

30 UNDER THIRTY

Millennials have been raised in a digital world and they're equipped with high-tech tools that help them achieve immediate results. Therefore, it's no surprise that local young professionals are not waiting for a stroke of luck to advance in their careers. Despite their

young ages, many have charged full-steam ahead and are already making marks on this world. *Lake Business Magazine* is excited to share their triumphs and successes in our inaugural 30 Under 30 list, which introduces readers to some of the most talented young professionals in our area.

STORY **JAMES COMBS** /// PHOTOGRAPHY **FRED LOPEZ**



BENJAMIN HOMAN, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Clermont **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Skillful Antics **DUTIES:** I create awesome and affordable websites. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** We have clients in eight states, and we are opening our third location this year. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Focus on building relationships first and businesses second. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Brad Pitt because he's simply awesome. **ADVICE FOR ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS:** Don't look at clients as a dollar sign. Talk to them and get to know who they truly are and establish a relationship first. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** I love looking at expensive tech gifts for men. I don't buy them; I just enjoy looking at how creative inventors can be.





SAMANTHA STEWART, 21

CURRENT TOWN: Mount Dora // **OCCUPATION:**

Realtor/sales associate for Watson Realty Corp.

IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE: I'd drink a mojito with Bill Gates and pick his brain on exactly how he got to where he is today. **GREATEST PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Going to Australia and competing in polocrosse as a member of the 18 and Under USA team. I was one of only seven youth players selected.

CHANTELBUCK, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Tavares **OCCUPATION:** President/CEO of New Vision for Independence **BUSINESS**

PHILOSOPHY: Do the right things the right way and everything else falls into place. **INSPIRATIONAL**

LEADER: Sheryl Sandberg, who is chief operating officer of Facebook. As a high-ranking female leader in a predominantly male sector, she uses her influence to push for gender equality. **GUILTY**

PLEASURE: Chocolate and Coke

ANTHONY BEALL, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Branch manager of Insight Credit Union **BUSINESS**

PHILOSOPHY: If you want something, go get it. The key to success is failure. **IN 10 YEARS:** I will have mastered my profession with Insight Credit Union.

FIRST JOB: Bus washer with the Lake County School Board. During summer, we washed, waxed and detailed every bus in the school system.

HIDDEN TALENT: I love making people laugh. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Chicken wings!

MIRANDA BURROWES, 30

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Public relations coordinator for the City of Eustis

GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT: Having the City of Eustis, the Georgefest Parade, and Cameron Witsman featured on ABC World News. Cameron is a six-year-old-boy with a life-threatening illness and was named as an honorary Eustis firefighter. **PET PEEVE:** I'm a grammar Nazi.

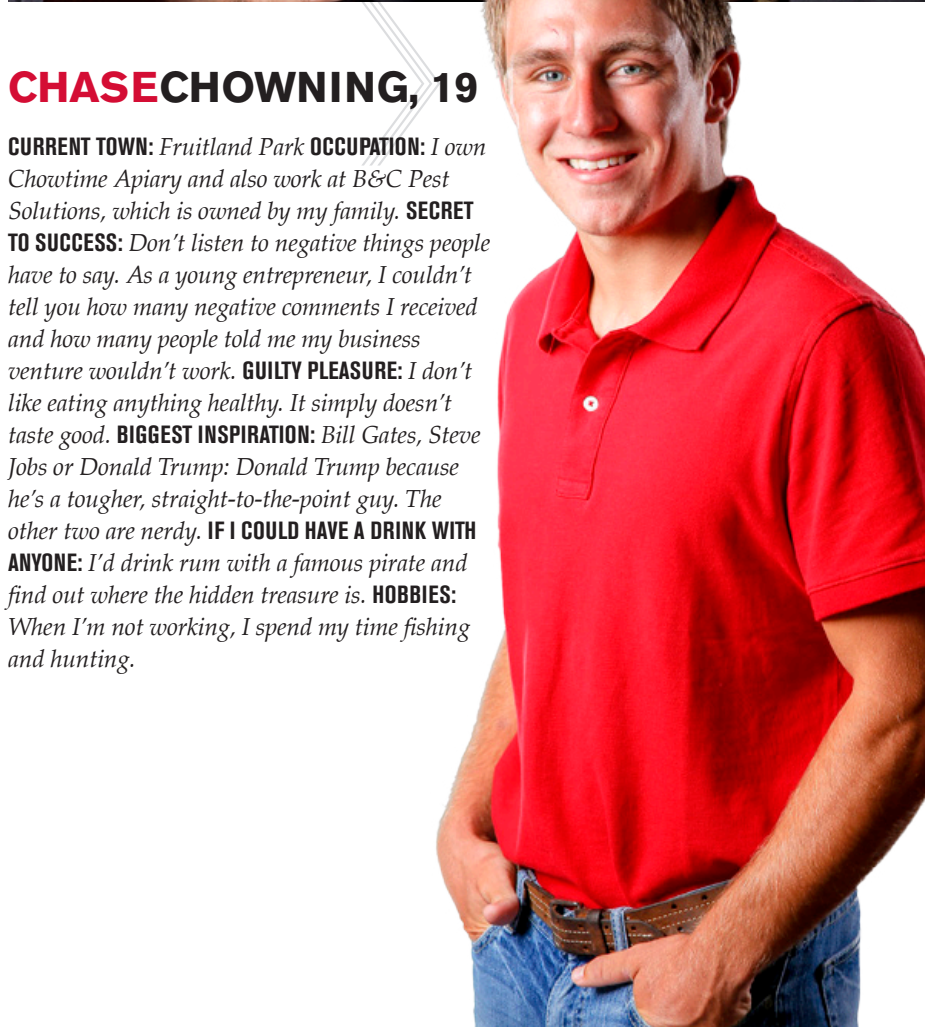
I cringe when I drive by billboards that have typos. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd have a Bud Light with Bethenny Frankel, who is founder of Skinnygirl Cocktails. She started with nothing and became rich with her drink line. Plus, I like the fact that she is tenacious.



CHASE CHOWNING, 19

CURRENT TOWN: Fruitland Park **OCCUPATION:** I own Chowtime Apiary and also work at B&C Pest Solutions, which is owned by my family. **SECRET**

TO SUCCESS: Don't listen to negative things people have to say. As a young entrepreneur, I couldn't tell you how many negative comments I received and how many people told me my business venture wouldn't work. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** I don't like eating anything healthy. It simply doesn't taste good. **BIGGEST INSPIRATION:** Bill Gates, Steve Jobs or Donald Trump: Donald Trump because he's a tougher, straight-to-the-point guy. The other two are nerdy. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd drink rum with a famous pirate and find out where the hidden treasure is. **HOBBIES:** When I'm not working, I spend my time fishing and hunting.



TYLER SCOTT, 23

CURRENT TOWN: Tavares **OCCUPATION:** Supervisor of T. Scott Roofing, Inc. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Being the third generation in a family business that was started by my grandfather in 1973. **FIRST JOB:** Winn Dixie when I was 16. I worked there for 18 months and realized I was better suited for an outdoor job. **HIDDEN TALENT:** Buying things and fixing them up to resell for profit. I'm a Craigslist junkie! **BIGGEST INSPIRATION:** Bill Gates, Steve Jobs or Donald Trump: Donald Trump. I like his straightforward, no-nonsense approach to business. **PET PEEVE:** Entitlement. Especially at my age, so many people are living an entitled life and don't want to work hard for success. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Fine cigars.

CAITLIN JOSEPH, 24

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Pin Ups Salon and Spa **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Achieving my dreams by becoming a licensed cosmetologist and being able to operate my own business at 24. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Taylor Swift because she's a great role model for the young crowd and promotes anti-bullying, which I strongly support. **INSPIRATIONAL LEADER I ADMIRE:** Jessica Alba. She started the Honest Company to provide healthy alternatives and natural products for her kids. **HIDDEN TALENT:** I can catch fish by throwing a cast net. I am a country girl at heart I guess you could say.



A full-length portrait of Elizabeth Cornell, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a bright red long-sleeved top and black leggings, posing with one leg slightly raised.

ELIZABETH “LIZ” CORNELL, 28

CURRENT TOWN: Clermont **OCCUPATION:** CEO of TB Financial Group, Inc. **LIFE PHILOSOPHY:** Life is too short so make the most of each moment. I believe it's our duty to leave the world a better place than when we got here. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Tony Robbins. His simple and proven path to success emphasizes the power of the mind. **INSPIRATIONAL LEADER:** Mark Cuban because he's a bada**. I'd also choose Elizabeth Holmes, the youngest self-made billionaire. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd have Dom Perignon with Jackie Kennedy. She was a classy lady and that was her drink of choice for White House functions.

A full-length portrait of Sierra Ford, a woman with dark hair, wearing a black and white striped long-sleeved top, a wide red belt, and a black skirt, posing with one leg raised.

SIERRA FORD, 24

CURRENT TOWN: Orlando **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Sierra Ford Photography **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** My clients' great-grandchildren will be looking at the pictures I take, so it is important to capture authentic emotion and personality. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** At 10 p.m. I drive to Jeremiah's Italian Ice and order a strawberry-lemon gelato. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd have a margarita with the Founding Fathers and talk about how they envisioned this world and how it is now. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Jack Johnson, a musician who raises environmental awareness through his band.

A headshot of Bobby Schulte, a man with short brown hair, wearing a white button-down shirt with a logo that says "TRIANGLE Lightning Protection, Inc.".

BOBBY SCHULTE, 27

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Vice president of Triangle Lightning Protection **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Stay true to your core values. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Working hard and not taking myself too seriously. **IN 10 YEARS:** I'll hopefully be in Lake County running our family business with my son, Chase. **QUOTE TO LIVE BY:** "Opportunity is missed by people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Ted Nugent. He stands up for the American Dream and the Constitution.



DRAKE PATTON, 19

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Commercial Operations Support **EMPLOYER:** First National Bank of Mount Dora **GREATEST PERSONAL**

ACCOMPLISHMENT: I was named as Employee of the Year at my bank. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** I know there always is someone working harder than I. **PET PEEVE:** When people don't put enough effort toward something, it grinds my gears. **HIDDEN TALENTS:** I play the guitar in my spare time. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I would drink a Yuengling with my grandmother, who passed away when I was 4.

DAVID OLIVER WILLIS, 24

CURRENT TOWN: Mount Dora **OCCUPATION:** Owner of David Oliver Willis Music **GREATEST PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Finishing as a top 40 finalist on FOX's "American Idol" **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Showing up, moving forward and allowing every "no" to propel me further. **INSPIRATIONAL LEADER I ADMIRE:** Oprah Winfrey because she lives a life of authenticity while encouraging others to live life to their highest and best purpose.



CHELSEEHALEY, 25

CURRENT TOWN: Umatilla **OCCUPATION:** Office manager of Premier Alarm System Solutions **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Hard work and personal relationships. **ADVICE FOR ASPIRING BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS:** Be friendly and outgoing. Networking is important. It really is all about who you know in business. **IN 10 YEARS:** I love my company and hope to stay for a while, but I would love and hope to own my own business someday. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Jennifer Lawrence. She's fun, natural and easy to relate to. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Binge-watching Netflix with a bottle of wine.



SEAN PICKARD, 23

CURRENT TOWN: Umatilla **OCCUPATION:** Locomotive technician at Pensley Railroad **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** I have progressed throughout my career from schooling, hands-on experience and hard work. I am a fully certified fire apparatus technician and have also earned other certifications in my field. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Always give 110 percent in everything you do and you will go far. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Tim Tebow. He is one of the few male figures who through fame and fortune has kept his faith and made it known. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** I like to drive fast and get my relief at the drag track once a month.



KAYCE McRAE, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Manager of Internet sales at Central Industrial Sales, a machinery parts company that my grandfather opened 59 years ago **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** It takes passion and commitment to be successful. It doesn't happen overnight. **IN 10 YEARS:** Well, in the near future I hope to become owner of Central Industrial Sales. My grandfather has owned it for 59 years and said he'll retire once he's had the company for 60 years. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Just because you are struggling does not mean you are failing. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Reese Witherspoon because everyone says she's my look-a-like **HIDDEN TALENT:** Ping-pong. Quite frankly, I never lose! **PET PEEVE:** Unsolicited advice.



JEFF BELL, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Fruitland Park **OCCUPATION:**

Accredited disability representative **EMPLOYER:**

Disability Consultants **DUTIES:** Represent and argue cases for our clients during disability hearings **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Former college football coach Lou Holtz. Lou would keep things light; he has a great sense of humor and wit, and he also demands your respect when he speaks. **HIDDEN TALENTS:** I can juggle, draw a little bit and play three songs on the piano.



EMMA SHOURDS, 21

CURRENT TOWN: Orlando **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Emma Shourds Photography **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** My purpose for pursuing photography is to answer a calling to share God's grace and beauty in timeless photographs, as well as encourage self-confidence and individual expression in clients. **FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Let go and let God." I even have this tattooed on my foot. **HIDDEN TALENT:** I am really good at weird, cartoon-like voices. If I wasn't pursuing photography, I would love to be a cartoon voiceover. It's my alter-ego dream job!



BENJAMIN CLARK, 27

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Vice president of David Clark Heating and Air Conditioning **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Becoming vice president of David Clark Heating and Air Conditioning. **INSPIRATIONAL LEADER:** My father, David Clark. He taught me the importance of honesty and hard work and how dedication is important to running a business. **HOBBIES:** Fishing, hunting and being outdoors.



BRITTANY BEALL, 29

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Biology teacher at Eustis High School **DUTIES:** In addition to teaching, I am head coach of the school's softball and weightlifting teams. I also serve as sponsor of the junior class and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** I was Rookie Teacher of the Year in 2012 and Eustis High School Coach of the Year in 2014. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Olivia Pope from the television show "Scandal." I absolutely love how she's a go-getter and backs down from nobody. **PET PEEVE:** Hearing people make excuses. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** McDonald's french fries

MITCHELL RICE, 20

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** CEO/owner of Mitchell's Moving **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Each job is the most important. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Making my company a family business and being a dependable company. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Treating every customer with the same amount of respect and making sure everything I do is for them. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I would have a beer with Mark Cuban because he is a great entrepreneur. **PET PEEVE:** When people look down on themselves and act like they aren't capable of doing something. All they have to do is set their mind to it. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Taking long weekends.

MEGHAN ISOM, 28

CURRENT TOWN: Oxford **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Just Jammin **DUTIES:** I make homemade jams for special events such as weddings, baby showers and fundraisers. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Keep God first in all your endeavors and you will succeed. **FIRST JOB:** Working at my family's business, where I'd do oil changes, jump start vehicles and wash the tow trucks. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Kenny Chesney. The words in his music speak to my soul. **INSPIRATIONAL LEADER:** Christian author and speaker Joyce Meyer. She is very charismatic and not afraid to speak her mind.





HALEY GERIG, 24

CURRENT TOWN: Tavares **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Haley's Comet Clothing and Mobile Tuxedo Service **DUTIES:** I create custom-designed clothing, as well as tuxedos and suits. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Co-founding Sweet Treats for the Arts, a fashion show fundraiser that has raised \$36,000 **LIFE PHILOSOPHY:** Put your big girl panties on and deal with it! // Inspirational leader I admire: Coco Chanel because I design like her. No drawings... just a pattern in my head to go by. She also did not let anyone keep her from doing what she loved. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I would dance (not drink) with Terry Crews because he is a riot and I love his moves! **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Drew Barrymore. She has her own sense of style and doesn't care what others think. She has also been through a lot and doesn't give up.

MICHAEL KNORR, 23

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Director of marketing and sales at THAT! Company. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** Live and do business in such a way that if someone spoke badly of you nobody would believe it. **PET PEEVE:** People who honk their horn after the light has been green for a moment. Patience, people! **GUILTY PLEASURE:** I enjoy sleeping in a bit too much. **ADVICE FOR ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS:** Pursue your passion, take calculated risks and make sure you're making a difference. Pursuing money only to gain material wealth is meaningless.



LAUREN FICKETT, 27

CURRENT TOWN: Eustis **OCCUPATION:** Realtor **EMPLOYER:** Morris Realty and Investments **GREATEST LIFE ACCOMPLISHMENT:** My wonderful husband and two beautiful girls. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Cookies, cake, ice cream and chocolate. I have the world's worst sweet tooth. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Barbara Corcoran. She started a real estate company with just \$1,000 and turned it into a billion-dollar business. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd have a glass of pinot noir with my grandmother, who passed away six months before I was born. My dad said she and I would have been inseparable.

KELDA SENIOR, 28

CURRENT TOWN: Mount Dora **OCCUPATION:** Public information officer for the City of Mount Dora **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** "Let the public service be a proud and lively career." **GREATEST PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Fulfilling my academic goals by earning a graduate degree. **FIRST JOB:** I worked two years at Old Navy. I learned essential life skills, including time management, teamwork and how to serve others. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** Nelson Mandela. I'd ask him to recommend a good wine from a South African vineyard. **PET PEEVE:** When social media is used for a diary.



MADISON HOLT, 18

CURRENT TOWN: Oxford **OCCUPATION:** Designer/buyer for Monogrammit, Inc. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Helping start a business at age 16. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** It's all about being fair and ethical—not only to customers but also your employees. I think it is very important to be creative and original with your ideas. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** I love being creative and making customers happy. **ADVICE FOR ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS:** Love what you do and do what you love.





KAYLEE PELTON, 24

CURRENT TOWN: Tavares **OCCUPATION:** Owner of CupKay's Cakery, a cupcake food truck. **DUTIES:** I am the head pastry chef. **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** I believe all gourmet products should be handcrafted from the finest ingredients and taste as great as they look. **LIFE PHILOSOPHY:** You must give everything to make your life as beautiful as the dreams that dance in your imagination. **MY CELEBRITY SPOKESPERSON:** Bobby Flay, an Iron Chef on the Food Network. He's passionate about baking so he'd be passionate about my company.

DAVID COTÉ, 30

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Account Representative **EMPLOYER:** Akers Media **LIFE PHILOSOPHY:** God, family, work, fun. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Drive and integrity. Without either, you'll never find success **MY FIRST JOB:** I was a waiter at Lake Port Square at 15. **IN 10 YEARS:** Right now, I'm thinking about today. All I know is, in the words of Zig Ziglar, "I'll see you at the top."



MICHAEL FRYMIER, 21

CURRENT TOWN: Leesburg **OCCUPATION:** Owner of Computer Corner **BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:** My slogan is, "Computer Repair with Care." I strive to give each customer quality service at an affordable price. **GREATEST CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Running my own business at age 15 and incorporating the business at age 18. **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** Keeping the Lord first in everything I think, say and do. **IF I COULD HAVE A DRINK WITH ANYONE:** I'd drink with Steve Jobs so I could pick his brain about technology and how he came up with ideas on how to excel. **GUILTY PLEASURE:** Sour Patch Kids candy

