

Governor reappoints local nonprofit president to advisory council



Dr. Jerry Haag, president and CEO of One More Child was recently reappointed to the Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council at the request of Governor Ron DeSantis. DeSantis is the third governor who has appointed Haag to this role.

"It is a distinct honor to continue to work with Governor DeSantis and our elected officials to ensure that every child and every family in Florida has access to crucial services," Haag said. "Everything we do is to help one more child and to empower every family."

The 14-member council provides recommendations to the governor and the Florida Legislature on ways the government and faith-based partners can work together to improve child welfare, criminal justice, disaster planning, family initiatives and more, through legislation and strategic planning.

Dr. Haag, who also serves as the chairman of the board for the Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO) and is a member of the Forbes Nonprofit Council, became the ninth president in the history of One More Child in 2007.

One More Child provides Christ-centered services to foster children, hungry children, sex trafficking victims, single moms and struggling families. The nonprofit provides Foster Family Homes and homes for single moms and children enrolled in its Single Moms Program. It also licenses foster parents throughout the state of Florida.

Nigara appointed to Chief of Staff, Army Retired Soldier Council



Lieutenant Colonel Karen Nigara, U.S. Army retired, has been appointed to the Chief of Staff, Army retired soldier Council by General James C. McConville.

She is charged to provide him with advice and recommendations regarding vital issues and concerns of Retired Soldiers, surviving spouses and their families.

Nigara, a 27 year veteran and San Marco resident will serve a four year term at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

In the performance of her duties she will be recalled to active duty.

Carlton Ward, Jr. awarded honorary membership in GCA



Nominated by Jacksonville's Late Bloomers Garden Club, Carlton Ward, Jr., a conservationist and award-winning photographer and filmmaker, is one of seven distinguished persons who has been awarded an honorary membership by the Garden Club of America (GCA).

In the 105 years since the GCA began awarding honorary memberships, only six Floridians have

been so honored. One of the earliest was Ninah Cummer.

The GCA noted, "An eighth-generation Floridian descended from a pioneer ranching family, Mr. Ward's work on PBS and in National Geographic, Smithsonian, and Nature Conservancy magazines helped galvanize the state's farmers, ranchers, environmental groups, and coastal communities to become part of an environmental solution, connecting nearly 8 million acres to protect biodiversity and wildlife corridors in Florida's heartland."

"Carlton Ward, Jr. is Florida's 21st century successor to Marjorie Stoneman Douglas. What Douglas did with her pen, leading to the establishment of Everglades National Park, Ward has done with his camera, leading the crusade to establish the Florida Wildlife Corridor, which will be critical to Florida's environment and wildlife for centuries to come," said Susan Smathers, President of Late Bloomers Garden Club.

Temperince Morgan of The Nature Conservancy of Florida said, "Carlton played a pivotal role in helping bring back from the brink a nearly extinct species in the Eastern United States," the Florida panther.

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