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THE PURSUIT OF LIFE'S POSSIBILITIES

MARGARET CASHILL

In life, we meet some incredibly passionate people (as well as others with very little passion). If you are a passionate person, you have purpose, drive and, most likely, a sense of the bigger picture.

At one point early in my adulthood, I found out a girl I had gone to school with had completed a marathon to support a cause important to her. This was before participating in charity races had become as popular as it is today. I was astonished that she ran 26.2 miles! Inspired, I put on my sneakers and began to prepare for an upcoming four-mile race.

This happened at a point in my life when I had little interest in anything other than the occasional crossword puzzle. I completed the race, in the top 75 percent of my age group no less, and proceeded to run several half-marathons over the next four years.

A video of my most recent finish at the 2011 Florida Holiday Halfathon shows a man dressed in a head-to-toe elf costume crossing the finish line ahead of me. To be certain, I was never the fastest runner, nor the most prolific. Still, the decision to take up running represented a turning point for me. I began to appreciate life's possibilities and to pursue them.

When I joined The Junior League of Tampa, I met people who lived life passionately and, what's more, shared a drive to make the world a better place.

Consider the story of Betsy Chambers, Sustainer President, who made it her mission to help victims of abuse following her work in the state attorney's office; or of Provisional Natasha Nascimento, who founded Redefining Refuge, a shelter for victims of human trafficking. Then there are the members of our League who reported to emergency operations centers during Hurricane Irma. Their dedication and bravery need no explanation.

These are just a few of the passionate people you will meet in this issue. Perhaps their stories will have the same effect on you that my former classmate who ran a marathon had on me years ago. May you be inspired to run after your passion, mindful of the possibilities waiting for you down the road.

A stylized, handwritten signature of the name "Margaret" in black ink.

Margaret Cashill
Editor

THE SANDSPUR

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www.jltampa.org

MEET *THE SANDSPUR*'S EDITORIAL STAFF



MARGARET CASHILL, *Editor*

An Active member of JLT since 2011, Margaret works in marketing communications. She lives in South Tampa with her husband and two daughters. In her free time, Margaret enjoys reading, listening to audiobooks and working out.



KENDRA MCCAN, *Assistant Editor*

Kendra has been an Active member of JLT since 2015 and previously served as a contributing writer for *The Sandspur*. She works as a construction litigation attorney in Tampa and grew up in Orlando. She enjoys running, attending concerts and spending time with her family.



NANCY "JOANIE" OBEN, *Features Editor*

Joanie is a first-year Active. She is a yearbook and newspaper adviser at a South Tampa high school. In her free time, she volunteers as an international officer for her sorority, Alpha Delta Pi, and loves watching Miami Hurricanes football. Go 'Canes!



SUZY MESMER, *Copy Editor*

Suzy is a first-year Active who works in PR and marketing. A two-time graduate of the University of Nebraska's journalism school, she spent most of her career in sports and news broadcasting. She and her husband Aaron are the proud parents of their baby boy Jackson.



MARISSA HYMAN, *Photographer*

An Active member of JLT since 2011, Marissa is a wedding and portrait photographer and mother of two. She and her husband are both South Tampa natives and enjoy raising their girls among their grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, all nearby, and enjoy toting them on far-flung travels around the world.



NICHOLE VILD, *Photographer*

Nichole has been a member of JLT since 2013. She was with the Emerald Coast and Northern Virginia chapters before transferring to Tampa in 2015. She is a U.S. Army logistics officer. Her spare time is spent traveling, running and chasing her nieces and nephews around with a camera.



LAURYN CRAPARO, *Advertising Coordinator*

A second-year Active, Laurn works as an events and communications coordinator for a national law firm. She enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter as well as cheering on the Florida Gators.

Learn more about *The Sandspur*
Contributing Writers throughout the magazine.

OUR MISSION

Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa, Inc., is an organization of 1,900 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.



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Passion Lights the Way

KATIE CAPPY



As I started this League year, I told members I was inspired by the following quote:

"PURPOSE IS THE REASON YOU JOURNEY. PASSION IS THE FIRE THAT LIGHTS THE WAY." —ANONYMOUS

As an organization made up of volunteer leaders, it is truly passion that guides The Junior League of Tampa's women to devote the time they do to our community.

Now, as we turn the calendar to a new year and reach the halfway point of our current League year, it is our pleasure to highlight not just League members who follow a passion to light their journey, but also fellow community members who are also led by passion.

You will read about Natasha Nascimento—a JLT Provisional—and Geoffrey Rogers, two community leaders inspired by a passion to give human trafficking survivors a voice. Nascimento and Rogers committed their lives to not only helping the survivors, but also championing their cause.

You will see a preview about our May Luminaries luncheon. As we prepare to announce the winners of the 2018 Luminaries award, I could not help but be reminded of the incredible women and men in our Tampa community who have dedicated their lives to being agents of change and leaving our town a better place for those coming behind them.

Finally, you will meet our 2017-2018 Community Advisory Board. These dedicated leaders help the League ensure that we are truly serving the community in its greatest capacity and maximizing the impact we have the power to make. Their passion for community is varied and runs deep. We are truly thankful for the service of this accomplished group.

I hope you have a purpose for your journey and a deep and abiding passion that serves as your fire.

With passion,

Katie

Katie Cappy
President, 2017-2018



"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."
— Franklin D. Roosevelt

November 14, 2017
Ms. Lauren Gatzlander
Junior League of Tampa
87 Columbia Dr.
Tampa, FL 33606-2584

Dear Lauren,

What a year it has been! This year, the Children's Home Network celebrated its 125th Anniversary, we evacuated our children out of Hurricane Irma's path to keep them safe and much more, thanks to friends like you. With the holiday season upon us, we are grateful to partner with you to serve at-risk children and support families in our community. Most of all, we are thankful for your kindness and generosity. Your gift of \$3,000.00 on 11/8/2017 brings many positive changes to the nearly 25,000 people we serve.

With your help, we are able to open our arms and help heal the hearts of our community's children who have suffered from abuse, neglect or abandonment. Although we are not their traditional home, we are able to give them a warm, nurturing place to call their own. Together, we provide the therapeutic treatment, environmental stability and educational support each child needs to create new, positive life experiences. With you on our side, we offer hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for being a part of our 125 year journey. Thank you for standing with the Children's Home Network to unlock the potential in children and families by offering compassionate and effective services that create opportunities for their success.

We cannot adequately express our gratitude in a simple letter. However, please know that your support continues to improve lives and changes life stories today, tomorrow and for the future to come.

Wishing you a bright and warm holiday season!

Warmest Regards,

Bob Krouse
Bob Krouse
Chief of Development

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*I think you're such a
big part of this
project!
We appreciate it!*



4138 North MacDill Avenue, Tampa,
www.jchc.org

November 8, 2017

The Junior League of Tampa, Inc.
Attn: Lauren Gatzlander, Enabling Fund Chair
87 Columbia Drive
Tampa, Florida 33606

Dear Ms. Gatzlander:

Thank you for generous "Enabling Grant of \$3,000.00" to support the Judeo Christian Health Clinic. We sincerely appreciate the approval of our request so that we may continue our mission. As you know, your contribution helps the Clinic continue its mission of providing health care services to the uninsured members of our Tampa Bay community. We continue to see the need for so many who lack access to basic health services. Volunteers like doctors, dentists, nurses and others play a major role in our program offerings, as they graciously give of their time to provide services to patients free of charge. Donors, like you, who make an investment in our mission help make the work of the volunteers possible.

Our services are offered to the working poor of our community. Patients do not qualify for government funded healthcare programs and yet cannot afford private health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-pays, even with government subsidies. Patients have little income, and often times after paying rent, utilities and other basic living expenses like food, there isn't anything left.

The Clinic offers primary and specialty care, dental and vision services, as well as educational classes and support groups. In addition, patients can fill prescription medications free of charge through the Clinic's pharmacy. The clinic has offered these services since 1972 without the assistance of government or United Way funding. The Clinic relies on fundraising efforts and donors like you to meet annual expenses.

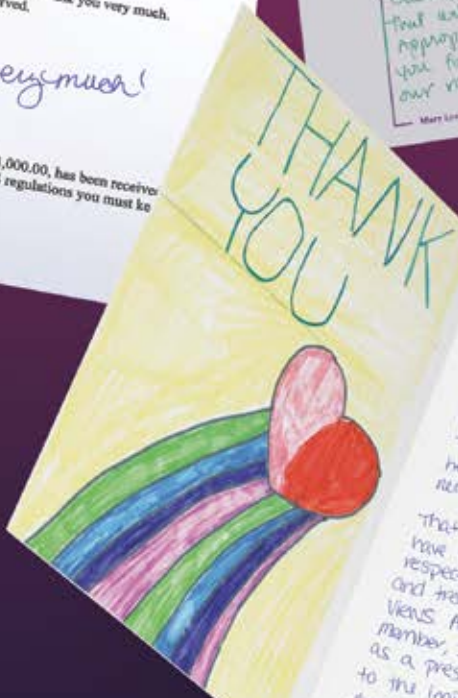
On behalf of all the lives touched at the Judeo Christian Health Clinic, thank you very much. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of the underserved.

Kelly Bell
Kelly Bell, MBA
Executive Director
KB/c

Thank you very much!

P. S. Check #019168, dated October 31, 2017, in the amount of \$3,000.00, has been received. No goods or services will be given for this donation. Per IRS regulations you must keep this letter as proof of your tax donation to the Clinic.

*Dear Ms. Gatzlander,
Thank you for your
generous contribution to
the Enabling Fund. We are
so excited to receive an
Enabling grant to provide our
children with the most
appropriate care possible. We
will continue to work hard
to provide the best care
possible for all of our
children. Thank you for
your support and for
making a difference in
the lives of our children.
Sincerely,
Mary Lynn Clay, Chief Executive Officer*



*Hi Katie,
As a leader and a voice in our
community, I know you have
witnessed the impact poverty has
on families, as well as on children's
education and future. I believe
it's both a responsibility and a
privilege to do everything we can
to help our children grow up safe,
healthy, educated and with the skills
needed to succeed in life.
That is why we feel so lucky to
have had you out to Mont. I
respect the depth of your knowledge
and treasure your creative long-term
views. As a fellow Junior League
member, I am excited to have you
as a president and look forward
to the impact we will make on
the community this year.
Thank you again for
your support
Ellen Baccarini*

November 17, 2017

Ms. Katie Cagley
The Junior League of Tampa, Inc.
87 Columbia Drive
Tampa, Florida 33606-3584

Dear Katie,

It is because of the generosity of philanthropic organizations like The Junior League of Tampa, Inc. that the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay is able to ensure that no one in our community has to face crisis alone. Thank you for standing with us!

Gift Date: 11/6/2017

Gift Details: \$1,250 grant to support gift bundles for adolescent clients and visitors.

Gratefully,

Clear that's a great support!

Many thanks!

Clara A. Reynolds
President & CEO
813-969-4999
creynolds@crisiscenter.org

P.S. This letter will serve as an acknowledgment for your donation. Our Federal Tax identification number is 50-1785265. We have not provided any goods or services in exchange for this contribution.

If you choose to remember the Crisis Center in your estate plans, please let us know so we may say "thank you" and welcome you as a member of the Legacy Society. For more information please contact: Jean Hughes, Director of Advancement, 813-969-4977, jhughes@crisiscenter.org.

THE CRISIS CENTER OF TAMPA BAY, INC. IS A 501(C)(3) NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION AND ALL GIFT MADE TO THE CENTER MAY BE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TO THE EXTENT OF THE LAW. A COPY OF THE OFF REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CORPORATE SERVICES ON THEIR WEBSITE (www.flsos.org) OR BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-435-7279. THE STATE OR BUS-430-3600 OUTSIDE OF FLORIDA. 501(C)3 OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED ARE THIS ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION NUMBER IS CH1345.

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- Ben Paster, USAA Financial
- Candice Rish, Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office
- Beth Schwabing, Community Volunteer
- Dina Ellis Smith, Smith & Associates
- Jerry Steinbrenner, National NY Veterans Foundation

November 8, 2017

Ms. Lauren Gatzler
The Junior League of Tampa
87 Columbia Drive
Tampa, FL 33606

Dear Ms. Gatzler,

Thank you so much for selecting Mary Lee's House as a recipient for The Junior League's Enabling Grant. These funds will allow Mary Lee's House and the Child Protection Team to offer Pack n Plays and car seats to families in need.

Over 19,000 children have passed through our doors since Mary Lee's House opened in 2006. Your commitment to helping children in our community enables us to provide our abused and neglected children with the legal, medical, mental health and social services they need in one child-friendly location.

On behalf of the children and families served at Mary Lee's House, we want to express our appreciation for your contribution.

Sincerely,

Amber Delgado Kuhn

Amber Delgado Kuhn
Acting Executive Director

2806 N. Armenia Avenue | Tampa, FL 33607 | 813.250.8850 | www.maryleeshouse.org

Ex-Officio Members:

- Thomas J. Azzarelli
- James Fernan
- Jane Murphy
- Chris Sullivan

Quantum Leap Farm
Equine-Assisted Therapies

November 8, 2017

The Junior League of Tampa
Lindsay Doornick - Community Child Welfare Manager
Fiona-Lee Gerard - Community Education Manager
Tampa, Florida 33606

Dear Lindsay and Fiona

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Quantum Leap Farm, Inc., I would like to thank The Junior League of Tampa for their generous Flashing Fund grant in the amount of \$2,000 to fund a scholarship for a child in need to participate in our Hippotherapy Program. We are also grateful for your help in providing volunteers on March 2nd and 3rd for Setup Hope, 2018. We look forward to partnering with The Junior League of Tampa.

Quantum Leap Farm serves children and adults with special needs, wounded veterans, military service members, children with cancer, and their family members. Our Hippotherapy program is facilitated by a specially trained, certified and licensed Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist. The characteristic movements of the horse provide carefully graded sensory input. Physical benefits of the program will include improved functional mobility, balance, strength, posture, and hand/eye coordination. Social and intellectual benefits include an increased ability to follow directions, focus, cooperation, trust and communication, as well as lowered anxiety and decreased impulsivity.

Your scholarship funds will enable a child to receive 26 - 1/2 hour sessions from January - June, 2018. Funds raised through our Setup Hope event on March 2nd will attach your funding and continue to provide services for this child for an entire year.

Warm Regards,

Eddie Dopking

Eddie Dopking, PhD
Founder and Executive Director

Quantum Leap Farm is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization. EIN: 29-3469444
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
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18001 Woodmark Road, Odessa, FL 33556 • Office: (813) 920-9250 • Fax: (813) 920-2124 • www.quantumleapfarm.org

November 7, 2017

Lauren Gatzler
Enabling Fund Chair
The Junior League of Tampa
87 Columbia Drive
Tampa, FL 33606

Dear Lauren:

Thank you so much for the generous donation of \$3,000 for iPads for our Transition Program for teens ages 13-22.

The Junior League is enriching the lives of our teens, who are blind or visually impaired! Technology is definitely leveling the playing field for our teens and adults. With the free accessibility features and applications available with the iPad, the world is at their fingertips. They can use the screen magnification or the voice over speech tool for accessing email and the internet. Some of the free amazing applications include a money identifier, magnifier, bar code reader, scanner and even an application that will describe a picture to them. For once, our teens can access and use the same technology that their sighted peers use.

With the iPads that we are purchasing with your generous donation, we can teach the teens how to use the iPad and the accessibility features. Once they demonstrate the ability to use it, we can ask their counselor with Division of Blind Services to purchase an iPad for them to keep and use at home and school. How cool is that!

Thanks again for making it possible for us to purchase these exciting teaching tools! We invite you to visit us anytime! The teens are here most Mondays after school and week days during the summer. We are so very grateful for The Junior League of Tampa.

Sincerely,

Sheryl K. Brown

Sheryl K. Brown
Executive Director

2806 N. Armenia Avenue | Tampa, FL 33607 | 813.250.8850 | www.tampalighthouse.org

Thank you again

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THE LUMINARIES

Preserving the Past. Inspiring the Future.

THE LUMINARIES SETS DATE FOR 2018 LUNCHEON TO HONOR INSPIRING LEADERS

by MARGARET CASHILL

Since 2015, The Junior League of Tampa has honored outstanding individuals through The Luminaries, an annual program held in partnership with WEDU PBS.

The Luminaries recognizes the qualities of leadership, empowerment, advocacy and distinction, with a goal to preserve the legacies of individuals who effect positive change in the community.

Led this year by Co-chairs Sarah Martisek and Jessica Stravino, the Luminaries Committee plans to hold the 2018 Luminaries luncheon at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC on **MAY 11**, with registration starting at 11 a.m., followed by an hour-long program beginning at noon.

The 2017 Luminaries—the Honorable Betty Castor, the Honorable Katherine Essrig and J. Thomas Touchton—received recognition at a luncheon on May 5, 2017. A WEDU PBS special chronicled their stories, which the Tampa Bay History Center preserved in a permanent digital collection.

With more than 90 years of history and 1,900 members, JLT is in an excellent position to celebrate community members who make a difference. The League invites all members of the community to consider nominating someone they know who exemplifies the qualities of a Luminary.



What is a Luminary?

A person who inspires or influences others, and who is prominent in a particular sphere.

MARGARET CASHILL

An Active member of JLT since 2011, Margaret works in marketing communications. She lives in South Tampa with her husband and two daughters. In her free time, Margaret enjoys reading, listening to audiobooks and working out.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD

BETSY CHAMBERS

As a young lawyer working at the state attorney's office, I was assigned to the sex crimes division. I am very sad to say that a majority of my victims were children under the age of 12 who had been physically and sexually abused by a parent, step-parent, relative or family friend. Daily, I listened to innocent, trusting children painfully describe unspeakable acts of violence. Passion quickly became my driving force to be the voice for these children in the courtroom and to anybody I could make listen. I witnessed the frustration of overworked and underpaid children's services employees trying to place the victims in safe homes. It became my mission to make a difference.

I reached out to family and friends to tell my unthinkable stories. It was and always will be a very painful topic. Often I encountered truly caring people who were grateful for my efforts but did not want to hear of such atrocities in our community. I was known to passionately respond, "These children did not choose to hear, see or feel this horrendous abuse ... nor should we have a choice to turn a deaf ear." With such a bold statement, my mom and dad became my biggest advocates. I knew in my heart that others would listen and so I turned to The Junior League of Tampa. The women of this organization did not let me down. They listened and took action. Within the year, the League launched the Foster Family Recruitment Project. In light of the frighteningly low levels of families willing to open their homes to abused children, the League created the "Share Your Heart, Share Your Home" marketing concept. We were in the news and our logo appeared on bus stop benches, billboards and pamphlets. People were listening. I saw hope for these children.



2017-2018

SUSTAINER OFFICERS & CHAIRS

BETSY CHAMBERS: Sustainer President

LESLIE JENNEWAIN: President-Elect

ALYSIA EKIZIAN: Recording Secretary

ELIZABETH KURZ: Corresponding Secretary

GWYNNE YOUNG: Sustainer at Large

GINGER DOHERTY: Sustainer Chair

BETH SCHATZBERG: Sustainer Chair

ANDREA WEBB: Sustainer Chair

The League supported the project for several years. The focus on children in need gathered amazing momentum. Projects to follow included the Program for Pre-School Sexually Abused Children, Kids' Rights/Guardian ad Litem, Kids' Connection, Baby Bungalow, Love Bundles and Mary Lee's House, to name a few. We tackled literacy and hunger and strived to make a positive impact on children at risk. Many projects addressing the needs of children continue to thrive in our organization. We have even taken on human trafficking. We are an organization with open hearts and minds, ready to listen and to take action. This is passion. Thank you, women of The Junior League of Tampa. I am so proud of you.

Passion to help children will always be at the center of my heart. In 1998, I made a statement in the President's Perspective section of *The Sandspur* that I continue to support: "Throughout the remainder of this year, and for years to come, allow me to challenge each of you to remember less fortunate children ... the ones whose nightmares never end, whose tears never stop, whose fears never go away, and who long for loving arms to comfort them."

Making a difference begins with passion.

Sincerely,

Betsy Chambers

Betsy Chambers

"It became my mission to make a difference."

UPCOMING SUSTAINER EVENTS

FEBRUARY 28TH

*Sustainer of the Year 2018
Nominations Due*

MARCH 7TH

*Day at the Races
Don't miss this fun, Annual Event!*

MARCH 24TH

*Sustainers Spring Volunteer Opportunity:
Special Olympics*

APRIL 9TH

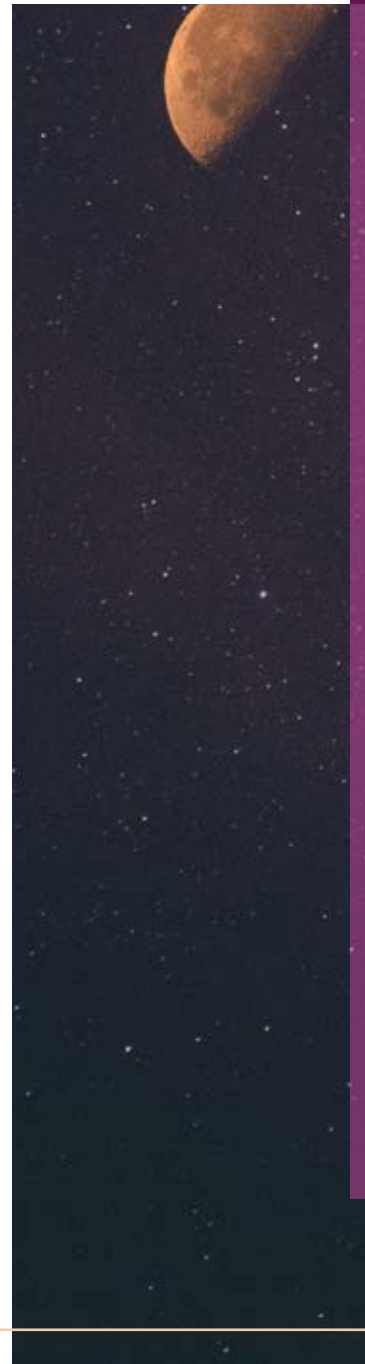
Spring Cocktail Party at Roux

APRIL 19TH

*New Sustainer Luncheon
at Tampa Yacht & Country Club*

APRIL 20TH

*Sustainer Spring Luncheon
and 50-year member recognition at HQ*



Sustainers Pursue Goals with Passion, Draw Lessons From League Service

by LYNDSEY SIARA

The Junior League of Tampa owes a great deal to its Sustaining members. They comprise the League's largest membership class, support its good works and supply knowledge and insight gained from experience. Through their achievements in professional and charitable arenas, Sustainers shine a positive light on JLT. You get out what you put in, as the saying goes. These Sustainers cited lessons learned in their various placements as the source of principles, leadership skills and passion that have driven them to achieve their goals.

Cynthia Gandee Zinober



Disney's Magic Kingdom is only an hour away, but Florida's first "magic kingdom" is in JLT's backyard.

While the moniker may be new to some, Tampa natives and even transplants are likely aware of the rich history of the university named for its home city.

The University of Tampa now occupies what was the famed Tampa Bay Hotel from 1891 to 1930. The lavish resort, opened by railroad tycoon Henry B. Plant, ended its run during the Great Depression. But today, under the renowned minarets, cupolas and domes of Plant Hall, you will find the Henry B. Plant Museum and its executive director, Sustainer Cynthia Gandee Zinober.

The southeast wing of Plant Hall, a U.S. National Historic Landmark, houses the Henry B. Plant Museum on the grounds of UT. When Zinober joined the museum, shag carpet still lined the hallways. After developing the museum's inaugural mission statement, her first order of business was to remove the beautiful, but not era-specific chandeliers and other artifacts that did not reflect the period the museum aimed to preserve.

Zinober set out to collect only objects original to the hotel. Twenty-nine years later, the museum resurrected the Gilded Age with its artifacts, pictures and décor. In 1998, the museum earned national accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums, a distinction reserved for about 4.5 percent of museums nationwide.

Over the years, Zinober has drawn from many JLT experiences to manage the eight people on her staff and more than 80 volunteers who keep the museum running. Zinober's JLT placements—from her role as a *Sandspur* Photographer to working in the Judeo-Christian Health Clinic to volunteering at the Tampa Museum of Art—introduced her to a variety of people.

Zinober said the skills she learned are of particular use in relating to the volunteers, without whom the museum would not survive. In fact, League volunteers staffed the museum check-in desk and gift shop through the early 1990s. The museum's curator of 35 years is also a JLT Sustainer, again demonstrating how JLT is woven into the fabric of the museum.

If you haven't yet, take a few hours to stroll the halls of the museum, see Zinober's years of passion and bring to fruition her purpose of educating the community about Tampa's rich history.

Clara Reynolds



"Developing the potential of people around you—giving them the power to take something and make it their own—almost always yields results tenfold better than simply completing the task yourself," Sustainer Clara Reynolds said.

Reynolds, who became a Sustainer in 2010, said her training and experience in JLT taught her the value of empowering others. Now, as the president and CEO of the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, Reynolds utilizes 11 years of League lessons to fulfill the organization's mission.

Reynolds' League experiences equipped her with the skill sets necessary to begin a nonprofit organization, Success 4 Kids & Families. S4KF was born out of her work with children dealing with severe emotional and behavioral challenges. When it began in 2005, S4KF consisted of seven staff members who offered support and services to people dealing with depression, learning difficulties, anger management, bullying and other behavioral health issues. It was a League connection that made the creation of S4KF financially feasible.

As Reynolds recounts, her mentioning that S4KF needed a line of credit to another League member led to a meeting with a bank that eventually provided that lifeline. For Reynolds, this demonstrated the power of the connection the League provides to women willing to help one another.

Ten years later, S4KF has become a key stakeholder in the community. In 2015, Reynolds transitioned into her current role at the Crisis Center. Whether she was removing a child from a home as a child protective investigator or working with incarcerated children as a school social worker at a juvenile detention center, Reynolds always found herself on the tail end of people's crises. At the Crisis Center, she has "the honor of being with people in their most desperate hour," she said. Now at the forefront of people's crises, Reynolds and her team ensure that no one in the community has to face a crisis alone and that each person has the tools to move forward.

The role often brings Reynolds back to her various JLT committee chair positions. "Successfully running a nonprofit is very similar to running a good committee—just on a larger scale," she said.

When it comes to leading her staff, Reynolds draws on her experience as Training Chair. "Here is what we need to get done, but how we do that is up to you—let's dream together," summed up her attitude that year. Reynolds empowered her committee members to do more.

On an organizational level, she encourages volunteers, donors and other participants to involve themselves in a way that benefits both the organization and the person—something she learned from the League's approach to community involvement. Reynolds has found that harnessing these ideals can transform any organization and allow its members to fulfill their purpose in the community.

Michelle Bremer

Fashion and styling are passions of Sustainer Michelle Bremer. Although she has more than 20 years of fashion industry experience, it wasn't until she approached the age of 40 that she acted upon the advice she now gives others.

"Your level of commitment is the game changer," she said. "Go for it and put in 110 percent."

Bremer's Runway Translator, a full-service fashion styling firm, provides a platform of services such as closet auditing, personal shopping and styling for both personal and commercial clients. In a year's time, Bremer has become a featured fashion expert on a daytime morning news show and a fashion contributor for *Tampa Bay Parenting* magazine.

Soon she plans to launch "Style Finder Boutique Bus Tours," a champagne party bus tour to several local boutiques where Bremer provides professional styling. This ladies outing has the makings of a staple of JLT's social calendar. In fact, the League has played a huge role in Bremer's journey. She has League members as clients, and their connections provided stepping stones. Bremer's JLT experiences laid the foundation for much of her success, she said.

The dichotomy of being Technology Chair one year and Social Chair another helped Bremer grow. Through JLT, she learned tangible skills such as marketing, website design, event planning and public speaking, as well as intangible skills like leadership, teamwork and commitment. Both sets of abilities helped her succeed in professional and charitable work outside the League.

For her last Active placement, Bremer brought her passion to Girl Power!, styling girls in the program and teaching them about fashion. After nearly 10 Active years in the League, Bremer transitioned into Sustainer status at the start of this League year.

Bremer said the League taught her about combining passion and purpose. It's no surprise that she applies her talents to charitable work in the community. For Grow Into You Foundation, a nonprofit that supports teens in the foster care system, Bremer shops and thrifts for theme-specific costumes to style the teens for the organization's annual charity ball.

One of Bremer's lifelong dreams has been to serve on the board of directors for Dress for Success Tampa Bay. To that end, she organizes monthly styling events with her retail partners, with 10 percent of sales benefiting the nonprofit. Having combined her passion for fashion and desire to make a positive impact on the community, Bremer feels complete in her life's work.



LYNDESE SIARA

Lyndsey has been an Active member of JLT since 2013. She is a judicial staff attorney and enjoys reading and yoga when she is not spending time with her husband Joe and daughter Sydney.



The Junior League of Tampa is honored to introduce the 2017–2018 Community Advisory Board.

by BRANDY BAKER



Kathryn Bursch

Kathryn Bursch grew up in Alexandria, Minn., and studied at the University of Minnesota, where she received a degree in broadcast journalism. Her first reporting/anchor job was in Grand Forks, N.D. In 1987, she moved to Tampa to report and anchor for WTOG-TV. She became a reporter at 10News WTSP in 1999 and currently is the station's manager of strategic partnerships. Bursch has been honored for her work and has received several Emmy, regional Edward R. Murrow and Associated Press awards. Outside of work, Bursch stays busy with her family, including her husband and teenage son. She plays the violin in the Suncoast Symphony Orchestra and also enjoys horseback riding.



Lissette Campos

Lissette Campos is the director of community affairs for WFTS TV ABC Action News. The six-time Emmy Award-winning journalist is also the recipient of the prestigious Silver Circle Award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Campos' broadcast journalism career spans more than 25 years and includes undercover reporting in Moscow and Havana. She joined the news anchor team at ABC Action News in 2001. In her current role as community affairs director, Campos created the Emmy Award-winning "Taking Action Against Domestic Violence" campaign, which has earned more than a dozen national, regional and state journalism awards and is credited with a 77 percent increase in calls to the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline.



Sheriff Chad Chronister

Veteran law enforcement officer Sheriff Chad Chronister has served with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office since 1992. He has a bachelor's in criminal justice and a master's in criminology from St. Leo University, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy's 260th Session. He became the top law enforcement officer in Hillsborough County on Sept. 30, 2017, upon his appointment by Gov. Rick Scott. Sheriff Chronister was most recently the colonel in charge of the Department of Operational Support. He is co-chairman of the Regional Domestic Security Task Force, Region IV Tampa Bay. He credits his family and faith for his successes. His grandfather Jack Bentivegna instilled in him a passion for service to others, to work for the greater good and to always fight the good fight. This sparked his desire to enter law enforcement. "Nanu" Jack served his country as a decorated Marine in combat missions at Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima and Guam during World War II. He passed away in 2013, but his spirit and legacy live on. Sheriff Chronister has earned many commendations. His civic associations include board membership positions with Friends of Hillsborough County Animal Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Jason Ackerman Foundation, More Health Inc., Brooks-DeBartolo Collegiate High School and the Tampa Bay Sports Commission. A native of York, Pa., Sheriff Chronister is married to Nicole DeBartolo and has two sons, Asher and Zack, and two dogs, Mona and Lola. He enjoys spending time with his family the most.

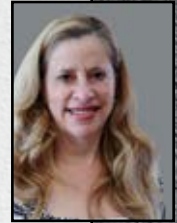


Joseph Clark

Joseph Clark served as president of the Eckerd Family Foundation, a spend-down limited life charitable foundation, from its formation in 1999 until its closing in 2013. The foundation focused on strategies supporting youth at risk in Florida, North Carolina and Delaware. Clark currently serves on the national board of Eckerd, the child welfare provider in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, and as chair of Eckerd Community Alternatives, Circuit 13. He is a member of the board of directors of the Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative and a founding member and past chair of Social Venture Partners, Tampa affiliate. He is active in numerous other community service organizations. After graduating from Union College with a bachelor's degree in industrial economics, he earned his J.D. from Syracuse University College of Law. Prior to forming the foundation, he practiced civil trial law and was a shareholder for 25 years at Shackleford, Farrior, Stallings & Evans (now GrayRobinson). Clark and his wife, Terrell, a JLT Sustainer, have two sons who also reside in Tampa with their families.

The Honorable Virginia Covington

In 2001, Judge Virginia Covington was appointed to Florida's Second District Court of Appeal by Gov. Jeb Bush. With the appointment, she became the first Cuban-American woman in the state of Florida to serve on any appellate court. She served on that court until 2004, having been nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to a lifetime position as a U.S. District Judge. She is the first Hispanic district court judge in the Middle District of Florida. Judge Covington completed her J.D. at the Georgetown University Law Center. She received a Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tampa.



Sheff Crowder

Sheff Crowder has been the president of the Conn Memorial Foundation since 1993. The foundation provides leadership and grants to Hillsborough County nonprofits focusing on the educational achievement of children and youth in low-income neighborhoods. It also supports the education of Tampa Bay's nonprofit leaders. Crowder and the Nonprofit Leadership Center have worked with the Sykes College of Business at the University of Tampa to offer a graduate certificate or Master of Business Administration in nonprofit management. He is passionate about cultivating a nonprofit heart, a business mind and a leader's spirit in the local nonprofit sector.



Robin DeLaVergne

Robin DeLaVergne, a past JLT President, was appointed executive director of the Tampa General Hospital Foundation and senior vice president of TGH in July 2005. Prior to that she served as vice president of membership and marketing for the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce. DeLaVergne is a member of the Women in Leadership & Philanthropy program at the University of South Florida, the TGH Foundation's Women's Leadership Council, Florida Philanthropic Network, the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, USF Town & Gown, Leadership Tampa Alumni, Junior Achievement's Circle of Enterprising Women and the Philanthropy Leadership Council of the Advisory Board. She has served as an honorary commander for the 6th Air Mobility Group at MacDill Air Force Base. She is also a past chair of the Tampa Chamber and the Tampa Bay Partnership's CEO Direct Program, as well as a past board member for Metropolitan Ministries and United Way. She serves on the boards of directors for the Tampa Downtown Partnership and the Tampa Chamber. Among several recent distinctions, DeLaVergne was named JLT's Sustainer of the Year in 2017. She is a graduate of USF, where she received a master's of science in audiology.



Jeff Eakins

Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools Jeff Eakins is a consummate educator who guides the district through the servant leadership lens. One of his first steps as superintendent was to work with the school board to develop the district's new mission and vision, "Preparing Students for Life." The district's first-ever five-year strategic plan was designed to increase high school graduation rates to 90 percent by the year 2020. In less than three years under Eakins' leadership, Hillsborough County Public Schools graduation rates have increased 6 percent. In 2017, the American Heart Association named Eakins national Administrator of the Year. Eakins has received numerous other awards and recognition throughout his career. He is a graduate of the 2011 Leadership Tampa Class, co-chair of the Leadership Tampa 2015 Education Committee, and he serves on the boards of directors for the Florida Association of Instructional Supervisors and Administrators and the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. As Eakins continues to guide the school district towards positive growth, he remains an advocate for equity, diversity and inclusion for all.



BRANDY BAKER

Contributing Writer Brandy is a first-year Active and Tampa native. Currently working in development at a local nonprofit, Brandy enjoys spending her free time at the beach, reading, thrifting and kayaking.





Bruce Faulmann

Bruce Faulmann is vice president of sales and marketing for *The Tampa Bay Times* and a member of the Times board of directors. He served as publisher of *Florida Trend*, a Times affiliate publication, from November 2008 to October 2009. Before joining the Times Publishing Company, Faulmann spent 24 years in the daily newspaper business, most recently as vice president of advertising for *The Tampa Tribune*. Faulmann is a graduate of the University of Florida, earning his bachelor's degree in advertising.



Mark Fernandez

Prior to joining USAMerBank, Mark Fernandez founded the corporate advisory firm EMF Consulting, which assists organizations in marketing, community outreach and business development strategies. A 25-year veteran of the sports and entertainment industry, Fernandez served as senior vice president of the Tampa Bay Rays, overseeing corporate sales and marketing efforts, broadcast operations, community relations efforts, the Rays Baseball Foundation and team merchandising operations. Fernandez joined the Rays from the Arizona Diamondbacks, and prior to that he was with the Phoenix Suns organization. Most recently, Fernandez served for two years as board chairman for United Way Suncoast, having also chaired United Way's Annual Campaign and Tocqueville campaign in recent years. In 2010 he was the inaugural recipient of the organization's Community Advocacy Award. In addition to numerous community leadership programs and civic activities, he serves on the boards of directors for the Helios Education Foundation, University of South Florida Foundation, Tampa General Hospital Foundation, United Way Suncoast, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, American Heart Association, Hillsborough Education Foundation and the Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative.



Elizabeth Frazier

Elizabeth Frazier is the executive director of the Lightning Foundation and senior vice president of philanthropy and community initiatives for Amalie Arena. Frazier has led a transformation of the Lightning Foundation and the Lightning's community relations department and has helped to spearhead dozens of impactful community programs throughout the Tampa Bay region. Frazier has a bachelor's in comparative literature with a certificate in European cultural studies from Princeton University and a master's in business administration from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. She is the daughter of Joanne Frazier, JLT Sustainer and past President.



Yvonne Fry

A native Floridian, Yvonne Fry grew up as a farmer's daughter in Plant City, where her family grew strawberries, organic vegetables, and had a chicken farm with 60,000 chickens. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Fry's daily life is a mixture of marketing, technology and big ideas! As an expert in the telecommunications and IT industry, Fry owns Lines of Communication, a full-service telecommunications management and auditing company. Fry is also CEO of Fry Entertainment Inc. An activist in causes close to her heart, she embodies servant leadership with her dedication to helping numerous organizations involving women, children, education and political issues. Fry was named one of Florida International University's Top 25 Women Entrepreneurs in Florida in 2011, honored with the Plant City Chamber Chairman's Award in 2014 and was named one of the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida's Women of Distinction in 2016. Fry has two children and enjoys catching trout and snook in Tampa Bay with her fishing guide, Mark Ober.



John Giordano

John Giordano has been a member of the Bush Ross law firm since 1985. He attended the University of Florida and earned degrees in accounting, law and tax law. Giordano is JLT's legal counsel and a standing member of the Community Advisory Board. He is the husband of Ruth Giordano, JLT past Sustainer President, and father of Active Elizabeth Mackie.

Denise Glass

Denise Glass is the president of Sensory 5, a marketing and advertising agency headquartered in Tampa. Through Sensory 5, Denise has helped various local nonprofits (JLT, High Risk Hope, Joshua House and others) by providing in-kind graphic design and volunteer services. Glass has been a member of Meeting Professionals International (MPI) for 12 years, serving on the organization's board for four years. Connections Campaign, a program Denise created for the Tampa Bay Chapter, received an International MPI Rise Award. In her free time, the New Jersey native and University of South Florida graduate enjoys following the USF Bulls football team and spending time with her husband of 25 years and their two rescue dogs.



Miray Holmes

Miray Holmes was named manager of community partnerships and neighborhood engagement by Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn in March 2013. In this capacity, Holmes serves as Mayor Buckhorn's main liaison to the neighborhood associations and as their voice at City Hall. She also works with community partners and private entities to make Tampa's neighborhoods a better place. Holmes recently worked as the director of community relations for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Glazer Family Foundation. Prior to that, she worked in community marketing at Reliant and corporate marketing positions with the National Collegiate Athletic Association and Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games. Born and raised in Washington, D.C., Holmes holds a bachelor's degree from Howard University. She is mother to daughter Julia.



Dianne Jacob

Dianne Jacob, senior vice president and director of client and community relations at PNC Bank - Florida West, manages the sponsorship and philanthropic funding for the company in Orlando, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Naples. She deploys the bank's resources based on a strategic plan for its regional growth through community building. This involves sponsorships in the arts and for economic development organizations, as well as grants in early childhood education. Throughout her professional career, she has dedicated her time to community building and servant leadership. She served on more than 30 boards (and chaired more than eight of those boards). She also developed a charity to distribute prom dresses to girls through the Hillsborough County School system. Jacob has received numerous awards for her service, most notably the prestigious Parke Wright III Leadership Award given to distinguished alumni of Leadership Tampa, as well as the Leadership Florida Chairman's Award for valuable contribution to the creation of the young professional group CONNECT Florida Statewide Leadership Institute.



Grayson Kamm

Every day, Grayson Kamm gets to show off successful students and connect the community with its future as the communications and media officer for Hillsborough County Public Schools. As the chief of communications for the eighth-largest school district in the United States, Kamm oversees media relations, school marketing and more for the district, which prepares 200,000 students for life every day. He previously served as communications director for the Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI) in Tampa and as a television journalist for more than 13 years, specializing in stories on space, science and politics. Kamm attended the University of Florida, where he proposed to his wife on the field of the Gators' football stadium with 40,000 fans in the stands. She said "yes," and he is now married to JLT Active Cathy Ambersley Kamm, an attorney with the law firm Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Downtown Tampa. They have two young sons, Collier and Merritt.



Gene Marshall

Gene Marshall is a founding board member and initial chairman of Northstar Bank, a community bank headquartered in Tampa. He is also a consultant with Success Sciences, Inc. Marshall joined the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City in 1969. After spending 21 years in various management positions in global risk management, international custody operations and global securities services of the global bank, he moved to the retail banking sector and relocated to Tampa Bay in 1990. He was named senior vice president of JPMorgan Chase in 1993. He retired in June of 2004 and continues to be active in the community. Currently he serves on the boards of Tampa General Hospital, the David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, WEDU PBS, The University Area Community Development Corp. and The Council for Educational Change.





The Honorable Sandy Murman

Sandy Murman was elected County Commissioner in 2010, representing District 1. She was re-elected without opposition in June 2012, and subsequently re-elected to her third term in November 2016. Commissioner Murman was elected by her fellow commissioners as vice chairman of the BOCC for 2016-17. She served as chairman of the BOCC for 2014-15, and as vice chairman in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Prior to joining the County Commission, she completed eight years as a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 1996-2004. Rep. Murman was the first Republican woman to hold the position of Speaker Pro-Tempore in the Florida House of Representatives. She is focused on economic development and bringing jobs to Hillsborough County; transportation, where she works with local leaders to craft future effective transportation policy; ending homelessness in the county; fighting the opioid crisis locally; continued improvements to customer service and communications between the county and its citizens; and providing high-quality critical children's services. Commissioner Murman is a graduate of Indiana University. She is married to local attorney Jim Murman. Their daughter Michele Murman Bradner is an Active JLT member.



Bruce Narzissenfeld

Bruce Narzissenfeld recently retired after 32 years with TECO Energy. His last role was as vice president of marketing, customer service, business development and fuels operations. He was responsible for the business functions that directly connect with customers and the communities served by Tampa Electric and Peoples Gas. A resident of Tampa since 1985, Narzissenfeld received his Bachelor of Science in accounting from the University of Florida and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Tampa. He is a Certified Public Accountant. Narzissenfeld currently serves as chair of Visit Tampa Bay and is on the boards of the Tampa Bay Sports Commission and The Tampa Club, and previously was a board member of Meals on Wheels.



Ronda Parag

Ronda Parag is the publisher and managing editor of *Tampa Bay Metro* and *Tampa Bay Weddings* magazines. Parag believes in giving back to the community and has volunteered many hours to local charities. She is an advisory board member for The Salvation Army of Hillsborough County, past trustee for The Spring of Tampa Bay and member of the Gold Membership Committee for the Tampa Museum of Art. She supports many additional nonprofits. Parag graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's in business administration and has been married to Stephen P. Parag, II for 30 years. They have one son, Evan.



Kelley Parris

Kelley Parris currently serves as executive director of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. She holds a graduate degree in organizational management from Troy University and an undergraduate from the University of Alabama. Parris previously served as the director of the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, which was awarded the 2013 Auburn University Innovative Programs in Government Award for its work to end child death in the (0-3) demographic from abusive head trauma and unsafe sleep. Most recently she received the 2014 Secretary's Award from the Florida Department of Children and Families for community partnership. Parris has worked in the field of child abuse prevention, domestic violence prevention and mental health for 30 years.



Marlene Spalten

Marlene Spalten joined the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay as president and CEO in October 2012. She previously was executive director of the Baptist Health Foundation and a vice president of Baptist Health, Jacksonville's largest community-owned hospital group. Prior to her career with Baptist Health, Spalten was associate head of school/advancement and planning at The Bolles School in Jacksonville. She graduated from Cornell College with a bachelor's in English. She is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) and a fellow of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (FAHP). A 1999 graduate of Leadership Jacksonville, she was named a "Woman of Influence" by the *Jacksonville Business Journal* in 2011.

Representative Ross Spano

State Rep. Ross Spano serves on the Choice and Innovation Subcommittee, Civil Justice Subcommittee, Health Quality Subcommittee, Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee and Judiciary Committee. While serving in legislature, Rep. Spano authored legislation aimed at allowing human trafficking victims to move on with their lives by allowing judges "to vacate certain criminal convictions if the offender can prove that they committed them under duress," as would happen in a situation in which someone had been illegally trafficked.



Jonathan Stein, CPA

Jonathan Stein is a graduate of the University of South Florida. He is a shareholder with Rivero, Gordimer & Company, P.A., and has considerable auditing/accounting experience with nonprofit and governmental organizations. As the League's CPA, he serves as a standing member of the Community Advisory Board. Stein is involved with a variety of nonprofit organizations in the Tampa Bay area.



The Honorable Ralph Stoddard

Judge Ralph Stoddard was elected Circuit Judge to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in 1996, after 20 years of private practice. He has served in every division, has a particular interest in juvenile issues and has served as chair of both the Hillsborough County Juvenile Justice Board as well as the Community Alliance. Judge Stoddard graduated from the University of South Florida in 1969 and the University of Florida College of Law in 1975. He is a former adjunct professor of law at Stetson University College of Law. He and his wife Carmen have three daughters: Monica, Sarah and Brigid, who is a JLT Sustainer.



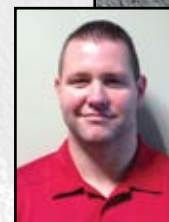
Eric Ward

Eric Ward, director of security for Coca-Cola Beverages Florida, oversees security for the 26 facilities and headquarters located within the state. Prior to joining the Coca-Cola team, Ward served 29 years in law enforcement and retired as the chief of police for the City of Tampa Police Department in 2017. During this time, Ward developed a strong leadership presence, earning the reputation of a crime fighter who embraced the opportunity to give back to the community. He excelled through the ranks, working in numerous divisions within the agency before accepting the appointment from Mayor Bob Buckhorn to lead a department of 1,300 employees. His leadership role began early in his career as an officer and supervisor in the patrol division. Ward also worked as the Specialty Teams commander overseeing K-9, Mounted Patrol, Traffic, Air Service, Marine Patrol, Dive Team, SWAT, Hostage Negotiation Team, Bomb Team, Honor Guard and the Special Incident Management Unit. Ward continues to make contributions in the community by dedicating his time to worthy causes.



Curtis Wright

A lifelong resident of Lakeland, Curtis Wright is the manager of retail marketing communications - Lakeland Division for Publix Super Markets, Inc. He is a graduate of Lakeland Senior High School and received a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in management from Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C. Wright began his career with Publix in 2001 as a selector in the boxed meat/dairy warehouse. When not at work, Wright spends most of his timing coaching youth baseball and the offensive line on his son's youth football team. He and his wife, Jennifer, a strategic procurement buyer in facilities purchasing for Publix, have been married for 11 years and have two young children.





EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER: THE INVISIBLE HEROES

by ALEX PALERMO

What did you do in the hours leading up to Hurricane Irma's arrival? Most likely you remember vividly the fear, stress and anxiety you felt as you made difficult decisions for you and your family.

Maybe you left town, not sure whether your house would be there when you returned. Maybe you stayed and fielded calls from worried friends and family, attempting to calm their nerves when your own were anything but calm.

As Tampanians braced for disaster, the women and men of emergency operations centers took charge. An EOC is a central command facility responsible for coordinating resources and maintaining continuous operations during emergencies, such as hurricanes, as well as for certain special events. Two EOCs serve Tampa, one run by the City of Tampa and another by Hillsborough County. Several members of The Junior League of Tampa and its Community Advisory Board reported to work as EOC staffers during Hurricane Irma.

Their stories remind us of the value of serving others, especially under severe circumstances.

HURRICANE IRMA LOOMS

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey's destruction in Houston in late August, Hurricane Irma appeared to be an ominous, potentially devastating storm as it gained momentum in early September.

Irma made history as one of the most powerful storms to leave the Atlantic Ocean, becoming a Category 5 hurricane with wind speeds up to 185 miles per hour as it approached the continental United States.

As Irma neared, weather experts reported forecast models showing a direct hit in Tampa. In a news conference the morning of Sept. 10, Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn said, "We know that we are ground zero for hurricane Irma. We have for 90 years avoided this day, but I think our day has come."

Many residents headed to evacuation shelters. Many shelters had reached full capacity by Sept. 10, although they continued to admit evacuees.

JLT Active Diania Pimenta served both the city and county EOCs in her capacity as a government liaison for the American Red Cross. Her job was to ensure that shelters were staffed and ready to open when needed.

When asked why she volunteers, Pimenta said, "I'm able to do it. I have the skill sets and I enjoy doing it. I like to have a purpose."

Grayson Kamm, communications and media officer for Hillsborough County Public Schools and a JLT CAB member, oversaw the stocking and preparation of food and opening of schools for shelters. He served the county EOC.

"You kiss your kids on the forehead and you go lock yourself in the emergency operations center for a few days," Kamm said. "It's mostly unnerving until the storm itself hits and then you don't think about it for a while because you have so much on your mind. You have to worry about getting your own family to a safe spot, and then you worry about every else's families."

The county EOC is housed in a large room inside the county's Public Safety Operations Complex (PSOC), located within the headquarters for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue and Emergency Management. The building is built to withstand a Category 5 hurricane.

Imagine a massive room filled with tables, phones, computers and representatives from all over the city or the county divided by function, including first responders, city and county employees, members of volunteer agencies like the American Red Cross, and members of the media.

Among their many roles, EOC staffers issued evacuation orders, opened and staffed shelters, provided food and water, sand bags and other resources to the community, and coordinated family reunification.



LEAGUE LEADERS DISCUSS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AT AJLI CONFERENCE

In the wake of disasters worldwide, The Association of Junior Leagues International held its 2017 Fall Leadership Conference in Salt Lake City Oct. 13-14.

In a plenary session, Junior League of Tampa President Katie Cappy sat alongside members from the Houston, London, Mexico City and Las Vegas Leagues, all of which dealt with emergencies and disaster over the last year.

Cappy described how JLT and the Tampa community prepared for Irma, as well as the key takeaways learned from the storm.

Each member brought unique experiences to the discussion, but all stressed the importance of having a disaster plan in place and being able to execute it quickly to jump into action.

ALEX PALERMO

Originally from Niceville, Florida, Alex is corporate counsel at Syniverse Technologies. She and husband Anthony have a daughter named Rory. In her free time, Alex loves spending time with them as well as boating, running, working out, reading and binge watching episodes of *Friends*.



"When you sign up for a job like this and you are surrounded by really dedicated people, you realize you are part of something bigger, and that helps because you realize there are so many people out there with substantial and immediate needs," Kamm said.

Members of the media and media liaisons who reported to the EOC provided a service critical to people in the storm's path and to those who had evacuated. They shared information.

JLT Actives Kat Lewis, public relations strategist for Hillsborough County, and Kara Walker, senior media relations strategist for Hillsborough County, both served the EOC as public information officers.

In their roles they put together press releases and messaging, responded to media inquiries and coordinated daily press briefings.



"For me, working at the EOC during Hurricane Irma was a learning experience that I found extremely rewarding. We had to think quickly, be accurate and act as a team to get important information out to the public in a timely manner." — Kara Walker



AFTER THE STORM

Irma triggered the largest evacuation in Florida's history and devastated the Caribbean islands and the Florida Keys before it passed Tampa to the east as a Category 1 hurricane the night of Sept. 10. In the days that followed, evacuees returned to Tampa and, street by street, houses regained power. Local people began to resume their normal routines.

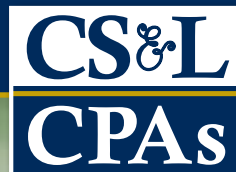
Throughout the weather event, EOC staffers left their families to take care of the community, and for this we regard them as heroes. Thank you to each and every EOC member for keeping the community safe.



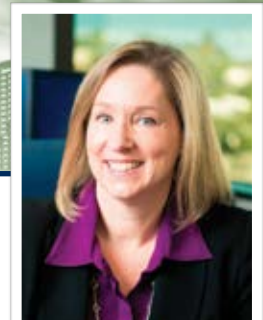
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PASSION IN THE PAGES: The Legacy of JLT Cookbooks

by LYNDSEY SIARA

On the coffee tables and kitchen shelves of Junior League of Tampa members, you will find League cookbooks. Their pages contain recipes for Gasparilla festivities, everyday meals, holiday get-togethers and much more.

These same pages share the League's legacy of cookbooks, which began in 1961 with publication of *The Gasparilla Cookbook* and continues to this day. Read through the acknowledgments section and you will understand that compiling these cookbooks was no easy feat. It's one thing to decide to publish a cookbook, quite another to determine financing, collect recipes, decide upon a name and otherwise prepare a cookbook for publication.

Since the debut of *The Gasparilla Cookbook*, net proceeds from its sales and those of six additional cookbooks have helped the League invest millions of dollars into the Tampa community. What began as an innovative way to fund League projects became a lifeline for sustaining community projects.

Not only did the cookbooks generate income, they achieved iconic status.

The Gasparilla Cookbook was among the first publications included in *Southern Living Magazine's*

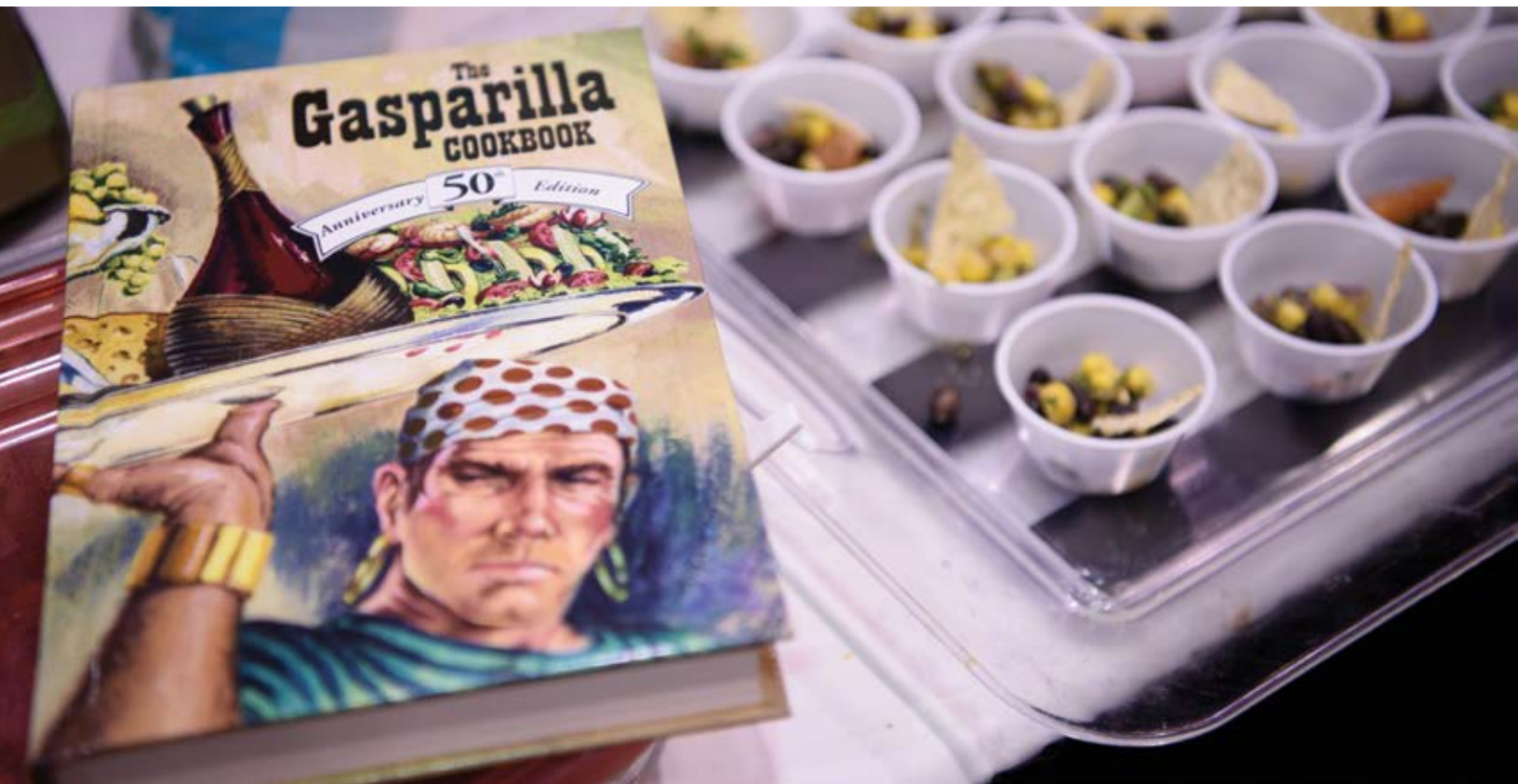
Community Cookbook Hall of Fame. The cookbook also earned a spot in the Walter S. McIlhenny Hall of Fame, a program named for the former president of Tabasco sauce producer McIlhenny Co. of Avery Island, La., who enjoyed and collected cookbooks.



A CHAPTER IN HISTORY

The Gasparilla Cookbook became part of history when former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy was photographed carrying a recently-purchased copy at the World Fair in New York City in 1964.

To the League's good fortune, she held her copy in perfect form. The fierce pirate on the cover (holding a serving tray of delicious food no less!) appears prominently in the image. Although we don't have the pleasure of knowing Jackie's favorite recipe, we can only imagine she would have reveled in the cookbook's pages.





More than 230,000 copies of *The Gasparilla Cookbook* were published, and now a limited number of copies of the 50th Anniversary Edition are available.

You need only flip the front cover of *The Gasparilla Cookbook* to know what it's all about—a "treasure map of good eating." The cookbook celebrates Tampa's diverse heritage, featuring Cuban, Spanish, Italian, Greek and Southern recipes, as well as cuisine from additional cultures. It highlights recipes from famous restaurants as well as heirloom recipes from local families.

Following the success of *The Gasparilla Cookbook*, two additional cookbooks joined the party—*A Taste of Tampa* (1978, now out of print) and *Tampa Treasures* (1992).

Embarking on a new leg of the culinary journey in the early 2000s, JLT set out to produce the first-ever series of Junior League cookbooks.

The Junior League of Tampa Culinary Collection presents a four-volume set of individual cookbooks. The collection consists of *The Life of the Party* (2002), *Everyday Feasts* (2004), *Savor the Seasons* (2006) and *Capture the Coast* (2010). Each unique in its own way, these cookbooks features recipe favorites from around Tampa Bay—from cocktails for entertaining to holiday staples to a delicious seafood entrée.

As any League member can attest, the cookbooks offer a wide array of culinary options. Novice and veteran chefs alike have earmarked their favorite recipes.

"The Banana's Foster in *The Life of the Party* is my favorite recipe," said Marketplace Co-chair Lauren



Sanchez. Appropriately, this recipe is located in the "Grand Finale" section of the cookbook. "I grew up having Banana's Foster in my family and you can never go wrong with it."

The showstopper, Sanchez said, is the flambé.

While some recipes are flamboyant, others warm the soul with fond memories of cool afternoons in fall and sun-stained kitchens in which Grandma baked a warm apple pie. At least, those are the images the JLT Cookbook Blog evokes about the Apple Crunch Pie with Cinnamon Ice Cream recipe from *The Gasparilla Cookbook*.

The blog features recipes from JLT's cookbooks regularly. If you're looking for inspiration or wish to buy one of the cookbooks, please consider following these social media outlets:

JLT Cookbook Blog: <http://jltcookbooks.wordpress.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/JLTMarketplace

Twitter: @jltCookbooks

Instagram: @jltmarketplace

If League cookbooks do not yet line your kitchen shelves or add to your coffee table selection, you may also find them available for purchase on JLT's website as well as through retailers such as Barnes & Noble. *The Life of the Party* also is available in e-book format.

The cookbooks are popular, even quintessential bridal shower, housewarming and holiday gifts, and their sales support the League's many causes. To borrow a line from the preface to *The Gasparilla Cookbook* 50th Anniversary Edition: You are invited to dig in!

Lyndsey has been an Active member of JLT since 2013. She is a judicial staff attorney and enjoys reading and yoga when she is not spending time with her husband Joe and daughter Sydney.

LYNDEY SIARA



Lauren's Favorite:

Banana's Foster From *The Life of the Party*

We just couldn't resist this New Orleans classic. To make ahead, scoop the ice cream into four dessert bowls and freeze. You may prepare the sauce up until the bananas are added and chill. Just before serving, warm the sauce, add the bananas, and serve over the ice cream.



½ cup (1 stick) butter

Dash of 151 rum

1 cup packed brown sugar

Dash of cinnamon

¼ cup banana liqueur

4 firm bananas, sliced

¼ cup dark rum

Vanilla ice cream



Melt the butter in a skillet. Stir in the brown sugar. Cook until melted and well blended. Add the banana liqueur, dark rum, 151 rum, cinnamon and bananas. Cook until the bananas are warm and softened; do not let bananas get mushy.

Scoop the ice cream into dessert bowls and top with the hot banana mixture. Serve immediately.

You may also use the recipe for Nut Lace Cookies (pg. 100) and follow the directions for making the cookie cup. Serve the ice cream in the cookie cup and top with the warm banana sauce.

Yield: 4 servings



Featured Blog Recipe:

Apple Crunch Pie With Cinnamon Ice Cream From *The Gasparilla* *Cookbook*

6 juicy sour apples

1 cup brown sugar

1 cup flour

¼ pound margarine

Pare, core and slice apples, and put in pie plate. Mix flour and brown sugar, then add margarine and mix until crumbly. Sprinkle this mixture over apples and bake at 350 for about 30 minutes or until apples are done. Serve warm with cinnamon ice cream.



CINNAMON ICE CREAM:

½ pint whipping cream

1 quart vanilla ice cream

2 tablespoons sugar

1 tablespoon red-hot cinnamon

1 heaping teaspoon cinnamon

Candy (optional)



Whip the cream, add sugar and cinnamon. Soften ice cream, add cinnamon mixture and whip. If desired, add cinnamon candy. Freeze.



Yield: Serves 8


Courtesy of Ms. Shirley R. Hanson






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ONE CHILD IS TOO MANY:

by ALEX PALERMO

Two Advocates' Courage to Effect Change



When The Junior League of Tampa launched its campaign to raise awareness about human trafficking, the effort not only shined a light on an epidemic, it inspired people to dedicate their lives to bringing about its end.

Geoffrey Rogers is one such person. Earlier in 2017, he launched a safe home for boys who have survived sex trafficking, the first of its kind in the United States. Consulting on the project was Natasha Nascimento, a JLT Provisional who founded Redefining Refuge, a nonprofit dedicated to human trafficking victims.

Their story illustrates the profound ripple effect of an effective awareness campaign.

JLT FORUM OPENS A DOOR

Once a vice president for IBM, Rogers left the corporate world in 2011 to focus on nonprofits. The JLT-sponsored Forum on Human Trafficking at Stetson University College of Law in 2013 provided his first exposure to the prevalence of child sex slavery.

"The Tampa Junior League is a big reason why I am doing what I am doing today," Rogers said.

After spending years traveling and interviewing survivors, experts, activists, safe home operators, law enforcement officers and lawmakers, Rogers and his wife were called by God to dedicate their lives to eradicating human trafficking, he said.

Rogers joined Kevin Malone, a former Major League

Baseball general manager, to found the U.S. Institute Against Human Trafficking. Headquartered in Tampa, the faith-based nonprofit works to prevent human trafficking in the United States, with offices in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Austin, Texas.

With three boys of his own, Rogers understood boys were not immune. Yet there was a serious need for resources for the victims. He had to find a way to help. His vision for a safe home for boys led him to Nascimento, founder and executive director of Redefining Refuge, which operates a safe house in Hillsborough County for girls who have been victims of human trafficking.

"We didn't want to spend two to three years reinventing the wheel," Rogers said. "So, we thought, 'let's engage one of the most successful safe home operators in the country—Natasha.'"

DID YOU KNOW?

According to UNICEF, there are 1.5 million human trafficking victims in the United States and Canada alone.



SOCIAL MEDIA A BREEDING GROUND FOR SEX TRAFFICKING RECRUITMENT

With so many young people online, traffickers can target increasingly large populations. Perpetrators may pose a false offer of employment like a modeling job, share an invitation to a "college party" or otherwise coerce a young person.

"Grooming" may begin by talking to a young person as a friend, offering praise, support, financial assistance or housing.

Traffickers look for victims in physical locations as well as online. Schools, libraries, parks, shopping malls, youth centers and even group homes are also common grounds for recruitment.

INVOLVEMENT INSPIRES ACTION

When she began her first job in finance, Nascimento could not yet have imagined where her career would take her.

Early on, she began to volunteer and attend public child welfare meetings. The constant casual mentions of "child prostitutes" at these meetings upset and disturbed her.

"To me, it was an oxymoron," she said. "How could a child forced to do something be a prostitute? But no one else was shocked."

When many people think of human trafficking, they think of people being forced across borders. But that is not always the case, especially in Florida where there is an overabundance of vulnerable children.

Understanding the urgency of the issue, Nascimento spent two years researching human trafficking, particularly that of children. She discovered a cycle of abuse, a lack of awareness and an insensitivity toward victims. She realized she needed to change that.



ALEX PALERMO

Originally from Niceville, Florida, Alex is corporate counsel at Syniverse Technologies. She and husband Anthony have a daughter named Rory. In her free time, Alex loves spending time with them as well as boating, running, working out, reading and binge watching episodes of *Friends*.





Images Courtesy of Redefining Refuge.

In 2016, an estimated one out of six endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children were likely child sex trafficking victims. Of those, 86 percent were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran.

"HUMAN TRAFFICKING WAS A TABOO SUBJECT MANY PEOPLE DID NOT SEEM COMFORTABLE DISCUSSING..."
— NATASHA NASCIMENTO

"Human trafficking was a taboo subject many people did not seem comfortable discussing, especially when it involved sexual abuse of children for profit, yet it was happening in our community," she said. "It was not just a 'third world' problem."

In 2010, Nascimento founded Redefining Refuge to spread awareness about human trafficking. At the time, only two similar organizations existed: in New York and South Florida. With the passage of the Florida Safe Harbor Act of 2012, which established that sexually-exploited children should be treated as dependent and not delinquent children, the need for safe houses for survivors became clear.

Redefining Refuge renovated a house donated by a real estate company, and was ready to open in 2012, when a storm hit and fallen oak trees destroyed the structure.

Nascimento, who had left her job in finance to dedicate her life to Redefining Refuge, was devastated. It was back to square one. She found a new house, and with the help of family and friends, opened in 2013.

The house can accommodate as many as six girls, but no more than four stay at the house at a time so each can receive the care she needs. The home is staffed around the clock.

COMMON PERSPECTIVES, SHARED VISION

As Rogers planned his home for boys, he enlisted Nascimento as a consultant. Together they used her girls' home as a model.

The home is built for five boys and currently has two boys living there. According to Rogers, the boys are doing exceptionally well.

When asked how the community can help in the effort to spread awareness, Rogers and Nascimento said the same thing: A society and a community must own the problem collectively.

According to Rogers, "We as a society should certainly be able to stop the mass-organized rape of our nation's kids for profit. It's a social problem that, collectively, we should be able to end."

"We all belong to each other," Nascimento said. "Instead of viewing the kids as 'other,' if we view them as children and we own the problem, we can make Tampa a zero-tolerance community and we can change it."

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Toastmasters:

HELPING PEOPLE FIND THEIR VOICE FOR PASSION AND PURPOSE

by SUZY MESMER

The motto of The Junior League of Tampa this year is "Passion and Purpose." For many JLT members, Toastmasters has bridged a gap by teaching them how to voice their passion and purpose with confidence and persuasion.

Toastmasters officially was chartered by JLT in 2015, became a JLT committee in 2017, and now has 24 members including Actives, Sustainers, Transfers and Provisionals. The idea began in 2013, when this year's JLT Toastmasters Chair Sarah Walters was Training Chair.

"Public speaking was an area where I personally needed growth," Walters said. "As prior Social Chair the year before, I realized that a lot of our members didn't want to make our announcements at our General Membership Meetings."

Serving on the Membership Advisory Committee, Walters had access to membership survey feedback. Several members expressed interest in enhancing their public speaking skills, she found.

Rather than duplicate a program to train members in speaking, leadership and communication—all elements of the Toastmasters' mission and vision—JLT found it could provide the training for its members through Toastmasters.

"Part of the thinking was that Toastmasters is a way to help the members of JLT to be better communicators and speakers," said Brenda Alloco, Toastmasters' immediate past district director for Florida Gulf Coast. "Part of JLT is to serve the community and foster and empower women to have courage and a voice in the workplace and community."

PERSONAL GROWTH. PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

And the program has done just that. Ginny Garcia, JLT Leadership Director, has been a member of Toastmasters since JLT offered the opportunity in 2015. Toastmasters provided a safe place for her to step outside her comfort zone, as well as to make friends, she said.

"I'm an introvert, so public speaking absolutely terrifies me," Garcia said. "I joined Toastmasters as a way to build confidence and feel more comfortable speaking in front of people. What I love about our Toastmasters club is that our membership is exclusive to JLT members."

Toastmasters helped prepare Garcia for her duties as this year's Leadership Director, especially when it comes to speaking to membership about the Nominating process.

"Professionally, I had a speaking opportunity that resulted in new business opportunities for my company that I wouldn't have pursued if not for the skills I learned from Toastmasters," she said.

Another JLT Active, Ali St. Cyr, gives credit to Toastmasters for helping her find her voice as she embarked on starting her own small business. As broker/owner of Tomlin St Cyr Real Estate Services, St. Cyr relied on her Toastmasters training to speak in front of Tampa Bay's leaders and to close deals.





"Toastmasters taught me how to harness my nervous energy into something positive," St. Cyr said. "I know that if I'm feeling those jitters, it's an important moment; but Toastmasters has helped me gain confidence in any situation: speaking in front of large groups, working with clients or even in interviews on TV."

The program also had a positive impact on Toastmasters Coordinator Katelyn Rumenik, a JPMorgan Chase software engineer and third-year Active.

"Toastmasters has helped me grow professionally and personally to be an individual not scared of speaking in front of people," Rumenik said. "I have been asked to give many presentations at work by my boss and senior management because of the skills I have acquired through Toastmasters."

TOASTMASTERS: AN INTRODUCTION

Toastmasters clubs vary from corporate, community, niche and even prison or commitment center clubs. Anyone 18 and older may join with their annual dues. For those who do not have the financial means or who are under the age of 18, there are "gavel club" options. Those clubs are run the same way except members are not counted as a part of the District achievements or numbers and cannot participate in contests.



Meetings are up to the individual clubs, but it's recommended they convene at least four hours a month. Some clubs meet weekly, while others are monthly or bi-monthly. Membership provides new members with two basic manuals, eventually moving on to advanced manuals of choice. Dues also include the monthly magazine, which features not only the achievements of members, but ideas of how members can make the most of the club.

As to what a person must pledge to do as a Toastmasters member, there is the Toastmasters promise:

As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise...

- *To attend meetings regularly*
- *To prepare all speeches and leadership assignments to the best of my ability, basing them on projects in the Toastmasters manual to prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments*
- *To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations*
- *To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow*
- *To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so*
- *To treat my fellow club members and guests with respect and courtesy*
- *To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters' membership offers*
- *To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters educational and recognition programs*
- *To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities*

Source: Toastmasters International

SUZY MESMER
Suzy is a first-year Active who works in PR and marketing. A two-time graduate of the University of Nebraska's journalism school, she spent most of her career in sports and news broadcasting. She and her husband Aaron are the proud parents of their baby boy Jackson.



GIVING AND GETTING SUPPORT

In the beginning, Toastmasters was dedicated to helping young men learn to speak, lead, conduct meetings, plan programs and work in the community. Ralph Smedley formed the club in 1924 to offer participants an opportunity to learn these lessons in a social setting. The name "Toastmasters" came from the popular term for a person who gave toasts at banquets and other occasions.

Toastmasters began admitting women in the early 1970s and appointed its first female president in 1985.

The "Purpose and Passion" theme aligns with Toastmasters' mission and vision to serve as the go-to place to train employees to become stronger communicators, evaluators and leaders.

"To be a good leader you need to know your purpose and have a passion for the individuals who will trust and follow you," Alloco said.

"Toastmasters can help you bring out one's purpose as a leader, and with that can help the members of JLT communicate the purpose and passion each person has in giving and getting support to and from our communities."

Since its inception 93 years ago, Toastmasters has grown to more than 352,000 memberships in 141 countries, with 16,400 clubs and counting. Florida supports three districts: 47, 48 and 84. District 48 is six years old and includes the area from Hernando County to the southern tip of Collier County, including Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee, Sarasota and Hardee counties. Lakeland and the center section of Florida up to Tallahassee is District 84, while District 47 includes Miami-Dade, the Bahamas, the Caribbean and Brazil.



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Shared Passion for Alleviating Hunger Drives League Partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay

by LAUREN CROMER

When Food 4 Kids Chair Melissa Knight Nodhturft joined Megan Carlson and Clarissa Rain of Feeding Tampa Bay at the September General Membership Meeting, they planned to discuss Hunger Action Month and the concept of food insecurity. But there was another, more imminent subject at hand.

It was Sept. 5, and Hurricane Irma was making plans of her own for the weeks that followed.

"Feeding Tampa Bay wasted no time preparing for the storm," said Carlson, community engagement manager for the food distribution organization, part of the national nonprofit network Feeding America.

Working with partner agencies, Feeding Tampa Bay stocked local pantries and rallied hundreds of volunteers to ensure that resources (including 58,064 packed meals) would be ready. They also rolled out an emergency response distribution plan that would extend into 2018.

"While the immediate response to the storm was impactful, Feeding Tampa Bay understands the strains put on families and communities long after a storm like Irma passes," Carlson said.

For Nodhturft, the timing was right to share a Facebook message that would drive home the relevance of the Food 4 Kids Committee's mission.

The post read in part: *Not just when you need to plan for a storm... 1 in 4 children in Tampa Bay experience what so many of you are posting about today in the face of Irma...EVERYDAY! That's what food insecurity feels like. How can you help? Support our community partner #FeedingTampaBay through your time, talent and treasure!*

"They were trying to explain at the GMM what it means to be food insecure and what it feels like," Nodhturft said. "When [Irma] happened, folks were searching frantically for water and things like that. This is how it feels every day for people struggling with hunger."

The Partnership

The Junior League of Tampa and Feeding Tampa Bay share a goal to address the problem of hunger. The organizations have been partners since 2009.

About 50 percent of children in the United States are enrolled in a free/reduced lunch program, according to Carlson. But where do meals come from when they leave school on the weekends or for summer break? Many members of the community deal with a devastating uncertainty. The term is "food insecurity."

Food 4 Kids works with Feeding Tampa Bay to provide meals to these children after the school day ends. JLT has put together hundreds of "meal backpacks" for children to bring home, and in doing, has made a dent in the food insecurity crisis.

"At the time the bell rings Friday, they might not have another meal until Monday morning," Nodhturft said. "The goal of the committee is to bridge the gap between Friday afternoon and Monday morning so the child can come to school with a full stomach."

Nodhturft cited empirical studies that show hungry children are more likely to suffer from emotional and health issues. A regular, reliable meal schedule lessens anxiety, improves attention spans and gives children a better chance to learn when they return to the classroom.



Initiatives Ahead

The committee dedicated the second Saturday of every month, from August through May, to packing food. The schedule has made it easier for League members to participate and offers logistical advantages.

A challenge for Food 4 Kids is that it does not have a yearlong calendar. To this end, the committee is working with Feeding Tampa Bay to explore a partnership with a national program that provides assistance during summer months. Nodhturft intends to share additional information toward the end of the League year.

Going forward, Nodhturft and the committee are working to create more meaningful distributions. "Not a handout, a hand-up," Nodhturft explained. "It's an opportunity for a positive interaction."

This spring, the committee plans a pilot program to gather ideas for the initiative that would launch the 2018-2019 League year. It may involve assigning "Site Captains" for each of the League's six food distribution sites. Each would be a Willingness to Lead position.

Interactions would be more personal, would feel like more of a collaboration and even have an element of fun.

"They will come to know the space and children will be comfortable with the people they see," Nodhturft said.



Food Insecurity

More than 700,000 people in the Tampa Bay area are "food insecure," meaning they lack regular access to safe, nutritionally adequate food. They include working adults, children and elderly people. Feeding Tampa Bay delivers 3.5 million meals per month and continues to develop programs and partnerships to provide healthy, fresh food.

By 2025, the organization intends to deliver 115 million meals every year. Attaining the goal will "meet the need in our area and create a hunger-free Tampa Bay," said Community Engagement Manager Megan Carlson.

LAUREN CROMER

A Tampa native, Lauren Cromer is a licensed mental health counselor and marriage and family therapist currently employed by Metropolitan Ministries. Lauren lives in the Westchase area with her fiancé Tirso and stepdaughter Ava. She has been an Active member of JLT for four years.



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Donor listing as of Nov. 30, 2017. If you believe your name has been omitted in error, please contact the Fund Development Manager at funddevelopmentmanager@jltampa.org.

A gift to the Commemorative Fund is a way to recognize a significant event in a Junior League of Tampa member's life — joining in her celebration or thinking of her in a time of sorrow.

Any occasion may be commemorated; below are a few ideas:

- Celebrate birthdays, engagements, marriages, anniversaries, births, new jobs or promotions
- Honor someone's service to JLT
- Offer condolences to a member who has lost a loved one



To make a commemorative gift, simply fill out an envelope and place your donation inside (cash or check only) or scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation site (credit or debit card). All commemorative gifts support JLT's endowment.

To learn more or to make a gift, visit jltampa.org/commemorative-gifts. For questions, contact funddevelopmentmanager@jltampa.org.



CONGRATULATIONS TO

This includes a cumulative listing of commemorative gifts received July 1, 2017 through Nov. 14, 2017.

Alexandra Graham,
for winning 2017 Business Woman of the Year by The Tampa Bay Business Journal for the Retail/Hospitality category

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Karla Mastracchio,
for her nomination as 2017 Business Woman of the Year by The Tampa Bay Business Journal

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Kelley Volenec,
on her promotion to account executive at ChappellRoberts

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on her new job with DanoneWave Foods

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- Meghan McGuire
- Stephanie Hass
- Jenny Spencer
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Melissa Knight Nodturtft
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Jennifer Malone,
on her acceptance into the American Institute of Certified Planners

- Laura Everitt
- Stephanie Haas
- Laurel Moynihan
- Alyssa Pacetti

Lakisha Kinsey-Sallis,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Ashley Watters
- Meghan McGuire
- Nicole Hubbard
- Jenny Spencer
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Cathy Kamm
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- Austin Simon
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Katie Cappy
- Isabel Dewey
- Laurel Moynihan
- Lynne Crotty
- Fiona Gerrard
- Sarah Walters

Ginny Viet,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Meghan McGuire
- Nicole Hubbard
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Ginny Garcia
- Chloe Cullinan
- Cathy Kamm
- Melissa Knight Nodturtft
- Marie Hebbler
- Jenny Spencer
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Katie Cappy
- Isabel Dewey
- Leslie Hodz
- Kate Caldarelli
- Laurel Moynihan
- Sarah Walters

Caroline Vostrejs,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Ashley Watters
- Meghan McGuire
- Nicole Hubbard
- Marie Hebbler
- Jenny Spencer
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Ginny Garcia
- Chloe Cullinan
- Cathy Kamm
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- Stephanie Haas
- Andrea Webb
- Katie Cappy
- Leslie Hodz
- Kate Caldarelli

- Caroline Foss
- Fiona Gerrard
- Dori Marlin

Jessica Fugate,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Meghan McGuire
- Andrea Sahawneh
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Cathy Kamm
- Jenny Spencer
- Melissa Knight Nodturtft
- Caroline Vostrejs

Susan Thompson,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Cathy Kamm
- Melissa Knight Nodturtft
- Marie Hebbler
- Jenny Spencer
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Katie Cappy
- Dori Marlin

Sara Palmer,
for being accepted into the Leadership Tampa class of 2018

- Jenny Spencer
- Melissa Knight Nodturtft
- Austin Simon
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Katie Cappy
- Lindsey Parks

Dori Marlin,
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- Rebecca Towner
- Katie Cappy
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- Lindsey Parks
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- Jenny Spencer
- Stephanie Haas

Heather Robyak,
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- Leslie Hodz
- Dori Marlin

Carmelita Hui,
on her promotion

- Cathy Kamm
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- Jenny Spencer
- Kate Caldarelli
- Caroline Vostrejs

Caroline Vostrejs,
on her new position as Director of Business Development at The Beck Group

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for being awarded Teacher of the Year at Mabry Elementary

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- Ashley Watters

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on her promotion to Vice President of JPMorgan Chase

- Ashley Rector



CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF

Justin Henry,
*son of Jessica Kendall
Hornof*

- Meghan McGuire
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- Chloe Cullinan
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*daughter of Margaret
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- Katie Cappy

Matthias John,
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- Marie Hebbler
- Ginny Garcia

- Chloe Cullinan
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- Heather Walsh
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- Shannon Tompkins
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- Austin Simon
- Taylor Jones
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Sarah Walters

Sadie Miles,
*daughter of Lauren
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- Brittany Anderson
- Cathy Kamm
- Leslie Hodz

William Jackson,
son of Megan Rindone

- Shannon Tompkins
- Ashley Watters
- Katie Cappy
- Morgan Nobo
- Ginny Garcia
- Marie Hebbler
- Ashley Looney
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Leslie Hodz
- Sarah Walters

Veronica Kolby,
*daughter of Dossie
Marone*

- Ashley Watters
- Caroline Wright
- Katie Cappy
- Ginny Garcia
- Marie Hebbler
- Maggie McClelland
- Jenny Spencer
- Leslie Hodz
- Lindsay Dorrance

Oliver,
son of Martini Gibbons

- Brittany Anderson
- Marie Hebbler

- Maggie McClelland
- Katie Cappy
- Meghan McGuire

Clara Mae,
daughter of Alicia Moon

- Brittany Anderson

Caleb,
son of Caitlin Hamlin

- Stephanie Haas
- Katie Cappy
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Jenny Spencer
- Rebecca Towner

William,
*son of Charya By
Goldsmith*

- Ashley Rector

Adaline,
*daughter of Allison
Stainton*

- Shannon Tompkins
- Meghan McGuire

Camden,
son of Brook Simmons

- Stephanie Haas

Robert,
*son of Marcia and
Garrison Mason*

- Caroline Vostrejs

Sullivan,
*daughter of Erin Dye
Lastra*

- Stephanie Haas
- Ashley Watters

Beckett Peter,
son of Shelly Rumenik

- Meghan Sladek
- Virginia Doherty

Amelia Vann,
*daughter of Elise
Szafranski*

- Brittany Anderson

Amelia Rose,
*daughter of Allison
Welter*

- Brittany Anderson

Lillian,
daughter of Kristen Wenk

- Sarah Walters

Elyse,
*daughter of Allison Dye
Kerrigan*

- Ashley Watters



BEST WISHES TO

Kristina Granger,
*on her marriage to Kyle
Roberts*

- Allie Torrence
- Chloe Cullinan
- Sarah Walters
- Maggie McClelland

Meg Bock,
*on her marriage to
Anthony Severino*

- Roia Barrios
- Shannon Tompkins
- Andrea Sahawneh
- Marie Hebbler
- Jenny Spencer
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Ginny Garcia
- Cathy Kamm
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Rebecca Towner
- Katie Cappy
- Taylor Jones
- Maggie McClelland
- Meghan McGuire
- Kate Caldarelli
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Leslie Hodz

Dana Flesher,
*on her marriage to
Keith Bacon*

- Austin Simon
- Heather Walsh
- Cathy Kamm
- Isabel Dewey
- Jenny Spencer
- Dori Marlin

Victoria Baptist,
*on her marriage to
Matthew Dowdle*

- Kimberly Gruzca

Tricia Tindall,
*on her marriage to
Heath Boucek*

- Ashley Watters
- Meghan McGuire
- Jenny Spencer
- Caroline Foss
- Kate Caldarelli
- Taylor Jones
- Katie Cappy



IN MEMORY OF

**Stephanie Olivo-
Schulte's husband**

- Ashley Watters
- Meghan McGuire
- Stephanie Hass
- Jenny Spencer
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Taylor Jones
- Fiona Gerrard

**Heather Walsh's father
Donald Phillips**

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- Avery Coleman
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- Nicole Hubbard
- Marie Hebbler
- Jenny Spencer
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Ginny Garcia
- Chloe Cullinan
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Rebecca Towner
- Katie Cappy
- Taylor Jones
- Isabel Dewey
- Fiona Gerrard

Jean Divers

- Berdina Morgan
- Marie Hebbler
- Leslie Hodz
- Harrison Giddens

**Marysue Mathews'
mother**

- Jenny Spencer
- Meghan McGuire
- Stephanie Haas
- Katie Cappy
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Taylor Jones
- Isabel Dewey
- Leslie Hodz
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Kate Caldarelli
- Marie Hebbler
- Ginny Garcia
- Fiona Gerrard
- Chloe Cullinan
- Lindsay Dorrance

**Madeline Morris'
grandfather**

- Stephanie Haas
- Meghan McGuire
- Katie Cappy
- Heather Walsh
- Cathy Kamm

- Marie Hebbler
- Ginny Garcia
- Kate Caldarelli
- Leslie Hodz
- Taylor Jones
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Jenny Spencer
- Fiona Gerrard
- Lindsay Dorrance

Elaine Bogue
• Betsy Chambers
• Betty Wood

**Dorothy "Dickie"
Rollins Carefoot**
• Laura Everitt

**Anna Marie Otero's
grandfather**
• Melissa Whitney

Mildred Lewis
• Harrison Giddens

Kimberly Bryce's father
• Melissa Whitney

The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund

Leaving a Legacy ... Sustaining Our Service

The Endowment Fund was established in 2006 in partnership with The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. The fund ensures fiscal stability for The Junior League of Tampa, allowing members to focus on the League's mission independent of the state of the economy or the size of membership. A strong endowment fund will ensure a revenue stream that will augment, but not replace, annual fundraising revenue generated through individuals, events, grants, corporate sponsorships and membership dues. This provides the opportunity to pursue new opportunities or deal with unforeseen circumstances without creating an additional financial hardship for JLT or its members. Commemorative gifts support the Endowment Fund.

90th Anniversary Endowment Donors

90th LEGACY FOUNDER

Don and Campbell Burton
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Donor List as of September 19, 2017. Donations less than \$250 are recognized through the Commemorative Fund.

THANK YOU TO OUR INAUGURAL
MEMBER OF THE 1926 SOCIETY,
MARTHA SALE FERMAN.



The Junior League of Tampa considers it an honor to be designated as a beneficiary of an estate or foundation. We regard this type of planned giving highly and recognize donors through membership in The Junior League of Tampa 1926 Society.

The program allows you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of the League and its members.

Come join us for lunch!

Exceptional Professionals is a group of Junior League women who balance work, family, and volunteer goals with grace and a smile. We have been meeting monthly for 18 years to share ideas, stay connected, and build friendships. We recently added quarterly seminars to support all working women. Give us a call and we will send you a calendar for the upcoming seminars.

Contact Exceptional Professionals and join us for lunch! Call or text **Krista Allred** at **813-766-3313**.

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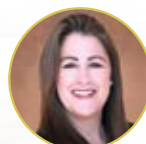
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WHO'S WHO IN THE LEAGUE

by KENDRA MCCAN



Ginger Doherty, SUSTAINER CO-CHAIR

As Sustainer Co-chair, Ginger Doherty works with Beth Schatzberg and other members of the Sustainer Executive Committee to plan and execute social and community outreach activities. JLT has a vibrant, engaged Sustainer community, Doherty said, and as part of a team, she works to help create events that are fun, purposeful and meaningful for this dynamic group of women. Events range from luncheons to parties to art and antiques, as well as volunteer opportunities on League projects such as Food 4 Kids, Love Bundles and Family Literacy Nights. With a primary mission of engagement, involvement and connectivity within the Sustainer community, Doherty works with fellow Sustainers to develop events and opportunities that have a broad appeal and further enhance the Sustainer experience. Originally from North Carolina, Doherty is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has lived in Tampa for 20 years, but originally joined The Junior League of Greater Orlando, where a fellow Provisional class member introduced her to her husband. Yes, the Junior League holds a special place in her heart! She and her husband Steve have a son in eighth grade, and the family has three dogs (who altogether weigh a total of 15 pounds). Doherty has a background in technical communications and information management, and she is involved with several community organizations, most of which support historical activities and preservation.



Cameron Hunt McNabb, LUMINARIES COMMITTEE MEMBER

An associate professor of English at Southeastern University, Cameron Hunt McNabb received her Ph.D. in English with a specialization in medieval and early modern drama from the University of South Florida. She has traveled extensively in pursuit of her academic interests—throughout Europe to study medieval manuscripts, and to New York City to review theater productions. Not surprisingly, she is an avid collector of rare and antique books. Hunt McNabb previously served as a Guardian ad Litem. In this role, she gained insight into the needs of some of the community's youngest and most vulnerable members. Currently in her first Active year with the League, she is committed to the community and thrilled to be a member of this year's Luminaries Committee. "It has been a privilege to help honor those who serve our community so well," she said. Last year, as a Provisional member, Hunt McNabb served on the Kids in the Kitchen Committee and volunteered for the Love Bundles project. These experiences introduced her to the wide range of projects and community service opportunities available through the League. Hunt McNabb is a fourth-generation Tampa native. Her mother, grandmother, aunt and great-aunt all have been members of JLT. In fact, some of her earliest memories involve attending League events with her family. She hopes to continue this legacy with her newborn daughter.

Meet a few of our fabulous members who not only share their passion for volunteering their time and talent with the League, but also find time to have exciting family and professional lives and interesting life experiences.



Katie Johnson, CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROJECT - BOOK SORT COMMITTEE MEMBER

Katie Johnson first joined The Junior League of Gainesville after completing her education at the University of Florida. Since she transferred to JLT in 2007, she has served in numerous capacities, including Transfer Mentor, Placement Mentor, Provisional Education Mentor and as a member of a variety of committees. Johnson was born in Des Moines, Iowa, and grew up in Bonita Springs, Fla. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 2004 and a master's in education in 2005, receiving recognition as the top student at UF's College of Education. While at UF, Johnson was active as a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, The Florida Cicerones, the University of Florida Hall of Fame and as a Florida Blue Key leadership honorary. She worked as a second grade teacher prior to moving to Tampa. Following her move, she taught first grade at Westchase Elementary School until 2012. She has a son, Jake, and a daughter, Elizabeth. Johnson currently teaches Sunday school and serves on the hospitality committee at Hyde Park United Methodist Church, volunteers at her children's school and plays on the Tampa Yacht and Country Club tennis team. She also enjoys traveling, baking, cooking and attending Gator football games. The year 2017 marked Johnson's 10th anniversary with JLT, and her fulfillment of a *Decade of Dedication*. Congrats!



Samantha Ekholm, PROVISIONAL MEMBER

Provisional Samantha Ekholm joined the League after she moved to Tampa from Virginia with her husband Keith. Since she began her Provisional year, she has met many new friends and contributed to a variety of causes in her new community. She has enjoyed meeting and working alongside JLT members on projects and activities such as Kids in the Kitchen, MILO (Mobile Interactive Literacy Opportunity), Feeding Tampa Bay food distribution and Kids Connect events. Prior to moving to Tampa, Ekholm earned bachelor's degrees in finance and management from Marshall University, as well as a master's of business administration from the University of Maryland University College. She is a senior capital markets and securities specialist for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, where she is responsible for regional oversight of capital markets issues including market risk, liquidity, capital and investment activities. Ekholm holds a Certified Fraud Examiner certification and is a member of LAMPlighters, Beta Gamma Sigma and Partnership of Women in the Workplace, a group for FDIC employees. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, watching sports and spending time with family and friends, as well as creating art. Ekholm said she values the leadership opportunities as well as the many volunteer opportunities the League offers.

KENDRA MCCAN

Kendra has been an Active member of JLT since 2015 and previously served as a contributing writer for *The Sandspur*. She works as a construction litigation attorney in Tampa and grew up in Orlando. She enjoys running, attending concerts and spending time with her family.







Join the conversation! Tag your social media images with **#myJLT** to share your League experiences.

CONNECT WITH US

This and every edition of *The Sandspur* this year highlights The Junior League of Tampa's social media channels and web presence. We encourage members to join the conversation by linking up with us on social. Share your favorite League pictures using the hashtag **#myJLT**. You can also access the latest *Sandspur* online. We look forward to connecting with you!



Read about our great community projects, interesting membership, fabulous donors and issues affecting the Tampa community.
jltampa.org/sandspur

Keep your finger on the pulse of the League.
jltampa.org

Learn about our impact in the community.
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jltampa.org/support

Access cookbooks and other League merchandise.
jltampa.org/jlt-culinary-collection-cookbooks

QUANTIFYING OUR IMPACT

As The Junior League of Tampa begins 2018, the efforts of its hardworking members continue to strengthen the community. If the League's achievements in the fall months are any indicator, there's much to anticipate in the year ahead. Here's a look back at several committees' accomplishments between July and October.

COMMITTEE: FOODS 4 KIDS



2,745

BAGS PACKED AND DISTRIBUTED

This number represents the total of three packings, the first held in August, and nine weeks of distribution (two fewer than planned due to Hurricane Irma). The contents of each bag distributed to a family can feed more than one child. Often it feeds the family.

COMMITTEE: LOVE BUNDLES



334 BAGS

This number represents bags packed during sessions between August and October. The committee packed 440 additional bags on Nov. 15.

COMMITTEE: CHILDREN'S LITERACY - IN SCHOOL READING



931 CHILDREN SERVED

At five Family Literacy Nights and one Back to School event for Sulphur Springs Elementary School, the committee also donated 605 books, 600 backpacks, 600 school supply kits and 600 parent/teacher communications folders.

Congratulations to

MADELYN ANTHONY & CJ SCHMIDT!



Photo by Jacqui Cole Photography

Tracie domino

EVENTS

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