

January 2005

LEADER READER

A Message from our President:

Welcome to 2005 and Happy New Year! Everyone on the LP Board of Directors wishes you and your families the best in the coming year.

On a sad note, last month was a tough one for all of us in Leadership Pinellas due to losing two very active alums to health related illnesses. **Frank Hancock '94** and **Paul Kaslander '81** were two of those people who truly made a very positive impact on our community. Both of them were extremely active in many different organizations and their workplaces and both will be missed. Please see page 5 for more about Frank and Paul.



Mike Bollenback '83
President

Your organization has a number of programs in the works and we'll continue to keep you informed. Be sure to see page 2 for information on the Legislative Social on February 2nd and please RSVP as soon as possible to 727-585-8889 as space is limited.

The Class of 2005 is almost half way through their year and the next class day is January 12th when they participate in Environmental & Infrastructure Day. **Jewel Cole '02** and **Jan Tracy '96** have a great day planned.

You can read about the December class day in this issue of the Leader Reader on page 4. Congratulations to **Pamela Skyrme '03** and her group for an excellent day of learning about the human and social service issues in the county.

The nominating committee for next year's officers and directors will be formed soon. If you have an interest in serving on the board or committees, be sure to reply when you receive your Interest Indicator.

Be sure to visit our web site often. All upcoming events, news, and announcements can be found at www.leadershippinellas.com.

Have a great month and thanks again to all of you that have been so active so far this year. Many more chances to get involved are still in the works.

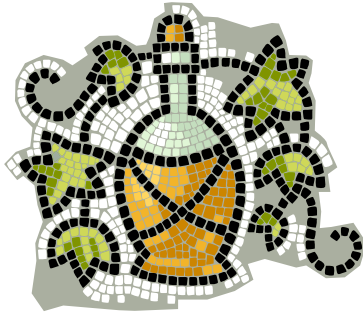
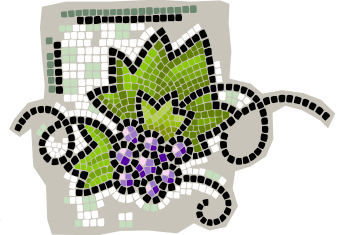
Mike Bollenback



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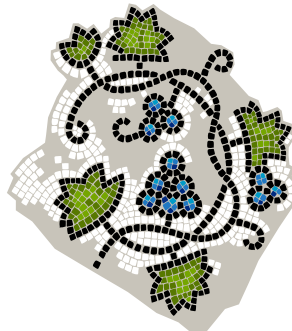
*Proudly host
An Evening
in honor of our
Pinellas County Legislative Delegation
with hors d'oeuvres
and cash bar*



*Wednesday, February 2nd
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Bascom's Chop House
Private Dining Room
3665 Ulmerton Road
Clearwater, FL*

*For more information please call Lauralee Westine 727-773-2221
Sponsor donations are still being accepted*

To RSVP - please contact
Harriet Coren at
Phone: 727-585-8889
Fax: 727-785-7117
Email: harrietcoren@ij.net



Community Leadership Association
announces the
Annual Leadership Conference
in Atlanta, Georgia
April 28 to May 1, 2005

Fanning The Flame Within
Inspiring Leaders, Building Organizations
Strengthening Communities

The flame has been lit, but the conference hopes to make it burn brighter by providing inspiring keynote speakers, cutting edge workshops and abundant opportunities to network and share best practices with our peers.

Keynote Speakers:

Andrew Young, *Statesman, Businessman, Humanitarian*
Suzanne Morse, *Ex. Dir., Pew Partnership for Civic Change*

Six Concurrent Workshop Sessions

Registration and Reservation details
will be published next month
For more information
call Harriet at 727-585-8889



Upcoming Events:

- Wed., Feb 2: **Legislative Social**
(see page 2)
- Wed., March 16: **L.E.A.D. Day**
Made in Pinellas
- April, date to be announced **Health and Fitness Revival**
Back by popular demand



**from the desk of
Harriet Coren,
Dir. of Adm. Services**

Current changes to the directory:

Kim Briggs: 10451 Gooseberry Court, Trinity 34655 376-8066 (h)

Alan Darnell: email: aldarnell@verizon.net (w) website:
www.adnlcompany.net

Jane Gillespie Muhrlin '95 email: jmuhrlin@pinellascounty.org

Colleen Mackin: 945 Cobblestone Lane, Tarpon Springs 34688 (w)

Human Services Program Day, December 8, 2004

As we boarded the bus this morning singing Happy Birthday to Art Shand, we had no idea the impact this day would have on us as we learned about people who live in a very different world. Is it truly by the grace of a Higher Power that we are who we are and we are what we are?

Our day began listening to a very enthusiastic Frank Murphy with Catholic Charities as he shared his philosophy for maintaining 'synch' in your life. He shared a concept that demonstrated the different areas of our 'being' that we must continually address in our efforts to grow and move forward in our lives. He paved the way for volunteer Ellen Jenson to continue that train of thought as she shared her purpose of life, to help others. She quoted one person whom she admires greatly. The late Mother Teresa said, "I love to be needed." In 1982 Ellen and her late husband founded the Food Pantry. Even though this project seemed overwhelming at first, they practiced 'faith in action' to see it through. She also emphasized the need to capture opportunities to remember the proverb, 'Give man a fish and he eats for a day, but teach a man to fish and he eats everyday.'

Our next stop was the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) where we were greeted by several agencies that assist individuals and families when they need help during some of life's most difficult challenges. Our class addressed several situations through role-playing and we determined that the new 211 Directory is a great source for information and direction. Elise Schreiner found help as she pretended to be 'Homer' rearing a 12 year old who appeared to be on the verge of sexual activity. Jennifer Young portrayed an elderly mom diagnosed with cancer with a credit card debt of over \$30,000. Cynthia Joliff-Johnson represented a pregnant 16-year-old who was trying to decide whether to keep her baby. Cynthia was impressed at how the agencies interact with one another to provide facts and counseling to help her make 'informed' decisions about her future.

After lunch County Commissioner Ken Welch told us that Pinellas County supports non-profit businesses to the tune of \$57 million per year. Although some government programs make an attempt to cover the usual challenges such as illness, disabilities, unemployment and death, it is the non-profit organizations that fill the void with additional funds and manpower where needed. Government needs the non-profit business agencies to handle certain situations because they have the infrastructure to provide social capital (prosperous communities tend to have high civic involvement), prosperity (follows civic involvement) and power (boards and agencies applying for the money). He pointed out the most effective agencies believe "the mission is more important than the profit." What a concept!

Of course this explanation of the infrastructure created a buzz in this room of thinkers and doers. Scott emphasized the need for an agency to coordinate resources for the person in need, a planning council to determine gaps in the process, funding resources and implementation strategies. Elise agreed and was quick to point out that 'lobbyists rule the world'... not attorneys and accountants...now how and why did she arrive at that conclusion...think about it. Our class determined, in addition to the 211 Directory, most agencies would be more efficient, less time-consuming and vulnerable to abuse of the system if we had a 'One Stop Clearing House' to handle a database of those people needing assistance.

Then it was on to the YWCA where the round table discussions were very moving as we met people testifying about how agency assistance has changed their lives for the better. In some cases turned their lives around and gave hope for a brighter future. We met a disabled grandmother left to raise a young child because of her daughter's mental problems and drug abuse. Then we met a young man who just two months earlier was in school and dreaming of a bright future. He became homeless, due in part, to his mother's diagnosis of a terminal illness.

During our last stop of the day we toured a homeless shelter and learned of 'transitional housing'. As we saw homeless children being entertained and tutored, the stark surroundings of the living quarters and the rules governing their lives, what were we thinking? How could anyone get to this point...or...were we thanking our God for the blessings we enjoy?

As we walked back to the buses, we began to realize the significance of this day. It would be difficult to say which part of the day was the most important because as the day progressed it all began to make sense and hold our attention. Yes, this day had its sad moments but it also offered hope for a world many of us don't think about on a daily basis. May the New Year bring peace, hope and prosperity to our world. Count your Blessings...I know I will.

See you January 12 at 7:30 AM Sharp for Environment/Infrastructure Day.

PS. Yes, Karen is pregnant! You read about it here first!

We Remember . . .



Paul Kaslander '81

Paul Kaslander was born in Essex Fells, NJ and was a graduate of Rider University in Trenton, NJ and Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He was owner and President of Dial Directories and printed our Leadership Pinellas directory for many years.

He was on the Planning Committee in 1982; Treasurer in 1983; Program Co-Chair in 1998, Board Member from 1999-2004; Selection Committee Chair 2001 and 2004; Selection Committee 1999, 2000 and 2003.

Paul was President of the Gulf Belleair Beach Condominium from 2002-2004, Church of the Isles Board of Trustees from 1993-1996; Chairman of the Sun Coast Hospital Foundation 2003, Vice Chair in 1999 and 2003 and served on the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2003.

He was Chairman of the Board of the Largo/Mid Pinellas Chamber of Commerce in 2000; and a member of the Executive Committee. He won the Small Businessperson of the Year Award in 2001; the Citizen of the Year Award in 2003; Chairman's Award in 2003; was a Board Member from 1994 to 2003; Ambassador Chair in 1995; Small Business Chair in 1996 and Program Chair in 1998.

The family requests contributions in memory of Paul be sent to the Sun Coast Hospital Foundation.



Frank Hancock '94

Frank Hancock was born in Jacksonville, Florida and he was a life-long area resident, graduating in 1960 from Hillsborough High School in Tampa and a charter graduate in 1964 from the University of South Florida.

He was a Certified Public Accountant and Managing Partner in the firm of Harper, Van Scoik & Co., LLP in Clearwater.

His professional memberships included the Florida and the American Institutes of Certified Public Accountants; North Suncoast Chapter (president from 1987-1992); member and chairman of the Sports Task Force of the Greater Clearwater Chamber of Commerce; member USF School of Accountancy Advisory Council and former Chairman of the Accounting Circle.

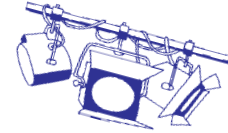
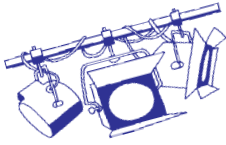
Frank was Treasurer of Leadership Pinellas (1997-1999); a member of the YMCA-YWCA of Tampa and Hillsborough County, Sunshine Cluster of YMCAs and the YMCA of the U.S.A. and a member of the Executive Committee of TEC.

He was a Marine Corps veteran; a member of the Appalachian Trail Council and The Krewe of Santa Margarita, Clearwater.

The family requests contributions in memory of Frank be sent to the Appalachian Trail Council.

Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

Someone Is Waiting Just For You



Since 1986, the Pinellas Education Foundation has raised more than \$60 million for students and educators in Pinellas County Public Schools and has developed some of the most ambitious educational initiatives in the country. Among the many programs receiving the support and advocacy of the Pinellas Education Foundation are the Pinellas Technical Education Centers.

The Case for Workforce Education

In Florida, for every 100 students who enter high school only 53 graduate four years later, 32 go on to college and 14 graduate within 6 years. Of those 14 college graduates, only 8 will find work in their chosen careers. The other 92 young people will enter a job market full of potential but more often than not, requiring some advanced vocational technical training other than a four-year college degree.

Given those startling facts, it's hard to understand why funding for technical/vocational education has not been a priority in the State of Florida. According to a recent CEPRI Commission report, between 1997 and 2004, funding in Florida for workforce education has decreased 8 percent while funding for community colleges has increased 33 percent and university funding has increased 27 percent.

The overwhelming majority of people seeking jobs today and in the future will not need a college degree, but rather will need advanced training or some sort of certification in what we have traditionally called “vocational” or “workforce” education.

Workforce education is a great investment! Eighty two percent of students entering Technical Education Centers find jobs in their field of study. Pinellas technical schools place approximately 2,000 students each year with an additional annual impact on the local economy of more than \$50 million.

What can you do?

Advocate for \$112 million in additional funding from the Florida Legislature Florida School District Workforce Programs.

For more information, please call

Rich Engwall

727-588-4816 ext. 25

Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

We would like to make this a monthly feature of our *Leader Reader* as space permits, so if you have a suggestion for a future issue, please submit it to the Editorial Committee, Leadership Pinellas, P. O. Box 5986, Clearwater, FL 33758-5986. Deadline for the next issue is January 25, 2005

