Looking for inspiration I turned to where many of us look – music and found the above quote from ‘the Queen of Soul’, Aretha Franklin. From the New York Times obituary on Aug 16, ‘Ms. Franklin had a grandly celebrated career. She placed more than 100 singles in the Billboard charts, including 17 Top 10 pop singles and 20 No. 1 R&B hits. She received 18 competitive Grammy Awards, along with a lifetime achievement award in 1994. She was the first woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, in 1987’. The accolades continue for several more pages though I think you get the point – she achieved the pinnacle of success in her chosen field. What I find inspiring about her quote is that Ms. Franklin values service, community and civic contributions.

While Ms. Franklin chose music as her profession, and thank goodness she did, we chose public works. For us in the Public Works field the values of service, community and civic contributions are in our job description. Every day our work contributes to service to our communities and every road, water line, conveyance – even curb and sidewalk are civic contributions that strengthen our communities.

Continued on page 6
APWA Suncoast Branch 2018-2019

Executive Committee & Board of Directors

Seton Katz, PE
Chair
City of Sarasota
seton.katz@sarasotafl.gov
941-365-2000 ext 6221

Arne Lash
Vice-Chair
EXP
Arne.Lash@exp.com
813-613-3292

Nancy Brooking
Treasurer
Sarasota County
nbrooking@scgov.net
941-479-1965

Bill Vest
District Representative
CDM Smith
vestwd@cdmsmith.com
941-374-5606

Rob Farr
Director
Sarasota County
rfarr@scgov.net
941-888-4221

Mike Elfers, PE
Secretary
Sarasota County
melfers@scgov.net
941-539-2334

Alex Boudreau, PE
Immediate Past Chair
Sarasota County
aboudrea@scgov.net
941-650-0765

Bill Nichols, PE
Director
NICHOLSolutions, LLC
William.nichols@sarasotagov.com
941-256-5189

Norman Robertson, PE
Director
J.R. Evans Engineering
nrobertson@jreeng.com
941-451-6676

APWA Suncoast Branch 2018-2019 Committees

Scholarship Committee:
• Dorian Popescu
• Alex Boudreau
• Karen Johnson

Membership Committee:
• Lisa Cece

Golf Committee:
• Lisa Cece, Dorian Popescu, Mike Elfers, Alex Boudreau, Bill Nichols, Chris Pecor, Nancy Brooking & Bill Vest

Clay Shoot Committee:
• Nancy Brooking
• Alex Boudreau
• Rob Farr

Awards Committee:
• Norm Robertson
• Alex Boudreau
Not Currently Active

Education Committee:
• Mike Elfers
• Harry Farrar
Not Currently Active

If you have an interest in helping your Branch in any capacity, please contact any of the execute or board members list above.
APWA Suncoast Branch Breakfast Meeting

When:
Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 7:30 AM

Where:
Der Dutchman
3713 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota, Florida

Cost: $15

RSVP to Mike Elfers at
apwa.fl.suncoast.branch@gmail.com or (941) 539-2334

About the Speaker

Manatee County Infrastructure

Betsy Benac was born and raised in Saginaw, Michigan. She moved to Florida in 1982. Betsy and her husband, Bob have been married for 32 years and have two adult children, both graduates of Manatee County Public Schools.

Education & Professional:
- Member, Board of County Commissioners since 2012
- Member, Manatee County Port Authority since 2012
- Member, Sarasota-Manatee MPO 2013-2017
- Member, Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority 2013-2017
- Member, Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority 2017
- Arthur Hill High School, 1975
- University of Michigan (BA) 1979
- Assistant Planning Director, Manatee County Planning, 1983-1994
- Vice President and owner, WilsonMiller Planning and Engineering, 1994-2010
- Senior Project Planner, Benderson Development, LLC, 2010-2012
- Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP)
- Member and past President of Florida Planning & Zoning Association, Gulfcoast Chapter
- Member of American Planning Association
APWA Suncoast Branch - Save the Date
Future Meetings, Events and Speakers

August 26 –29, 2018—**PWX Kansas City**

September 26, 2018—**Bill Seavey**, Infrastructure Preservation Corp.

October 24, 2018—**Brian Karmasin, CDM Smith**. Wastewater Treatment and Trends

October 27, 2018—Joint Golf Tournament with the Peace River Engineering Society (PRES) — **Pelican Pointe Golf & Country Club, Venice Florida**

November 28, 2018—**Greg Coker, FPL**. Working under power lines

December 2018—**No Meeting. Joint Social. More info to follow**

January 23, 2019—**Sarasota County Administrator Jonathan Lewis. Topic TBD**

February 27, 2019—**Special Hoperations**: Beer from Wastewater. Yum

March 27, 2019—**Chas Jordan, Pavement Technologies Inc.; Titanium Dioxide as a pavement additive to reduce smog**

April 24, 2019—**TBD**

April 27, 2019—**Sporting Clay Shoot at Knight Trail Park**

**If you know of a speaker with a topic that our members want to hear, please contact Arne Lash (see Pg. 2) to coordinate.**
Current Job Openings  In and around the Suncoast Branch

Sarasota County — 25 current job openings: https://www.scgov.net/HR/Pages/CareerOpportunities.aspx

Civil Engineer (Official Job Title: Technical Specialist III): This supervisory position supports the Division Manager, supervises engineering staff, and provides professional and technical work of Traffic Engineering projects, studies and other technical projects as assigned. Link to info and to apply: https://chm.tbe.taleo.net/chm01/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=ADVANCE&cws=40&rid=3005

About Sarasota County Government: We are one of the premier communities in Florida. We believe in work life balance and have excellent benefits including a state pension, medical and dental insurance, generous leave plan, training programs, wellness programs including a fitness center. Our mission is to be the most livable and best managed community in the country, providing quality services, programs and facilities that reflect the goals of the community. Our employees are committed to demonstrating our values: Respect, Accountability, Integrity, Quality, Teamwork and Trust.

About Sarasota: Sarasota has world-famous beaches, over 80 parks and 100 golf courses, and is known as the cultural capital of Florida with museums of art, theaters, an aquarium, botanical gardens and the annual international film festival. Unsurpassed beauty, rich cultural offering, diverse educational opportunities, wide-ranging recreational possibilities make Sarasota a great place to live and work!

Manatee County — 10 current job openings: https://www.govtjobs.com/careers/manateecounty

City of Sarasota — 15 current job openings https://www.govtjobs.com/careers/sarasotagov

City of North Port — 6 current job openings: http://agency.govtjobs.com/northportfl/default.cfm

City of Venice — 9 current job openings: https://www.venicegov.com/government/human-resources/apply-online

City of Longboat key — 1 current job opening: http://www.longboatkey.org/employment.aspx
Local Events of Interest

- ASCE will host a Laws and Rules class for Florida PE's to be held 9-14-18 in Room 1 at the Sarasota County “BOB” Building at 1001 Sarasota Center Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34240. The class will be held from 8 AM to 12 Noon. Contact Geza F. Bankuty, JR., PE at 941-355-6636 or gbankuty@jreeng.com for more info.

- ASCE has started a series of review classes for the PE test in October 2018 & April 2019. There is no cost for the classes which started on August 7th. Contact: Amjid Hussain, P.E., PTOE ahussain@scgov.net or Subin Idikula sidikula@scgov.net for more info.

- APWA Suncoast Branch is looking for someone interested in heading up a Young Professional group for the Branch. Contact Seton Katz (941) 365-2200 or Seton.Katz@sarasotaFL.gov.

Chairs Message—Continued from page 1

Engaging community, achieving objectives, permit compliance, finding value and innovative solutions are all contributions in a way. Maybe you didn’t donate a million dollars, but if you took the extra moment to ensure your pumps are optimal or all slopes are ADA compliant, you may not think about it at the time but there is a senior on a fixed income appreciating that extra penny off their bill or visit the site on a Saturday to see a disabled veteran gratefully using the compliant ramp. It’s easy to think of project objectives and permit compliance as tedious or unnecessary; however, when you think about what your projects mean in the real world you may find a different perspective. For me, the Queen continues to inspire even from the great beyond. If you need further inspiration, just ‘Think’ about what you are trying to do and YouTube Aretha Franklin. R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

Seton