Nonprofit News

■ **Goodwill Manasota** earned significant recognition during the recent Goodwill Industries International summer conference in Charlotte, N.C. The organization won the "**Market Leadership by Share of Used Goods**" award for having the highest market penetration of its donor market; "**Market Leadership by Donations**" award for capitalizing on the highest proportion of its available used goods market; and "**Operational Excellence**" award, for donated goods retail operations that exemplify superior operational efficiencies.

Goodwill Manasota has received the "Market Leadership by Share of Used Goods" for four years running; this was Goodwill's third "Market Leadership by Donations" award and second "Operational Excellence" award. The organization is evaluated in the medium-sized agency category, which includes Goodwill agencies with revenues between \$26.9 and \$57.3 million, one of the largest categories.

During the annual conference, Goodwill Industries International recognizes Goodwill agencies that have maximized revenues, capitalized on the highest proportion of the available used goods market, and been efficient in running their operations. Goodwill agencies turn donated goods into revenue; this revenue is used to strengthen the community by offering services and programs that assist people in all walks of life, whether they are trying to find employment, better themselves through education, or transition from military to civilian life.

To learn more about Goodwill, call 941-355-2721 or go to experiencegoodwill.org.

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