



# Petit POTPOURRI

MAY 2020

A PUBLICATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAFAYETTE

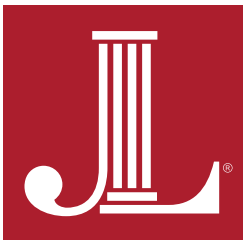


**NO FEAR  
NO FUTURE**

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAFAYETTE

Educating  
Students  
on the  
Dangers of  
Distracted  
Driving





# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAFAYETTE

**OUR MISSION** Junior League of Lafayette is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

**OUR VISION** Women as leaders for lasting community change.

## 2019-2020

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## ON THE COVER

NO FEAR NO FUTURE

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## Petit POTPOURRI 2019-2020

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**Use our Hashtags**

**#JLLafayette** whether you are out in the community volunteering or witness League members in action.

**#TinselandTreasures** for all Tinsel & Treasures posts and photos from this year's event.

**#WhyIJLL** with all of the reasons you choose to be a member of Junior League of Lafayette.

**#WeGotThis** when we come together collectively to make a difference in our community.

# LAFAYETTE

## CHRISTA BILLEAUD, MEMBER FOR 18 YEARS



**"I joined the League because** I wanted a way to get involved and I was so inspired by some of the women who were already members."  
**"I stay in the League because** I met some of my lifelong friends and because I really appreciated the way the League trained women to become leaders in our community."

## GRACE GALLASPY, MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS

**"I joined the League because** I wanted to find a community of like-minded women."  
**"I stay in the League because** I found that and so much more. I've accomplished things personally and professionally that I never could have if it weren't for having this group of champions behind me."



## AYESHA MARTIN, MEMBER FOR 3 YEARS



**"I joined the League because** of the service that the League provides."  
**"I stay in the League because** of the impact that we make in Acadiana."

## NICOLE FALGOUT, MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS



**"I joined the League because** someone suggested that it would be something I would enjoy. The first day of my Provisional Super Saturday, I walked in, not knowing anyone. Five years later, I've met some of the most inspiring women who truly push me from my comfort zone to try new things."  
**"I stay in the League because** I truly see the impact that we make on our community."

## ROYA BOUSTANY, MEMBER FOR 6 YEARS



**"I joined the League because** I was looking for some volunteer opportunities and to get involved in the community. I knew a little bit about Junior League because, my senior year, I got to participate in NO FEAR NO FUTURE and I knew the impact that that program had on me and the impact that the League has on women and children in our community."  
**"I stay in the League because** the skills and the talents that I've learned in the League are limitless and, each year, they only grow and get better. I also stay because of the friends that I've made and because I want my daughter to feel as invested in our community and part of the League as I do today."

We are Junior League of Lafayette, women as leaders for lasting community change.

# WeGotThis. THE JUNIOR LEAGUE

## SPRING IS HERE!

As this League year nears the end, I am constantly amazed by the dedication and commitment of our members to our organization and the betterment of our community. Our members have given thousands of hours since the beginning of the League year and touched the lives of hundreds of women and children in the community through our eight community programs.

These past few weeks we've experienced a great deal of change since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although each of our lives have been affected, and many of our programs have come to a temporary halt, we look forward to the opportunity to get back to the normal ways of training our members and serving the needs of the community. Even through these challenging times, we continue to work hard to develop the potential of women, promote volunteerism, and improve the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

This year we have provided membership development training opportunities at each of our General Membership Meetings. In doing this, we are strengthening our understanding and awareness of the community's needs through these training opportunities, and we are increasing our capacity to directly improve the lives of women and children in our community. An additional way we are able to accomplish this is by having a Junior League representative serve on external nonprofit boards in the community. With these placements in the community, we are able to provide these organizations talented, trained volunteers with a wealth of knowledge and experience, as well as offer a direct, internal communication link to Junior League of Lafayette. I am pleased to announce that Junior League of Lafayette has established representatives on eight external nonprofit boards this year. It is through the support of these community partnerships, as well as our sponsors and members, that we continue our volunteer service and training in order to accomplish our Mission and strive to build better communities. It takes ALL of us working together to make this community a better place to live, work and grow. Together, We Got This!

I would like to extend a personal thank you to these League members for their volunteer efforts and to these nonprofits for partnering with Junior League of Lafayette.



President Angelle Adams



**Acadiana Center for the Arts:**  
Katherine Bernhardt, Active



**Acadiana Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster:**  
Caroline Potier, Active

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana:** Ayesha Martin, Active

**Hearts of Hope:** Maria Watson, Active



**Lafayette Parish Public Library Foundation:**  
Christina Victor, Active

**Maddie's Footprints:** Maggie Simar, Active

**Miles Perret Cancer Services:** Dustii O'Brien, Sustainer

**The Family Tree:** Jessica Allain, Active





# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Happy & Healthy



Junior League of Lafayette’s *Kids in the Kitchen* Committee spends two evenings each week, from September through April, teaching children from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana about healthy eating and healthy living. Children from both the Granberry and Jackie Units participate in activities from martial arts to line dancing while learning about foods from all the colors of the rainbow to use when preparing healthy snacks for themselves.

One of the most exciting and memorable recipes the kids learned was the Fruit and Veggie Smoothie. “It was really fun to watch the kids react to having a strawberry and banana smoothie, which they absolutely loved,” said Shelly Killingsworth, *Kids in the Kitchen* Chair. “Having them try the smoothies with spinach was so funny. When the committee members began blending the ingredients, all of the children would try to guess what color the smoothie would be with the added vegetables. It made the experience very interactive!”

Each semester, the *Kids in the Kitchen* Committee celebrates the children’s growth and learning with a graduation dinner. Last fall, Junior League of Lafayette hosted the children at Blue Dog Café for a special evening. The menu included salad with creamy garlic and peppercorn dressing; a choice of either pepper jelly glaze pork

tenderloin, roasted half chicken, or crawfish enchiladas; and flourless chocolate cake for dessert. Each participant left with a jump rope and a kitchen spatula as gifts. Special guest Bianca Plant, cookbook author of “Eating God’s Way,” and a certified nutritionist and food blogger, talked to the children about eating healthy foods and creating simple recipes that they could make on their own at home.

This dinner is also used to create an opportunity for practicing the etiquette skills learned during the sessions and experiencing foods the children may not have tried before. In the end, 26 very lively young people enjoyed a delicious meal and an engaging speaker to conclude their experience with Junior League of Lafayette’s program.

“This program has provided me an opportunity of perspective-taking from a child’s lens,” said Killingsworth. “It has shown me that children are fearlessly themselves! They are unable to be inauthentic. There is such beauty in seeing and experiencing that. We often go into volunteering with the intention of helping others but, in actuality, these children are teaching us invaluable lessons about life’s journey. I will be forever grateful for the precious and wonderful experiences with the participants, committee members and the community coordinators of *Kids in the Kitchen*.”

## FRUIT & VEGGIE SMOOTHIE

- Ingredients:
- 2 - 32 oz. containers of Greek vanilla yogurt
  - Water to drink
  - 1 large bag (at least 4 cups) of frozen cherries or strawberries
  - 4 large bananas (frozen is recommended; peel then freeze in zip top bag)
  - At least 4 cups of ready-to-eat spinach

- Supplies:
- High-powered blender
  - Spatula
  - Measuring cups

Directions:

Make a fruit smoothie by putting 1 cup of vanilla yogurt, ½ cup water, 1 cup cherries, 1 cup banana into the blender (this makes about 32 oz of smoothie). Blend until smooth!

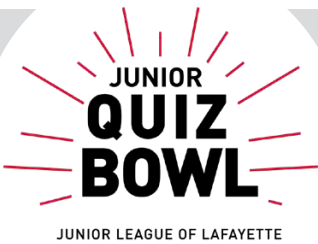
Turn this into a veggie smoothie using the same ingredients but adding 1 cup of spinach to the above.



### KIDS IN THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE

- CHAIR** Shelly Killingsworth
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Danielle Cyriaque Claiborne
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Elizabeth Laborde
- ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR** Amanda Shackelford
- KITCHEN COORDINATOR** Daphne Olivier

- ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** Jena Boynton, Kirsty Byrd, Natalie Dworaczyk, Madeline Klingensmith, Kalanti Robinson-Davis, Lauren Taylor, Elizabeth Van Bebber
- KITCHEN COMMITTEE** Gwen Burleigh, Shelby Harper, Lainie Hebert, Shalondra Lewis, Angelle Pearce, Erica Precht, Leslie Saloom



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Game. Set. Match.

Junior League of Lafayette’s Junior Quiz Bowl is a community program that provides a scholastic and competitive opportunity to middle school students around the Acadiana area. This year, 32 teams representing 15 different schools from across Acadiana participated. Teams comprised of four to six students in 6th–8th grades were challenged in a variety of categories ranging from math computation to current pop culture. Committee members moderated a total of 24 matches over 12 weeks which culminated in a spring tournament for the top teams.

Weekly matches took place on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. at Ascension Episcopal School-Downtown Campus. The atmosphere was both competitive and fun. Students were very serious about the matches, but they also had plenty of laughing fits and silliness. A challenging and exciting fall season was completed in



December and the spring semester concluded in March.

“This program brings an educational component to our community that celebrates higher levels of learning,” said Junior Quiz Bowl Chair Devon Leon. “We are given the opportunity to recognize those students in our area who go above and beyond to excel in all facets of their education.”

Junior League of Lafayette’s Junior Quiz Bowl Committee stepped up to make each match a fun learning opportunity for each student. Members served as moderators, scorekeepers and timekeepers during the match – controlling the pace as well as maintaining the rules and regulations during the matches.

“I hope that our participants take away a continued sense of joy and excitement for learning,” Leon said. “We strive to provide a fun and competitive experience surrounding education that will last students a lifetime after their formal education is done.”

## Value in Action: Where are they now?



**Christopher Dedo**  
*Lieutenant JG, US Navy*

**What do you do professionally now?**  
I’m a Naval Aviator flying the MH-60 Sierra Nighthawk helicopter out of Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, CA.

**What years were you a participant in Junior Quiz Bowl?** 2006-2009 while in 5th-8th grades.

**What was the most impactful aspect of Junior Quiz Bowl?** There were three skills that I learned from my experience - listening, confidence in speaking and teamwork. I would say that quiz bowl is as much about being “smart” and knowing answers as it is about listening, having confidence and working as a team.

**Was there any moment that still stands out to you during your time in the program?** There was a fill-in-the-blank question that went “Complete this well-known phrase to describe a man: tall, dark and \_\_\_\_.” I answered “scary!” which drew chuckles from almost every woman in the room...

**How did your experience with Junior Quiz Bowl impact your career now?** Junior Quiz Bowl taught me the value of listening intently to others without making assumptions, speaking up with confidence when I see a clear answer, and the value of having an innate understanding of my teammates whom I do not always get to chose. As a helicopter pilot in the Navy, these are three skills that I use every single day to build and foster trust with my team of other pilots, air crewmen and maintainers to complete our mission efficiently and get everyone back home safely to their families.

### JUNIOR QUIZ BOWL COMMITTEE

- CHAIR** Devon Leon
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Victoria “Vicki” Flores
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Rebecca Bayless

- COMMITTEE** Kelly Andres, Sasha Andres, Stephanie Collins, Michelle Nicole DeRouen, Claire Dubois, Chelsea Guilliot, Erin Hemsell, Corita Kuon, Emily Latiolais, Ashlee Marino, Mary Nain, Sarah Prejean, Kathleen Ray, Chelsey Robinson, Jami Rush, Kelli Smith, Stephanie Vu



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

**NO FEAR  
NO FUTURE**

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAFAYETTE

## One Text or Call Could Wreck It All



Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death for teenagers in the United States each year, with more than 58% of those accidents caused by distracted driving. Junior League of Lafayette is taking a stance to change that statistic, one school at a time. “The students need this event to depict real-life scenarios that affect each of them,” says Tony Daly, RS BSN, Senior Director of Emergency Services with Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center. “This could essentially be them, their best friend, their relative, or someone that benefits from this education. This is not something that is just “read about” in the news — this is happening every day, here in Acadiana.” Through this two-day program, students are exposed to the dangers of distracted and impaired driving through tangible, realistic, and emotional experiences. The event begins with a mock car crash complete with student participants, Junior League volunteers, and community partners who work to make the scene realistic and personal. Participants then have the opportunity to tour the Lafayette Parish Correctional Center before attending an overnight retreat. The following day, the student body gathers again to participate in a mock funeral held for victims of the previous day’s crash. Throughout the event, students hear from law enforcement officers, guest speakers, and survivors of alcohol-related accidents, making for an incredibly engaging and meaningful experience. NO FEAR NO FUTURE allows us to touch one of the most vulnerable groups of people — our teenage drivers. Roya Boustany, Junior League of Lafayette member reflects on the impact of the program saying:

*“As a felony prosecutor, I see the effects of drinking and distracted driving every day. I have the unique experience of having been a student participant in 2004, a past Community Vice President, and now a prosecutor; I can tell you firsthand that by giving our kids a realistic experience and demonstrating the consequences of distracted driving we are impacting the lives of not only the kids who participate in the program, but we are helping to protect the community as a whole.”*



Roya Boustany  
Active Member

In light of the current situation regarding school closures and encouraged social distancing, the 2020 event originally scheduled to be held at St. Thomas More High School was not able to be held this year. We are proud to have impacted over 10,000 students since 2003, and recognize this program has been made possible through our community partners and committee volunteers. Together, we are committed to making our roads and our children safer for years to come. We look forward to 2021 when we offer our next NO FEAR NO FUTURE program.

[www.juniorleagueoflafayette.com](http://www.juniorleagueoflafayette.com)



### NO FEAR NO FUTURE Community Partners

Acadian Ambulance & Air Med	Jonathan Waynewright	Our Lady of Lourdes Regional
Alisabeth Rivers	Lafayette Police Department	Medical Center
Clark Services	Lafayette Fire Department	St. Thomas More Catholic High
FieldSpan Video Productions	Lafayette Parish Coroner's Office	School
Fountain Memorial Funeral	Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office	The Eric Searcy Foundation
Home	Lafayette Parks & Recreation	The Family Tree
Grace Presbyterian Church	Louisiana State Police	Waffle House
I-49 Towing	McDonald's	

#### Acadian Ambulance Service

Numerous community partners come together to make NO FEAR NO FUTURE happen each year, but Mel Guidry, Community Relations Supervisor with Acadian Ambulance Service stands out for her dedication to crafting a realistic mock crash. Guidry, a veteran of Acadian, creates the unique crash-scene scenario specific for the school and the students involved. She writes the 911 script and pre-records it with the students which is then played during the mock-crash the day of the event. Guidry is also the makeup artist for program participants such as the 'living dead' students who represent the lives lost as well as the teenage crash victims.

#### Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center

Junior League of Lafayette’s partnership with Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center is integral in the mock-crash scenario during day one of the event. The injured students are transported from the accident site to Our Lady of Lourdes Emergency Department, in an effort to depict a real-life scenario that is truly “life-like”. From their arrival, the Lourdes nurses and

physicians treat this as a real emergency and offer life-saving interventions, which will end in life or death. Here, parents are called to inform them of the crash and whether their child has survived. Daly shares the impact of the event saying, “It truly allows students, staff, parents, and other colleagues to witness a first-hand experience of what alcohol/drugs can cause when teens make the decision to drive while under the influence.”

#### The Eric Searcy Foundation

NO FEAR NO FUTURE wouldn’t be what it is without the involvement of Eric Searcy, a survivor of a 1998 drunk driving accident that left him without the use of his legs. Searcy has served as the program’s guest speaker since its inception 16 years ago. After the students experience the mock-crash, watch the video of parents telling their children good-bye in the hospital, see their peers go to jail and participate in a mock funeral, they realize it’s a serious topic. “Then I come out and they see that I’m living proof that this really does happen to everyday people,” shares Searcy. Searcy’s message is clear, “You don’t get second chances when it comes to operating a vehicle impaired or distracted.” The consequences are indeed very real.

### NO FEAR NO FUTURE COMMITTEE

**CHAIR** Brooke Bell  
**STEP-UP CHAIR** Danielle Pitre  
**SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Karen Gambel  
**PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Rachel Swan

**COMMITTEE** Ashli Bernard, Lesley Beyt, Abby Breidenbach, Patsy Duhon, Jacqueline Gillette, Mary Graham, Crystal Gustin, Eugenie Lemoine, Lisa Lord, Lauren Peterson, Ann Raush

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# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



# Now Delivering



In February 2020, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Junior League of Lafayette Headquarters to officially celebrate the public launch of the Diaper Bank program. One Acadiana, media partners, community leaders, League members, Sustainers and members of the community were all in attendance to celebrate the start of the League's latest community program and their continued commitment to women and children in our community. Based on a model used throughout the country, the purpose of the program is to act as a community resource providing diapers to families across Acadiana through established partner agencies.

"After the Flood of 2016, Junior League of Lafayette received numerous donations of diapers from other Leagues and individuals from the community offering help," says Angelle Adams, Junior League of Lafayette President. "Junior League of Lafayette began researching the relevance and benefit of offering a diaper bank that would help address the needs of children and families in our community."

With the creation of the Diaper Bank, partnerships between Junior League of Lafayette and several local community organizations were built. Currently, three partner agencies have been identified: The DesOrmeaux Foundation, The Family Tree, and Love INC., with additional agencies now in the application process.

Diapers are stored at a local warehouse location which has been graciously donated by a fellow League member. Volunteers work to collect donations and divide diapers into packs of 25, the nationally identified average number of diaper shortage per month per child. As orders are processed, diapers are brought from the warehouse to the agencies requesting them. Those agencies then distribute to clients in need. Our warehouse is currently housing 24,000

diapers with more coming in through sponsored diaper drives with community partners.

The research presented at the start of the Diaper Bank initiative pointed to some astounding statistics about the needs of Louisiana families. To start, the average cost of diapers for one child for one month is about \$80, and most government assistance programs do not cover the purchase of diapers. Ultimately, low-income families suffer the most from the financial and health effects of diaper needs. While Louisiana has three diaper banks that distribute 1,113,461 diapers annually, there is still a major, unfilled gap in the needs of Acadiana residents. "We know from the National Diaper Bank Network statistics, one in every three families find themselves financially unable to purchase an adequate amount of diapers each month for their children," says Kristie Tatford, Diaper Bank Chair. "I think our biggest hope is that we can make a measurable impact in the widespread diaper need within our own local community."

With an objective of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers, Junior League of Lafayette's Diaper Bank initiative fulfills each aspect of the mission. "I think this community program touches on all three major points of our mission," Kristie says. "It is certainly promoting a hands-on volunteer effort; it will help to develop the potential of the women we will serve through diaper initiatives — and their families and children— all while improving the community through effective action."

For information on becoming a Diaper Bank distribution partner, please visit our website at [juniorleagueoflafayette.com](http://juniorleagueoflafayette.com).

**DIAPER BANK COMMITTEE**  
**CHAIR** Kristie Tatford  
**STEP-UP CHAIR** Margo Dugas  
**SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Linda Alesi

**PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Whitney Thomson  
**COMMITTEE** Jena Dufrene, Lacy Labbe, Setareh Mirian-Delcambre

# GRANTS

# The Collective Impact

Junior League of Lafayette's Collaborative Opportunity Grants provide local nonprofits with direct and indirect resources, namely financial contributions and volunteer hours, to expand upon the impact these organizations make in our community.



Junior League members collaborated with **United Way of Acadiana** to purchase, sort, package and distribute additional groceries for Early Head Start families' Thanksgiving meals, along with books for parents to read to students during the Thanksgiving break.



The committee purchased ingredients and assisted in the production of **DREAMS Manufacturing Company's** meat pies.



Junior League of Lafayette partnered with **Hearts of Hope** to improve the counseling room to provide a more comfortable and calming space in which sexual assault survivors can feel safe to address their trauma.



The League collaborated with **Second Harvest Food Bank and Scott Middle School Pantry Program** to provide healthy foods and simple, kid-friendly recipes to approximately 100 students and their siblings to prepare while parents were at work during the Mardi Gras holiday.



In support of **Catholic Charities of Acadiana**, our members purchased items for a total of 125 housekeeping starter kits for the residents at **The Emily House**.



Junior League of Lafayette assisted with the **Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Career Connections Event** aimed to empower female youth with knowledge of various careers.



Committee members purchased new books for the **Autism Society Acadiana** lending library as well as library software to help keep track and make books searchable for check out. Volunteers applied barcodes to the new and existing inventory and organized them into categories.



The committee collaborated with **Healing House** to host "**Celebration of Life**", an event inspired by the Mexican celebration of the dead.



Junior League of Lafayette purchased and wrapped 42 gifts for children of the **Miles Perret Cancer Services – Giving Tree** families.



In support of **Foster the Love Louisiana**, the committee purchased and assembled 16 bags for the **First Nights Program**, a program that provides support for children entering foster care and the families that take them in.



The League assisted **The Clearport Learning Center's** mentoring program in putting on their Girls Night in March. Girls Night provides a meal as the students gather with invited female community members to discuss topics that have been previously submitted by the students. Afterwards, students enjoy fellowship through planned activities and arts and crafts.

## APPLY FOR A GRANT!

Application Deadline:  
 July 15, 2020  
 For application details, visit  
[www.juniorleagueoflafayette.com](http://www.juniorleagueoflafayette.com)



# KITCHEN TOUR

## Heart of the Home



HURD RESIDENCE



MALLET RESIDENCE



LANDRY RESIDENCE



MILLER RESIDENCE



SANFORD RESIDENCE



STIMPSON RESIDENCE

Kitchen Tour, Junior League of Lafayette's spring fundraiser, is always an incredible way to spend an afternoon while supporting the community. Acadiana is an area known for its love of food and entertaining, so it is no surprise that Acadiana is home to some absolutely stunning kitchens. For **Kitchen Tour 2020**, six gracious homeowners planned to open their homes to the community, giving an exclusive peek into these spectacular kitchens and outdoor dining spaces. From new construction to renovations, the homes showcased a variety of styles with something for every guest to enjoy.

While the kitchens of Kitchen Tour are certainly stunning, the real star of Kitchen Tour is its purpose. The funds raised during Kitchen Tour, through ticket sales and sponsorships, allow Junior League of Lafayette to fulfill its mission of

improving the community. Without support of Junior League of Lafayette's fundraisers, like Kitchen Tour, many of Junior League of Lafayette community programs would not be possible.

Unfortunately, due to the mandated precautions around large gatherings and recommended social distancing, Junior League of Lafayette regrettably could not hold Kitchen Tour as planned. As a League, we are grateful to our homeowners, sponsors and patrons for their support of the League and this event that is so special to our organization. We want to give a special thanks to the Kitchen Tour Committee who worked diligently all year to make this event a success. Be on the lookout for a virtual tour on our social media platforms for more on these stunning homes.

## Committee Member Feature



### Erin Fontenot, Kitchen Tour 2020 Chair

#### What is your favorite part of being a member of Junior League of Lafayette?

Junior League of Lafayette has provided me the opportunity to build relationships with like-minded women. As a professional, we get so wrapped up in our daily duties, that it is sometimes hard to get out of our daily routines. The League has been so rewarding because it has allowed me to give back to the community and to really make a difference all while making new friends and great memories – a win-win.

#### What is your favorite feature to look at in homes?

I absolutely love details. Being a dentist, I am extremely detail oriented in my everyday profession and life. From fixtures to hardware, I love the "jewelry" of the kitchen and how it seems to complete the look of the final design project.



### Jennifer Lambert, Kitchen Tour 2020 Step-Up Chair

#### What is your favorite part of being a member of Junior League of Lafayette?

There are just so many favorite parts. I think it's the coming together of all of us for a common goal – whether that's a community project or being more behind the scenes with a fundraiser – we all have one goal of helping the Lafayette community.

#### What is your favorite feature to look at in homes?

I love kitchen islands. As a realtor, I am able to see so many but I love the different details and features built into each to make them functional for each family.

Junior League of Lafayette thanks all of our generous sponsors for their support of Kitchen Tour 2020.



### IN-KIND SPONSORS

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Bonjour Béb   
Cajun Virtual Tours  
Caroline & Company

Chicken Salad Chick  
J. Kevin Duplechain, MD, FACS  
Erin Fontenot, DDS  
Lowry's Printing & Signs

Nosh Gather & Graze  
Paul's Jewelry  
Ruffino's  
Spavia

### KITCHEN TOUR COMMITTEE

**CHAIR** Erin Fontenot

**STEP-UP CHAIR** Jennifer Lambert

**SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Ginger Welborn

**PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Corbin Levin

**COMMUNICATIONS LIAISON** Amanda Owen

**PRINTING COORDINATOR** Ashley Goodyear

**HOMEOWNER LIAISONS** Cara Acomb, Heather Cutbirth, Mamie Hightower, Mary LeBlanc, Abigail Payne, Erin Saltzman



COOKBOOK

# Talk About Good II

More Than Just a Cookbook

A recent exhibit at the Southern Food & Beverage Museum (SOFAB) in New Orleans celebrated Junior League of Lafayette’s cookbook, *Talk About Good II*, along with the cookbook’s artwork by George Rodrigue. The exhibit was both incredibly informative and well-styled, and was a product of a collaborative effort with our Cookbook Committee, Sustainers, and the museum staff. Several themed segments were created to celebrate the rich content of our beloved *Talk About Good II* cookbook: Cooking Equipment; Women of Junior League; Rodrigue Painting Gallery Wall; Techniques and Products; Tablescapes; and Impact of *Talk About Good II*. Local artists, such as Denny Culbert and Danielle Hein, as well as museum staff, made the exhibit come to life through portrait photography, YouTube tutorial videos and custom murals.

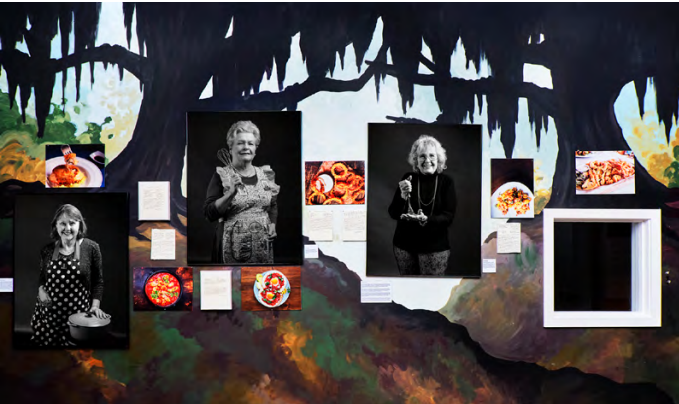
*Talk About Good II* is not just a cookbook, but a snapshot of a place and a time, showing us how people in Southwest Louisiana ate, drank and lived. Brent Rosen, SOFAB President and CEO shared, “*Talk About Good II* kicked off a major trend of community cookbooks throughout America, and as a food historian, all of those books provide the same window into the cooking lives and culture of the people in those communities.”

Part of the exhibit featured four large-format portraits of Junior League of Lafayette Sustainers and original Cookbook Committee Members — Cookie Bacque, Sally Herpin, Janet Begneaud and Kathy Leonard — who were all crucial to the production of *Talk About Good II*. Herpin mentioned that the process of celebrating her past work with

the League has been a delight. “The relationship with the museum has felt professional from start to finish. They have been so interested in learning about how we put this cookbook together, and it is clear that they value the history of our culture, work and, of course, recipes.”

When asked about visiting the museum exhibit in person, Cookbook Chair Kristen White recounts, “When I turned the corner at the museum and saw the huge portraits hung on the wall of the women who brought this fabulous cookbook to life, I was overwhelmed with pride. It was incredible to see these strong women featured alongside their own recipes and the artwork of George Rodrigue. Our wonderful organization is founded on their legacy of these cookbooks, and they are still cherished and purchased thoughtfully 40 years later.”

The exhibit was unveiled as a centerpiece of the *Made in Louisiana Festival* in early December and remained open through March 2020. According to Rosen, the exhibit has been well received by visitors over the past few months. “Everyone has loved the exhibit since it opened. Our staff are from all over the U.S., but all of them were familiar with *Talk About Good II* and its impact on the culinary culture of Louisiana. Having the exhibit gave the whole team something to focus on, and we have done follow-up programming inspired by the exhibit since it opened in December. The community response has been excellent as well, with many visitors stopping to visit the front desk on the way out to purchase copies of *Talk About Good* and *Talk About Good II* after learning about the books from the exhibition.”



**COOKBOOK COMMITTEE**

- CHAIR** Kristen White
- STEP-UP CHAIR** Ayesha Martin
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Amy Abraham
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Kate Labue
- COMMUNICATIONS LIAISON** Katherine Bernhardt
- 40th ANNIVERSARY COORDINATOR** Sally Herpin, Kristin Mayeux

- ACCOUNT COORDINATOR** Rebecca Roy
- ACCOUNT COORDINATOR STEP-UP** Kacie Matte
- DISTRIBUTION CO-COORDINATOR** Meghan Ray, Amy White
- COMMITTEE** Renata Alexander, JaWand Edwards-Morris, Kacey Hebert, Tina Hebert, Aleisha LaCour, Clare Roubion, Anna Twilley

SUSTAINERS

# We Love Our Sustainers



While every League has Sustainers who make up a portion of their membership, Junior League of Lafayette likes to think that our Sustainers are pretty special. Sustainer Liason Co-Chair Mary Vinson expressed this very sentiment when bragging, “So many Sustainers still say yes when Junior League of Lafayette comes calling. These ladies sit on the Board, on advisory panels, ad-hoc committees, serve as Sustaining Advisors, and some even take-on active placements.”

A member is eligible to become a sustainer member after completing 10 years of active service with the League. So, it is easy to see why our Sustainers enjoy a party or two after all their years of service. This year, the Sustainer Christmas Social was held in December at the home of Mimi Francez. It was a beautiful event filled with friendly chatter, delicious treats and the spirit of the holidays. These events serve as an opportunity for reminiscing with old friends and making connections with new ones as new sustainer members join the ranks every year!

Jeigh Stipe is currently serving as a Director-at-Large, which is just one of the many ways Sustainers may continue to be involved in the League. Stipe reflects on her time this year saying, “It can be a little

daunting being so long removed from active membership. It seems like a lifetime ago! However, there is a familiarity that feels like home even 19 years removed. I feel lucky to have met all of you and truly blessed to have been a part of the process this year.”

Over the years, many things have changed and many women have been part of the long legacy of Junior League of Lafayette. Having Sustainers continue their service to the League helps guide today’s leaders to appreciate the work of those who paved the way while looking toward the future of the organization. “I know that despite the passage of time and manner in which the work is now done, the commitment to a thoughtful and deliberative process remains and the work is still being done with tremendous attention to detail,” shares Stipe.

When asked about the importance of Sustainers and the value they add to the league, Vinson expressed, “They hold the precious moments; the blood, the sweat, the tears that make our League what it is today. Our Sustainers are a living tribute to all that we hold dear.” Thank you, Sustainers — we are grateful for the ways you enrich our League each year.

**SUSTAINER LIAISON COMMITTEE**

- CO-CHAIRS** Frances Burbank, Mary Vinson
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Andrea "Andy" Ducharme
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Maggie Simar
- COMMITTEE** Hannah Mason, Kimberly McCaffrey



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Community Project: Done in a Meeting



With a mission committed to voluntarism, Junior League of Lafayette strives to provide countless opportunities for members to have a lasting impact on the community. At times, that looks like volunteers going out into our community together to get hands-on, face-to-face experiences with those we serve. Other times, voluntarism looks like League members joining together during a meeting to accomplish one particular, large-scale initiative.

At the December 2019 General Membership Meeting, Junior League of Lafayette Membership Development Chair, Jeanette Chauvin, led several hundred members in a Done-in-a-Meeting Project, where over 100 gifts were wrapped and labeled for 20 Acadiana families in The Family Tree’s Healthy Start Program. Members expertly wrapped scooters, Spider-Man action figures, fingernail polish, slime kits and much more for the children in hopes of making their holiday a bit brighter. During December’s Day Brief, members wrapped slippers and \$50 gift cards for the moms of the children in the Healthy Start Program. This project was one that made our work with the League feel both joyful and truly significant because of the impact we were sure to have on those receiving the gifts, but also because of the history between Junior League of Lafayette and The Family Tree.

“The Done-in-a-Meeting project not only saved countless employee hours wrapping presents, but it also showered 20 Healthy Start families with gifts,” Marie Collins, The Family Tree Executive Director expressed. “Normally gifts are only given to the children, but this year, thanks to the generosity of Junior League of Lafayette, Healthy Start moms were provided new slippers and a \$50 Walmart gift card. Thank you to all those who participated in the event! Not only was it a lot of

fun, it served a great cause.”

Junior League of Lafayette has a long history of supporting The Family Tree. In 1978, members of Junior League of Lafayette recognized a need in the community for parent education and individual and family counseling. In response to that need, the League pledged \$75,000 over a three-year period as seed money for The Family Tree initiative. During this time, an interim board was selected and goals and objectives formulated. In 1979, the parenting center opened as *The Family Tree Center for Parent Education*. League volunteers at The Family Tree provided a variety of services including publicity services, a video, a foster care program, new books in the library, a special program for children, and a Volunteer Auxiliary. In 1991 The Family Tree, with financial support from the League and United Way of Acadiana, expanded its operation and began providing counseling services.

Marie Collins shared that the organization strives to create a community filled with healthy individuals and families and their partnership with Junior League of Lafayette aids in that mission. “The League’s goal of strengthening families in order to build a stronger community was one of The Family Tree’s initial goals and remains today,” Marie said of the partnership. Through information services, community education and a wide variety of counseling programs, they are able to serve approximately 300 children and adults monthly. Some of their programs include Best Moms and Best Dads, Family Conflict Care, Employee Assistance Program, and pet and play therapy.

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- CHAIR** Jeanette Chauvin
- STEP-UP CHAIR** Karli Sherman
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Emily Hamner
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Amy Broussard
- COMMITTEE** Elizabeth Domingue

# PROVISIONALS

## Provisional Members Helping the Community

The 34 ladies of the 2019-2020 Provisional class have been busy learning the ins and outs of Junior League of Lafayette while also experiencing first hand the impact they can collectively make on our community through their service in the League. Over the past several months, they have truly learned that, together, they can impact the community and the League in profound ways.

At their Christmas social in December, the Provisionals completed a “Done in a Meeting” project coordinated to give back to the community during the holiday season. This year, the class put together gift bags for moms with babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Our Lady of Lourdes Women’s & Children’s Hospital. The bags contained water, snacks, diapers, wipes, baby wash, lotion, chapstick and Christmas cards. The mission of this project was to send some Christmas cheer to women and children who needed some extra love during the holidays.

Damon Fontenot, Clinical Manager of the NICU at Our Lady of Lourdes Women’s & Children’s Hospital said, “The gift bags were a great success and appreciated by staff as well as all of the families. The bags were handed out Christmas Eve to every family in the NICU. We had overwhelming thanks and compliments from all of the families.”

Another major initiative of the Provisional year is the Provisional Community Project. This is a project conceived, coordinated and executed by all members of the Provisional class. Various project

ideas are presented with the members voting on the project they feel will most impact the community. This year, their vision is to create a movable Exploration Station at Moncus Park. The project will target children of all ages with items pertaining to sports, art, reading and games centered around subjects such as history, science, and math. Everyone is anxiously awaiting the implementation of this year’s project to witness the impact these incredible ladies have on Moncus Park and the community at large.

While the community impact of the Provisional year is paramount, we also hope that the ladies create personal bonds and relationships within their class. These are the first experiences this group has within Junior League of Lafayette and our hope is that it is a well-rounded experience consisting of community service and relationship building. Together, the members of this class have grown tremendously since Super Saturday in August. They have grown in knowledge about how the League operates, grown in relationships with each other, and grown in their ability to work together for the betterment of our community.

Provisional Chair Danielle Hines says, “This class is very special for a number of reasons, but I would say what stands out most is their enthusiasm! They are always more than willing to do anything that is asked of them. Their excitement about the League is contagious. The future of our League is in good hands with this group of ladies who are just itching to get out into the community!”



### PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE

- CHAIR** Danielle Hines
- SUSTAINING ADVISOR** Stacia Fontenot
- PLACEMENT ADVISOR** Corbin Levin
- COMMITTEE** Kimmie Cormier, Katie Guidry, Anna Claire Inzerella, Jayne Soileau, Leslie Whittington



# IN MEMORIAM

**BEVERLY LOUVIERE DASPIT**  
1929 - 2020  
Member Since: 1965



**SARAH ELIZABETH YOUNG BEACHAM**  
1935 - 2020  
Member Since: 1966  
Past President



**DR. EDITH GROSSMAN MAYERS**  
1944 - 2019  
Member Since: 1979



*In memory of a life so beautifully lived and a heart so deeply loved.*



**GRETCHEN DAVID VINCENT**  
1968 - 2019  
Member Since: 2000



**PAT OLSON**  
1932 - 2020  
Member Since: 1966



**NORMA HAMILTON COMEAUX**  
1936-2020  
Member since 1971

Those we hold closest to our hearts never truly leave us. Loving them is meant to change us and move us to be better, live more fully, and be more present in the world. Our lives are more fulfilled because we have loved them.

This year, our League, our family, lost women we loved, women we admired and women who gave of themselves for their community. They lived by example and they led with love and grace. Though our hearts will forever hold space for them, we move through the days honoring their legacy and ensuring that their work continues. We loved them and they loved us, and, because of that, they will live on through us and the work that they began; work that we will see through into the future.

# PARTNER WITH US

## Become a Community Program Sponsor

Are you interested in supporting Junior League of Lafayette's Mission while also being recognized year-round as a Community Program Sponsor? This brand new sponsorship opportunity is available for both cash and in-kind donations. Please contact [jllsponsor@gmail.com](mailto:jllsponsor@gmail.com) for more information!



This year's Tinsel & Treasures holiday market is scheduled for September 23-26, 2020, at the CAJUNDOME Convention Center. As we head into our 27th annual market, we invite you to make plans to be a part of our Mission by supporting the League as shoppers, sponsors and merchants. In 2019, Junior League of Lafayette raised more than \$330,000 through Tinsel & Treasures – money that directly funds the numerous grants and community programs we provide in Lafayette. Visit [juniorleagueoflafayette.com](http://juniorleagueoflafayette.com) for more details on all the exciting events throughout our holiday market – from Preview Party to Preferred Shopping to our Children's Event.

## Sponsor Tinsel & Treasures

This market would not be possible without our generous sponsors! In addition to the shopping experience itself, Junior League of Lafayette partners with various businesses to host a variety of more exclusive events throughout Tinsel & Treasures. Sponsors get maximum exposure with these select sponsorship opportunities. As a partner, you can highlight your business to over 10,000 market shoppers while also showing support to the many women and children in the community who receive assistance from Junior League of Lafayette. Help us strengthen our Mission – be a sponsor of Tinsel & Treasures in its 27th year! For information, please email [jllsponsor@gmail.com](mailto:jllsponsor@gmail.com).





# Petit POTPOURRI

A PUBLICATION OF **JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAFAYETTE**  
504 Richland Avenue, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508

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**PAID**  
**Permit Number 287**  
Lafayette, LA

## Peanut Butter Bars page 269

### Ingredients:

- 2 sticks margarine
- 2 ½ cups powdered sugar
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 ¾ cups crushed graham crackers
- 1 large package milk chocolate chips

### Instructions:

Melt margarine in saucepan; remove from heat and add powdered sugar, peanut butter and crushed graham crackers. Spread in 9 x 13 inch buttered pan. Melt chocolate chips, spread over peanut butter mixture and chill.

