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girl scouts
of central & southern
new jersey

D.R.I.V.E.

Her Forward



Karen Rogers

Meteorologist, Action News Mornings,
Action News at 10 A.M
6ABC Action News

Karen Rogers is the meteorologist for Action News Mornings and Action News at 10 A.M. Karen earned her seal of approval from the American Meteorological Society. She holds a certificate in Broadcast Meteorology from Mississippi State University following three years of studies in atmospheric sciences and geosciences. Karen also holds degrees in Communication and Sociology from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, where she was valedictorian of her communication class and the class speaker for commencement. Karen is listed in "Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities". After graduating with honors, Karen traveled to the United Kingdom as a Rotary International Scholar where she pursued her graduate studies in Broadcast Journalism. After graduation, Karen briefly worked at WHSP-TV in Vineland, NJ where she anchored daily news cut-ins, interviewed political leaders for her monthly show, Congressional Report, and hosted weekly talk shows.

Karen's bio continues on the next page

Karen Rogers

Meteorologist, Action News Mornings,
Action News at 10 A.M
6ABC Action News

bio continued

Karen was born and raised in New Jersey along with her nine brothers and sisters. She says she grew up watching Action News and never imagined she would one day be a member of the Action News Team. She joined the station in 1996 as a reporter and producer for the show AM/Philadelphia. Karen quickly joined the AccuWeather team and found her true passion in weather forecasting.

Along with her role in news, Karen was a longtime host of FYI Philly, and is part of 6abc specials including The Auto Experience, the 6abc Dunkin' Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Philadelphia Flower Show Special.

In addition to her work at 6abc, Karen is active in supporting young people. She says one of her most rewarding experiences was working with the Child Assault Prevention Program teaching elementary school students empowerment skills for reporting and preventing abuse.

Karen says she drives to work every morning feeling blessed to work.



Marianne Aleardi

President & Publisher
SJMAG

Marianne Aleardi has made women's empowerment a focus of her career, writing the goal into her company's mission statement, and creating programs and content to further that mission. She is President/Publisher of SJ Mag Media, a multi-media company in New Jersey that produces original digital content, hosts special events that sell out year after year and publishes a monthly print magazine with over 230,000 readers. Marianne has created and hosted 23 Women's Empowerment Panels and recently moderated a panel of global female entrepreneurs in New York for the W20 Summit, as part of the UN's Commission on the Status of Women. She has also conducted in-person interviews in front of sold-out audiences with CNN Anchor Jake Tapper, U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist Carli Lloyd, Philadelphia Eagles Coach Nick Sirianni and NBC War Correspondent Martin Fletcher. She serves on several boards, has received numerous awards for her leadership and talent, and has used those abilities to become a great advocate for empowering women.



Girl Scouts of Central & Southern New Jersey
Woman of Distinction 2010



As founder of Klein Rose Content Marketing, **Klein** Aleardi helps brands build their content to connect with customers, build a community and expand their business. Through social media, video, podcasts, email, blogs and more, Klein uses her decade of content experience to find the perfect formula for a brand to wow their audience and keep them coming back for more.



Girl Scout Alumni

Klein Aleardi

Founder

Klein Rose Content Marketing



Nicole Blank

Fine Artist & Educator
Blank Canvas Splattered!



Nicole earned her BA in Fine Arts & Graphic Design with a concentration in Book Illustration from Monmouth University. She's since continued her studies in various institutions including The School of Visual Arts, NY, Fleisher Art Memorial, PA and The Philadelphia Sketch Club, PA. Currently, Nicole studies in the Advanced Fellowship Program at Studio Incamminati, PA. She is deeply saturated in their atelier program that hones in on a modern approach to representational art which continues to enrich and deepen Nicole's introspective approach to her work. In 2013, Nicole founded The Blank Canvas Splattered, a traveling art studio in South Jersey where she leads therapeutic art sessions for community based and patient based programs. She also teaches several Design and Studio classes at Cairn University. Her work is exhibited and sold in several galas & exhibitions in the South Philadelphia Incamminati Gallery as well as homes across South Jersey where clients proudly display her commissioned pieces.

When I'm not running my business or doing commission work, I teach as an adjunct professor at Cairn University in the Fine Art & Design Department. I also volunteer as a mentor/fine art educator/Biblical educator for SOAP (Save our adolescents from prostitution) as well as Delanco Camp.

Girl Scout Alumni



Jill Cardamone

Senior Process Engineer
The Campbell's Company

Jill Cardamone is a Senior Process Engineer in R&D at Campbell's Snacks with more than 10 years of experience spanning process engineering, manufacturing, quality, and product commercialization. Throughout her career, she has led the successful scale-up and launch of numerous food products, partnering across R&D, operations, and business teams to bring innovations from concept to commercialization. Jill holds a B.S. in Materials Science & Engineering from Cornell University and an MBA with a specialization in Operations Management from The Ohio State University. She is passionate about problem-solving, continuous improvement, and helping others navigate careers in engineering and leadership. Outside of work, she curls with the Bucks County Curling Club and runs marathons!



Girl Scout Alumni | Girl Scout Gold & Silver Awardee



Jessica Conforti

Scientist

Bristol Myers Squibb

Dr. Jessica Conforti, Ph.D. is an Analytical Chemist at Bristol Myers Squibb, where she develops analytical methods to support the development of innovative medicines for patients. She earned her Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Baylor University and specializes in advanced analytical techniques used in pharmaceutical research and development.

Jessica's passion for science began in high school when she joined an ALS research and fundraising club dedicated to advancing treatments for Lou Gehrig's disease. Through this experience, she participated in research and helped raise more than \$3.5 million for ALS research, inspiring her to pursue a career in science and eventually earn a Ph.D.

Today, Jessica is passionate about mentoring future STEM leaders, advocating for women in science, and encouraging young people to pursue their curiosity, build confidence, and use science to make a meaningful impact.



Dr. June DePonte Sernak

Statewide Diversity Leadership Officer

Center for Family Service



Girl Scout Alumni

Most recently, **June** was the Dean of Lifelong Learning at Rowan College at Burlington County, Sr Adjunct Professor teaching Marketing and Management and founder of the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. June also served as the Executive Director for the American Red Cross serving Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties and serves on their statewide Diversity & Inclusion Committee after working in corporate telecom for 25 years with MCI, Nextel & Sprint in sales and marketing.

She currently serves as an Honorary Commander Emeritus for the Joint Base -McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, Board Chair, Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice and Cultural Anthropologist Contributing Writer for Womenz Straight Talk Magazine. She is also a member of the Distinguished Alumni Council for Strayer University and named the 2024 Alumni of the Year. June is an Adjunct Professor for Wilmington University teaching Ethics and Social Responsibility and author of her book "My Mommom's Market" winner of the International Impact Award for children's inspiration. June studied Marketing at Montclair State College, has an MBA in Management from Strayer University and a Doctorate of Education from Wilmington University in Organizational Leadership and Innovation.

June's bio continues on the next page

Dr. June DePonte Sernak

Statewide Diversity Leadership Officer
Center for Family Service

bio continued

She is a lifelong resident of New Jersey with her husband Michael and furry kids, Chanel & Louis and Bubbles the turtle.

Adjunct Professor, Wilmington University

Board Chair, Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice

Cultural Anthropologist, Womenz Straight Talk Magazine



Suzanne Elliot

Executive Director
Girls on the Run NJ East

Suzanne Elliott is Executive Director of Girls on the Run NJ East, serving elementary and middle school girls in Burlington, Essex, Hunterdon, Mercer, Morris and Union counties with a program that inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident! Prior to joining the staff four years ago, Suzanne was a volunteer for Girls on the Run in New York City and Los Angeles for many years. As a runner and a mother of two daughters, Suzanne is passionate about empowering girls and women and supporting their physical and mental wellness. She has worked in the nonprofit sector for over 20 years, including leadership positions for Dress for Success Worldwide and the National Down Syndrome Society. Suzanne lives in Pennington, where she leads two Girl Scout troops and is an active volunteer at her church and in other community groups. She received her BA from Duke University and MBA from New York University.



Girl Scout Troop Leader



Cristiana Formica

Owner, Licensed Massage Therapist
So-Coterie

Cristiana opened So-Coterie Healing Center in September 2025, a place that welcomes anyone seeking recovery and restorative massage treatment. After graduating from Therapeutic Massage and Training Center, Cristiana honed her experience in medical massage. She has worked in major hospital, physical therapy, and sports therapy settings, where she has seen firsthand the benefits of massage for neuropathy, chronic pain, scoliosis, injury recovery, post-op care, anxiety, and more.

She is passionate about helping clients find meaningful relief, especially those dealing with persistent or complex conditions. Her work is grounded in a clinical, results-oriented approach, while still providing a supportive and compassionate experience tailored to each client. Inspired by her mother, a retired hospice nurse, she has also provided massage for patients at their end of life.

Cristiana's work incorporates techniques such as cupping, kinesiotaping, proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation (PNF) stretching, and cranial sacral therapy to support recovery, reduce pain, and improve mobility.

Cristiana's bio continues on the next page

Cristiana Formica

Owner, Licensed Massage Therapist

So-Coterie

bio continued

Massage therapy is a second career for Cristiana. She holds a B.F.A. from Savannah College of Art and Design and spent over a decade in business development and marketing for architects. With this background, Cristiana confidently manages So-Coterie's business needs and produces all of the marketing, including legal filings, accounting, web design, print graphics, and more.

Outside of the treatment room, Cristiana enjoys spending time at home with her black cat, Sadie, dancing, rock climbing, and tent camping.

My prior career was in marketing and business development for architects. It was deadline driven and highly competitive. I managed client relations, internal and external communications, portfolio messaging, prepared the project team for client interviews, provided print graphics, and managed sensitive company information that was needed for any public work. At the top of my career I worked for a global company, collaborating with teams and clients from all over the world.



Valarie Gilbert

Founder & Executive Coach
Valiant Coaching & Consulting, LLC



Valarie Gilbert is the Founder and CEO of Valiant Coaching & Consulting, where she helps executives and emerging leaders develop the confidence, communication, and leadership skills to succeed. Before becoming a full-time executive coach, she spent more than 30 years as a software engineering and technology leader, building software products, leading global teams, and solving complex business challenges for some of the world's largest companies.

Growing up, Valarie loved solving problems and was fascinated by how things worked, which led her to study engineering in college. Throughout her engineering career, she had the opportunity to travel around the world, working with talented teams across many countries and learning firsthand how different cultures collaborate, communicate, and solve problems. Those experiences gave her a global perspective and taught her that great ideas can come from anyone, anywhere.

She also led teams that developed machine translation systems using artificial intelligence. By combining AI with the expertise of human linguists, her teams dramatically accelerated the translation of technical documentation into more than 20 languages, making information accessible to people around the world. Experiences like these taught her that the most powerful innovations happen when technology and human creativity work together.

GSCSNJ Officer of the Board of Directors – Vice Chair

*Valarie's bio
continues on the
next page*

Valarie Gilbert

Founder & Executive Coach

Valiant Coaching & Consulting, LLC

bio continued

As her career evolved, Valarie discovered that while technology is fascinating, people are what make great ideas successful. Some of her most meaningful work wasn't writing software—it was mentoring others, helping teams work together, and watching people discover they were capable of far more than they believed.

That realization inspired her to begin a second career as an executive coach. Today, she partners with CEOs, senior executives, and emerging leaders to help them navigate challenges, strengthen relationships, communicate with confidence, and lead with authenticity. She believes leadership isn't about having all the answers—it's about being willing to learn, listen, and continue growing.

Valarie holds bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering and is a Professional Certified Coach (PCC) through the International Coaching Federation. She is currently working toward the organization's highest coaching credential, Master Certified Coach (MCC).

When she meets with students, Valarie hopes they leave with one important message: you don't have to have your entire future figured out today. Careers are rarely straight lines. The skills you build, the challenges you overcome, and the people you meet along the way often open doors you never imagined. Stay curious, be courageous, and don't let anyone—including yourself—place limits on what you can achieve.



Justina D Green

Employee Relations Manager
The Campbell's Company

Justina D. Green, MSM, SHRM-CP, is a seasoned Human Resources and Employee Relations leader with extensive experience advising senior leaders, strengthening workforce strategy, and navigating complex employee and labor relations matters across multi-site environments. She brings a strategic, business-aligned approach to organizational effectiveness, leadership capability, performance management, policy design, and employee engagement.

Throughout her career, Justina has built scalable people practices that help organizations manage risk, improve leader effectiveness, and support healthy workplace cultures. Her background includes enterprise employee relations leadership at Campbell Soup Company, multi-site HR business partnership in aerospace and defense, associate relations leadership in distribution, and senior HR roles in nonprofit, healthcare, and facilities services environments.

Justina's bio continues on the next page

Justina D Green

Employee Relations Manager

The Campbell's Company

bio continued

Known for her balanced judgment, trusted partnership, and ability to lead through complexity, Justina has supported enterprise initiatives in ER model maturity, exit interview strategy, leadership training, labor relations, talent development, and organizational change. She holds a Master of Science in Management from Rosemont College, a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science from Pennsylvania State University, and is a SHRM Certified Professional.

Human Resources (Employee Relations) Manager Pro Bono

Volunteer Board Member - Wholesome Riches- New Jersey Ministry

Leader- Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church (Philadelphia)

HR consulting - Non- Profit Organizations



Arati M. Gupta

Creative Director / Wellness Expert
Go Holistics, LLC – Family Business



Girl Scout Alumni

I work as a part time healthcare professional (that's my day job) and I'm a part time actress too. I resigned from my accounting job in 2014 to pursue my creative passions; acting was one of them. I began my acting journey in 2016 by attending film and theatre networking events in Philly. I met with many fellow actors and actresses from the tri-state area as well as casting directors too. Some of my work include: commercials, music videos, short films and print campaigns. Helping others has always been at the heart of what I do. I share my passion for holistic wellness and cultural traditions through wellness baskets, Bollywood dance, henna art, Reiki healing, energy cleansing and Ayurvedic wellness seminars.

I wear many hats. I'm a part time healthcare worker, an entertainment professional who has worked on commercials, fashion shows, short films, music videos, indie films, print campaigns plus I'm the creative director for our family business - Go Holistics, LLC where art and holistic health connects the mind, body and soul into a spiritual journey. In June 2024, I became a Talent Director representing the Garden State in 2024 for a non profit - Modeling Association of America International (MAAI) where I scout for talent from all ages and ethnicities.

Ms. **Arati** M. Gupta has been performing Indian dance at the tender age of 7. She has performed in various Indian and Non-Indian organizations within the tri-state area. She still performs and now offers dance workshops to kids and adults in the South Jersey community. She presented the Bollywood dance workshop from 2010-2012 & 2014-2019 in the Camden County Women's Health Conference.

Arati's bio continues on the next page

Arati M. Gupta

Creative Director / Wellness Expert
Go Holistics, LLC – Family Business

bio continued

She along with her mother began a South Asian children's cultural enrichment program where they taught the students about their rich Indian heritage. She taught the students Indian dance and hosted an Annual Day celebration from 2008-2013.

Also, she became the first Indian Commissioner for the Camden County Commission for Women in 2006. She has received her certifications in Usui Reiki healing & Indian Classical Dance.

Ms. Gupta has studied henna art from 2011-2013 and became a certified henna tattoo artist. She has been going to health conferences, fairs, festivals for the past 10 years and has been recognized for her henna art. She is available for all occasions and events.

She has participated in many talent projects including fashion shows, commercials, promotions and voiceover projects. In 2017, she presented her own internet TV show which was called, "Energy Rhythms" where she interviewed over 50 people within the entertainment industry and holistic wellness community. She was a Radio Show Host too at GSNJ Radio and the name of the segment was: "Holistic Lifestyle & Spiritual Horizons".

Please check her out on social media platforms:

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/energy.rhythms>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram/aarti00>.



Jennifer Harris

Partner / Project Manager
Environmental Resolutions Inc

Jennifer A. Harris, PE, CME is a Partner and Project Manager at Environmental Resolutions, Inc., bringing over 17 years of hands-on experience in water and wastewater infrastructure. She has led the design and construction of treatment plant upgrades, pump station improvements, and major water and sewer main replacements. Jennifer is highly skilled in system analysis, permitting, and construction management, and has worked extensively with municipalities on NJDEP compliance, including Lead and Copper Sampling Plans and Service Line Inventories. Her technical background includes designing treatment systems for emerging contaminants, implementing energy recovery solutions, and overseeing complex plant rehabilitations. As a licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Municipal Engineer in New Jersey, Jennifer combines technical depth with practical solutions to help clients improve reliability, efficiency, and compliance in their water and wastewater systems.



Girl Scout Alumni | Girl Scout Gold & Silver Awardee
Troop Leader



Pat Hartpence

Corporate Giving Officer
NJM Insurance Group

After graduating from Rider College (now Rider University) with a Bachelor of Science in Commerce, Pat began her career at NJM Insurance Group. She has held positions of increasing responsibility in many areas of the organization and has served in such departments as Corporate Systems, Underwriting, HR and currently, Corporate Giving. The department is involved in programs relating to charitable giving, sponsorships, employee matching as well as community outreach and volunteerism.

Pat feels it is a privilege to assist with the needs of the community. She serves on the Boards of Junior Achievement of NJ (North/Central District Board), Rider University, and the American Red Cross (Central NJ Board). Pat is a committee chairperson for SHRM-Princeton and assists with logistics for the Insurance Professionals of Mercer County. She is also a member of the Gail Bierenbaum Leadership Council at Rider, where she has participated in the Mentoring Program since 2014. Pat holds an MBA from Rider, has earned the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation, as well as the SPHR and SHRM-SCP credentials in HR. She is also a licensed property-casualty producer.

Pat and her family are long-time residents of West Amwell Township, New Jersey.



Girl Scout Alumni



Angela Rubino Hines

President

Bovio Rubino Service

Rising to the Top of South Jersey's HVAC & Plumbing Industry **Angela** Rubino Hines is President of Bovio Rubino Service, a leading independent, family-owned HVAC and plumbing service company. With 50 service vehicles and more than 65 employees, Bovio Rubino Service has earned an excellent reputation serving Southern New Jersey residential customers from its headquarters in Voorhees for more than 50 years.

By prioritizing integrity and reliability — embodied in the firm's "HONEST, like nobody's business" slogan — the company has earned repeated regional and national recognition. Included are Hines' being named one of the Top 12 Women in HVAC in America in 2025. Bovio Rubino Service has also won 15 Carrier President's Awards, three PSE&G Top Contractor awards and multiple Home Performance with ENERGY STAR awards in recent years.

Hines' has embraced mentorship of young women as smart business and regularly speaks to students and at industry-wide conferences. Inspired by her recognition as a top woman in her industry, Hines, also Mom to two young women, launched "LeadHERship in '26," this year's Bovio Rubino Service community cause.

Every year since 2023, Bovio Rubino Service has championed a different community cause. After focusing on youth sports in 2025, animal awareness and protection in 2024 and hunger relief in 2023, "LeadHERship in '26" advances opportunities for young women through leadership development, career readiness, entrepreneurship and community betterment.

"LeadHERship in '26" is about paying it forward to the next generation of women leaders right here in South Jersey where we live and where our customers live," Hines said.



Kristi Howell

President / CEO

Burlington County Regional
Chamber of Commerce



Girl Scout Alumni

As a long time resident of Burlington County, **Kristi** Howell was proud to join Burlington County Regional Chamber of Commerce (BCRCC) as its president and CEO in December 2002, becoming the second executive in its 27-year history. Since then, the Chamber has grown and evolved through her focus on membership, programming, annual budgeting, and staffing. Kristi has led efforts to update the Chamber's image twice during her tenure.

During Kristi's tenure, BCRCC programming has constantly evolved to meet the needs to today's business community. From small batch networking to specialty program to large scale partner events, Kristi has inspired innovative programming to reach a more diverse array of businesses and businesspersons. Kristi is proud of the caliber of programming and guest speakers the Chamber offers to the South Jersey business community.

Under Ms. Howell's leadership, the Chamber established a critically important relationship with Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL). As the largest employer in Burlington County and second-largest employer in New Jersey, JB MDL's military hub is crucial to the county's economic growth. Kristi is committed to the Chamber's ongoing support of the base, the men and women who serve there, and the economic development that will keep it viable for years to come. Ms. Howell has hosted the Quarterly Commander's Luncheons, bringing the business community and military leaders together for over 10 years. In 2024, she partnered with JBMDL leadership to co-host the first ever State of the Joint Base.

Kristi's bio continues on the next page

Kristi Howell

President / CEO

Burlington County Regional
Chamber of Commerce

bio continued

Over the years, Kristi has served on numerous boards & committees, including serving as chair of many philanthropic fundraisers. An active member of the Burlington County community, she currently serves on several organizations' boards and committees, including the Military Support Alliance of NJ as their Vice President, Rancocas Woods Business Association, Girl Scouts of Central & Southern New Jersey Advisory Council and the Burlington County Workforce Development Board.

Ms. Howell served for three years as a member of the Air Mobility Command Civic Leader's Council, an honor held by a limited number of civic leaders nationally and is now on the council as an alumnus.

Some of Kristi's most cherished honors and awards are:

- Burlington County Board of Freeholders — Outstanding Women of Burlington County
- South Jersey Biz Magazine — 20 Top Business People Under 40
- NAWBO, South Jersey chapter — Business Advocate of the Year,
- Alzheimer's Association – Del Val Chamber – Kaleidoscope Award
- SJ Magazine Women of Excellence – Leadership
- Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce Foundation – Small Businessperson
- South Jersey Biz Magazine – Executive of the Year
- Scouting America – Burlington County Distinguished Citizen of the Year
- Scouting America – Women of Achievement Award – Burlington County
- South Jersey Biz Magazine – Top 50 Most Influential Business Leaders
- New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce – Women of Inspiration

*Kristi's bio
continues on
the next page*

Kristi Howell

President / CEO

Burlington County Regional
Chamber of Commerce

bio continued

Ms. Howell is a longtime resident of Burlington County. She holds a Bachelor of Science (in Government and Politics) from Widener University. Prior to joining the BCRCC, Kristi worked for two NJ Governor's and the Senate President.

Kristi's government background and communication skills are constantly put to as many local journalists consider her their "go-to" source for quotes when local legislators are crafting a bill, they typically solicit Kristi's opinion for insight regarding the business community's perspective.

Ms. Howell has been lauded for her leadership during the pandemic, maintaining virtual programming, and critical connections with elected officials and our members. She celebrated her 20th year at the Burlington County Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2022 with record growth. As the Chamber celebrates its 50th Anniversary (2025-2026), Ms. Howell continues to lead with innovative programs designed for business and economic growth.



Ashley Joines

Owner

D'Avico's Auto Repair

Ashley Joines-D'Avico is the owner and CEO of D'Avico's Auto Repair, a third-generation, women-owned automotive repair shop in Wayne, Pennsylvania. While the automotive industry is traditionally male dominated, Ashley has built a business centered on education, communication, transparency, and exceptional customer service, proving that leadership is about people first.

Under her leadership, D'Avico's has become known not only for high quality automotive care but also for empowering customers through knowledge. Ashley is passionate about changing the perception of the automotive industry by helping people feel confident, informed, and respected when making decisions about their vehicles.

A recognized entrepreneur, speaker, and advocate for women in leadership, Ashley was featured on The Kelly Clarkson Show for teaching Girl Scouts automotive maintenance and inspiring young women to pursue careers they may have never considered. She also founded D'Avico's Fix It Forward, a nonprofit initiative dedicated to helping individuals and families who cannot afford critical vehicle repairs.

Ashley's bio continues on the next page

Ashley Joines

Owner

D'Avico's Auto Repair

bio continued

Ashley believes that confidence isn't something you're born with, it's built by asking questions, embracing challenges, and continuing to learn. She is excited to share her journey and encourage the next generation of young women to dream boldly, lead with authenticity, and never let stereotypes define what's possible.

I'm a third-generation business owner and CEO of a women-owned auto repair shop. In addition to running the business, I'm a public speaker, mentor, entrepreneur, and automotive educator. I create educational content to help consumers better understand their vehicles and am passionate about encouraging young women to pursue leadership roles in traditionally male-dominated industries. I was also honored to be featured on the Kelly Clarkson Show for my work teaching Girl Scouts about vehicle maintenance and empowering girls through hands-on education.



Carolina Jost

Business Teacher
Pineland Learning Center

Growing up, I knew I wanted to travel. I was fascinated by history and culture and dreamed of exploring new places, trying different foods, and experiencing new adventures. I majored in Hospitality Management at Johnson & Wales in Rhode Island to learn more about the business behind travel.

During college, I had the opportunity to study abroad in Italy, plan and take a trip to Ecuador as a class project, work for an educational tour company leading student groups through Chicago, New York City, and Washington D.C., and participated in the Disney College Program. After graduation, I worked as a travel agent, planning unforgettable trips around the world for my clients.

Then came COVID. As travel came to a standstill, so did many opportunities in the industry. During that time, I began working as a substitute teacher. As I took on more long-term teaching assignments, I discovered an unexpected passion for education and helping students grow. That experience inspired me to earn my teaching certificate, and today I work as a high school Business teacher creating hands-on lessons that help students build life skills in areas like financial literacy, leadership, and customer service.

Although my career path has changed, my passion for traveling has not. I continue to work as a travel agent on the side, designing customized itineraries throughout the United States and around the world – including my own adventures!



Angelina Laks

Owner & Executive Coach

Changing Your View Executive Coaching LLC

Angelina is a proud United States Air Force veteran, certified leadership coach, and mentor. With a Master's degree and expertise in leadership development, her resilience coaching, team communication, and personal growth empowers others. Her coaching approach focuses on authentic leadership, emotional intelligence, accountability, and helping people navigate challenges with courage and clarity. She is especially passionate about developing future leaders, supporting women in leadership, and helping individuals recognize their potential both personally and professionally. Through speaking, coaching, and mentorship, Angel is committed to inspiring others to lead with confidence, integrity, and impact.



Lisa Linkowsky

Principal
Milestone Franchising

Lisa Linkowsky is the CEO and Founder of Milestone Franchising, a boutique franchise advisory practice based in Central New Jersey. With over 12 years in the franchising world and as a former multi-unit franchise owner herself, Lisa has spoken with more than 500 candidates nationwide who are exploring business ownership as their next chapter. She is a Certified Franchise Consultant, a monthly Impact Presenter for other franchise consultants, and the former host of Franchise Focus, where she conducted over 100 expert interviews across the franchise industry.

Board Secretary for One Simple Wish, a non-profit that was founded in Mercer County NJ 18 years ago. OSW works tirelessly to amplify the voices of individuals impacted by foster care and crisis through their often simple, yet always meaningful wishes. 350,000 wishes have been granted nationwide and more than \$30M has been raised to date.



Girl Scout Alumni



Allison Meyers

Health Policy Analyst
New Jersey Senate

Dr. Meyers earned her B.S. in biochemistry with a specialization in molecular biology from Loyola University Maryland. While there she worked as a laboratory technician and an honors research student studying innate immune function. She received her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC. Her Ph.D. work focused on the metabolic regulation of the NLRP3 inflammasome during sepsis, and understanding the mechanism of a novel sepsis therapeutic. During her time at Wake Forest she received two NIH training grants, and separately completed a two year certificate in Global Health.

After nine years in the lab, Dr. Meyers shifted careers to use her scientific background to help advance scientifically informed legislation. She completed a one year fellowship in the NJ State Assembly Democratic Office as an Eagleton Science and Policy Fellow and now she is the policy analyst for the Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee.



Girl Scout Alumni



Jessica R. Middleton

Divorce and Family Law Associate
Attorney, Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell &
Hippel LLP

Jess attended The College of New Jersey for undergraduate school (BA in English) and Drexel University for law school.

Jess clerked for the Honorable Judith Charny in Camden County before working as a family and matrimonial associate attorney. She has been practicing for approximately 4 years.

Jess focuses her practice on all aspects of family law in the greater Mount Laurel, New Jersey area, including divorce, custody, domestic violence, adoption, equitable distribution, child and spousal support, and mediation.

Jess takes pride in helping individuals navigate emotionally complex situations with a calm, nonjudgmental approach and a steady focus on resolution. She maintains open communication, keeps clients actively involved, and approaches each case with a direct, honest perspective to achieve efficient, practical outcomes.



Mia Nixon

Founder and CEO

AI for Girls Enterprise

Mia Nixon is a Senior Digital Risk Consultant at Ernst & Young, holding dual degrees in Accounting and Business Intelligence from Saint Joseph's University, along with a minor in English. Beyond her professional role, Mia is passionate about empowering young women in tech as the founder of AI for Girls Enterprise, a 501c3 non-profit organization that promotes AI literacy and prepares them to be future tech leaders. She is also the author of the children's book "The Balance of Brushes and Bytes."



2026 Girl Scout National Convention Workshop Presenter



Kirbie Paolini

VP of Formulary Strategy & Governance
Wedgewood Pharmacy



Girl Scout Troop Leader

Kirbie Paolini, PharmD attended Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, where she earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She began her career in human health, spending 10 years in retail pharmacy and advancing from pharmacy technician to pharmacist and pharmacy manager at Target Pharmacy. Following her passion for animals, Kirbie joined Wedgewood, the nation's largest veterinary compounding pharmacy, in 2016, where she began by quality-checking customized medications for animals. Today, she serves as Vice President of Formulary Strategy & Governance, overseeing a team of 5 pharmacists and 15+ technicians whose role includes developing customized medication solutions for an incredible range of patients - from dogs, cats, birds, reptiles and horses to sharks, tigers, and elephants! Her career combines science, medicine, problem-solving, and leadership to help veterinarians care for animals of all shapes and sizes. As a mom of three girls and a Girl Scout leader, Kirbie loves showing girls that careers in science can take you places you may never have imagined!



Lauren Ruggerio

Senior Buyer

Burlington Stores, Inc

I have been in Corporate Retail Buying for 14 years. Started as an assistant buyer and worked my way up to Senior Buyer over the course of my career. I have experiences in several categories of business including Footwear, Ladies Apparel and Accessories. In my current role, I focus on buying Costume and Designer Jewelry and I typically have 3 direct reports that work on my team.



Christine Shipley

Managing Director

Stevens & Lee Public Affairs

Christine has more than 25 years of strategic advisory experience in New Jersey state government. With a reputation among policy makers as a trusted, bipartisan advocate for pragmatic solutions, she assists businesses and trade organizations with their legislative and regulatory priorities and guides them through the complexities of state government. Christine advises clients across industries on key executive proposals and legislative developments that may impact their businesses and markets.

Christine served for 10 years as the Executive Director of the New Jersey Senate Republican Office where she developed close ties with legislators and staff on both sides of the aisle. Additionally, she served the Senate Republican Caucus as Deputy Executive Director, Director of Research and Chief Counsel, and as an Assistant Counsel in the Office of Chief Counsel for Governor Christine Todd Whitman. Her experience also includes working in Pennsylvania state government as a Legislative Analyst in the Office of Legislative Affairs in the Pennsylvania Department of Education for Governor Tom Ridge and interning with the Pennsylvania General Assembly Republican Legal Staff.

Girl Scout Alumni

Christine's bio continues on the next page

Christine Shipley

Managing Director
Stevens & Lee Public Affairs

bio continued

Christine has a significant understanding of the issues facing New Jersey and a history of working with legislative and executive policymakers to develop realistic solutions to those issues. She applies her depth of knowledge in areas that include health care, tax, economic development, energy, transportation, the environment, labor, education, ethics, open public records, elections, professional licensure and budget appropriations.

Christine has spoken at a variety of events sponsored by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, the Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey and the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. As a strong believer in mentoring up and coming leaders, Christine has presented at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, the Rowan Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship, NEW Leadership® at the Center for American Women and Politics and the New Jersey State Bar Association's Leadership Academy.



Janae Tanner

Co-founder
Strativera

Janae Tanner is a business executive, entrepreneur, and strategic growth leader with a passion for innovation, problem-solving, and helping businesses reach their full potential. Her career demonstrates that success doesn't have to follow a single path—it can be built by combining creativity, science, technology, and business.

Janae earned degrees in Fashion Design and Manufacturing as well as Organic Chemistry, giving her a unique blend of artistic creativity and analytical thinking. She also holds a professional Artificial Intelligence (AI) certification from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), allowing her to help organizations leverage emerging technologies to improve marketing, operations, and business growth.

Throughout her career, Janae has worked across multiple industries, including fashion, beauty, manufacturing, marketing, and business strategy. She has extensive experience in beauty product development, helping bring innovative products from concept to market while collaborating on product formulation, manufacturing, branding, packaging, and commercialization. Her work has also included involvement with patented product innovations, providing firsthand experience in intellectual property, product design, and the process of turning new ideas into protected, marketable solutions.



Girl Scout Alumni | Troop Leader

Janae's bio continues on the next page

Janae Tanner

Co-founder

Strativera

bio continued

Today, Janae serves as the Co-Founder and Vice President of Growth & Client Success at Strativera, where she helps businesses increase revenue, strengthen their brand, improve operations, and implement data-driven growth strategies. She enjoys helping business owners solve complex challenges and identify opportunities that create lasting success.

Beyond her professional career, Janae is passionate about mentoring future leaders. She believes curiosity, resilience, and a willingness to continuously learn are some of the most valuable qualities anyone can develop. She encourages young women to explore careers in STEM, business, entrepreneurship, design, marketing, and technology — and to never feel limited to choosing just one path. Some of the most rewarding careers are built by combining multiple passions into something uniquely your own.



Cheryl Squadrito

President and Founder

Media Friendly Public Relations



Girl Scout Alumni

Cheryl Squadrito enjoys getting to know people and learning new things, so she has many interests that keep her very busy. Cheryl's day job is running, Media Friendly LLC in Haddonfield, which she launched 21 years ago. Her company specializes media coverage for clients on TV, news, podcasts and social media.

Cheryl loves to work with people who have curious minds, which is why she teaches marketing at Temple University in Philadelphia and journalism at Rowan University. Since she likes to exercise, she is a Certified Spinning instructor twice a week at a fitness club in Cherry Hill, NJ.

Her newest project is Strike It Strong, a 501c3 non-profit that hosts self-defense classes for women and donates money to charities that help women in crisis. She says: "Yes, I like to be busy."

Cheryl's bio continues on the next page

Cheryl Squadrito

President and Founder
Media Friendly Public Relations

bio continued

Her career before public relations was entertainment journalism, and she was the first female a music critic for The Philadelphia Inquirer. She loves all genres of music and going to concerts with her college-age son and daughter. The highlight of her year was going to London to see Harry Styles in concert in July! Right now, she is carving out time to finish her novel, "London Calling," loosely based on her semester abroad in England.

I started my career as an entertainment journalist and newspaper reporter for The Philadelphia Inquirer just out of college. I moved to the Courier-Post and the Gannett News Service to be the main features reporter, which is how I ended up in Southern New Jersey. In 2005, I launched my public relations firm, "Media Friendly, LLC." My side hustles are teaching college courses at Rowan and Temple universities, and teaching fitness classes. In 2024, I co-founded a 501c3 non-profit called Strike It Strong.



Brooke Tomasco

Manager
RockBox Fitness

Brooke Tomasco has spent her career doing what she loves most—helping people grow. She began working at just 16 years old at Lindt Chocolate, where she discovered a passion for customer service and leadership. That passion led to a successful career with Victoria's Secret, where she advanced to Regional Training Manager, and later to Apple, where she developed training programs and traveled across the country supporting new store openings.

After more than a decade with Apple, Brooke decided to follow a new passion. Inspired by her own journey of losing more than 100 pounds, she transitioned into the fitness industry and became a driving force behind the success of RockBox Fitness Cherry Hill. Through her leadership, the studio has grown into an award-winning business known not only for its results, but for the supportive, empowering community it has created. While the recognition is rewarding, Brooke believes her greatest accomplishment is helping others become stronger—both physically and mentally.



Girl Scout Alumni | Troop Leader



Sophia Wang

Director of Programming
AI for Girls Enterprise

Sophia Wang serves as the Director of Programming at AI for Girls Enterprise, where she leads the development and execution of AI education workshops. She is deeply passionate about AI governance and advancing equity in technology, with experience spanning AI research, community building, and youth-focused education.

A student at the University of Pennsylvania studying Philosophy, Politics, and Economics alongside Data Analytics, Sophia is particularly interested in the intersection of ethical reasoning, institutional systems, and data-driven decision-making.

At AI for Girls Enterprise, Sophia designs and implements workshops that introduce students to AI in an engaging and accessible way. She is proud to contribute to a mission that empowers the next generation with the knowledge and tools to navigate and shape an AI-driven world, and believes that AI literacy is essential for building a more equitable future.



Kelly Wernersbach

Owner

Adjust Your Sleep
Mattress Boutique

Kelly Wernersbach is the passionate owner and operator of Adjust Your Sleep Mattress Boutique located in Marlton New Jersey She has been transforming lives for over 19 years. With a deep commitment to holistic health, Kelly has dedicated her career to helping individuals achieve optimal rest and improved well-being through custom thoughtful designed sleep systems tailored to each person's unique needs.(even if you share the space)

Her innovative approach to sleep health combines science, comfort, and compassion-ensuring that every client not only sleeps better but lives better. Kelly's expertise in sleep and sleep ergonomics and her intuitive understanding of the connection between rest and recovery have made Adjust Your Sleep a trusted destination for those seeking lasting wellness, and want to live their best life.

Beyond her work in sleep innovation, Kelly is a tireless advocate for community support. She regularly donates her time, resources, and space to help individuals in need, making philanthropy a cornerstone of her business. Whether it's offering mattresses to families in crisis or supporting local outreach programs, Kelly's mission is rooted in care, generosity, and the belief that everyone deserves a good night's rest.



Girl Scout Alumni | Troop Leader



Staci Zemble

Certified Supply Chain Analyst
(CSCA)

The Campbells Company



Staci Zemble is a Customer Supply Chain Analyst at The Campbell's Company with expertise in customer service, supply chain operations, order management, process improvement, and cross-functional collaboration. She supports major foodservice customers and works closely with Sales, Transportation, Logistics, Finance, and Customer Service teams to ensure products move efficiently from order placement to delivery.

With a passion for continuous improvement and Lean Six Sigma principles, Staci enjoys solving complex problems, creating training materials, developing standard operating procedures, and helping teams work more effectively. She is also an experienced trainer and mentor who has supported onboarding and knowledge transfer initiatives across global teams. In addition to her analytical and operational background, Staci has a strong artistic and creative foundation. She enjoys art, design, and visual storytelling, which helps her bring creativity to problem-solving, communication, and learning experiences. She believes that combining creativity with critical thinking can unlock innovative solutions and new opportunities. Staci is passionate about empowering others, building confidence, and encouraging young people—especially girls—to explore careers in business, supply chain, operations, technology, leadership, and the arts. She is excited to share her experiences and help Girl Scouts learn how their unique talents and interests can lead to rewarding and meaningful careers.

Girl Scout Alumni

Staci's bio continues on the next page

Staci Zemble

Certified Supply Chain Analyst
(CSCA)

The Campbells Company

bio continued

Fun Fact: Staci believes some of the most valuable skills for any future leader are curiosity, kindness, creativity, and the confidence to keep learning and trying new things. ✨

In addition to my role as a Customer Supply Chain Analyst with The Campbell's Company, I am also a Certified Yoga Teacher. Through yoga, I enjoy helping others build confidence, resilience, mindfulness, and overall well-being. Teaching yoga has strengthened my leadership, communication, and coaching skills, while reinforcing the importance of balance, self-care, and continuous personal growth.

I am passionate about helping people discover their strengths, overcome challenges, and reach their goals—whether in the workplace, through wellness practices, or in their personal lives. My combination of analytical business experience, creativity, and wellness education allows me to bring a unique perspective to leadership, problem-solving, and mentoring others.

🧘 Fun Fact: My career combines two very different passions—supply chain operations and yoga—but both center around helping people, solving problems, and creating positive outcomes. ✨