

Accolades

■ Mills Elementary School Counselor **Larissa Bennett** is the recipient of the **Florida Counselor of the Year Award**. Bennett received the award at the Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) Convention held November 2-4 in Orlando.

According to FSCA, The School Counselor of the Year Award honors the best of the best - counselors who are running a top-notch, comprehensive school counseling program at either the elementary, middle or high school level.

Bennett has worked for the School District of Manatee



(L-to-R): Dr. Diana Greene, Larissa Bennett and husband, Joshua Bennett, Principal of Bashav Elementary School.

County for 16 years. The former teacher has been a School Counselor for 12 years – and has spent the last four years working at Mills Elementary School in Palmetto.

■ **Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)** Director of Development **Mary Ellen Mancini** was the sole recipient from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Southwest Florida Chapter awarded the **AFP Chamberlain Scholarship** to attend its international conference.

The 2018 AFP International Conference will be held April 15-17 in New Orleans, Louisiana. More than 4,000 fundraising professionals attend the conference which



offers more than 150 different break-out sessions for all levels of fundraising experience.

“AFP has been a wealth of knowledge and support to SPARCC,” said Mary Ellen Mancini. “It is an honor to be a recipient of the scholarship, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to further develop my skills as a fundraising professional.” AFP provides tools and resources that help professional fundraisers.

For more information about SPARCC visit [www.sparcc.net](http://www.sparcc.net), and to learn more about AFP visit [www.afpnet.org](http://www.afpnet.org).

Appointments

■ **The Sarasota YMCA** has named **Debbie Trimble** as the **Senior Vice President of Major Gifts and Planned Giving**. Trimble joined the Sarasota



Debbie Trimble

YMCA in early-November and brings more than 20 years in nonprofit support which focused on fundraising development.

Trimble was previously the Vice President of Development for The New 42nd Street in New York, New York. She also brings fund development experiences from Development Director positions at the La Jolla Playhouse in La Jolla, California and Asolo Repertory Theatre and as Executive Director of the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy in Buffalo, NY.

For more information, visit [www.sarasotaymca.org](http://www.sarasotaymca.org).

■ **Sandra R. Chapnick** co-founded **JoshProvides Epilepsy Assistance Foundation** in 2008 with her late husband Bruce P. Chapnick in honor of and in memory of their son Joshua David who passed away at the age of 28 from an epileptic seizure.



Sandra R. Chapnick

The Board of Directors of JoshProvides Epilepsy Assistance Foundation recently elected Co-Founder Sandi Chapnick as a member of the board and appointed **Andria Bilan** as **Chief Executive Officer**. In addition to serving on the board, Sandi has



Andria Bilan

resumed her role as facilitator of the monthly Epilepsy Support Groups where she shares her experience, offers moral support and emotional comfort, and gives practical advice that may help other parents and caregivers.

Bilan assumed her role as CEO after having served 18 years as Vice President of Development at Jewish Family & Children's Service of the Suncoast, Inc. Bilan

has more than 40 years of executive non-profit experience in Pennsylvania and Florida including the United Way, YWCA and JFCS.

JoshProvides works to improve the lives of those living with epilepsy or other seizure disorders. For more information contact [www.JoshProvides.org](http://www.JoshProvides.org).

■ **Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation** has added two to its team: **Hillary Terhune** and **Elizabeth Connolly**. Hillary joins the Healthcare Foundation as Marketing Coordinator. Prior to joining the team, she was the Social Media Coordinator at Tervis in North Venice.

Elizabeth will be serving as the Healthcare Foundation's New Prospect Research Analyst. Coming to us from Community Health Services in Connecticut, she has over 15 years of fundraising and prospect research experience.

Board News

■ **Emily K. Garriott**, an Associate Attorney with the Sara-



Emily K. Garriott

sota-based law firm of **Syprett, Meshad, Resnick, Lieb, Dumbaugh, Jones, Krotec & Westheimer, P.A.**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the **Children's Guardian Fund (CGF)**. A privately funded organization, CGF provides financial assistance to meet the emergency needs of more than 1,000 children in foster and state care in Florida's 12th Judicial Circuit.

Children's Guardian Fund responds to the needs of children removed from abusive and neglectful homes, as well as funding in support of the recruitment and training of Guardian ad Litem Program volunteers who respond day and night on an emergency basis, to advocate for children in crisis.

Garriott joined Syprett Meshad in May, 2017. Prior to joining the firm she was an Assistant State Attorney in the 12th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office.

■ **Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation** has eight new members joining its Board of Trustees: **Robert G. Bartner, John H. Dejongh, Mary Evelyn Guyton, Robert P. (Bob) Martin, Alexandra (Alex) Miller, Johnathan E. Mitchell, Michael J. Valentino** and **Robert Lee Wood**.

The new trustees join the current board: **Jim D. Syprett, Chair; Arthur M. Wood, Im-**

mediate Past Chair; **William E. Chapman, Vice-Chair, Louis E. Levy, Treasurer; Charles Shivery, Secretary; Philip A. Delaney, Jr. Executive Member-at-Large; William A. Stanford, Member-at-Large; Kirk G. Voelker, MD, Member-at-Large; Ariane M. Dart; Richard J. Gerrity; Richard S. Johnson; Deborah Kabinoff; Laurence R. Saslaw; C. Reed Savidge; R.L. "Bibb" Swain; James A. Taylor** and **Margaret Wise**.

Business News

■ **Kelly Stewart**, owner of **StarLightworker Healing & Massage**, has found a new



Kelly Stewart

home for her growing healing practice at the Ringling Professional Center located at 2831 Ringling Boulevard, Suite B108. The new center will be named Sacred Pathways Sarasota and will be open for business in January.

The center is large enough to host small classes and workshops in addition to the individual massage and healing sessions Kelly has given since moving to Sarasota in 2010. She plans to expand her Reiki curriculum to include shamanic and intuitive skills, journaling, meditation workshops, consulting services, and continuing education for massage therapists. She also plans to invite other Lightworkers to be guest speakers, healers, and teachers from time to time so that her clients will have opportunities to explore some of the many paths to healing and wholeness. There are plans for a Grand Opening Celebration in early 2018 as well.

■ **Alicia M. Phidd, Esq.** has joined the **legal community** in Sarasota County. She is a business lawyer and civil litigator practicing for over 15 years. Ms. Phidd brings a new dynamic to the City of North Port, where her practice focuses on offering general counsel services to the small business community and support for home based businesses.

Phidd has represented clients from trademark infringement to billion dollar contractual disputes. She is a member of the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce where sits on the Business Economic Development Committee. Phidd is the first Black Female to open a firm in the City of North Port and also the first black owned law firm to join the city's chamber of commerce.

Real Estate News

■ Realtor **Sabine Pinto** has joined the Venice office of **RE/MAX Platinum Realty**. She specializes in luxury waterfront properties in Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties.



Sabine Pinto

Originally from Moerlenbach, Germany, with a Master of Science degree in Engineering, Pinto worked as an engineer for international companies and traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and North America. She speaks German and English fluently, and has additional language skills in both French and Spanish.

The RE/MAX Platinum Realty Venice office is located at 307 West Venice Avenue, Venice.

■ **Kristin Triolo** has joined **RE/MAX Platinum Realty** as a Broker Associate in the Sarasota office. She specializes in residential green properties, working with buyers and sellers of new homes, resales, condos, country club and golf course properties, waterfront homes and estates, investment real estate, and vacant land throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties.



Kristin Triolo

Triolo has 14 years of local real estate experience and has served the industry at the local, state and national levels. She is Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Realtor Association of Sarasota and Manatee (RASM) and Florida State Governor of the Women's Council of Realtors (WCR).

She also serves on the Florida Realtors Board of Directors; the National Association of Realtors (NAR) Resort and Second Home Committee; and the Council of Certified Residential Specialists (CRS) National Outreach Mastermind Division, among other leadership roles. She is a Certified Residential Specialist (CRS), Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) and Resort and Second-Home Property Specialist (RSPS), among others, and holds the NAR Green Real Estate Designation.

The Sarasota office is located at 1312 Main Street, Sarasota. 📍

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