

Appointments

■ **G. Todd Yeomans and Yeomans Work Architecture** have hired **Emi Kopke** as an Architectural Associate.



Emi Kopke

Emi will be contributing to a broad range of custom residential, commercial, cabinetry and furniture design projects. She is a recent graduate of the University of Miami where she was on the Provost's Honor Roll & Dean's List and was awarded numerous scholarships for design and excellence.

An entrepreneur at heart, Emi started her own company SEASUNed Toys, LLC in 2020, where she designed, prototyped, and fabricated a unique modifiable indoor wooden climbing frame for children ages 6 months to 6 years.

■ **Sheila McLean** has accepted the assignment of Interim Chief Financial Officer for **Manatee County Government**. McLean brings over three-and-a-half decades of financial management



Sheila McLean

experience to the role—with nearly a quarter-century of that locally in Manatee County.

Most recently, she was the Deputy Director for Budget for Manatee County Government. Of her 24 years in local government work, 16 were in the Finance Department at the Manatee County Clerk of Circuit Court, and eight years have been in the County's Financial Management Department. She has been working in accounting—both public and private—for more than 35 years. She will be overseeing the operating and capital improvement budgets, infrastructure sales tax revenues and financial analysis for all county departments.

■ **Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation** announced that **Barbara and Gary Rodkin** have made a \$2 million gift in support of the Cornell Family Behavioral Health Pavilion at Sarasota Memorial. The Rodkins' \$2 million donation will be used to support geriatric services at the Cornell Family Behavioral Health Pavilion, which is currently under construction on Sarasota Memorial's



Barbara and Gary Rodkin

Sarasota Campus.

The new \$71 million pavilion is slated to open in 2023, replacing Sarasota Memorial's Bayside Center for Behavioral Health with a facility that enhances, expands and centralizes care for people affected by mental and behavioral health challenges.

The Rodkin's interest in the geriatric services at the pavilion arose from personal experience. "In his 90s, my father had mental and physical issues, and it was extremely difficult to connect the dots and get the right people to get us the help that was needed," says Gary. "There was no coordinated care and it really pointed out how much improvement the whole geriatric system needed."

Barbara, who currently sits on the Healthcare Foundation board, gained interest in supporting the project after learning that the new facility would have a specific geriatric inpatient unit with 16 private rooms and services designed specifically for geriatric patients.

In addition to their support of the Cornell Family Behavioral Health Pavilion, the Rodkins are long-term supporters of the Community Specialty Clinic at Sarasota Memorial. The Clinic provides specialty medical care and referral services to local residents who are uninsured or underinsured. To learn more, visit smhf.org.

■ **Gulf Coast Community Foundation** (Gulf Coast) has announced the promotion of a staff member, the addition of a philanthropic trailblazer, and the addition of an experienced donor relations staff member.

Kelly Borgia joined Gulf Coast in the summer of 2018 after having worked 10 years at Asolo Repertory Theatre as their Production Stage Manager. Borgia served as a Philanthropic Coordinator and Administrator in the Philanthropy Services team at Gulf Coast, and she has now been appointed to Strategic Engagement Manager. As a member of the Brand Strategy team, Borgia will work with all



Kelly Borgia

functional teams at Gulf Coast to create and execute engagement experiences. She is also responsible for managing Gulf Coast's Arts Appreciation and sponsorship grant programs.

Sasha Hausman Pyatte, CFRE, joins the Gulf Coast team as a Philanthropic Advisor, bringing experience in leadership, communication, donor cultivation, and stewardship. Pyatte most recently served as Director of Advancement & Strategic Partnerships at the Van Wezel



Sasha Hausman Pyatte

Foundation where she developed, executed, and evaluated long-term goals and strategies for the foundation and the future Sarasota Performing Arts Center.

Pyatte has also served as Executive Director of the AdventHealth Zephyrhills and Dade City Foundation where she had responsibilities for the direction and development of two hospital foundations. In the past, Pyatte was the Director of Philanthropy for Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida for 10 years.

Priscilla Boward joins the Gulf Coast team as Philanthropic Administrator.



Priscilla Boward

Boward hails from Caledonia, Michigan, where she worked with many nonprofits for several years. She brings experience in donor relations, volunteer coordination, and communications. In her new role, Boward will work with the Philanthropy Services team to assist donors in establishing relationships with Gulf Coast. Learn more at GulfCoastCF.org.

■ **Hershorin Schiff Community Day School** (CDS) has welcomed **Rinat Heiman** as its new Hebrew and Judaic studies instructor. Heiman had previously served in this position at Temple Sinai from 1994 to 2013 and, more recently, as a private bar and bat mitzvah teacher.

Beginning as early as 14 months old, all students at CDS are offered classes in both Hebrew and cultural Jewish studies. <https://www.communityday.org/>

■ **All Faiths Food Bank** has recently hired **Daniela Malo** in the newly-established role of associate



All Faiths Food Bank's associate director of development, Daniela Malo

this new position is to cultivate and steward a portfolio of major donors while also encouraging existing supporters to consider deeper engagement with the food bank/hunger relief organization.

Prior to coming to All Faiths, Malo spent nearly four years with Make-A-Wish Southern Florida, rising to her position as the organization's regional director; she was responsible for assisting in developing the strategic plan, leading all fundraising efforts - including grants, corporate support, major gifts, individual giving and event management - and building the organization's presence in the region while maintaining a strong fundraising base. Previous employers included Feeding Children Everywhere in Orlando, Fla. and the White House Office of Presidential Correspondence.

For more about All Faiths Food Bank, visit allfaithsfoodbank.org.

Accolades

■ **Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation** recognized **five Sarasota County teachers for going above and beyond in their profession**.

Barancik Foundation named five Ripple Effect Teacher Awards winners in partnership with Sarasota County Schools in memory of Chuck Barancik. The semi-annual prize acknowledges five outstanding teachers on

director of development. In this role, Malo will play an active role in increasing the organization's capacity through securing significant gifts to further its mission.

The primary objective of

Chuck's birthday in May and five on Margie Barancik's birthday in September. Each teacher recognized for their positive impact on their students' lives is awarded \$5,000 to spend on professional development experiences, material, and equipment for their classrooms.

Chuck's spring semester awardees are:

- **Tessa Healy**, Wilkinson Elementary
- **Megan Wink**, Lakeview Elementary
- **Michelle Rivas**, Gulf Gate Elementary
- **Dorothy Rieger**, McIntosh Middle
- **Melissa Dweck**, Sarasota High

The recipients were commended for their innovative efforts in building positive cultural changes at their schools—among their students and peers. All were recognized for the lasting impact they have on their students.

Launched in 2021, the award was inspired by the late Barancik couple's philosophy on their charitable giving, often noting, "We can't change the world, but we can change little pieces of it and hope for a ripple effect."

Facilitated by the School District, each Sarasota County principal nominated one teacher to be considered for the award. A committee made up of community leaders then identified the top candidates.

Previous winners have used the funds for classroom improvement projects, professional development workshops across the country, and items like musical equipment and state-of-the-art robots to help pique students' interest in the classroom. Barancik Foundation has made an ongoing commitment to award the ten \$5,000 teacher grants each year.

For more information, visit www.barancikfoundation.org.



Gulf Gate Elementary teacher Michelle Rivas receives Barancik Foundation's Ripple Effect award in front of her class.

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