



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
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*The Lariat* Winter 2019  
Volume 26, Issue 2



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# President's Perspective

## Mission

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

## The Lariat Vision

To inform members and increase awareness of the projects and events of The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. *The Lariat* is published three times a year by The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. To advertise call the League office at 817.332.7500.

## The Lariat Contributors

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President Photo Provided by Gittings

### Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

*The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.*

## A Message from Carrie R. Cappel



It is hard to believe that as we begin 2019, we are stepping into the second half of the Junior League year. However, when I look back over the first half of the League year, I am in awe of all that our members have accomplished in a six-month period. We have produced two successful fundraisers, *Christmas in Cowtown* and *Grand Entry Gala*, and increased revenue to our Annual Fund. Our *Fall Day of Giving* volunteers returned over 600 hours to the community in a single day. And, our members continue giving back through over 30

community placements and our Junior MINTS program in collaboration with Fort Worth I.S.D.

Our impact continues through the winter and spring. Our *Rodeo Program Sales* team is "Yelling & Selling" through 36 performances of the Rodeo. Our *Kids in the Kitchen* team has revamped the traditional health fair to a *Healthy Heroes* Field Night for students who attend Western Hills Primary and Elementary Schools. On April 13, our Provisional Class will host the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual *Pancake Picnic* honoring the patients of Cook Children's Medical Center.

I am very proud of our continued efforts to embed Diversity & Inclusion ("D&I") in our League. We hosted a three-part training this fall focused on unconscious bias and defining D&I for our League. In preparation for the next Strategic Plan, we are gathering data through a League wide Membership Survey. I encourage you to participate in the Survey and attend a D&I Training this spring.

We are quickly approaching our 2019-2020 Provisional Class application deadline on February 15. If you know of any women who value our Mission and are interested in joining Junior League, please encourage them to visit the Junior League website and apply.

As you read through this issue of *The Lariat*, I hope you see all that makes Junior League special: voluntarism, leadership development, passion for our community and most of all, the power of women working together.

Always,

2018 - 2019 JLFW President





*Distillery Tour*



*Reata Lunch*



*Reata Lunch*



*Orangetheory*



*Grace Celebrity Bartending*

## **Member Monthly** **Making Friends and Memories**

*By Bobbye West*

**M**aking new friends and networking are listed among the top reasons women join the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW). In today's fast paced world, it is often challenging to find time to truly connect and build the relationships so many women crave. **Victoria Johnson** and **Caroline Featherstone** are spearheading a member-focused social program to streamline the process of finding community as well as making time to socialize within JLFW.

The Member Monthly program provides an opportunity to connect, build friendships and enjoy the fun and social side of JLFW. Each month, events are planned to encourage members to explore the city and support local businesses (many owned by JLFW members) while making new connections. The events are as diverse as the League's membership, celebrating different backgrounds, careers, hobbies, and the wealth of personal experiences members have to share.

Members are encouraged to participate in monthly events that suit their personality, interests or possibly consider something outside of their comfort zone. Recently, members celebrated with cocktails at the Celebrity Bartending event at GRACE and with a tour and tasting at Firestone & Robertson Distilling Co.'s Whiskey Ranch. In the new year, members will have the opportunity to tackle those fitness resolutions by trying one of the workout classes such as barre or yoga. Members can also look forward to many future activities. Keep your eye on the eBlast and member Facebook page as new opportunities are posted often.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **"Gal"entine's Tea**

Sunday, February 10 at 4 p.m.

#### **Smart Barre Class**

Thursday, February 21 at 6:45 p.m.

#### **Beer Yoga at HopFusion**

Saturday, March 9 at 10:30 a.m.

#### **Gittings 90th Anniversary Celebration**

March, Date TBD

#### **Bingo at Brewed**

April, Date TBD



# Snapshots

Junior League of Fort Worth volunteers in action!

1. Catholic Charities
2. Sunshine Special Singers
3. November General Membership Meeting Guest Speaker Gerilyn Lucas
4. Tarrant Area Food Bank Tamale Making
5. *Grand Entry Gala* Co-Chairs
6. Cuisine for Healing DIAD
7. Sustainer Fall Social
8. *Rodeo Program Sales Committee*
9. Art Show Committee



# Discovering Your PLACE in Annual PLACEMENTS

By Janie Latimer

As the calendar year turns, it is often a time when we reflect on the past year and begin to set goals for this new year. The same can be said for our time in the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW). As members of JLFW, we have the opportunity to make a difference in the community by providing volunteer hours to local nonprofit agencies as well as serving within the League. The best part is members have the opportunity to choose where they will graciously give of their time. With a broad range of choices for both In-League and Community, we want to offer some tips to help members select a placement where members will grow and develop as well as enjoy serving!

Read below to see how other League members have found a placement that offered them both personal and professional growth:

**Michelle Arrington:** *"I enjoyed doing a Community placement first before an In-League one so I could get to know the community and the needs of Fort Worth."*

**Blair Moore:** *"I chose my placement because of personal experience with a particular nonprofit. It pulls on my heartstrings to be able to give back to an organization who has already given me so much. Being in the League allows me the chance to do so."*

**Amanda Kinson:** *"I have a heart for the people this organization serves which is why I choose it for my placement. I know what they are going through, and if I can play even a small part in making their time better, I will."*

**Lindsay Griffis:** *"I have chosen my placements each year by saying 'yes' when the League asks. In following that, there has not been a placement that I regret. I have always received something valuable out of each placement."*

Each placement is unique and improves our community. Consider your personal preferences as well as skills you want to strengthen. Get outside of your comfort zone and try something new. Just remember, what you put in to your placement, is what you'll get back.

## Four questions to ask yourself when selecting a placement:

1. What goals do I have for the upcoming League year?
2. What are my strengths and what skills can I strengthen?
3. What size placement is best for me this year? Is it a large or small volunteer group?
4. How much time will I need to devote myself to this placement?



# Basic Items Make a Big Impact

By Jaclyn Unruh



The Dignity Closet, a program of Community Storehouse, seeks to provide basic hygiene items to low-income families. However, the program goes further than simply purchasing, packaging and distributing the hygiene packs. Children, whose most essential hygiene needs go unmet, are often the most teased in school, a tremendous threat to a child's success during those important years in life. Self-esteem, the ability to concentrate and a desire to attend school are critical for these young children. Parents with limited incomes are forced to choose between spending their last dollars on food or soap. Unfortunately, food stamps do not cover hygiene necessities, and many children go without soap, toothpaste, tampons and shampoo. **Ashley Hansen**, Project Development Chair, remembers her younger years, learning self-esteem and confidence despite her own dose of childhood teasing. "I remember being called "Dumbo" when I was little because my ears were big. Being made fun of is nothing compared to what some kids served by Community Storehouse experience. I never had to worry about being able to bathe or brush my teeth, but some kids don't know when they will be able to do these simple tasks," Hansen reflects. "The hygiene packs prevent children from being made fun of for having body odor, or bad breath."

*The hygiene packs the JLFW volunteers put together and distribute provide more than just items to meet the basic needs of the children. They can be a boost of confidence for many when they need it most.*

Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) provided a grant in the amount of \$25,000 and six volunteers to support The Dignity Closet. As of November 1, the volunteers had contributed over 180 hours to the program by purchasing, packaging and distributing the hygiene packs to schools. Hansen's favorite part of the placement is delivering the items and seeing first-hand the impact these donations have on Tarrant County Title 1 schools in Keller and Northwest ISDs. Teachers and family members participating in The Dignity Closet continue to provide feedback, sharing how the program has helped so many kids. "My mom works in the counseling office at one of the high schools," Hansen added, "She says they are always grateful and thrilled to have someone looking out for them."

The Community Storehouse vision statement is "Closing the gap between opportunity and achievement for the children in our community." At a time when stress and anxiety in younger generations is on the rise, reinforcing the power of self-care, confidence and positive self-image is an abundant and priceless gift. JLFW's grant provides students an opportunity to feel successful.



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# The Wonder of Mentoring

By Janie Latimer

I can't believe she agreed to meet with me. We don't even know each other. Why do I feel like I'm on a blind date? That must be her. Deep breath. "Hello, I'm Janie." "Hello Janie, have a seat. Tell me about yourself. Who are you? But more so, who do you want to be?"

Meeting your mentor for the first time can be an anxious yet exciting encounter. But the outcome of this rendezvous is to ideate about the woman we want to become, and to bond with a woman who has penned her own chapter on the life stage we are coming to face. Mentors have been where we want to go, and their values mirror our own.

Finding a mentor within the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) is as easy as applying for the *All aBoard* cohort or simply asking another woman for her guidance. Here are some words of advice: if you're going to take the words of someone you admire and turn it into a fancy graphic for your phone's lock screen or hang it up on your gallery wall, then have the courage and the bravery to ask for a mentorship. The JLFW is a safe place to try new things, especially leadership skills.

Mentoring is a two way street. My mentor challenged my perspective and helped to define specific goals in life. We looked into the future and sketched a path to take. She took the time to listen and spoke words of wisdom. It was the beginning of a friendship that came out of admiration.

The wonder of mentoring is positioning yourself to be supported and guided through different life stages by others who have already walked that path. A mentor is there for you at pivotal decision points in life. Don't wait for a mentor to find you; muster up the confidence to lean into the women who surround you. You never know the friendship that can emerge.



*"Being a mentor is the gift that keeps on giving. Not only did my mentors teach the importance of the "how to" but they taught me many wonderful life lessons of compassion, love and understanding."* - **Michelle Marlow, Sustainer**



*"Mentoring is about giving back to an organization that deepen my love for the Fort Worth community and introduced me to fantastic friends. Volunteering and friendship go hand-in-hand. I want other ladies to embrace this experience! It's life changing!!!"* - **Laura Armstrong, Sustainer**



*"At first I thought, what could I possibly offer my mentee, whose mother is so stellar and such a leader in the League. But we made a date and met for lunch. What unfolded during that lunch was more than just words of advice on how to handle some of life's toughest situations. The words I spoke became actions I carried out. We bonded over that encounter in the restaurant and to this day we have laughed about it many times. I never realized how much that moment helped my mentee see that there was hope for the future when facing difficult times in life. Everyone has something to offer someone else."* - **Mary Kathryn Anderson, Sustainer**



*"I have been a mentor to two All aBoard members. It was truly an honor for me. Both of the young ladies to whom I mentored were bright, fun, and committed to the community and their careers. I felt like they were more grounded and pulled together than most women in their 20s, certainly more so than I was at their age. We are fortunate to have them in our community. They are inspiring"* - **Peggy Brotherton, Sustainer**



*"Serving as a mentor through the All aBoard program provided me with the opportunity to engage with active members, helping me stay connected to the League."*  
- **Nan Matson, Sustainer**



*"My mentee is a very accomplished young lady. Hearing about her League placements was a reminder of how my League placements and experiences shaped my life and I shared that with her. Getting to know **Lauren Drawhorn** reminded me the League continues to attract capable volunteers who grow through their service to our community."*  
- **Ann Florsheim, Sustainer**



*"I truly appreciated **Ann Florsheim** taking the time to get to know me and be a mentor to me. It was wonderful to hear about Ann's experiences with the League and being Ann's mentee helped provide me advice, encouragement and support for my own journey with the League. I would absolutely recommend finding a mentor or taking advantage of any mentorship opportunity that might be available to you."*  
- **Lauren Drawhorn, Active**



Organizational Development Institute



Leadership in the League Training



Past Presidents Luncheon

# *All aBoard Keeps the Leadership Train Full*

*By Jaclyn Unruh*

In 2014, the Junior League of Fort Worth introduced an exciting new leadership development program focused on providing training for interested members that went above and beyond the typical experiences of an average Active year. Launched as part of the League's Strategic Plan in 2014-2015, *All aBoard* participants receive insights from community leaders, industry experts, higher-education professionals and other high-level members of community organizations on how to strengthen their impact and lead by example. Led this year by Co-Chairs **Becky Escott** and Past President, **Tiffany Rubenkoenig**, *All aBoard* activities focus on various topics ranging from governance, advocacy and finance for nonprofits, goal setting, public speaking and general leadership skills. After completing the *All aBoard* program, these dedicated members will proudly continue their leadership journey with the goal of serving in high levels throughout the League and the community, whether it be leadership positions in the League, nonprofit boards, city council, or leading the PTA at their child's school.

*Amber Robertson says, "It's been a wonderful experience so far. The speakers have all been wonderful and given me tools and info that have been highly impactful and insightful, not just for the League, but for life in general. One of the best speakers we've had this year spoke about time management and she had so many practical tips and left us with a quote from Bob Goff that I've gone back to again and again. I'll leave it with you as well. 'The battle for our hearts are fought on the pages of our calendars.' Such a good reminder to be selective and wise with our time and say yes to the things that fill your cup and no to what doesn't!"*

During the six-month program, participants receive not only the formal training and education, they also receive opportunities to hone personal leadership skills that will produce added value in endeavors both in the League and beyond. Important traits such as wisdom, integrity, self-insight, fallibility and executive maturity will enable members to develop similarly outstanding organizational cultures throughout our shared communities.

Congratulations to the fearless leaders participating in *All aBoard* this year! *All aBoard* is truly reflective of our Mission: 'promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers'. The League is thrilled to see the far-reaching impact of your meaningful contributions for years to come.



*October Meeting*



*November Meeting*



*January Meeting*

## 2018-2019 All aBoard Cohort

Michelle Arrington  
Jessica Bingaman  
Lindsey Buckmaster  
Kaitlyn Cassani  
Allison Cobb  
Paige Cooper  
Katherine Davis  
Carly Day  
Alicia Dean

Emily Delgado  
Alison Edwards  
Cara Hardin  
Stefani Hill  
Kaci Lightner  
Kari Mercer  
Lacy Pritchard  
Aarti Puskoor  
Amber Reed

Brenda Rios  
Amber Robertson  
Lauren Team  
Ana Van de Venter  
Jessica Walsh  
Whitney Watson  
Mary Michelle Young

### Kindergarten Visit Days

Chisholm Trail Campus

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. | January 31 and February 7

### Eagle for a Day Visit Day

Both Campuses (1-12th)

8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. | February 20 and April 3

### PreK Come and Play

Chisholm Trail Campus

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | April 5

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## Grand Entry Gala Celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> Year 'On the Red Dirt'

By Molly MacEwan

**A**s the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo (FWSSR) ushered in its 123<sup>rd</sup> year, the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) kicked off the rodeo season with the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual *Grand Entry Gala* at the legendary Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum. On January 12, 2019, JLFW hosted 800 guests on the red dirt floor for dinner, dancing, a silent auction and live music from award-winning country artist Aaron Watson. This unique event created an opportunity for JLFW and FWSSR supporters to mix and mingle in the same arena where, in the following days, the Rodeo participants competed and entertained thousands of people.

**Ashley Davis**, the Commercial Exhibits Manager for the FWSSR and JLFW member, commented on how the *Gala* puts guests into 'Stock Show' mode. "There is a huge significance to being 'on the dirt,' prior to the show, in the historic coliseum with the decorations and atmosphere." Davis added, "... it lets everyone know it's Stock Show TIME!"

The event also showcased the annual *Star-Telegram Stock Show Art Contest* winners with a scholarship presentation and auction of their original art. Davis said the partnership between the League and FWSSR has elevated the Art Contest. The *Grand Entry Gala* committee engages 50 JLFW volunteers over the course of the weekend, each earning a 3-hour community shift credit, and some even earned double-credit for working the midnight shift!

**Caroline Crawford** and **Mary Lou Hilliard** served as the *Grand Entry Gala* Co-Chairs. Jean and John Roach were recognized as this year's Honorary Chairs. Mr. and Mrs. Roach have long been involved in service and philanthropy in Fort Worth. **Jean Roach** is a JLFW Sustainer, remaining active in the League as a Community Advisor and serving as the *Grand Entry Gala* Sustaining Advisor in 2015. **Oliva Kearney** lent her master fundraising experience and time to the *Gala* as this year's Sustaining Advisor to the committee.

**Monica Wyatt**, Silent Auction Co-Chair says, *"I was drawn to the Grand Entry Gala committee because I love the idea of a fabulous party to kick off the Legendary Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo and help raise funds that will go back into the Fort Worth community. I was excited to work alongside the wonderful ladies associated with this committee. This night is incredible for all in attendance because of the hard work and attention to details."*

When the gates swung close to finish out the 2019 FWSSR, guests and participants saluted the Coliseum and look toward 2020. As Davis said, "This not the end but a beginning of great things to come."

## *A Legendary Year for Rodeo Program Sales*

*By Molly MacEwan*

The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo's (FWSSR) slogan, *This Thing is Legendary*, rings true for the 2019 Rodeo season. As rodeo-goers streamed into Will Rogers Coliseum, construction cranes next door signaled the future of the Rodeo at the new Dickies Arena - the new home for the rodeo beginning in 2020. This year, the Rodeo celebrated its 76<sup>th</sup> year in Will Rogers Coliseum while FWSSR celebrated its 123<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of bringing together livestock, cowboys and students from across the state.

Before visitors saw the cowboys and cowgirls and experienced the 2019 *Old School Cool* theme, members of the Junior League of Fort Worth's (JLFW) *Rodeo Program Sales* Committee greeted them from red boxes with a big smile and wave. This year marks the 62<sup>nd</sup> year for the League to partner with the FWSSR to 'Yell and Sell' rodeo programs. JLFW earns one dollar from each program sold, with each dollar earned for JLFW going back into the community through a variety of community projects. Running over the course of three weeks and 36 rodeo performances, the placement is hard work but well worth it. **Tonia Carr**, Co-Chair of the *Rodeo Program Sales* Committee, shared that JLFW works to ensure guests are welcomed and have a good experience.

*Carr commented, "We don't just sell; we are there with a smile to greet rodeo-goers as the doors open. We help them find their seats, and we are the information desk. We have even held a few babies and pushed a few wheelchairs for those needing assistance. We spend a lot of time together not only during rodeo but throughout the year. We love our placement!"*

**Megan Valusek**, Rodeo Program Sales Co-Chair, has been involved with FWSSR through the Junior League since 2014, and is quick to point out the added value that League volunteers bring to the event every year.

*"Tonia and I are so excited for Rodeo Program Sales this year and the opportunity to support the FWSSR for two reasons. The first is the ability to be ambassadors of the Junior League to our community and exhibit our willingness to work for \$1 at a time to raise money in support of all our community partnerships. The second is we get to spend time with League members to volunteer together and enjoy the historic FWSSR. It will be bittersweet as this is the last year in the Will Rogers Coliseum but we love seeing all of our members as they join us in selling programs!"*

In 2018, *Rodeo Program Sales* raised over \$22,000 and the Committee served over 800 hours. The tallies are adding up for 2019 as the League looks forward to taking part in this legendary experience in the new arena next year.

## Prepping for Pancakes

By Shelly Spaugh and Lauren-Ashton Moncrief

The Junior League of Fort Worth's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Picnic, in partnership with Cook Children's Medical Center and Mayfest, Inc., will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2019, from 9 a.m. to Noon. This signature philanthropy project takes coordinated efforts of over 100 Provisional members, who help not only the day of but also in pre-event logistics and planning. Overseeing this year's pancake festivities with a theme of "Flapjack Festival" are event Chair, **Lauren-Ashton Moncrief** and her committee members **Liz Northern** and **Christine Reveal**.

The JLFW's Pancake Picnic breakfast, funded by a grant from Mayfest, Inc., provides hospitalized children with an opportunity to leave their rooms, gather in a space prepared just for them and enjoy individual and group activities with other children. It is also a way for JLFW to show support to a longtime partner in Cook Children's Medical Center, who continues to impact the lives of families in and around Fort Worth.

As tradition continues, with the help of local firefighters, military personnel, police officers and countless League members, JLFW will serve more than 400 Cook Children's patients and family members a delicious breakfast with a side of games and festival themed fun! In addition, the event is open to Junior League members and families. Volunteers have commented on how much patients enjoy having League members and their families attend to share in the magic. Mark your calendars and plan to attend Pancake Picnic to support JLFW and share some sunshine with the children cared for by Cook Children's!



# Making Dreams Come True

By Bobby West

The Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) continues its partnership with Make-A-Wish North Texas in 2018-2019 by providing a grant in the amount of \$50,000. JLFW funds enable Make-A-Wish to grant additional Wishes at a time when the agency has seen increased demand to assist children and families. The funds also support the new Wish Room where children will be inspired to dream big as their Wishes turn into reality with a little magic from staff and volunteers, including Junior League members.

Ten JLFW members have been placed with and trained by Make-A-Wish for the 2018-2019 year. Upon completion of their placements, they will have dedicated 500 combined hours planning and granting once in a lifetime Wishes. JLFW volunteers first meet with the families to discuss the children's interests, what they wish for, and how Make-A-Wish can help their dreams come true! Volunteers then help complete paperwork and documentation requirements to get these Wishes approved. Once approved, JLFW volunteers walk through every step of the Wish process with the families they serve. **Christina Bargas**, Project Development Chair, and the women joining her in this placement met as a group to bake holiday goodies for their Wish families this past holiday season.

Seeing Wishes become a reality gives critically ill children a memory they will never forget. JLFW volunteers are there to hold the hand of these children each step of the way from planning the Wish, revealing the process of granting the Wish, and hearing all about the Wish once it has occurred. From mentoring to magic, JLFW volunteers help make dreams more than "a wish your heart makes."



## Wishes Granted by Junior League of Fort Worth in 2018!



Jackson, 8, *cystic fibrosis*  
I wish to go to Legoland in California.



Adrian, 17, *neuromuscular disorder*  
I wish to go to Legoland in California.



Desmina, 13, *cancer*  
I wish to see Hamilton in New York City.



Danielle, 14, *nerve system disorder*  
I wish to go to Disney World to meet Snow White.



Devon, 18, *cystic fibrosis*  
I wish to have my car customized.



# Personal Coaching and Support in the Palm of Your Hand

By Luci Hoad

In the last issue, *The Lariat* featured books that offered encouragement to women in all stages of life. However, if finding inspiration while on-the-go is more your style, we have rounded up content that is focused on helping women be their best through one of the world's fastest growing mediums: podcasts! The shows below offer something for everyone, from intentional parenting to career coaching. On your next run or car ride, enjoy your own personal mentoring session with some of these hosts!



**Heroine with Majo:** Majo Molfino is a writer, speaker, and life coach who is focused on women's creative design and leadership. She has a wealth of life experiences in various fields that make her insights relevant and helpful. However, the true power of this podcast is the depth of the conversations with guests like actress Keiko Agena and designer Eileen Fisher. This is a great listen for League members interested in learning how the leaders in their field navigated their way to the top.



**The Longest Shortest Time:** Creator Hillary Frank developed this podcast with the aim of sharing stories about the surprises and absurdities of raising other humans. However, the show discusses much more than tasks typically associated with parenting. For example, in its most recent episode, *The Longest Shortest Time* focused on Jennifer Carrol Foy's successful run for the Virginia House of Delegates in 2016 while pregnant with twins. It's easy to see why this show has been highlighted in *The Atlantic* and *TIME*. *The Longest Shortest Times* conversational style and variety of topics makes it an interesting listen for a wide range of League members!



**Package Your Genius:** Amanda Miller Littlejohn is a writer and life coach who runs the Package Your Genius Academy which centers around teaching women techniques to build a personal or professional brand. By offering practical advice and personal anecdotes from clients, Littlejohn provides useful takeaways that will inspire League members to feel good about finding and using their voice, all in 20 to 30 minute episodes making them easy to listen to in between meetings or errands.



**Stuff You Missed in History Class:** If you have been inspired by researching the lesser known history of Fort Worth, *Stuff You Missed in History Class* is a show for you. While hosts Tracy V. Wilson and Holly Frey don't explicitly name empowering women as an objective of their podcast, which covers lesser known events and characters from history, there is no doubt that hearing stories of women that have been overlooked in the annals of the past will speak to the heart of League members. A great show for adults and children alike, Wilson and Frey share quirky and interesting details from historical events that even history buffs will enjoy.

# Volunteering with the Most Vulnerable

By Shelly Spaugh

Founded in 1979, The Women's Center's mission is to inspire and empower women, men and children to overcome violence, crisis and poverty. It is a place of hope, opportunity and better futures for families in Tarrant County.

Members of the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) provide volunteer assistance to two programs at The Women's Center: Employment Solutions and Play it Safe. The Employment Solutions program helps prepare participants for job interviews by providing practical training as well as appropriate clothing options. JLFW volunteers assist with resume review and mock interviews. The Play it Safe program helps educate students and faculty members at local schools on signs of potential child abuse and how to report issues, as well as prevent them from occurring. JLFW volunteers prepare tests and grade packets for students, ranging from kindergarten through high school.

JLFW provided a \$50,000 grant to replace and upgrade the agency's the outdated phone system. The phone system allows The Women's Center to provide its vital Rape Crisis Line and The Helpline. These phone based services receive between 1,800-2,300 phone calls per year. The phone system allows necessary parties to reach victim advocates who provide 24/7 support during forensic rape exams at hospitals in Tarrant County, answering questions and serving as the liaison between the survivor, family members, law enforcement, and hospital personnel. The new phone system has helped reduce the risk of severe system breakdown or outages which provide comfort to the advocates who can be assured of their ability to address crises without interruption.

**Katie Ciccarino**, JLFW Project Development Chair for The Women's Center, had the opportunity in the Employment Solutions program to conduct a mock interview with a woman, who had a great passion for helping others. Ciccarino felt honored to help coach and assist this woman in preparing her for interview, and felt pride when she got the job. "She was intelligent, strong and passionate," Ciccarino recalls.

The Women's Center plays a key part of the infrastructure relied upon in Fort Worth, the county, the local Workforce Board, the criminal justice system and other nonprofit organizations. With an annual budget of \$4 million, expert staff and over 500 volunteers, The Women's Center helps women, men and children triumph over tragedy and develop strategies to confront crisis, improve their lives, and build a better future for themselves and their families.



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# The Junior League of Fort Worth Does More in 3 Hours than Most Can Do in a Day

By Luci Hoad

On November 10, Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) members spread throughout the community for a day of service. *Day of Giving* provides nonprofit organizations with eager and trained League volunteers. Members assisted agencies with projects like landscaping, painting classrooms, assembling office furniture and writing notes of encouragement. Many nonprofit agencies cite to *Day of Giving* as their most valued JLFW partnership. They count on League members to show up smiling and complete projects in a three-hour period that may take other volunteers a full day to complete.

Women working together, all who believe in the JLFW Mission, creates a special synergy. What might be less obvious to the casual observer are the relationships built along with the new flower beds or shelving. Every group of volunteers that spends time stuffing holiday bags or cleaning toys is simultaneously sharing the message with organizations that our JLFW community cares about you, and we are here to do this work together. In addition, a three-hour shift many times translates to impacting the lives of those served by the organizations. *Day of Giving* is just as much about 'showing up' as it is the 'getting things done'.

*Day of Giving* was also featured on NBC's *Tell Me Something Good* where Deborah Ferguson bragged on the incredible work Junior League trained volunteers can accomplish when we come together to serve the community. My own experience with *Day of Giving* was spent at the Barbara T. Williams Head Start and Child Care Center. With fellow members and the site's Volunteer Coordinator, we replanted a flower bed at the entrance to the Center. The new landscaping serves two purposes: to beautify the entrance to the Center and provide a spot where students will engage in outdoor learning opportunities around lifecycles and plant development. We enjoyed the opportunity to chat and get our hands dirty, but it was the tour of the center at the end of our day that was most significant. JLFW Member and Barbara T. Williams Board Member **Ximena Antunez de Mayolo** took us through the building and excitedly shared plans for the development of new classrooms at both the Center and other Head Start centers. She shared her experience as a board member, and how inspired she was by the work the Center was doing and the warm and nurturing environment the faculty had built. In that moment, I was not just proud of the planting we had done that day, but of the program that the League was supporting. I also appreciate the way League volunteers like Antunez de Mayolo join boards and champion causes they believe in. It occurred to me this is what we mean when our Mission states that the League is committed to "improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers."

*Day of Giving* is a remarkable day when dozens of community organizations benefit from the League's service, but the work does not end when the rooms are painted and the letters are stuffed. Our members continue to provide support in meaningful ways, and inspire others to do the same all year round. That might be the most gratifying part of all.



Texas Girls Choir



Historic Fort Worth



Leg Up Clothing



Como Community Garden

# Serving Hope and Hot Meals

By Bobbye West

One of Fort Worth's busiest kitchens sits within The Salvation Army's East Lancaster location. The nonprofit organization serves breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week to residents in its programs as well as to the homeless population within our community. In total, The Salvation Army serves over 1,000,000 meals annually across our community.



This year, the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) provided a grant in the amount of \$50,000 to The Salvation Army for the purposes of enriching its human service operations through the sourcing, purchasing, and upgrading commercial equipment. The Salvation Army's East Lancaster location applied the funds to help cover the cost of purchasing and installing upgraded kitchen equipment. The kitchen renovation made for a busy fall: servicing units ordered, contractors painted and installed paneling, but the new kitchen was completed and met their goal of serving the first meal from the renovated space this past holiday season.

Nine JLFW Project volunteers work together as a group on a monthly basis and also complete individual shifts, helping to prep, serve and/or clean during meal service. The Project volunteers had the opportunity to participate in The Salvation Army's special holiday activities in November and December.

**Alli D'Acosta**, Project Development Chair, shared the Project team is well on their way to meeting the 450 hours pledged to The Salvation Army this year. Most importantly, these members are serving not just a meal but sharing hope to members of our community.



**Did you know:** The Salvation Army has been pursuing its mission since 1865 and operates in 130 countries globally. Since extending its mission to Texas in 1889, it has grown to provide services ranging from addiction recovery to outdoor cooling stations for those unable to avoid the summer heat.

# Membership Vice President's Report

July 26 - December 14, 2018

## TRANSFER IN

Merrell Banks A  
JL Boston

Mica Bergman S  
JL Midland

Jean Cord S  
JL Lubbock

Susannah Kellar S  
JL Dallas

Presley Hall A  
JL Dallas

Jennifer Kattner A  
JL Collin County

Pamela Krick S  
JL Peoria, IL

Jessica Steates A  
JL London

Ainsley Whittington A  
JL Oklahoma City

## TRANSFER OUT

Sarah Brannon A  
JL Midland

Meredith Brown S  
JL Longview

Jessica Collins A  
JL Dallas

Jill Ellis A  
JL Memphis

Chelsea Franklin A  
JL Shreveport-Bossier

Emily Koontz  
JL Lehigh Valley, PA

Whitney MacDonald  
JL Dallas

Meredith Miller P  
JL Houston

Sarah Miller A  
JL Tulsa

Nicole Novroski A  
JL Toronto

Jenese Shaw P  
JL Dallas

Ann Thaxton S  
JL OKC

Whitney Watson A  
JL San Diego

## REINSTATE

Debbie Boudreaux S  
Pam Johndroe S  
Nancy McClung S  
Sarah Romack A

## REINSTATE AND CHANGE STATUS

Kelly Kinard A to LOA

## REINSTATE AND TRANSFER OUT

Riley Anderson P  
JL Austin

Shana Carroll A  
JL Oakland-East Bay

Heather Hix A  
JL Charleston

## CHANGE OF STATUS

Audrey Dake A to LOA  
Alison Edwards A to LOA

## CONDOLENCE

Tasa Lefler Anderson S  
Loss of Father

Susanne Avondet S  
Loss of Sister

Tracy Barry S  
Loss of Twin Brother

Sally Beyer S  
Loss of Daughter-in-Law

Lori Calicott S  
Loss of Father

Megan Granaghan A  
Loss of Father

Julie Hannan S  
Loss of Brother-in-Law

Adrienne Holland A  
Loss of Cousin

Suzanne Kent S  
Loss of Father

Alisha Johnson A  
Loss of Grandfather-in-law

Kary Johnson S  
Loss of Grandfather

Kathy Johnson S  
Loss of Father-in-Law

Connie Lefler S  
Loss of Husband

Judy McNamara A  
Loss of Sister

Lizzy McNamara A  
Loss of Aunt

Paige McNamara A  
Loss of Aunt

Stephanie McPeak A  
Loss of Grandmother

Skies Miles A  
Loss of Father

Pat Muckleroy S  
Loss of Father

Amy Patyk A  
Loss of Great Aunt

## IN MEMORY

Kellie Beyer  
Provisional  
September 24, 2018

## Save the Date

### Spring Day of Giving

Saturday, April 6, 2019

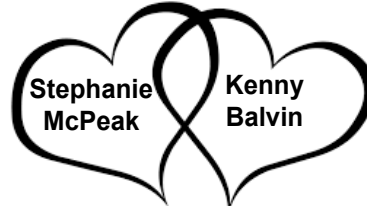
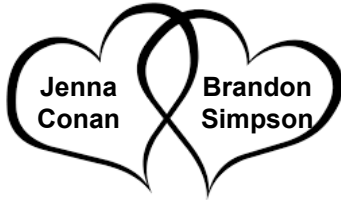
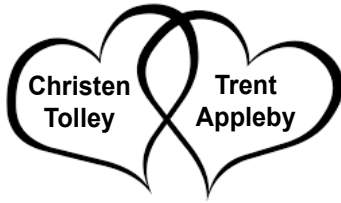
### Pancake Picnic

Saturday, April 13, 2019

# Life in the League Announcements

## Here Come the Newlyweds!

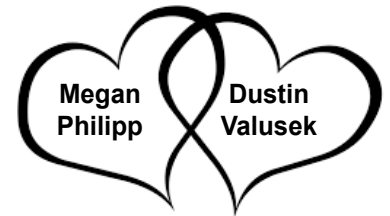
### Happily Engaged



Married on  
October 2018



Married on  
October 13, 2018



Married on  
October 24, 2018

## Little Leaguers Our Growing Community



Katie & Robby Myers  
Active  
Daughter, Olivia Pruette  
May 18, 2018



Megan & Steve Sanders  
Active  
Daughter,  
Camryn Elizabeth  
August 13, 2018



Katie & Jacob Briggs  
Active  
Son, Noah David  
June 27, 2018



Taylor & Stephen Lindsey  
Active  
Daughter,  
Hannah Elizabeth  
August 13, 2018



Kristine & Tyler Shanklin  
Provisional  
Daughter, Olivia Grace  
October 19, 2018



Maddie & Joe Dickerson  
Active  
Daughter, Carter Faye  
July 3, 2018



Katie & Leo Sumner  
Active  
Daughter, Audrey Marie  
August 14, 2018



Keeley & Bryan Motley  
Active  
Son, Keegan Rhys  
October 22, 2018



Claire & Scott Legler  
Active  
Son, James Gordon  
July 25, 2018



Regan & W.A. Landreth  
Active  
Son, Winfield "Win" Alvin  
September 9, 2018



Lacy & Brandon Bayles  
Active  
Daughter, Caroline Grace  
October 24, 2018



Kathryn & Taylor Gilpin  
Active  
Son, Clark David  
August 13, 2018



Sara & James Kelly  
Active  
Son, Rowan Hart  
October 13, 2018



Casey & Mark Oliver  
Active  
Son, George Vandergriff  
Page  
November 20, 2018

Submit information you would like to be announced in *The Lariat* through the link on your Member homepage.



**JOIN US FOR AN  
ADMISSIONS EVENT!**

**RSVP AT  
TVS.ORG/ADMISSIONS**

**LOWER SCHOOL  
MUSIC & SCIENCE EXPERIENCE:**  
Tuesday, January 15  
4-5 p.m.

**UPPER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE:**  
Wednesday, January 23  
12:15 p.m.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE:**  
Friday, February 8  
12:15 p.m.

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**Christal West Atkinson**

**2018 - 2019 Community Vice President**

Christal, an 18 year Active, transferred from the Junior League of Washington, D.C. in 2009 after serving eight years in the Bush Administration. When she returned to Texas, Christal believed Junior League of Fort Worth would be a great introduction to a new city and new friends. "One of my favorite League memories is the Fall Festival for the HOPE Farm. We assembled over 300 bags of non-perishable food items before the festival. The day of, not only did families enjoy pony rides, pumpkin painting, cake walk and more, but each received a bag of food to take home. It was definitely one of my most fun JLFW days!" Christal's favorite guilty pleasure is Blue Bell ice cream, especially the limited winter flavor Peppermint. Christal's favorite book, *No Motive in Murdoch*, was written by one of her best friends and was inspired by true events that happened in their hometown of Clifton, Texas. "Grace" is Christal's favorite word. "I try to remember to give myself and others more grace." A wife to her husband, Jack, a mother to their children, John (2) and Poppy (1), Christal also serves as Assistant to the President and CEO of Lee M. Bass, Inc.

**Amy Patyk**

**2018 - 2019 Communication Vice President**

Amy joined the Junior League of Fort Worth 14 years ago after knowing she wanted to be surrounded by women with the same passion for volunteering. Having served on *Christmas in Cowtown (CIC)* for 6 years, it is clear that *CIC* holds a special place with Amy. It's here she met her friend, and former *CIC* Co-Chair, **Molly Hardgrove**. "I am happiest on my parent's farm in Mart, Texas, roasting s'mores, and watching the sunset with my big immediate family of almost 20 people." Amy's mom taught her the three most important things are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, which Amy now teaches her children. Amy usually spends her free time at TCU sporting events. Working as Marketing Director at Alcon, Amy is first and foremost a wife to husband Michael and a mother to daughter, Adelaide (8) and son, Harrison (5).



**Charity Aughinbaugh**

**2018 - 2019 Fund Development Vice President**

Following graduate school, Charity was eager to get involved in the community. During her 10 years Active in the League, Charity has served in a variety of community and In-League placements. Working and making connections with strong women leaders, including **Terri Sexton**, her two-time Sustainer Advisor, is Charity's favorite thing about the League. Her top placements include serving as the Project Development Chair for the Joan Katz Cancer Resource Center and serving on the *Rodeo Program Sales* Committee. When asked about her favorite thing to do in Fort Worth during the winter time, Charity responded, "Without a doubt, the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. We are there every time we can be." In the warmer months, Charity loves to spend time at the beach with the sun, waves and sand. "There's something about seeing the sand stretch out to seemingly eternity before you. My favorite trip was an anniversary trip to the Exumas." Charity is a loving wife to husband, J.T., and mom to three precious daughters, Libby (8), Margaret Anne (5) and Claire (3).



**GITTINGS Spotlight on Your Board of Directors!**



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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

Founded in 1929, the JLFW is a charitable nonprofit organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Today, the JLFW comprises almost 2,000 members and is part of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) which constitutes one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world. For more information please visit our website at [www.juniorleaguefw.org](http://www.juniorleaguefw.org).



**Website:**  
[www.juniorleaguefw.org](http://www.juniorleaguefw.org)

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