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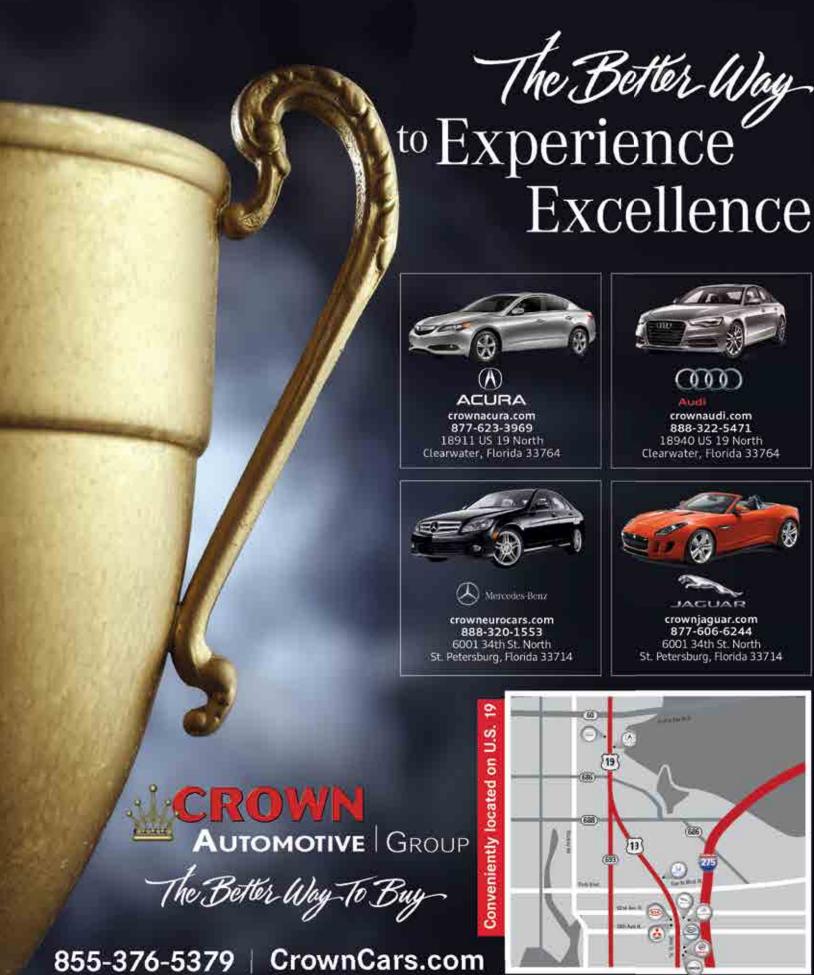




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# Redefining the "Re-gift"

SOMMER STILES

Eleven o'clock in the morning, Christmas Day, 1996. My family gathered around me. I picked up a large box, wrapped in thick, green and white striped paper with a velvet bow and a tag marked with my name. As I untied the bow and began pulling back the layers of paper I wondered what lay enclosed in such enticing wrappings. I removed the lid of the box and therein lay a bubble gum pink Barbie-themed backpack — the perfect gift for a little girl in grammar school. I was a teenager in high school.

That year I learned the meaning of "regift." Over the years, re-gifting has become somewhat of a social taboo. In my family, it has become a bit of an inside joke.

More recently, in working on this issue of *The Sandspur*, I began to rethink the concept of re-gifting. Members of The Junior League of Tampa are given a valuable gift: training and the opportunity to develop their potential, which, in turn, they give back to the community through their service and leadership. The League receives generous support from donors and community partners allowing the organization to further its Mission. Arguably, we are one of the most positive examples of re-gifting. We have redefined what it means to re-gift.

"A Season for Giving" is a look at the many facets of giving and re-giving, or "paying it forward," to borrow the coined phrase. Perhaps the term "re-gifting" will never lose its negative connotation. Who's to say — talk to me after Christmas. The cycle of give and receive is sure to remain, and for The Junior League of Tampa, as illustrated in the following pages, the cycle continues year round.

We begin this issue with an article by Ashley Collado in which she uncovers the many aspects of the JLT commitment to the community to reveal the gift that keeps on giving in *An Enduring Contribution*.

Ad 2 Tampa Bay Selects JLT for Sex Trafficking Awareness Campaign and SPAC Sets Legislative Priorities at Fall Conference in Tampa, both written by Public Affairs Chair Mary Ellen Collins highlight League advocacy efforts and remind us no good deed goes unnoticed.

Highlighting the key issue area of education, Danielle Marone explores how many projects of the League work as one to address this issue in her article *Literacy & Hunger and their Influence on School Success.* 

SOMMER STILES

Editor, The Sandspur

Active Since 2010

Jaymi Butler follows suit in her article, *Kids in the Kitchen Aims to Improve Outcomes in Sulphur Springs*, giving us a tangible example of League efforts at work.

Giving Above and Beyond, Enabling Fund and Community Action by Kathryn Hall brings these "behind-the-scenes" committees into the limelight and reminds us of the always-expanding length of reach the League has in the community.

In our second installment of the *Conversations* series, Beth Edwards shares what she learned from her interview with MaryEllen Elia, Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools, and teaches us about Common Core State Standards.

Wrapping up this issue, Avril Shelton's article To Give is to Receive, Realizing the Gift of Voluntarism answers the questions "why volunteer?" — in a matter of words.

Truly 'tis "A Season for Giving."

Cheers.

Editor

Sommer Stiles



Jim Abbitt
President, Epperson & Company



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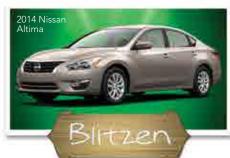


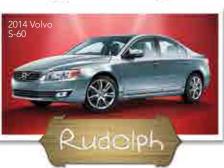












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Ask yourself, "Why volunteer?"

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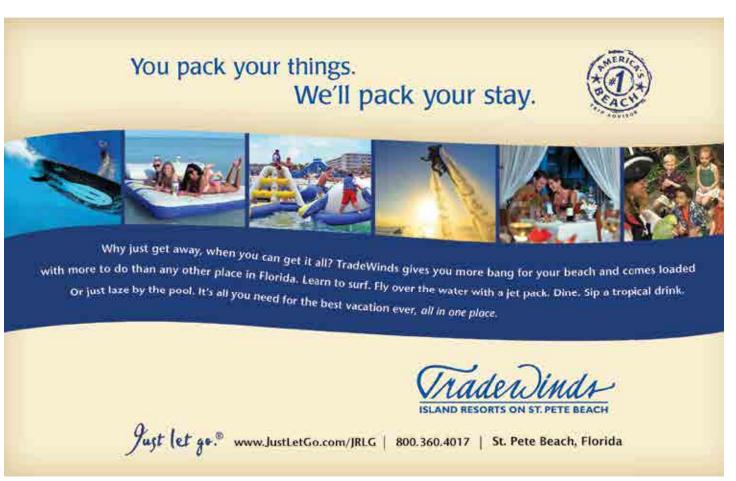
Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa, Inc. is an organization of over 1,800 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

#### ON THE COVER

Cover designed by Sensory 5







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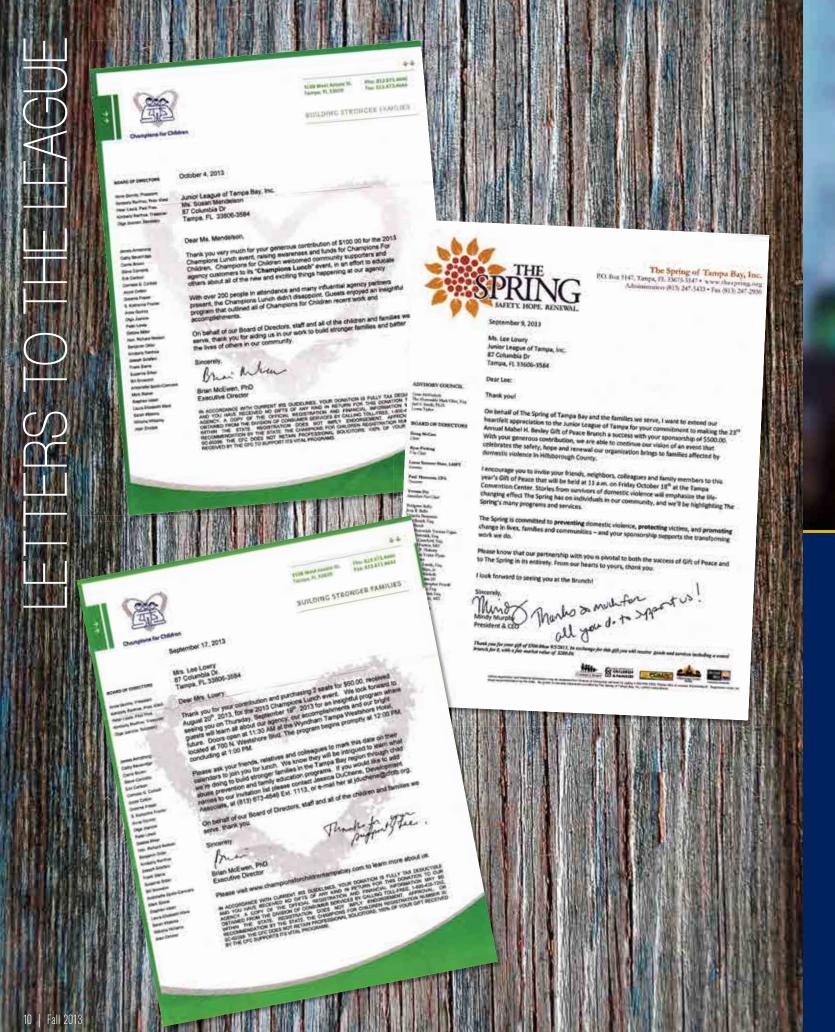
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**NEXT ISSUE: A SEASON FOR CHANGE** 





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# The Power of One

Our overarching theme this year at The the League as a whole, until the tipping Junior League of Tampa is "The Power of One." We have used it to illustrate our investment in the community in our Annual Profile, have used it in internal documents to inspire our members, and have included it in our fundraising letters to make our case to donors. And as the year goes on, I continue to find new meaning in that simple phrase.

the non-public areas of the Florida State Fairgrounds, in the warren-like rooms behind the scenes at our 10th annual Holiday Gift Market. That one event raised more than \$100,000 for our projects and programs this year, and attracted 13,888 patrons, our largest crowd ever by more than 2,000 people. Each member of the all-volunteer committee did their singular job so well that in 2013 we can say that our event has become a true "Tampa Tradition."

Another "one:" here at JLT, our volunteer placements last just one year. We only get one year to make an impact (a reality that becomes more poignant to me as I travel through my year of leading almost 2,000 one-of-a-kind women). When thinking of this restriction, I come back to our Mission and its urging to make a difference for one woman at a time by developing her potential. life-long proposition. Today, when women are regularly being urged to "lean forward" and "take over the world" by the likes of Sheryl Sandberg and Dee Dee Myers, we members know that the training that JLT provides is the bridge to take us there. Each year in the League, Lee Lowry each committee and leadership position, build on the next both personally and for

point we reach individually and together is undeniable.

We hope to reach one more tipping point in January 2014, when we will spend one week helping to draw the focus of the entire Tampa Bay community to the crime of child sex slavery through a targeted ad campaign. The Abolish campaign was created by Ad 2 Tampa Bay for JLT I began writing this letter while sitting in as the representative of the Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking, of which we are one of the 90 organization members. You can read more about this campaign in the article by Mary Ellen Collins on page 26. Please mark your calendars for January 11 through 18, 2014 and join us for one or more of the events we have planned. One week is surely not enough. but if we each start by enlightening one person to the crime and the dangers to our children and community, we begin to shine a light on this evil darkness.

> And finally, we come to the theme of this issue of The Sandspur: "A Season for Giving." I encourage you to make this the exception to our "year of one." Don't allow this to be the only season we offer ourselves and our gifts and talents! Let's make a commitment to giving a year-round,

President



LEE LOWRY President Active Since 2005

"The time is long overdue to encourage more women to dream the possible dream."

-Sheryl Sandberg





# ONE Step Further

KIM CARSWELL

When I joined the League nine years ago, I never thought I would have the opportunity to serve as the Fund Development Vice President. During my first four years as a member, my placements focused on membership and community projects. It wasn't until I received a call from Betsy Graham, the incoming President-Elect, asking me to consider becoming a Co-Chair for the Holiday Gift Market that I even considered diverting from my comfort zone. I was honored that she thought I would be a qualified candidate for the Co-Chair position. After my initial acceptance, I've had the great fortune to serve in several varied roles within the Fund Development team. I continue to be amazed by how supportive our members are toward JLT's efforts; by giving to the Annual Campaign, leaving a legacy to our Endowment Fund, shopping at the Holiday Gift Market, or buying one of our fabulous cookbooks. The continued support to help fund our mission is overwhelming!

With over 1.5 million public charities, private foundations, and other types of nonprofit organizations to choose from, what sets The Junior League of Tampa apart from the rest? When experts advise how to select which non-profits to support, they suggest giving to charities reinvesting at least 75 percent of their income on the programs they support, spending less than 25 percent on fundraising and administrative costs, and maintaining financial stability over the long-term. The Junior League of Tampa surpasses all of these recommendations. Not only do we reinvest 100 percent of our fundraising proceeds back into the Tampa Bay community, we couple that with quality volunteer hours resulting in a much greater impact. Our membership dues provide for 100 percent of all administrative expenses of the League so that our fundraising dollars are fully available to support our projects. To ensure our financial stability for generations to come, an Endowment Fund Fund Development VP

was established in 2007 and contributions are added on a regular basis.

The Junior League of Tampa's Annual Campaign is essential to the success of fulfilling our mission to create an impact in our community by helping break the cycle of poverty for children and families in our area. Historically, the Junior League has reached out to its members as well as community businesses to support our efforts through donations to the Annual Campaign. In recent years, The Junior League of Tampa has also benefitted from the generosity of organizations outside of our immediate community, and we hope this trend continues as word spreads of the impact the Junior League has on the Tampa Bay area.

The Junior League's Endowment Fund, which was launched in 2007, was established to ensure the League's fiscal stability and long-term capability to pursue our Mission. Gifts to the Endowment Fund are never spent, but instead invested to ensure a revenue stream that will enhance our current fundraising efforts. A strong endowment fund will ensure a unique revenue stream that will give the League the opportunity to pursue exciting new opportunities or deal with unforeseen circumstances without creating an additional financial hardship.

With ONE donation to JLT's Annual Campaign or Endowment Fund, you have the opportunity to be the ONE who helps fund the change in ONE person's life. hope that you will consider supporting JLT through a contribution to the Annual Campaign or the Endowment Fund!

Kim Carswell



KIM CARSWELL Fund Development VP Active Since 2004

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-Winston Churchill



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# Why Do We Give?

to give, and sometimes, give abundantly? The sacrifices that often go along with giving seem to go against human nature. Could it be that the desire to give, in and of itself, is one of God's greatest gifts to each of us? Whatever the source of our desire, when we voluntarily give our time, talents and financial resources to The Junior League of Tampa we change lives and our community for the better.

The desire to give is usually sparked by the awareness of a need. The Junior League of Tampa provides awareness by researching projects in our various focus areas. For example, many were unaware Finally, I would like to give special thanks of the extent of human trafficking in our community until The Junior League of Tampa began to focus on this concern. As more people realize the magnitude of the human trafficking problem, I have no doubt that volunteers and financial gifts will follow. Awareness of needs and the The holidays are underway. In this season resources given to address those needs are one of The Junior League of Tampa's greatest gifts to our city.

The Junior League of Tampa also provides its members with the gift of fellowship. That is particularly true for Sustainers. We have 16 events in the 2013-14 year specifically planned for Sustainers. Additionally, a great number of us attend the Holiday Gift Market Patrons' Party and

What creates the desire within each of us The JLT Annual Dinner in May. Please be sure to check The Spur of the Moment and Sustainer Sandblast for all upcoming events. There is sure to be a gathering that you will not want to miss!

> All of these events do not happen by themselves. Dozens and dozens of you have volunteered to lend a helping hand. Most amazingly, I did not receive a single "no" when I made calls for help. I want to thank our Sustainer Liaison Committee and the host committees for each Sustainer event. You are the ones that make all of our activities so special.

> to all of the Sustainers who participated in the Annual Campaign this year. I am very proud to say that Sustainers, once again, were very supportive. Gifts at all levels are still very much needed and appreciated.

> of giving, let us be thankful for the awareness of need and the desire to give.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Giordano Sustainer President

#### Welcome our newest Sustainers

Allison Beard Luzier Allison Brannigan Debra Buffington Allison Burden Jenny Burdick Kory Butler Jen Carlstedt Laurie Daigle Terrie Dodson Tara Eckhoff Heather Elwell

Karen Ferguson Kimberly French Christina Goodwin Laura Hobby Veronica Kruchten Leigh Lambert Paula Langbehn Jamie LaRussa Grace McDaniel Kristen McDowell Cindy McGinness

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#### 2013 - 2014 **Sustainer Officers**

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> Vice President/ **President-Elect** Dada Glaser

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Fall Bridge Group Luncheon Ruth Tapley Camille Thomas

> Fall Lunch Bunch Tammy Waugh

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# The Junior League of Tampa COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD 2013-2014

The purpose of The Junior League of Tampa Community Advisory Board is to aid the League in assessing community issues; to provide guidance in identifying the organization's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities; to communicate the community's perception of the League to the organization and, conversely, communicate the League's mission to the community; and to offer leadership and support to League membership and projects. The Advisory Board serves as the third branch of the League's leadership structure along with the Executive Board and Leadership Council, and members are invited to serve a two-year term.

The Junior League of Tampa is honored to introduce the 2013-2014 Community Advisory Board. The Advisory Board's diverse expertise, knowledge base and areas of community and corporate engagement are a strong asset to our organization that is greatly valued by the League. We thank them for their active commitment and dedicated service.



#### KAREN ARNOLD

Karen Arnold is the Senior Vice President Investor Relations of The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce. As part of the Executive Leadership Team she helps lead the Chamber's mission to "Serve our members and enhance the community by building business success" overseeing the membership, events, educational and leadership programs, and marketing/communications for the Chamber. She has served in this role since January 2011.

Prior to joining the Chamber, she was an active volunteer and served on the Chamber's Board of Directors and Executive Committee in a variety of capacities. Arnold is a graduate of The University of Tennessee where she graduated with a degree in Finance and Banking.



#### ALLEN BRINKMAN

Allen Brinkman, an 18-year banking industry veteran, is Chairman, President and CEO of SunTrust Bank, Tampa Bay. Active in the community, Allen serves on the Tampa Bay Partnership Executive Committee, University of Tampa Board of Trustees, the Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Council Executive Committee, the Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay Foundation,

and the CEO Council of Tampa Bay. His previous service includes leadership positions with United Way, March of Dimes, United Negro College Fund, Central Florida Partnership and the American Heart Association. Allen is a graduate of Columbus University. He and his wife Julie, a Junior League Sustainer, reside in Tampa with their four children.



#### **EILEEN BOYLE**

With over 25 years' experience in nonprofit management and leadership, Eileen Coogan Boyle joined Allegany Franciscan Ministries, an organization focused on improving overall health status of underserved communities, as CEO in May 2005. Previously she served nine years with United Way of Palm Beach County and worked for several nonprofits in Massachusetts. A graduate of Leadership Florida (Class XXXI), Leadership Palm Beach

County and the Tampa Bay Partnership's CEO Direct program, Eileen earned a BA from Mount Holyoke College and an MSW from Boston College Graduate School of Social Work. She's lived in Florida for 17 years; her son James is a second year student at FSU.



#### JANE CASTOR

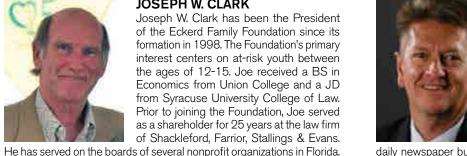
Jane Castor is the driving force behind the Tampa Police Department's 56% reduction in crime in the last seven years. She helped develop and execute the Department's Focus on Four Crime Reduction Plan that changed the way officers police in the City of Tampa. The result is a safer city. During her 26-year career, Chief Castor has served in nearly every capacity within the

Department. Chief Castor graduated from University of Tampa, where she attended on volleyball and basketball scholarships. She has been inducted into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame. She holds a Master's of Public Administration from Troy State University and also attended the FBI's National Academy.



#### JOSEPH W. CLARK

Joe and his wife, Terrell, a JLT Sustainer, live in Tampa and have two sons.





#### **HONORABLE** VIRGINIA COVINGTON

In 2001, Judge Covington was appointed to Florida's Second District Court of Appeals by Governor Jeb Bush. In doing so, 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 United States

District Judge. She is the first Hispanic district court judge in the Middle District of Florida. Judge Covington completed her Juris Doctorate at the Georgetown University Law Center. She received a Master of Business 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 funds about thirty-five nonprofits in Tampa, with a focus on low income kids and their families. Sheff and the Nonprofit Leadership Center have worked with the Sykes Business School at the University of Tampa to offer a graduate certificate or MBA in Nonprofit Management. He is passionate about cultivating a nonprofit

heart, a business mind and a leader's spirit in our local nonprofit sector.



#### **BRUCE FAULMANN**

Bruce Faulmann is Vice President of Sales and Marketing for the Tampa Bay Times (formerly the St. Petersburg 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, Bruce spent 24 years in the

daily newspaper business, most recently as VP of Advertising for the Tampa Tribune. In that role, Bruce led the revenue generating efforts of the publishing division for the Florida Communications Group. Bruce is a graduate of the University of Florida, earning a BS degree in Advertising.



#### MARK FERNANDEZ

Mark Fernandez, a native of Tampa, puts 20 years of pro sports experience to use as the Senior Vice President/ Chief Sales Officer of the Tampa Bay Rays. Mark also serves in a similar capacity for Sunburst Entertainment Group, which serves as a vehicle for the Rays to invest in new sports and entertainment-related business opportunities. In April 2009, Mark was

elected to the board of directors of the prestigious Helios Education Foundation. He also currently serves on the board of directors of the USF Foundation, Inc., United Way Suncoast, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, among others. Mark was honored in 2010 as the inaugural recipient of the United Way's Advocacy Award for his outstanding service as volunteer community leader. He and his wife, Trudie, have three children: Grace, Jamie and Eden.



#### **ELIZABETH FRAZIER**

Elizabeth Frazier is the Vice President of Philanthropy and Community Initiatives for the Tampa Bay Lightning. Elizabeth is leading a transformation of the Lightning Foundation and the Lightning Community Relations Department. Elizabeth has a Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Literature with a Certificate in European Cultural Studies from Princeton University and

a Masters in Business Administration from Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia. Elizabeth is the daughter of Joanne Frazier, JLT Sustainer and Past President.



#### MARYELLEN ELIA

MaryEllen Elia was appointed Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools in 2005. District schools have successively earned more A and B grades each year of her tenure as superintendent. A lifelong educator, Elia began her career as a teacher in 1970. Since moving to Tampa Bay in 1986, she has been promoted to several key positions in the district and has been recognized for numerous awards. Elia

holds a bachelor of arts degree from Daeman College; a master's in education from the University of Buffalo; a master of professional studies in reading from State University of New York at Buffalo; and certification in educational leadership.



#### HARRISON GIDDENS

Harrison Giddens was raised in Mobile, Alabama and has been a member of the Junior League of Tampa for 47 years. She is the 2013 Sustainer of the Year. Harrison has served as the Chairman of the Tampa Theatre Foundation, Chairman of the Colonial Dames in America, Chairman of Pavilion XVII. as well as on various other boards in the community. She

is currently a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, Chiselers, HB Plant Museum Society, Tampa General Women's Foundation, Daughters of the American Revolution, Jamestown Society, and is serving as President of the Founders Garden Circle. Harrison is married to Tom Giddens.



#### JOHN N. GIORDANO

John Giordano has been with the Bush Ross. P.A. law firm in Tampa since 1985. He is Chair of the Transactional Practice Group and a member of the Compensation Committee and the board of directors. John is a former president and hiring partner of the firm. He was named to Legal Elite by Florida Trend, Best Lawyers of America, Florida Top 100 Super Lawyers, and is rated AV by Martindale Hubbell. John attended the University of Florida and earned a B.S.B.A.

in Accounting in 1979, a JD in 1982, and an LLM in Taxation in 1983 - all with honors. While in law school, he was a member of the Law Review and the Order of the Coif. John is The Junior League of Tampa's Legal Counsel and a standing member of the Community Advisory Board.



#### **MIRAY HOLMES**

Miray Ross Holmes was named as Manager of Community Partnerships and Neighborhood Engagement by City of Tampa Mayor, Bob Buckhorn in March of 2013. In her capacity, Holmes serves as Mayor Buckhorn's main liaison to the neighborhood associations and as their voice at City Hall. She will also work 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 role, she worked in Community Marketing at Reliant and as an Account Director for Olympic Sponsorships with the Atlanta Centennial Olympic Partners. Miray was born and raised in Washington, D.C. and holds a Bachelor of the Arts from Howard University. Miray is mother to daughter Julia.



#### **ERNEST HOOPER**

Ernest Hooper brings a blend of experiences to his role as columnist for the Tampa Bay Times. He was born and raised in Tallahassee. The proud son of Gerald and Ann Hooper, two longtime Florida A&M professors, he grew up less than a mile from the Florida State campus, but he graduated from the University of Florida. He started his career as a sports writer, but has served as a news columnist since 2001. Now in his 20th year at the Times, Ernest has taken on

the additional role of East Hillsborough Bureau Chief, guiding the paper's news-gathering efforts in Brandon, Riverview, Apollo Beach, Ruskin, Sun City Center, Valrico and Plant City. Ernest still writes two columns a week, relying on a broad canvas of topics that range from politics and nightlife to stories of perseverance and amusing anecdotes about his wife, Florence, and three kids: Matthew, Ethan and Madelyn.



#### **EMERY IVERY**

Emery Ivery is the Tampa Bay Area President for United Way Suncoast. United Way Suncoast is the result of a consolidation of United Way of Tampa Bay and United Way of Sarasota and DeSoto County in July 2012. Emery joined the United Way of Tampa Bay Inc. in March 2006 as Vice President of Community & Partnership Development. In 2009, he became Sr. Vice President. Emery has been a United Way professional for over 25 years. He has held

management and senior level positions with United Ways in Cleveland, OH; Tacoma, WA; and Orlando, FL. He also has worked in several community based organizations as a manager and counselor. Emery holds a MSSA from Case Western Reserve University and a BA from Cleveland State University. He lives in Apollo Beach with his wife, Annette.



#### LIZ KENNEDY

Liz Kennedy has a long history working with the League starting in 1977 with the founding of the Child Abuse Council. Her next big project with the League was the construction of Baby Bungalow over ten years ago. With League funding and expertise, Liz created a parent-child resource center that has since grown to provide services

throughout the county. In addition, Liz helped found the Ophelia Project, Hillsborough Kids, Inc. and Bridge Builders. Currently, she is on the HKI Board, Chair of The Learning Center and Chair of the Neighborhood of Promise Initiative Steering Committee in Sulphur Springs.



#### **TOM LOOBY**

Since 2007, Tom Looby has served as the President & CEO of the Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA. Previously, Tom was the President & CEO of the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina in Winston-Salem for six years. In his 32<sup>nd</sup> year as a YMCA leader, Tom also served the Nashville/Middle Tennessee and Atlanta YMCAs. He received a BS

in Education from the SUNY and an MBA from Georgia State University. Tom and his wife Kim have been married 28 years and have three daughters: Megan, Kaitlin and Kara.



#### CATHERINE M. LYNCH, MD,

Catherine M. Lynch, MD, FACOG is the Associate Vice President of Women's Health, Associate Dean of Faculty Development, and Professor and Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of South Florida. Dr. Lynch completed her undergraduate degree in Biology at Georgetown University in 1986. She then returned to her home state

of Florida to earn her Doctorate of Medicine from the University of South Florida in 1990. Dr. Lynch completed her residency and post-graduate work at USF in Obstetrics and Gynecology and is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Lynch is married to City of Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn, and they have two children.



#### **RONDA M. PARAG**

Ronda M. Parag is the Publisher/ Managing Editor of Tampa Bay Metro Magazine and Tampa Bay Weddings Magazine. Ronda believes in giving back to the community and has volunteered many hours to local charities. Ronda is an advisory board member for the Salvation Army of Hillsborough County, past Trustee for The Spring

of Tampa Bay, member of the Gold Membership Committee for the Tampa Museum of Art and supports many other nonprofits. Ronda graduated from the University of Florida with a BS in Business Administration and has been married to Stephen P. Parag, II for 23 years. They have one son, Evan.



#### **HEIDI SHIMBERG**

Heidi Shimberg has served on several non-profit Boards over the past 16 years. Her most dedicated role was serving the Children's Museum of Tampa, now known as the Glazer Children's Museum. She served on the Board for 12 years and led as Chairman on two separate terms. She was Capital Campaign Chair, during which time the naming gift was secured to re-name the Museum. January 2009,

she joined the staff as Vice President of Development & Marketing. The Museum completed the capital campaign and had a successful opening while she served in that role. She left the Museum August 2011 to re-join businesses with her husband. Currently, she serves as a board member of WEDU and is most proud of her role as mother to her three sons.



#### IAN SMITH

lan Smith is Senior Vice President and Chief Communications Officer of Helios Education Foundation, where he provides strategic marketing and public relations leadership in support of the Foundation's investments in Arizona and Florida. Mr. Smith currently serves on the boards of the Glazer Children's Museum in Tampa, the Florida Philanthropic Network and the Florida Public Relations Association of Tampa Bay.



#### MARLENE SPALTEN

Marlene Spalten joined the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay as its President and CEO in October 2012. She was previously the 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, Marlene was Associate Head of School / Advancement and Planning at The Bolles

School in Jacksonville. Marlene is a graduate of Cornell College with a BA in English. Ms. Spalten is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) and a Fellow of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (FAHP). She is a 1999 graduate of Leadership Jacksonville and was named a "Woman of Influence" in 2011 by the Jacksonville Business Journal.



#### **JONATHAN E. STEIN**

Jonathan E. Stein is The Junior League of Tampa's CPA and is a graduate of the University of South Florida. He is with the firm Rivero, Gordimer & Company, P.A. and has considerable auditing experience with not-for-profit and governmental organizations. As the League's CPA, he serves as a standing member of the Community Advisory Board. He has also been appointed to serve on the not-for-

profit committee by the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants and is involved with a variety of not-for-profit organizations in the Tampa Bay area.



#### JOHN THOMAS

John Thomas is the Weekend Morning Anchor for ABC Action News. John was born in Canada and grew up in Montreal, where he graduated with a degree in Communication Studies. His journalism career started in Saint John, New Brunswick, with stops in London and Toronto, Ontario. He then jumped into the United States and worked for two years in Wichita, KS before coming to Tampa eleven years ago. He quickly realized that Tampa

was the place he wanted to call home, and is dedicated to help make this community a better place to live through his job and volunteering with various charitable organizations. He is honored to do whatever he can to assist the Junior League because he has seen first hand the great work they have done.



#### **HOLLY TOMLIN**

Holly Tomlin has been Owner/ President of Tomlin Staffing since 1985. She serves on the following boards: Tampa General Hospital Foundation, Merchants Association of Tampa, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce. Holly was the first woman President of Rotary Club of Tampa (1999), won TBBJ 2006 Business Woman of the Year, voted GTCC 2007

Small Business of the Year Outstanding Leader, and was awarded 2008 Junior Achievement Outstanding Alumni of the Year.



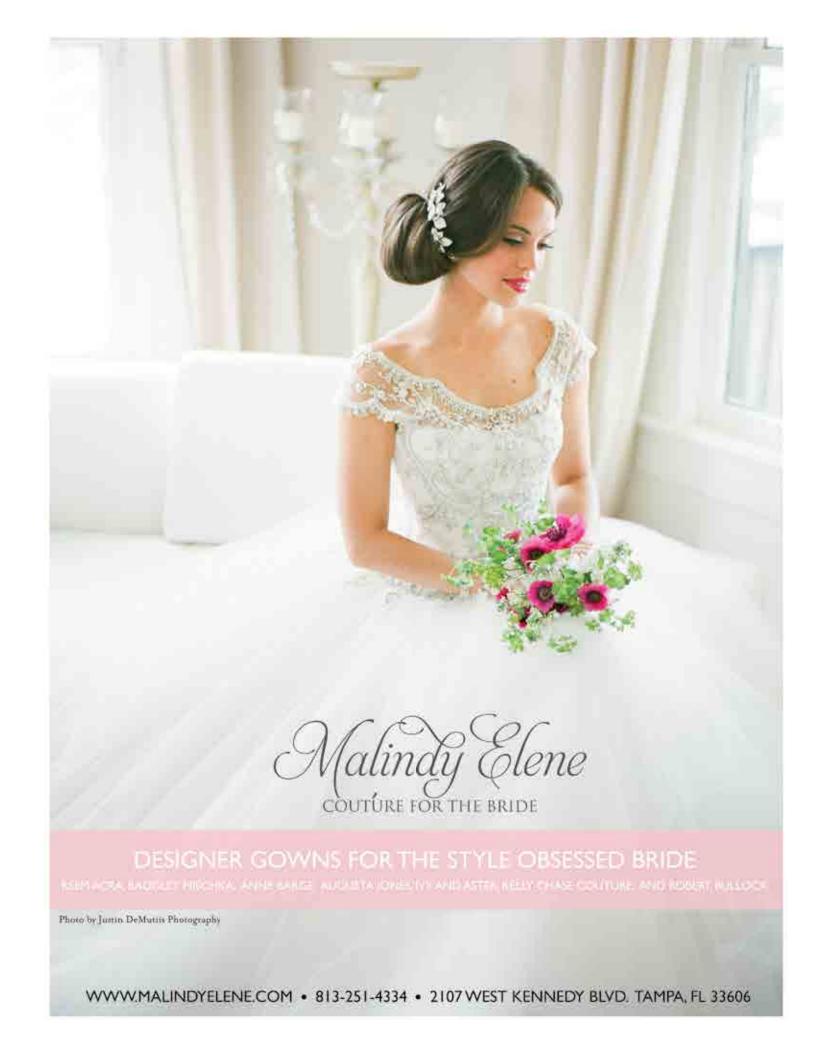
#### **HONORABLE DANA YOUNG**

Representative Young was first elected to the Florida House of Representatives in November 2010 and was re-elected for a second term in 2012. Her District (District 60) encompasses a significant portion of the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County. Representative Young has worked tirelessly to pass legislation aimed at creating an exceptional

business climate and a world class quality of life for Floridians. Dana Young is a sixth generation Floridian. She and her husband, Matt, have been married for over twenty years and have two teenage daughters, Alexandra and Carson.

"We rely on our Community Advisory Board members for their expertise and guidance, and are honored that so many individuals who already give so much to the community are willing to lend their support," says Lee Lowry, President of JLT

To learn more about
The Junior League of Tampa Community Advisory Board,
visit http://www.jltampa.org/community-advisory-board.



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# **An Enduring Contribution** THE JLT COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

#### "A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform." - Audre Lorde

healthier, more educated and safer community for Tampa Bay's children and their families. The many aspects of the League's Mission – promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities - are entwined and work cohesively toward maintaining the League's commitment to the community. A membership of over 1,800 trained volunteers and effective leaders allow the League to have an immeasurable impact.

The members of the Junior League represent a variety of economic, educational and ethnic backgrounds. It is this diverse membership that allows the organization to excel and provide meaningful results through the community projects in which it is involved. Each year, the League invests thousands of volunteer hours in community agencies and programs that support the issue areas of child welfare and education. In 2012-2013 alone, League Actives provided over 60,000 hours of volunteer service and invested more than \$250,000 in the Tampa community.

Voluntarism in The Junior League of Tampa affords members with the opportunities to develop unique skill sets. Members gain expertise that will last them well past their Active years: leadership in the League trains these women to become leaders in the community.

Through its Mission and long-standing commitment to the community, the League has become a well-known leader in Tampa Bay. Collaborating with various organizations within the state of Florida, the League has been able to make a broader impact on focus areas such as childhood nutrition, foster care, human trafficking, and literacy, all identified as key areas of concern for our community and the League.

Since The Junior League of Tampa's active involvement in projects are typically only for a limited number of years, partnerships enable the League to educate other community leaders, community members and organizations on the prevalent issues impacting Tampa Bay in hopes of gaining continued support for the cause well after the League's involvement has ended. In recent years, The Junior League of Tampa has also taken a more direct role in convening various organizations for the betterment of the community and state in which we live.

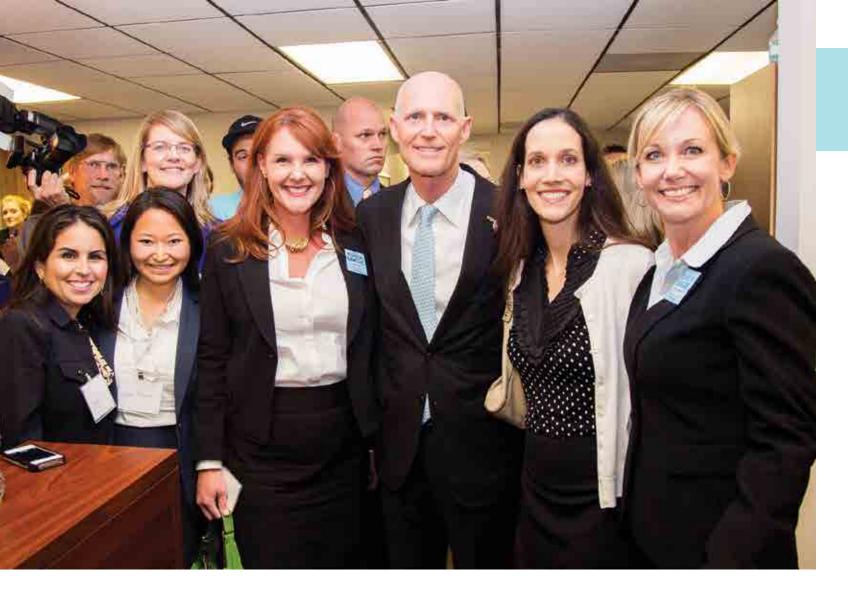
The Junior League of Tampa is committed to building a As a result of the League's reputation as a distinguished community leader, many organizations have turned to the League for assistance and guidance with problems facing our community as well as with assistance with their individual agency's or organization's needs. Each year, The Junior League of Tampa receives numerous reguests for assistance from other community agencies. But before the League considers taking on the project or introducing the new project to its members, the League's interests and the organization's needs must align.

> All proposed projects must target breaking the cycle of poverty in the lives of children and families and address the issues of education and/or child welfare. Additionally, in determining whether the League will choose to partner with an organization, the League looks towards its members' interests and the opportunities the project may afford to them to grow. The purpose of taking on new projects, volunteering and helping the community is not only to build and improve the place we live in but also ensures that the League member's training will provide them with an opportunity to develop and continue bettering their community through voluntarism throughout their lives.

As Tampa Bay Times columnist, Ernest Hooper, recently said, when he thinks about a Junior League of Tampa member, he pictures her wearing a white dress, amazing shoes, pearls... and a tool belt armed with all the leadership training, knowledge and experience afforded during her years with the League.

It is this "tool belt," coupled with members' ambition, creativity and compassion that empowers the League to provide a positive impact in our community. The League's well-trained, knowledgeable corps of volunteers is the most enduring contribution the organization will ever give to the community.





# AD 2 TAMPA BAY SELECTS JLT

#### for Sex Trafficking Awareness Campaign

by MARY ELLEN COLLINS

Volunteers. Activists. Leaders. These are just some of the words that have been used to describe The Junior League of Tampa (JLT) since its inception more than 80 years ago. This year, "Convener" can be added to the list.

That's because we've mobilized more than 55 community organizations and government agencies working to help victims of child sex trafficking to speak with "one voice" during Human Trafficking Awareness Month this January. Because a majority of victims of Humantrafficking are foster children, this issue becomes a direct link to our mission of child welfare and education. Human trafficking has become a multi-billion dollar industry throughout the country, and Tampa Bay is one of the hotspots for this activity.

"We work with so many youth who are struggling with issues from literacy to nutrition to simply being able to be a part of a basic family unit, and these are exactly the kinds of children who are most at risk for being victimized by trafficking," says JLT President Lee Lowry.

JLT and the Public Affairs Committee have been involved in the fight against human trafficking for the last few years. This year, Public Affairs is spearheading the creation of a unified marketing campaign on behalf of the Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking that will launch during Human Trafficking Awareness Month in January 2014. The campaign is being developed by Ad 2 Tampa Bay, a network of young advertising professionals who

JLT members with Gov. Rick Scott May 30, 2013, as he signed pair of bills that will create a legal process for human-trafficking victims to get their criminal records expunged. (From left: Jenay Iurato, Ginny Veit, Sarah Balmer, Lee Lowry, Mary Ellen Collins and Stephanie Wiendl.)

# ABOLISH child sex slavery

selected JLT as the recipient of its Public Service Campaign for 2013-14. The focus is to bring greater awareness to the crime of child sex trafficking within our community.

"After hearing about the prevalence of this issue in Tampa Bay, the Ad 2 membership voted almost unanimously to help with an awareness campaign against sex trafficking," said Taryn Cashmere, president of Ad 2 Tampa Bay. "We are compelled to take action and make Tampa Bay a safer place for women and children."

Each year, Ad 2 selects a local organization as the recipient of a customized marketing and branding campaign, opening the field to nonprofits across Tampa Bay. After a competitive and selective application process, Ad 2 chose JLT since we are serving as the unifying voice for the many agencies and organizations across the region that are working to combat this issue.

The Ad 2 campaign is completely a pro-bono effort, and will showcase the work of some of our area's most talented creative professionals. A host of creative materials are being developed, including TV, radio, outdoor and print ad placements, all aimed to increase awareness and reduce trafficking activity.

To support the Ad 2 campaign, a number of awareness and training events are planned Jan. 11-18, 2014 to further awareness efforts. A Kickoff Rally is planned for January 11th at Lykes Gaslight Park in Downtown Tampa, complete with live entertainment and food trucks, and culminating in a candlelight vigil. A 5K is also scheduled on Jan. 12th at Al Lopez Park. Both events are being coordinated by JLT's Public Affairs Committee and will serve as fundraisers for Redefining Refuge, Bridging Freedom, World Relief and Created. These organizations provide safe housing for victims and critical services for those rescued.

For a complete calendar of events for Human Trafficking Awareness Month and the Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking, or to learn about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.AbolishMovement.com or email publicaffairs@jltampa.com.

To learn more about Ad 2 Tampa Bay's Public Service effort for JLT, visit www.Ad2TampaBay.org/Public-Service.

#### **Public Affairs Takes** on Child Sex Trafficking

Over the past two years, JLT's Public Affairs Committee has taken on child sex trafficking as a focus area in its community partnership and advocacy efforts.

- •In February 2013, it partnered with Stetson Law to host some of Florida's most influential members of the judiciary, law enforcement and victim services providers for a provocative conversation about sex trafficking in our community - where and how it's happening, how to identify victims, what's being done to combat it, and how we can help fight this underground industry together. More than 300 community members attended.
- •Its legislative advocacy efforts were crucial to passing the Safe Harbor Act in 2012, as well as bills in 2013 that made statute changes to definitions, increased the penalty for human trafficking, and augmented enforcement of existing human trafficking laws.
- It partnered with WEDU for the launch of their human trafficking documentary, "Too Close To Home," in September 2013. The film explored the prevalence of human trafficking in Tampa Bay. JLT sponsored the web site and provided volunteers for the standing-room-only premiere.
- It served on the Planning Committee for The Department of Juvenile Justice's second statewide Human Trafficking Summit at USF's Marshall Student Center in October 2013 with Gov. Rick Scott and Attorney General and JLT Sustainer Pam Bondi. JLT provided more than 30 volunteers and also sponsored the Post-Summit Reception. More than 1,000 people attended the day-long event.

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## **EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONALS**



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The group meets monthly for lunch to keep up-to-date with members. We welcome additional services not yet represented. Contact Exceptional Professionals and join us for lunch! Call Krista Allred at 813.269.4040

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# **AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON SCHOOL SUCCESS**

y JAYMI BUTLER

Schools and other educational institutions define the basic framework of education — giving students knowledge and building character. Education is important because it lays the foundation of a child's development and plays a key role in developing children into responsible, engaged citizens. Still, many barriers exist for student success in school, and The Junior League of Tampa is working on childhood hunger and literacy initiatives to break through those obstacles.

#### **Meeting Nutritional Needs for School Readiness**

The Junior League of Tampa has identified several key factors that hinder the learning process, with child hunger leading the pack. In West Central Florida alone, 700,000 people struggle with hunger, 250,000 of those people being children. The Center on Hunger and Poverty has reported that malnutrition can limit a child's ability to comprehend even basic skills and

weaken overall learning potential. Children from food-insecure households may not perform as well on academic achievement tests and are likely to repeat a grade and experience tardiness or absences from school, which may affect their academic performance. In Hillsborough County alone, more than 50% of students qualify for free and reduced lunch, making hunger a key issue for educational success.

With a determination to make a difference, The Junior League of Tampa has created several projects with proven success in fighting child hunger, including Junior Leagues' *Kids in the Kitchen* and *Food 4 Kids. Kids in the Kitchen (KIK)* works with children who are being raised in food-insecure households in Tampa's low income neighborhoods which are considered food deserts. A food desert is a large, contiguous area with poor access to mainstream grocers and fresh fruits and vegetables. *KIK* engages 250–300 kids

at five different agency sites including the Sulphur Springs Y, Sulphur Springs Community Center, Nick Capitano Boys & Girls Club, Metropolitan Ministries, and The Spring. The program provides lessons and demonstrations in the preparation of healthy meals using nutritious food found locally, in partnerships with these agencies, local nutritionists, and 170 League member volunteers. These volunteers teach a four step curriculum based on the book, "Kids Food 'N' Around in the Kitchen," written for The Junior League of Tampa by local nutrition expert Myra Haag. Each class consists of: (1) teaching curriculum, (2) conducting physical activity, (3) creating a healthy snack, and (4) providing a "take home bag" of nutritious food. Kids in the Kitchen gives students better access to the right food choices and helps them develop positive, healthy eating habits in order to support optimal functioning of the brain.

Additionally, *Kids in the Kitchen* has recently started to develop a partnership with Feeding America Tampa Bay, which works with The Junior League of Tampa's project *Food 4 Kids* in developing Mobile Pantries. They currently plan to visit the Sulphur Springs Y Community Center, where 10,000 pounds of food will be distributed, feeding between 250–300 families. Feeding America Tampa Bay will provide refrigerated trucks with gallons of milk, juices, meats and fresh produce.

Food 4 Kids is another example of The Junior League of Tampa's dedication to attacking child hunger. Through its partnership with Feeding America Tampa Bay, the League provides a bag of nutritious food every week to over 370 children. These are children that receive free or reduced lunch at school, but have limited resources on the weekends for healthy food options. League Members "shop" for items at the food bank, putting together bags full of non-perishable food for the children. This year, The Junior League of Tampa was able to nearly double the impact of this program. Whereas in 2012–2013, the League fed children once

every two weeks, the group now feeds the children once per week at five locations, feeding almost 400 kids per week. The success of *Food 4 Kids* has led leaders at Feeding America Tampa Bay to take the model created by The Junior League of Tampa to other organizations.

#### **Books in the Home Equal Literacy Success**

The fight to improve our youth's education does not stop at childhood hunger for The Junior League of Tampa. The League has identified that, in addition to attacking malnutrition and food deprivation, we can directly help to improve education with a focus on children's literacy. Developing literacy skills is a process that is central to a child's development, and access to quality reading materials is at the crux of that development. Research has shown that children from low-education families can do as well as children from high-education families if they have access to books at home. Additionally, parents who read to their children in their early school years can positively impact academic performance regardless of the family's socioeconomic background. Yet we still have only 33% of our fourth grade students reading at their grade level according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Junior League's Children's *Literacy* project was created to support and promote literacy in the home.

Volunteers from the *Children's Literacy* project visit a number of these Title I Schools, and read aloud to kindergarten classes. Each child is then provided with a copy of each book to take home, building their own home library. The Junior League of Tampa has identified that, like providing food and teaching healthy eating habits at home, the fight against children's literacy goes beyond the classroom. In an attempt to make a deeper impact, Family Literacy nights have also been created to increase parent interaction and involvement. Now, not only are the children building their own home







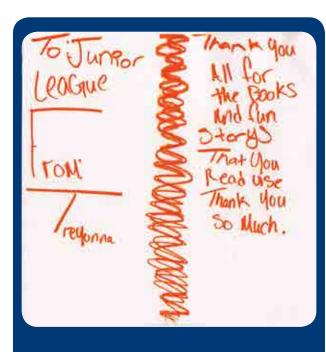




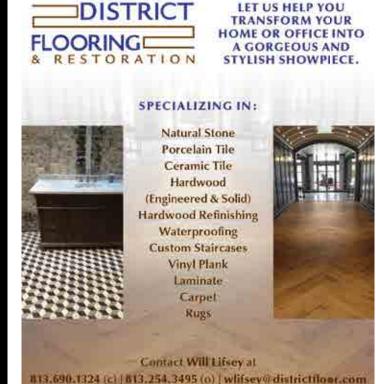
libraries, their parents are also learning simple ways through everyday activities to support literacy. Family Literacy nights have been expanded to four total schools. Books read aloud include science, math and literacy topics, as well as books with healthy eating tips.

The Junior League of Tampa has also recently begun a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, called Scholastic Success. The program has a literacy-rich purpose for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. This committee will host three workshops with different focus areas for each, providing Big Brothers and Big Sisters with tools and resources to assist their Littles. The events will include speakers, educational activities, and an opportunity for the children to be together with their Bigs. The goals of this project are to foster education guidance between Bigs and Littles, to improve their educational relationship and to increase access to literacy materials for the children.

The Junior League of Tampa is confronting educational development issues head on, and creating solutions through our community projects. Education is a vital piece of the solution to poverty, providing children with knowledge about the world, helping build character and laying the foundation of a stronger nation and world. Child hunger and literacy are national and worldwide issues that the League is affecting right here in Hillsborough County and we will make a difference in the lives of our children.







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#### AIMS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES IN SULPHUR SPRINGS

Why are today's children so much heavier than they were 30 years ago? It's easy to rattle off possible reasons — too many video games, too few physical education classes, the desserts are too big, the salads are too small.

In Sulphur Springs, one of Tampa's poorest neighborhoods where 43 percent of the population is living below the poverty level, the reasons aren't quite that simple. Misinformation coupled with a lack of access to nutritious foods means that many of the children in that community are at risk for becoming obese - if they aren't already.

That's where a grant recently awarded to The Junior League of Tampa's Kids in the Kitchen project comes in. Kids in the Kitchen, a League project for the past seven years that began as an initiative of AJLI, the Association of Junior Leagues International, aims to promote health and wellness in Tampa's low-income neighborhoods by empowering children to make healthy lifestyle choices. With a recent grant from Florida Blue, Kids in the Kitchen will be specifically targeting the Sulphur Springs community through a site-based project at the Sulphur Springs YMCA. Since Kids in the Kitchen is this year's Provisional Project, 170 Provisional (or trainee) volunteers will teach six classes per semester aimed at educating elementaryaged children about the importance of good nutrition and physical activity. At the end of each class, participants receive a bag of nutritious food to share with their families, and, ideally, an enthusiasm for getting healthy.

Myrna Haag, a local nutrition expert and JLT partner who has worked extensively with children and families in Sulphur Springs, says this community has more than its share of challenges when it comes to establishing a culture of healthy living.



There are a lot of roadblocks and misperceptions when it comes to health and wellness in the Sulphur Springs community, Haag said. Perhaps most damaging of all, there is a belief that "you have to be wealthy to be healthy." Many people think that the problem is simply tied to a lack of income. Eating healthy, they assume, is more expensive than eating junk food. While that can be true, Haag said, it's still not that easy, especially in communities like Sulphur Springs.

"It's about access to food," she said, referring to the fact that Sulphur Springs is a food desert. "Residents of Sulphur Springs are not in an environment where they can easily get [healthy food]."

A low-income family wanting to shop for healthy food may be able to afford to buy fruits and vegetables at a grocery store, but what do they do when the nearest Publix is four miles away and they have no car? If all they have access to is a convenience store, it becomes less about having the money to buy fresh broccoli and more about the fact that there is nowhere convenient to buy it.

The *Kids in the Kitchen* project hopes to get young people excited about the prospects of healthy eating, and to teach them how to create healthy meals from items they can find in their neighborhood stores. Lakema Massey, Senior Program Director at the Sulphur Springs Y, has been pleased with what she has seen from KIK so far.

"The kids really seem to love it, and the parents are also very interested," she said.

Kids in the Kitchen not only teaches the kids about healthy eating but it is also teaching them independence

by instructing them how to make healthy, no-cook meals to share with their families, Massey said. And by offering so many healthy options for the kids to try, she is optimistic that they'll be more apt to keep exploring the world of

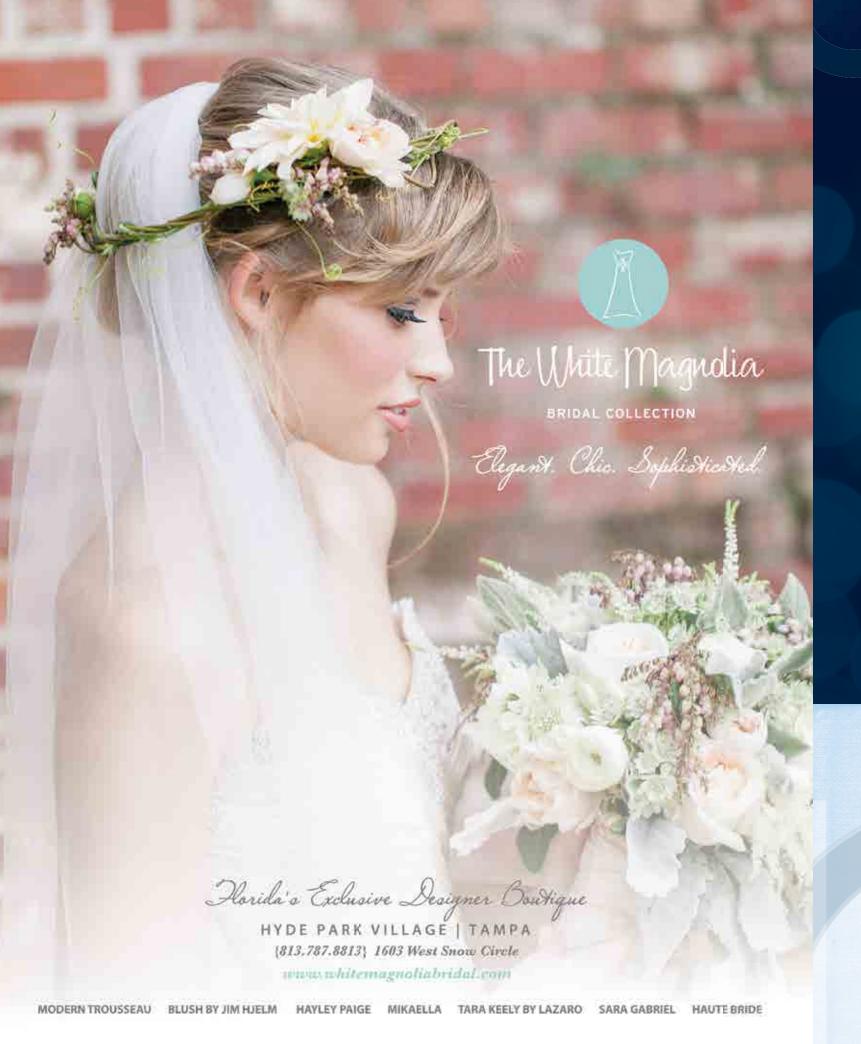
"[By the end of the project], I hope they have a better appreciation for eating healthy and that they understand that healthy food can be good," she said. "For the families, I hope they get a better understanding about how to eat healthily and that it's not hard or expensive to do it."

While Kids in the Kitchen is certainly aimed at improving the health of Sulphur Springs children, the kids aren't the only ones benefitting. The Kids in the Kitchen project touches on all aspects of the League's Mission, said Kids in the Kitchen Project Coordinator Taylor Jones. Not only does it promote voluntarism but it also develops the potential of women by teaching them leadership and developing them into trained volunteers, Jones said. When those things happen, everyone wins.

"These women are not only getting the opportunity to serve the community but also the chance to serve as leaders within their own Provisional group," she said. "I feel their experience this year will prepare and excite them for their future League careers."

JLT president Lee Lowry agrees.

"This is an amazing project," she said. "We go into these organizations and we are such a force. The Provisionals bring in such excitement and enthusiasm. We get tons of compliments about them."



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# GIVING ABOVE AND BEYOND

**ENABLING FUND & COMMUNITY ACTION** 

by KATHRYN HALL

Promoting voluntarism is a major tenet of The Junior League of Tampa's Mission. Members provide thousands of hours in volunteer service to the community through involvement in League programs and projects. The League also provides community assistance, including short-term volunteer and financial support to select organizations throughout the year. Carefully vetting these potential partners is the task of the League's Enabling Fund and Community Action Committees.

According to Andrea Layne, Enabling Fund Chair, the Enabling Fund "allows [the League] to work with organizations that don't necessarily need volunteers," but would benefit from the League's financial support. She goes on to state, "The Enabling Fund is the League's way of putting money into the community to fund organizations which create activities and events that are an extension of our Mission." Each year, of mission statement, degree of detail in the budget, and



the Enabling Fund Committee must determine how to best distribute \$25,000 to local non-profit organizations. The maximum amount a single organization can receive each vear is \$2,500.

Applicants go through a rigorous investigative process. Applications are made available in the late spring and the deadline is typically on July 1st. This year, 39 applications were received. The applications are initially reviewed for anything that might immediately disqualify them. For example, an organization cannot receive a grant two years in a row. The applications are then divided into specific categories and assigned to teams of two women each to closely evaluate them. Criteria assessed include: length of time the organization has existed as a 501(c)(3), clarity

> quality of audited past financial statements. Site visits are conducted to better understand how the donated money will be spent. Each team then presents their top 2 or 3-rated organizations at a committee meeting attended by the President-Elect, Treasurer, and PDEC chair. Proposed recipients are voted on by the Executive Committee and presented at the end of October to the Leadership Council. The recipients are announced at the November General Membership Meeting.

> When asked how the Enabling Fund helps fulfill the League's Mission, Andrea focuses on the committee's ability to develop the potential of women. Serving on the Enabling Fund Committee gives women experience reviewing grant applications. Committee members also learn to analyze a non-profit's financial statements.







The Community Action Committee (CAC) mirrors the efforts of the Enabling Fund Committee. However, instead of granting financial support only, the CAC endeavors to find community partners that need volunteers. Again, these organizations may not directly mirror the League's key issue areas, but they offer the prospect of positively affecting the organization served. Non-profits selected as partners go through a rigorous application process similar to that described for applicants to the Enabling Fund. However, rather than focusing on the financial aspect of the organization, greater emphasis is placed on the project description and how volunteers will be utilized.

According to 2013-2014 CAC chair, Christina Thompson, events supported through the committee offer a unique service experience for all League members. The CAC hosts "done in a day" events with local charities. These events allow a member to contribute to a service project without the obligation of a year-long commitment. A recent done in a day event allowed League members to redecorate the intake room at The Spring, Tampa's preeminent shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence, making the room more pleasant and welcoming.

Christina's goal for the committee is to take its reach even further into the community. New events this year inspired by this vision include working with the Children's Dream Fund to host a party in the pediatric oncology area of Tampa General Hospital and cooperating with the Tampa Bay History Center on a special child-oriented event.

Through the Enabling Fund and Community Action Committee, the League is able to give above and beyond its focus areas. The women on the Enabling Fund and Community Action Committees help ensure the Junior League supports these efforts in such a way that allows the League stay true to its Mission, and just as importantly, in a way that broadens its reach.





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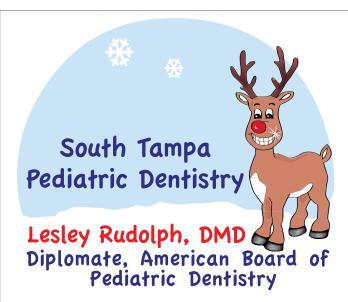
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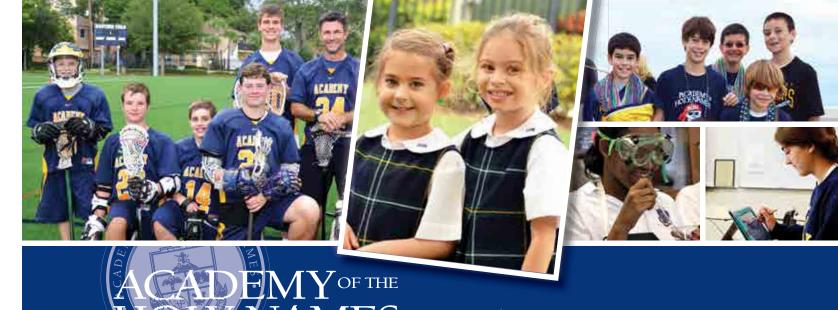
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Donations to the Annual Campaign support the programs and projects of The Junior League of Tampa (JLT). Each year we ask individuals and businesses in the community, as well as our Membership, to support our Mission by donating to the Annual Campaign. Donations to the Annual Campaign are not used to pay for any general operating expenses, which are financed by membership dues and other administrative sources.

To learn more about the Annual Campaign or to make a gift, visit http://www.jltampa.org/annual-campaign For questions, contact fundraising@ilthg.com.

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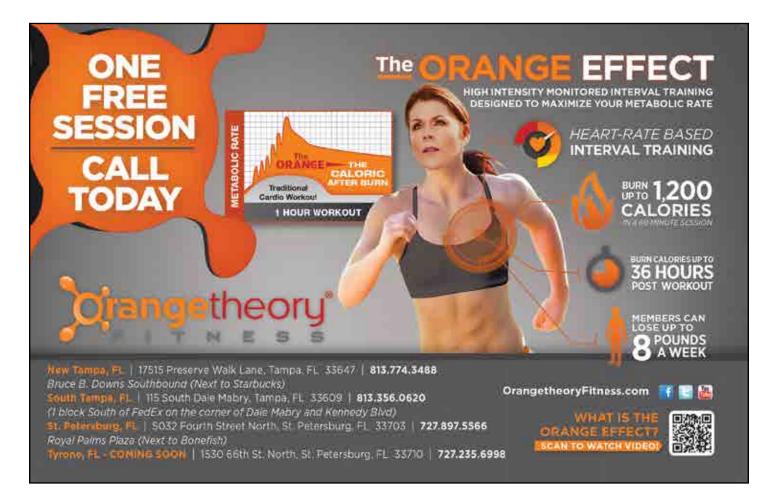
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Lisa Vodola.

on the opening of her new

Christina Thompson

Mary Katherine Meyer,

Moffitt Cancer Center

Nicole Hubbard

Nicole Hubbard

Jenny Spencér

Megan Bock, on her new position at

business, Preschool Readers

Happy Birthday (December)

#### A Commemorative Gift is a way to recognize a significant event in a Junior League member's life – joining in their celebration or thinking of them 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 The Junior League of Tampa's endowment.

To learn more or to make a gift, visit http://www.jltampa.org/commemorative-gifts For questions, contact endowment@ilthq.com.

#### CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF

#### Alexander Johnston Miller,

- son of Angier & Robert Miller
- Andrea Ăugustine Chloe Cullinan
- Danielle Post
- Flizabeth Burkett Gretchen Dominguez
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Marlene Maseman

#### Sarah Ann Musser,

daughter of John & Ann Neidhardt Musser

Christina Thompson

#### Lewis Reintjes,

son of Bethany & Stephen Reinties

- Christina Thompson
- Katie Cappy
- Sarah Walters

#### Sophia Javne Isaak.

daughter of Betsv Isaak

#### Clare Reilly,

daughter of Brooks Reilly

Erin Reynolds

Krista Dietrich

- Jenny Spencer
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

James Cain Cathey, son of Callie & Tyler Cathey

#### Nicole Dorr

Landon Peterson.

- son of Cindy & Erik Peterson Angier Miller
- Chloe Cullinan Julia N. Martinez

Eva Marie Campbell, daughter of Danielle Campbell

- Danielle Post
- Malloy Lacktman Nicole Hubbard
- Roja Barrios

#### **Grace Marie Howell,**

daughter of Dina Howell Christi & Mike Harrington

#### Parker Lindsey,

- son of Erika Lindsey
- Nicole Hubbard Janelle Miller
- Stacy Carlson

#### Austin Jeffrey Annis,

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- Danielle Post
- Gretchen Dominguez
- Kim Carswell Laura Donaldson
- Lindsay Dorrance
- Lynette Russell
- Nicole Hubbard
- Sarah Walters
- Shannon Walsh
- Suzy Lopez
- Marlene Maseman Shellie Huffmaster
- Stacy Carlson

#### Camden Greco.

son of Erin Greco

- Caroline Foss
- Gretchen Dominguez
- Jenny Spencer
- Stacy Carlson

#### Keala Pauline Deutsch,

daughter of Kealoha & Justin Deutsch

- Chloe Cullinan
- Christina Thompson
- Danielle Post
- Elizabeth Burkett
- Erin Annis
- Jenay lurato
- Kate Guilfovle
- Katina & Matt Markowski Krystal Schofield

Gretchen Dominguez

Tracie Domino Marlene Maseman

Suzv Lopez

- - Gretchen Dominguez

daughter of Lauren & Shamus

- Gretchen Dominauez

- Stacy Carlson

#### Payton Elizabeth Hodz,

- Krystal Schofield
- Laura Everitt Suzy Lopez

#### James Ellery,

#### Rayane Plyler

- Amber Crosby
- Elisha Snyder

#### Gemma Grace Korb,

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- Fundraising Committee Kim Carswell
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Malloy Lacktman

- daughter of Kelly & Zac Elkins Krista Dietrich
- Sarah Walters
- Maxwell Basil, son of Lauren Éasil
- Nicole Hubbard

#### Wesleigh Turner Warren,

- Warren
- Crystal Madani
- Kim Carswell
- Lynette Russell
- Nicole Hubbard
- Suzy Lopez

#### daughter of Leslie Hodz

- Fundraising Committee
- Kim Carswell

son of Nicole Ellery

#### Luke Charles McCollum,

- son of Liz & Kyle McCollum

#### Morgan Watts

daughter of Lorraine Korb

- Nicole Hubbard
- Marlene Maseman
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- Krista Dietrich Virginia Veit

Emmy Grace Polsky, daughter of Nicole Polsky Gretchen Dominguez

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#### Konrad Haman,

#### son of Rachel & Jason Haman Gretchen Dominguez

#### Vivienne Barrios,

daughter of Brad & Roia Barrios

#### Gretchen Dominguez Jenay lurato

Malloy Lacktman Mairin Kathleen Miller.

#### daughter of Marcie & Scott Miller Jennifer Burdy

Walker Watkins. son of Sarah Watkins

Megan Kuder

#### CELEBRATING THE ADDITION OF =

#### Celebrating the addition of son Quasan,

Markowski family (Katina Markowski)

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- Chloe Cullinan Danielle Post
- Frin Annis
- Kim Carswell Meghan E. McGuire
- Nicole Hubbard

- Shannon Walsh Suzy Mendelson Stacy Carlson

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO =

#### Allison Wallrapp.

on her for passing the

Florida Bar Erin Annis

Andrea Lavne. on her being nominated to serve on the Community Violence Prevention Collaborative subcommittee to address violence in

- Malloy Lacktman Nicole Hubbard
- Lee Lowry
- Ashley Looney, on her promotion
- Fundraising Committee Kim Carswel Krystal Schofield
- Malloy Lacktman Rayane Plyler Sarah Walters

#### Ashley Tardiff,

- on her new position with SunTrust Bank
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft Stacy Carlson

#### Bridgette Howell.

Happy Birthday (November) Jenny Spencer

Brooks Reilly.

#### Happy Birthday (September) Jenny Spencer

Carla Cornett. Happy Birthday (August)

#### Jenny Spencer

Casev Carefoot. on her promotion at Catapult

- Systems
   Angier Miller
- Chloe Cullinan Christina Thompson Crystal Madani
- Danielle Post Erin Annis
- Gretchen Dominguez Jenny Spencer
- Katie Cappy Krista Dietrich
- Laura Donaldson Laura Everitt Lee Lowry
- Lindsav Dorrance Lynette Russell Malloy Lacktman
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft Nicole Hubbard Sarah Walters

Shannon Walsh

Lynda Parks, on her new home

Sarah Walters

- Jenny Spencer
- Megan McGuire Nicole Hubbard
- Rayane Plyler Shannon Walsh

Suzy Mendelson

Lee Lowry

- Cathy Kamm,
- on her being named a Rising Star for Florida Super Lawyers
- Stacy Carlson Catie Baker.

Jenny Spencer

Nicole Hubbard

- on her finishing her residency
- Christina Thompson Danielle Post Kate Guilfovle

#### Katie Cappy Stacy Carlson

- Clara Reynolds, on her being named a finalist as the 2013
- Kate Guilfovle Nicole Hubbard Stacy Carlson
- Danielle Dennis,
- on her achieving tenure Chloe Cullinan
- Christina Thompson Danielle Post Elizabeth Burkett
- Gretchen Dominguez Jenny Spencer
- Katie Cappy Krista Dietrich

#### Nodhturft

#### (September)

Laura Ward, every success in her campaign for Hillsborough County Circuit Court Judge

- Stacy Carlson
- Casey Christopher, on her passing the Certified Treasury Professional Exam

#### (September)

- Happy Birthday

#### Happy Birthday (October) Jenny Spencéi

- on her new GS 12 job
  - Ashley Macaluso Hoff Nicole Hubbard

- Jenny Spencer
- Kate Guilfoyle, on her new job
- Chloe Cullinan Christina Thompson Danielle Post Krista Dietrich

Angier Miller

- Meghan E. McGuire Businesswoman of the Year Kelly Lastra,
  - on new job as WLFA TV National Sales Manager Chloe Cullinan
  - Gretchen Dominguez Kim Carswell
  - Laura Donaldson Nicole Hubbard Shannon Walsh
  - Suzy Mendelson Stacy Carlson Suzanne Brownsteir

Chloe Cullinan

Jessica Kendal

Laura Donaldson

Lindsay Dorrance

Nicole Hubbard

Stacy Carlson

Lauren Bentz.

Program at UT

Shellie Huffmaster

on her acceptance to the

Masters of Education

Ashley Macaluso Hoff

Lauren Companioni,

on her opening South

pediatric dentist office

Christina Thompson

Lauren Warren

Melissa Knight

Sarah Stockstad

Lauren Gstalder.

Jenny Spencer

Jenny Spencer

Natalie Clark.

Nodhturft

Tampa Kids Dental Krewe

Happy Birthday (November)

Happy Birthday (December)

Associate Director, Transit

Services for Tindale-Oliver

- Kate Guilfovle Laura Everitt. on her Promotion to
- Lynette Russel Melissa Knight

#### Elizabeth Pento, Happy Birthday

Jenny Spencer

#### Sara McIntire

Felicia Harvey, on her successful 2nd annual UNCF walk benefitting the needy Sarah Walters

Heather Barrow.

Crystal Madani

Danielle Post

on her being named a

Gretchen Dominguez

- Community Hero by the Tampa Bay Lightning Angier Miller
  - Kate Guilfoyle Krista Dietrich Nicole Dorr
  - Tracie Domino

- Jennifer Palacios Johnson
- Jessica Burns.

- Jill Papanu.
- Caroline Foss

#### Karina Peoples, Megan Rindone, on her earning a Mortgage Happy Birthday (December,

- Fundraising Committee
  - Kim Carswell Krista Dietrich Krystal Schofield
  - Melissa Davidson. on her setting up the "Something Wicked"
    - Malloy Lacktman Halloween Charity Event Melissa Knight Nodhturft with her employer, The Centre Club

#### Kim Carswell

Fundraising Committee

Language Pathology

Caroline Foss

Jackie Medina

Nicole Hubbard.

Gallery of Tampa

Jenay lurato

Kim Carswell

Laura Donaldson

Lindsay Dorrance

Malloy Lacktman

Stacy Carlson

Chloe Cullinan

Nicole Hubbard

2013/2014

Lee Lowry

Selena Ward.

for Brighthouse

Laura Donaldson

Malloy Lacktman

Meghan E. McGuire

Placement Committee.

wishing much success in

**Endowment Committee** 

the 2013/2014 League Year

on her new job as consultant

for events and sponsorships

Christina Thompson

Ashley Macaluso Hoff

on her being asked to serve

on the Advisory Council for

The Children's Board Heart

program

- Mia Hendrick. on her acceptance into USF's MS in Speech-
  - Danielle Post
    - Erin Annis Gretchen Dominguez
    - Jenay lurato Kate Guilfovle Katie Cappy
  - Laura Donaldson Lauren Warren
  - Malloy Lacktman Melissa Knight Nodhturft Nicole Dorr

#### Chloe Cullinan Marlene Maseman

Tina Dampf. on her promotion to Senior Trial Attorney at Allstate Staff Counsel

#### Nicole Hubbard Marlene Maseman

Stacy Carlson, on her acceptance to Leadership FL 2013-2014

- Danielle Post
- Gretchen Dominguez
- Jackie Medina
- Jenay lurato
- Jenny Spencer Kim Carswell
- Laura Donaldson Lee Lowry
- Lynette Russell Malloy Lacktman

Nicole Hubbard

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Suzy Mendelson

- Stephanie Wiendl. on her acceptance to Leadership FL 2013-2014
- Angier Miller Danielle Post Gretchen Dominguez
- Jenav lurato Jenny Spencer Kim Carswell
- Laura Donaldson Lee Lowry Lynette Russell
- Nicole Hubbard Stacy Carlson Suzv Mendelson Marlene Maseman
- Suzy Lopez,

on her being promoted

to the Deputy Chief of

- Narcotics Division Crystal Madani
- Flizabeth Burkett
- Kim Carswell Krista Dietrich Krystal Schofield
- Lynette Russell
- Nicole Hubbard Rayane Plyler Sarah Walters

#### Stacy Carlson

Valarie Lewis, on being awarded the Bronze Award of McKesson's

Volunteer of the Year

Gretchen Dominguez

Danielle Post

#### Jenay lurato Kate Guilfoyle Krista Dietrich

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#### CONGRATULATIONS TO

#### Roddy Belfatti,

on her outstanding service to the JLT as one of our Members at Large

Lee Lowry Shellie Huffmaster

#### Selena Ward,

on her outstanding service to the JLT as one of our Members at Large

Lee Lowry Shellie Huffmaster Shellie Huffmaster

#### Chrissy Doligalski,

at Studio 10

In recognition of everyone, on her being named Provisional who made the fabulous fall New of the Month in October 2013 Shellie Huffmaster

Member Preview a success,

Lee Lowry Shellie Huffmaste

#### Amy Gomez.

Sara McIntire

Ashley Macaluso,

for doing a fabulous job

on her promotion to Senior on her dedication to the Cardiovascular Specialty success of the 2013 Holiday Representative at Boehringer Gift Market Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Shellie Huffmaste

Lee Lowry

Gianni O'Connor.

#### Katie Cappy, on her amazing leadership sharing JLT cookbook recipes

skills as the Placement Committee Chair Shellie Huffmaster Lee Lowry

#### Natalie Clark.

Happy Birthday (September) Jenny Spencer

#### Melissa Davidson

on her being named Provisional of the Month in September 2013 Shellie Huffmaster

#### Melissa Knight Nodhturft,

on her success with motivating and inspiring our Provisional Members Lee Lowry

Shellie Huffmaster

#### Social Committee. for planning and hosting so

many fun and unique events Lee Lowry

Shellie Huffmaste

#### The Junior League of Tampa 2013 - 2014 Provisional **Education Committee &** Provisional Class TLC,

Melissa Knight Nodhturft Endowment Committee 2013/2014

#### Shannon Walsh,

on her dedication to the success of the 2013 Holiday Gift Market

Lee Lowry

Shellie Huffmaster

#### BEST WISHES TO

#### Brittany McLaughlin,

on her engagement to Jeff Gershon Jackie Medina

#### Dayton Kilburn.

on her engagement to Sean

Katie Cappy Sarah Walters

#### Francine Hewes.

on her engagement to Ray

Gianni O'Connoi

Shannon Walsh Suzy Mendelson

#### Jacqui Cairone

on her engagement to Chris Lauren Companioni, Gannon Gretchen Dominguez on her engagement to TJ

Strahan Lauren Warren

Katie Cappy Krista Dietrich

Melissa Knight Nodhturft Tracie Domino Nicole Hubbard

Jillian Koepke. on her engagement to Patrick Pantano

Christina Thompson

Kate Guilfoyle Katie Cappy

#### Karyn Santi,

on her engagement to Aaron Magueregui
Hannah Gross

Tracie Domino

Kimberly Hannah, on her engagement to Allen Trammell III

 Chloe Cullinar Hannah Gross

Laura Everitt

Lee Lowry

Nicole Hubbard

Tracie Domino

#### Amanda Brill,

Krista Dietrich, on her engagement to lan

Ashley Macaluso Hoff Chloe Cullinan

Elizabeth Burkett

Erin Annis Gretchen Dominguez

Jenny Spencer Jessica Kendall

Kate Guilfoyle

Lauren Withrow Lynette Russell

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

Sarah Walters Suzy Lopez

Tracie Domino Suzanne Brownstein

Margaret Vickers,

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Kimball

Katie Cappy

Krista Dietrich

Stacy Carlson

Katie Johnson

Krista Dietrich

Lindsay Dorrance

Shannon Clancy,

Katie Cappy

Nicole Dori

Meghan Gallagher,

on her engagement to Phillip

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

on her engagement to Ryan

on her engagement to Brian

Gretchen Dominguez

on her marraige to Crafton

Katie Cappy

#### Kristi Orr,

Hernandez Ashley Macaluso Hoff

Melissa Knight,

on her marraige to Phil

Nodhturft Elizabeth Burkett

Gretchen Dominguez Jenny Spencer

Kate Guilfoyle

Krista Dietrich

Malloy Lacktman

Nicole Hubbard

Sarah Walters

Caroline Carson on her engagement
Gretchen Dominguez

#### Ali Tomlin,

on her marraige to Jason Cetel on her engagement to Melissa Knight Nodhturft Betsy Cappello

Mychael Fenlon

Cara Gallagher, on her marraige to Matt Garvin
Crystal Madani

Nicole Hubbard

Catie Baker, on her marraige to Adam

• Kate Guilfoyle

Stacy Carlson Tracie Domino

#### Heather Stewart,

Bryant
Gretchen Dominguez

#### Tracie Domino

on her marraige to Steve

Grandfather of Nicole Dorr Nicole Dorr Selena Ward

#### Rita Short Novinskie,

Hannah Gross Tracie Domino

#### Ed McCarey,

Gianni O'Conno Jenness Steele Shannon Walsh

mother of Vicky Fiddelke Katie Cappy

on her engagement to Sean Baird

 The Girls of "WTL" Nick Capitano

Amanda Brzozowski, on her engagement to

#### Dayton Kilburn,

Katie Cappy

Joseph May

#### Sarah Walters

Lauren Kilgore, on her engagement to Justin Wilson Sarah Walters

#### IN MEMORY OF

#### Oraleze Knight Rendleman Barbara and John Beard

Alberta "Pie" Penalver India Waller Witte

Kim Carswell Sustainer Board

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#### Pattie Ellingson,

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#### Jody Noble,

Mother of Shantell McLean Chloe Cullinan Elizabeth Burkett Jessica Kendall Kim Carswell Krystal Schofield Stacy Carlson Suzy Lopez

#### Stacy Cooper, Emily Lazarou

Pattie Ellingson, mother of Vicky Fiddelke Katie Cappy

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# NOR SPOILIGHT

#### The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund

Leaving a Legacy...Sustaining Our Service

Launched in 2007, The Junior League of Tampa (JLT) Endowment Fund is a permanent fund established to ensure that our League is able to maintain fiscal stability and fervently pursue our Mission without being radically affected by changes in the economic climate or decreases in lifelong membership. JLT can draw interest on the fund, but it will never touch the principal of the fund. A strong endowment fund will ensure a unique revenue stream that will give the League the opportunity to pursue exciting, new opportunities or deal with unforeseen circumstances without creating an additional financial hardship for the organization or its members. All commemorative gifts support The Junior League of Tampa's endowment.

Donating to the Endowment Fund is as affordable as your next double espresso or 18 holes. To make it easier for you to support this critical campaign, your pledge of \$1,000 or more to The Fund can be paid over a five-year period. For a small amount each week, you can Leave your Legacy and ensure The Junior League of Tampa is able to Sustain Our Service forever.

	1 WEEK	1 MONTH	1 YEAR	5 YEARS
Coffee break	\$5	\$21	\$250	Sponsor \$1,000
On the go lunch	\$10	\$42	\$500	Benefactor \$2,500
Lunch for two	\$21	\$83	\$1,000	Silver Legacy \$5,000
Dinner and a movie for two	\$42	\$167	\$2,000	Gold Legacy \$10,000
A round of golf for two	\$104	\$417	\$5,000	Platinum Legacy \$25,000

To learn more about the Endowment Fund and to make a gift online, visit http://www.jltampa.org/endowment-fund.

For questions, contact endowment@jlthq.com.



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

The 1926 Society enables you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of our League and its members.

#### **Endowment Fund**

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Drs. Lance and Georgia Kane,
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Mrs. George D. Curtis, Jr.

Pamela C. and Brett D. Divers

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In honor of Jessica Kendall

Sally and Lewis H. Hill, III

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Jennifer S. Moyer and M. Lance Tavana

Terri D. Parne

Mary, David and Abigail Persky

Stephanie and Stephen Rumbley

Lavinia Witt Touchton,

In memory of Willie Carter Witt Blake

Donor List as of August 15, 2013
Donations less than \$250 are recognized through the Commemorative Fund.

Thank you to our inaugural member of the 1926 Society, Martha Sale Ferman.

# The More You Give

#### Donor Spotlight: Jessica Kendall

First Citrus Bank President and CEO, Jack Barrett, is as committed to promoting voluntarism as his co-worker and JLT member Jessica Kendall. He makes it a point to seek out employees who are involved in non-profit work and he himself sits on the Sykes College of Business Board of Advisors at The University of Tampa, among other activities. While many businesses support their communities, First Citrus is certainly a leader in this area. First Citrus has supported Jessica throughout her Junior League career by pledging \$5,000 to the Endowment Founder's Circle, by annually supporting our Annual Campaign, as well as providing Jessica the flexibility to volunteer her time with the League.

While First Citrus Bank offers a supportive environment, it should not be overlooked that it was Jessica, as an employee, who took advantage of that support. As Jack said, Jessica has her pulse on the needs of the community and when she asked him to support JLT, he knew it was the right thing for First Citrus to do. As Jack sees it, by giving to JLT, First Citrus Bank is supporting an organization with a meaningful history of programs, engaged leadership, and the economic ability to foster more success in all the projects that it supports. Jack specifically mentioned JLT's work with Academy Prep, as his wife had been involved with that project as a Junior League member and he was very impressed by it.

While First Citrus Bank has demonstrated a commitment to its community, it also has demonstrated success when it comes to the bottom line. First Citrus' loan portfolio outperformed every bank on the West Coast of Florida, between Naples and Dade City, sustaining the smallest percentage loss, not just for one quarter or one year, but throughout this recent five year tumult. 1 Jack understands there is a correlation between giving back to the community and financial success. The benefits of Jessica's involvement in leadership roles in The Junior League of Tampa have been apparent in her work at First Citrus Bank. Jack indicated that Jessica would not be where she is in her career without the training she has received at JLT. In his words: the more she gives to JLT, the more she excels in her career. At First Citrus Bank, giving of one's time, talent and treasure is just their way of doing business.

<sup>1</sup> Florida Bank Peer Performance Report – The Hovde Group – December 31, 2012



Jessica Kendall and First Citrus Bank President and CEO Jack Barrett

"The more she gives to JLT, the more she excels in her career."

-Jack Barrett

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# Conversations

# INTERVIEW WITH MARYELLEN ELIA,

Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools

by BETH EDWARDS

In July 2005, after a nationwide search, MaryEllen Elia was appointed Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools. During her tenure as superintendent she has overseen marked improvement in the academic achievement of Hillsborough County schools, winning numerous awards and recognitions for her work. She is a respected leader within the Tampa Bay community and is admired by educators throughout the state and we are proud to have her as a member of The Junior League of Tampa's Community Advisory Board.

In recent months the term "Common Core" has been heard often in the media and among teachers, parents, voters, and taxpayers. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, The Junior League of Tampa hosted Superintendent Elia at the League's Headquarters for "Educating Our Children: What You Need to Know About Common Core State Standards and Other Educational Changes." This much-discussed topic has gained the attention of the League, and many of us may still have questions.

What is the Common Core? What are the goals of Common Core? Why are there misconceptions about the program? We spoke with Superintendent Elia to learn first-hand about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) program.



**Edwards:** For parents and non-parents alike, what is the Common Core State Standards program (CCSS or "Common Core")?

**Superintendent Elia:** To understand the Common Core State Standards, it's good to know what they are and what they are not.

#### Common Core is ...

- A set of uniform rigorous standards to spell out what students across the nation should master academically.
   The goal is for students to graduate from high school ready for college or career, and, as such, the design of the standards has involved business people as well as educators.
- Designed to provide more in-depth knowledge and to promote critical thinking. In the past, standards have tended to cover a great number of subjects and concepts, but not with appropriate depth.
- More interactive. To get an idea of what CCSS looks like in a classroom, picture a setting where the teacher involves the students in the lesson by drawing out student questions and observations throughout the lesson.

#### Common Core is not ...

- Curriculum. The easiest way to remember it is to remember that the standards provide a blueprint for what students should know, while local educators determine how to teach the content.
- A federal initiative. The CCSS were initiated by a bipartisan group of the nation's governors, education commissioners, and business people who wanted to ensure that the nation's high school graduates were prepared for college and/or a career.

**Edwards:** What is the goal of Common Core for students within the State of Florida, especially for our students in the Tampa Bay area?



**Superintendent Elia:** Florida has been engaged in a process of education reform for 15-20 years, and has made tremendous progress in setting high expectations for students. The CCSS would be a logical next step for our state. In a state such as Florida that has so much student mobility, the uniformity of the CCSS would ensure that a student who moves here from North Carolina or Idaho would experience academic continuity. In our community that would be of tremendous benefit to military families.

Also, the standards would enable us to compare our students' progress to the progress of students in other high-achieving states.

**Edwards:** How is Common Core changing the day-to-day activities for both our teachers and our students?

**Superintendent Elia:** In addition to reading classic fiction, students will spend more time studying "informational texts," the sort of non-fiction reading that students will experience in college and on the job.

**Edwards:** In September, Governor Scott issued an order that withdraws Florida from funding the Common Core Assessments, which has left many parents confused. What does the Governor's order mean to Common Core?

**Superintendent Elia:** Governor Scott issued an Executive Order terminating the state's role as fiscal agent for PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers), the assessment to measure progress on the Common Core State Standards. The Executive Order did not address the adoption of the CCSS, which already is being successfully implemented in Florida classrooms. However, the Governor has called for public input on CCSS.

In the past, the Governor has voiced support for the standards, and I hope that support continues. I believe the standards are a step forward for our state. And, whether it is PARCC or another assessment, we need a national assessment to measure progress on the standards.

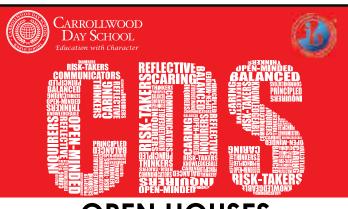
**Edwards:** What is your outlook for the future of Common Core?

**Superintendent Elia:** The standards are already being implemented in classrooms across the nation. Our teachers have responded positively. I believe the standards will help teachers focus on what their students should know, and will help ensure that we are aiming at world class outcomes.

The controversies that are currently making headlines appear to be based on misunderstandings. We need to do a better job communicating the reality. That will get easier as the CCSS are more fully implemented and people see what they entail, and recognize that they represent a big step forward for education.

**Edwards:** Where should people go for accurate and reliable answers to guestions they may have about Common Core?

**Superintendent Elia:** The Florida Department of Education has a very nice webpage with a set of frequently asked questions, a parent guide, links to other websites, and a sample of documents from several Florida school districts, including Hillsborough County Public Schools. The website is at http://www.fldoe.org/schools/ccc.asp



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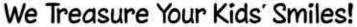
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# SPAC SETS LEGISLATIVE Priorities at Fall Conference in Tampa

The Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) has been the advocacy arm of The Junior Leagues of Florida for nearly 40 years, monitoring the state legislative process and addressing issues of political importance to the members of the Junior Leagues.

SPAC has weighed in on various topics, including bicycle helmets for children under 16, the Environmental Growth Management Act of 1995, the '911' Emergency System, child abuse, domestic violence, juvenile justice, education, and most recently, human trafficking.

Florida boasts 24 Junior Leagues, with combined membership of over 11,000 women. Each Florida Junior League that chooses to participate in the advocacy process sends delegates to state meetings and conferences throughout the vear to research and debate the issues of the day.

JLT's Public Affairs Committee was pleased to host a very successful SPAC Fall Conference at our Davis Islands Headquarters this past September, with 15 of the 24 Florida leagues represented. We also hosted a reception for SPAC delegates, members of the JLT Executive Board, and members of the Hillsborough delegation, at the home of Sustainer Jane Collins. Attendees included Sen. Jack Latvala, Sen. Greg Evers, Sen. Jeff Brandes, Rep. Mark Danish, Former Rep. Rich Glorioso, Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandy Murman, and many others.

The conference resulted in the selection of our 2013-2014 legislative priorities. Delegates this year voted to adopt three focus areas: 1) Health and Hunger 2) At-Risk Youth, and 3) Child Safety/Welfare.

Just like each League has focus areas (Tampa's are child welfare and education), SPAC now has focus areas that also align with the goals of all the Leagues in general. These are broadly defined to allow for a variety of issues within these categories, but narrow enough to keep us focused on the Junior League SPAC mission.

The SPAC Board will now screen bills through these focus areas to decide which bills we will officially support. For

example, we are already supporting legislation related to child identify theft that is being proposed by the Department of Agriculture, and we are working with Rep. Ross Spano on additional legislation to help victims of human trafficking. Both fall under the Child Safety/Welfare issue area. Additionally, we are working with Sen. Latvala and Rep. Raulerson on legislation to aid Florida's unaccompanied youth, which falls under the at risk youth issue area.

As we prepare for session, we anticipate supporting one or two bills at most per focus area, JLT's Public Affairs Committee will, in conjunction with SPAC, be advocating for these issues in Tallahassee Feb. 4-5, 2014.

The Public Affairs team is already scheduling meetings with our legislators, City Council members and County Commissioners to effectively advocate for these issues locally and with SPAC in Tallahassee to create the community impact we desire in the areas of the state where our member Leagues serve.

To learn more about SPAC, please visit our Facebook page: Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee, or email JLFLSPAC@gmail.com.



Former State Representative Rich Glorioso educated SPAC delegates about the issues facing Florida's unaccompanied youth.



# To Give is to Receive

# REALIZING THE GIFT OF VOLUNTARISM

What is volunteering? By definition, it means freely offering to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task. The power of one volunteer touches countless lives and communities to create the fabric of care, dedication and enhancement of oneself and those around us, weaving us together and connecting us.

The motivations for volunteering are varied and many. For members of The Junior League of Tampa, we are reminded by the carefully crafted words of our Mission statement of our commitment to the idea: "an organization of over 1,800 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers." We are dedicated to the welfare of our community and of one another, and that dedication is brought to life when we give of our time.

The personal benefits exclusive to each of us are priceless and plentiful - developing new skills, a sense of accomplishment, career advancement, leadership opportunities, new relationships, a greater sense of self. "The gift of volunteering is more than providing a service or item. Often what we do can change lives," said JLT member Selena Ward. "How amazing is it to give up a few hours to make an impact on a person?" That person could even be you.

Take some time to reflect on your personal motivation to volunteer and the rewarding impact your service has on not just yourself, but others. Most likely you will never know the true impact you have had, but it is the greater good of the act of volunteering itself that sparks something beneficial in us all.

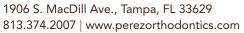
Author Elizabeth Berg said it best: "There is incredible value in being of service to others."















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For more information on items featured in the Holiday Gift Guide including where to shop, contact thesandspur@jlthq.com

# COCKBOOK COCKTAILS

There's nothing quite like a holiday cocktail to put you in a festive mood. Cocoa served hot with a dollop of whipped cream is the path of least resistance to warm and cozy. Good tidings ye shall bring with peppermint-spiked eggnog. Dressed to the nines and ready to ring in the New Year, Champagne is the perfect way to add sparkle to your feté. Tis the season for giving, as they say, so treat your palate to something nice.



#### **Peach Champagne Cocktail**

The Life of the Party, pg. 46 | Yield 1 servings

1 tablespoon peach schnapps

1 teaspoon amaretto

Champagne, chilled

Pour the peach schnapps and amaretto into a Champagne flute. Top with chilled Champagne. Serve immediately.

#### **Peppermint Eve Eggnog**

Savor the Seasons, pg. 47 | Yield 16 servings

1 pint peppermint ice cream, softened

2 cups eggnog

1 (28-ounce) bottle club soda, chilled

Few drops red food coloring

1 cup heavy whipping cream, whipped

1/3 cup crushed peppermint candy

16 peppermint stick

Spoon the ice cream into a punch bowl. Add the eggnog and club soda and mix well. Stir in the food coloring. Top with the whipped cream. Spoon the eggnog into glasses. Sprinkle with the crushed peppermint candy and serve with a peppermint stick.

#### **Hot Chocolate**

EveryDay Feasts, pg. 45 | Yield 4 servings

½ cup whipping cream

1 tablespoon confectioner's sugar

3 cups milk

1 ½ (6 ounces) grated semisweet chocolate

½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Pinch of salt

Chocolate shavings (optional)

Crushed peppermint candy (optional)

Toffee pieces (optional)

Combine the whipping cream and confectioner's sugar in a small mixing bowl and beat until soft peaks form. Chill, covered, in the refrigerator. You may whip the cream several hours in advance and keep chilled until ready to use. Heat the milk in a saucepan over low heat until warm, being careful not to boil. Add the grated chocolate and stir until melted. Stir in the vanilla and salt. Pour into mugs. Top with a dollop of whipped cream and chocolate shavings, crushed peppermint candy or toffee pieces.

#### Champagne 101

There are three main varieties of Champagne: Brut, Extra-Dry, and Rosé. Brut is the driest, crisp and medium-bodied. Extra-Dry has a touch of sugar added and works well with fresh fruit. Rosé is made with the addition of red wine, giving it a salmon-pink hue. It is the fullest of the three.

#### **Shopping List**

Peach schnapps

Amaretto
Champagne
Peppermint ice cream
(1 pint)
Eggnog (2 cups)
Club soda
(1, 28-ounce bottle)
Red food coloring

Heaving whipping cream

(1 ½ cups)

Peppermint candies

Peppermint sticks

Confectioner's sugar

Mil

Semisweet chocolate

Vanilla extract

\_

Chocolate shavings

Toffee pieces

#### Food Footnote Enjoy alone or pair with:

Crab and Brie Dip with Artichokes
Savor the Seasons pg. 35
(Champagne)

Peanut Butter Treats
Savor the Seasons pg. 118
(Hot Chocolate)

#### The Junior League of Tampa Cookbook Order Form

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#### Cookbooks may also be purchased at the following retailers:

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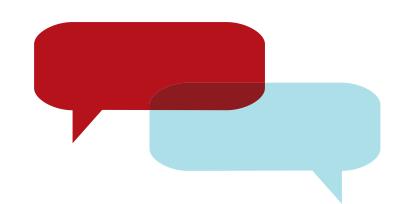




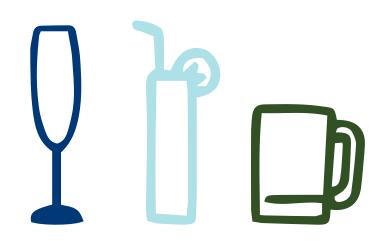




**12 Writers Assigned** 



1 One-on-one Interview



3 Cookbook Cocktails Sipped

#### **8 Articles Featured**



**2 Training Events Attended** 



15 Gift Items Selected



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