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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



As I reflect on this year, I have come to the conclusion that this has been the worst, best year of my life. It has been an arduous year for all of us. I'm sure you all remember the things we have gone through together as a community this past year – a mass shooting, a pandemic, cancellation of our events, and oil prices reaching an all-time low. We could look at all of these tragic events as putting us in a very dark place. I ran across a quote: "When you're in a dark place, you sometimes tend to think you've been buried. Perhaps you've been planted. Bloom." I opt to see the positive.

During the 2019-2020 League year, despite all of these unprecedented events, our League has accomplished so many positive things and really embraced our theme of "Bloom Where You are Planted." We have chosen to take these setbacks to thrive. We have chosen to grow. We have chosen to bloom.

In August, we launched a new program – Pink Pantry. This project, a collaboration with Communities in Schools of the Permian Basin, makes feminine and basic hygiene supplies (including pads, tampons, feminine wipes, shampoo, and soap) available to students in need at several MISD secondary schools. This project was in its infancy when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Our committee adapted to the constraints of school closures by providing take-home hygiene bags for students so they would not go without. Since March, the Committee and other helpful League members, made and distributed over 600 take-home hygiene bags to MISD students.

In the fall, when a mass shooting occurred in our community, the League responded by working with the Midland Fire Department to provide free trainings to the community: Stop the Bleed and CRASE: Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event trainings.

When the AJLI Annual Conference was canceled this spring, the Board opted to use these budgeted monies to benefit our Midland community. We donated \$10,000 to MISD to help provide internet hotspots so that students in need could continue remote learning. We turned one canceled learning opportunity for League members into another incredible learning option for Midland students.

Despite all of these challenges, the League also focused much time into strategic planning efforts, amending bylaws to allow for virtual meetings, updating JLM logos – complete with a new branding guide for streamlined branding efforts, and announcing a new event fundraiser – Farm to Table(aux)!

Looking back on this year and all the things we accomplished together, I am reminded of what a profound year this has been in my life and I am so proud to have served as President during this time. So many wonderful things have come from these dark times. I see genuine friendships prospering, incredible leadership skills developing, women selflessly contributing despite terrible circumstances, and unpleasant situations turning into amazing opportunities. The love and support I have received from Sustainers, Past Presidents, friends, and even from members I had not had a chance to meet yet has filled my heart with so much joy. I look around at all that we have accomplished and observe a League full of women who are blooming where they have been planted. I see the worst, best year of my life.

MARINA STANALAND
PRESIDENT
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND, INC.

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ON THE COVER:

During this unique time, members of The Junior League of Midland, Inc. have changed the manner in which we have provided volunteer hours and services to the community. The current League's theme "Bloom Where You Are Planted" resonates with the changes the League has made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Shining Light and Support for the Community

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By Amber Hoelscher

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I first learned of the Junior League when I was in college in San Angelo. Being a poor college student, I visited their downtown resale shop occasionally to see what great deals I could find. Resale shops and cookbooks both have a lengthy history and foundation with different Leagues but both have been phased out over the years. Oddly though, it seems right now they would both serve a purpose that has almost taken by the wayside.

After moving around the country for my husband's career, we ended up back in Belton for a while. Pregnant with our second child, I decided it was prime time to join the Junior League of Bell County to volunteer in my new community and find like-minded women. Our first general meeting, I had to call my Provisional trainer to let her know I wouldn't make it that evening as our son was making his debut. I hit the ground running in JLBC as soon as my Provisional time was completed and started growing Project Prom, serving as a Member-at-Large to the Board, and attending ODI training. My husband was transferred to Midland and I transferred into a much larger League than where I started.

I, again, have been fortunate to meet like-minded women and improve my community through volunteering here in Midland. I found that I fit best in the League here, in more behind the scenes positions, helping to promote what each individual project was doing, such as my three years on the *Tumbleweed* committee.

I have completed my time as a Provisional and Active and am now looking forward to the next transition in my League career as a Sustainer. I am thankful for the leadership opportunities and growth being in Junior League has provided me. I am also excited to see what next year holds for our incoming Editor, Jaimey Sloan Warren, and how she can use her talents to make *Tumbleweed* even better than the years before.

I bid you all farewell,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amber Hoelscher'.

AMBER HOELSCHER
TUMBLEWEED EDITOR
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND, INC.



Pink Pantry Meeting the Needs Amid COVID-19



When Midland Independent School District closed for the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pink Pantry committee had to make adjustments to its distribution program. During the school year, hygiene boxes were placed at select MISD secondary schools for students to access during school hours. With no student access to the boxes anymore, the Committee pivoted and arranged for hygiene bags to be distributed to students at MISD's 27 meal distribution sites.

The Committee has supplied 600 hygiene bags since March with over \$4,200 in hygiene products. The Committee is making plans to continue these bags through the summer break.

Anita Gamertsfelder, Director of the Midland Education Foundation, says MISD made the hygiene bags available to any child, not just MISD students, who requested one at MISD meal distribution sites. "The Junior League's Pink Pantry bags offered a level of care to families when everything around them was uncertain," Gamertsfelder said.

If you are interested in partnering with Junior League of Midland to support Pink Pantry, monetary and/or product donations in support of this project may be made on Junior League of Midland's website or at Junior League of Midland's headquarters, 902 W. Dengar Avenue.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND
PINK PANTRY

Reading Olympics Providing Books and Crafts Amid COVID-19



The Reading Olympics Committee for the Taylor Park Boys & Girls Club had to make adjustments to their program amid the COVID-19 pandemic. With no more in-person sessions, the Committee donated 450 books (what was to be used at the remaining spring reading sessions) as well as craft supplies, stickers, construction paper, glue, feathers, paper bags, pompoms, crayons, markers, and notebooks so that the Boys and Girls Club could put together take-home activity bags for the children. Sara Dunnam, Reading Olympics - Taylor Park Chairman, said that providing at-home resources for Boy & Girls Club participants was the least the Junior League of Midland could do to help affected students continue growing their love of reading and keeping busy at home during our period of social distancing.



David Chancellor, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, said they have loved collaborating with the Reading Olympics committee over the years. "We have included the donated books in many of the 3,000 child activity bags we have distributed so far," he said. "When we are able to re-open, we certainly hope the Junior League will continue the program as the kids enjoy it so much." Dunnam said she plans to use the remainder of the Committee's book budget to order more books for them to include in the future take-home activity bags.



If you are interested in partnering with Junior League of Midland to support Reading Olympics, monetary and/or book and craft donations in support of this project may be made on Junior League of Midland's website or at Junior League of Midland's headquarters, 902 W. Dengar Avenue.

READING  OLYMPICS
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND

There is Nothing Better than Junior League Cookbooks



Suzy Prucka has been in the Junior League for 12 years and is a Past President of the Junior League of Baltimore, Maryland. She is currently the Public Relations Vice President. In her free time, she enjoys cooking gourmet meals at home.

Social distancing since mid-March has meant that I have not gone to my favorite bars or restaurants and instead have been seeking out cooking inspirations and techniques from a variety of sources. Daily dinner lessons from Chef Michael Symon have become my new happy hour. Meal swaps with fellow Junior League friends have meant I have enjoyed a variety of meals without too many leftovers. I have also made the conscious effort to dive deep into my cookbook shelves. Over the years, I have managed to collect over 200 cookbooks, including over 50 Junior League cookbooks.

For more than 50 years, the Junior League name has been synonymous with good cooking because Leagues across the country raised money for their community programs and operations through cookbooks that celebrated food of that community. In fact, more than 20 million Junior League cookbooks have been sold since 1950; that's a lot of dough! It really is difficult to overstate how successful Junior League cookbooks have been in raising funds; in fact, many bookstores have whole sections dedicated to Junior League cookbooks and there are online groups of women scouring thrift stores and estate sales for coveted out of print books.

The oldest Junior League cookbook still in print is *Charleston Receipts*, first printed on November 1, 1950 by the Junior League of Charleston, South Carolina. The initial budget of the project was \$150.00, the books sold for \$2.50 each, and the First Edition of 2,000 copies sold out in 4 days. In 1990, *Charleston Receipts* was selected for inclusion in the Walter S. McIlhenny Hall of Fame for Community Cookbooks. The award recognized the contribution of that cookbook in preserving American local and regional customs while benefiting the community in a substantial way.

The Junior League of Augusta, Georgia first published *Tea-Time* at the Masters back in 1977 and it's still in print. The League's initial printing of 10,000 copies sold out within four weeks. It has been reprinted 17 times, selling more than 350,000 copies over the years. The cookbook features simple, classic recipes from PGA golfers and their wives, including three-bean casserole, Spanish pork chops and zucchini bread.

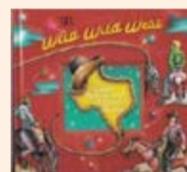
Many of our Texas sister Leagues have had cookbooks over the years – Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, McAllen, Odessa, San Angelo, San Antonio, Tyler, Wichita Falls, and Waco. I have not seen any evidence of a cookbook from Midland...yet. In fact, there is good authority that Junior League of Dallas may have been the first Junior League to publish a cookbook in the 1920s.

There have been more than 200 Junior League cookbooks in publication. What is neat about these books is they provide a snapshot into women's lives at the time those cookbooks were produced. While they may not tell us individual stories about the dozens of women involved in collecting recipes and testing and retesting them, they do tell us about what they ate, how they ate it, what foods were available, and the ways in which they cooked. In other words, we learned about culinary traditions and heritage of the community through Junior League cookbooks.

I have combed through my collection of Junior League cookbooks and chosen five recipes to showcase five Junior League favorites. I hope these recipes will inspire you to cook feel-good meals and embrace new culinary traditions in your home.

Honoring our
Sister League to the West

The Odessa Firemen's Chicken Fried Steak



A recipe from
The Wild Wild West,
The Junior League of Odessa, Inc.

Prep time: 45 minutes

INGREDIENTS

2 pounds round steak, tenderized
1 egg, beaten
1 tablespoon milk
1 12 ounce can evaporated milk
24 ounces water
Garlic salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste
Oil for frying

DIRECTIONS

- In a 9x13 cake pan, combine egg, milk and water.
- Remove excess fat from the round steak.
- Cut it into individual steaks, 4 x 4 inches each.
- Pound round steak with an edge of a strong coffee cup.
(This step is very important for tenderizing, so do not leave it out!)
- Place steak in egg & milk mixture. Allow to soak for 10 minutes.
- Meanwhile, in a small flat bowl, combine flour, salt, pepper.
- Fill a large skillet with ¼ inch of oil.
- Heat oil until it is very hot.
- Remove steaks from egg mixture & roll them in flour mixture until thoroughly coated.
- Place in a skillet & fry until golden brown & meat is completely cooked - approximately 15 minutes per side.
- Remove from oil & place on a paper towel to drain.

GRAVY

INGREDIENTS

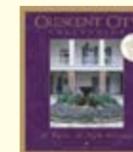
4 tablespoons of drippings
3 tablespoons flour
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pepper
2 cups milk

DIRECTIONS

- Drain off excess fat leaving 4 tablespoons.
- Stir in dry ingredients.
- Cook over a high heat, stirring constantly until mixture is lightly browned.
- Pour in milk.
- Continue to cook, stirring constantly, until thick.
- Pour over chicken fried steaks.

Honoring our
2020 Shotguns & Stiletos theme
and Chair, Casey LeBlanc

Crawfish Beignets with Remoulade Sauce



A recipe from
*Crescent City Collection:
A Taste of New Orleans*,
The Junior League of New Orleans, Inc.

INGREDIENTS

2 cups flour
2 tablespoons baking powder
2 teaspoons cayenne pepper
½ teaspoon ground ginger
¼ cup chopped pimentos
1 tablespoon chopped garlic
1 ½ cups chopped crawfish tails
3 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
Salt to taste
5 dashes Tabasco sauce
1 ½ cups water
Peanut oil

DIRECTIONS

- Combine the flour, baking powder, cayenne pepper, ginger in a bowl.
- Stir in the pimentos, garlic, crawfish, parsley and salt.
- Stir in the Tabasco sauce and enough water to make a soft dough.
- Let dough stand for 20 minutes.
- Heat the peanut oil to 350° in a heavy deep saucepan.
- Drop in teaspoonfuls of dough and fry until golden brown.
- Remove with a slotted spoon to paper towels to drain.
- Serve drizzled with Remoulade Sauce (below).

REMOULADE SAUCE

INGREDIENTS

2 egg yolks
¼ cup vegetable oil
½ cup finely chopped celery
½ cup finely chopped green onions
¼ cup chopped parsley
¼ cup grated fresh or prepared horseradish
¼ lemon, seeded
1 bay leaf, crumbled
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1 tablespoon white vinegar
1 tablespoon Tabasco sauce
1 tablespoon minced garlic
2 teaspoons sweet paprika
1 teaspoon salt

DIRECTIONS

- Beat the egg yolks in a blender for 2 minutes.
- Add the oil in a stream, processing constantly.
- Add the remaining ingredients 1 at a time.
- Beat until well mixed.
- Chill thoroughly.

QUARANTINE COOKING

continued

Tres Leches (Three Milk Cake)



A recipe from
Celebrate Miami!,
The Junior League of Miami, Florida, Inc.

INGREDIENTS

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 12-ounce can evaporated milk
- 1 cup heavy cream

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- Beat the eggs until foamy.
- Gradually add the sugar.
- Add the flour mixed with baking powder, the milk and vanilla.
- Pour into an ungreased 13x9 inch pan.
- Bake for 20 to 25 minutes.
- Cook the cake and then poke holes with a fork all over the cake.
- Mix the condensed milk, evaporated milk, and cream.
- Pour the mixture slowly over the cake until absorbed.
- Spread topping (directions below).

TOPPING INGREDIENTS

- 3 egg whites
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

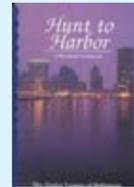
TOPPING DIRECTIONS

- Beat the egg whites, sugar, and vanilla until foamy.
- Spread over the cake.
- Refrigerate until serving time.

Serves 6-8.

Honoring my first League,
The Junior League of Baltimore, and the Preakness Stakes

Black-Eyed Susan



A recipe from
Hunt to Harbor,
The Junior League of Baltimore, Inc.

INGREDIENTS

- Shaved ice
- 1 ounce vodka
- 1 ounce rum
- ¾ ounce triple sec
- Lime wedge
- Pineapple juice
- Orange juice

DIRECTIONS

- Fill a 12-ounce glass with shaved ice.
- Add vodka, rum, and triple sec.
- Squeeze in the lime wedge and drop into glass.
- Fill with equal parts pineapple juice and orange juice.

Serves 1.

Rice and Chicken Casserole



A recipe from
Charleston Receipts,
The Junior League of Charleston, Inc.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups cold chicken
- 2 cups cooked rice
- 1 green pepper, cut into thin strips
- 1 can, condensed mushroom soup
- 1 cup chicken gravy
- 1 ½ cup water

DIRECTIONS

- Combine cold chicken, cooked rice, green pepper.
- Put into a greased casserole dish.
- Mix condensed mushroom soup with chicken gravy and water.
- Pour over the mixture into the casserole.
- Bake for 30 minutes.

Serves 6.

Purchase your own *Charleston Receipts*
or other Junior League of Charleston publications at
<https://jlc-boutique.myshopify.com/collections/jlc-publications>

STANDARD SALES

Standard Sales Company, L.P. is a company with a proud heritage of supporting and serving worthy community projects and events in the counties it serves. We are honored to support the Junior League of Midland and the efforts they make to improve the lives of people in the Permian Basin. Cheers, to JLM and to another 70 years of community service!



EXERCISE...A WAY OF LIFE!

By Amanda Gamel

Exercise should not be a chore, but a way of life. Initiating an exercise program can be a daunting and often intimidating task for many but the human body was built to be active. The shapes of our hips and feet, the length of our legs, our shock-absorbing spinal discs, and our ability to sweat make it possible for us to walk, run, and move mile after mile. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that researchers have concluded that physical exercise is strongly associated with several benefits for not only our bodies but our brains as well.

Being physically active, especially if it has been a while, can be brutal initially. Once your body and mind acclimate, exercise can be blissful, meditative, and provide a sense of freedom. One way to be successful is finding a partner that will support and share your goals, helping you stay on track, and holding you accountable. It is important to stay active even in stressful times to maintain heart health, mental health, and overall physical well-being.

Another way to make sure you continue your commitment to exercise is finding ways to implement the things you enjoy that make you want to be active daily such as walking your dog, playing with your kids, going for a swim, discovering different paths and trails in your city on foot or bike!

Interested in trying something new? Take up a new physical challenge such as a dance class, tennis, golf, or train for a race. You can work towards a new skill that will keep you motivated while getting in your daily exercise, as well as benefit your long term physical and mental health. Whenever trying something new, patience and commitment are essential. The hard part isn't getting your body in shape. The hard part is getting your mind in shape. You must remember that there is a phase of breaking through your comfort zone, not only physically, but mentally as well. A good rule of thumb is to allow yourself at least 5 sessions of a class/activity before you decide to back out.

Many experts believe that simple exercise and diet is the most advanced "drug" in curing most illnesses. Researchers found that 30 minutes of physical activity can:

- Improve mood and help fight depression
- Improve sleep quality, boost mental focus and reduce stress
- Improve and strengthen your body and mind no matter your age, and help fight age-related cognitive decline
- Running/walking is a great way to burn calories, which of course is a major factor in weight loss (along with a healthy sustaining diet)

You can get fit almost anywhere and anytime with just your body! A few extra things to help get the job done are music, athletic shoes, workout attire, journal, timer, and that friend or family member to train with for extra motivation and accountability! Below are a few ideas on how you can stay active at home without fancy equipment.

Listen to your body and be safe...YOU are strong and more powerful than you realize...YOU can do it! Also, write down how you feel; the good, the bad, and the in-between. It is important to log your activity to ensure accountability but to also see your progress and results. Make a schedule that works best for you and your lifestyle. Make it a goal to exercise and be active at least 3 to 5 times a week.

The human body is a unique machine made of the universe's greatest mysteries. But just like any machine, the body needs balance to be sustainable. You don't need to spend hours upon hours in the gym and counting calories to achieve this balance. All it takes is moderate activity that is comfortable to your specific lifestyle and capabilities, as well as providing your body with well-rounded nutritional needs.

A healthy life equals a happy life.

BUILD A BODYWEIGHT WORKOUT

DIRECTIONS	LOWER BODY	UPPER BODY	LOWER BODY	CORE	CARDIO
1. Start off with a good stretch to loosen up your muscles, relax your mind, and have fun!	Body Weight Squat	Push-up	Forward Lunges (alternate legs)	Scissor Kicks	High Knees
2. Pick 1 move from each section	Sumo Squat	Tricep Dip	Reverse Lunges (alternate legs)	Reverse Crunches	Side to Side Shuffle
3. Do each exercise for 1 minute	Squat Jump or Calf Raise	Plank Shoulder Tap	Curtsy Lunges (alternate legs)	Bicycle Crunches	Jumping Jacks
4. Repeat the cycle 3x	Glute Bridge	Plank Walk	Lateral Lunges (alternate legs)	Toe Tap Crunches	Quick Feet
5. Mix and match to mix up your daily workout					
6. Finish off with a 3-5 minute cooldown stretch					

Sometimes, it's hard to imagine what your impact looks like, and sometimes, it's easy.



To Join:
e-mail join@jlmidland.org

SALUTE TO LEADERSHIP

The work of the Junior League of Midland is largely accomplished by committees. We thank these ladies for sharing their time and talents as committee chairs and assistant chairs during the 2019-2020 League year.



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Shining Light and Support for the Community

In the blink of an eye, not only was the world turned upside down with the COVID-19 pandemic, but the Permian Basin experienced twice the impact with the dramatic drop in oil prices. Businesses and organizations all around the community have experienced struggles and numerous changes, but one thing that has remained the same is the spirit to survive and help one another.

“The nonprofit sector has obviously taken a major hit – from canceled fundraisers to providing additional services during this crisis,” said Jennifer Steadman, donor and community relations administrator for the Permian Basin Area Foundation (PBAF). “We applaud the work being done by those working in the nonprofit sector, especially those working in medical services and in essential business services.”

Steadman, also a Junior League of Midland Active member, explained that PBAF is continuing to make grants to organizations that have been delivering direct services, primarily in food supplies and distribution. PBAF also opened its Emergency Relief Fund for donations in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. “Donations made to this fund will be used to quickly deploy grants to nonprofit organizations addressing immediate needs of the COVID-19 crisis,” Steadman explained. “Donations may be made online at <https://pbaaf.org/product/pbaaf-emergency-relief-fund/>, or by mailing a check to the Foundation with ‘Emergency Relief Fund’ in the memo.”

While PBAF has been stepping up to aid in direct services and food supplies, Centers for Children and Families also acted quickly to develop a strategy to keep their mission alive during a potential shutdown. The Centers vision is to “help children, individuals, and families successfully manage the challenges of life.”

“In early March, Kristi Edwards, our Executive Director and Licensed Professional Counselor, called a planning session with directors – fortunately, Centers had already implemented a HIPAA compliant Teletherapy platform, which would allow us to provide counseling services by way of internet or telephone,” explained Melanie Saiz, Director of Marketing and Development of Centers for Children and Families.

Initially, teletherapy was intended for outreach to the underserved population including the elderly and homebound, those living in rural communities, and citizens with unconventional work hours and schedules.

Saiz shared what was once intended as an enhancement to Centers’ current services was soon to become the solution to providing mental health relief for those in quarantine. Moving forward, Centers will prioritize the health and safety of clients and staff transitioning to the “new normal” through disinfecting and practicing social distancing protocols recommended by the CDC and local health officials.

“Everyone will have their own level of comfort in returning to in-office therapy and Centers will be able to accommodate those clients that choose to take more time,” Saiz said.

Overall, Centers is grateful for the outpouring of support, despite the current economic climate. “Foundations, corporations, and individuals have all stepped up to recognize the impact of current events on the mental health of our community,” Saiz shared. “As a nonprofit organization, Centers appreciates donations that will help others through this crisis – and we encourage people to contact us for volunteer opportunities.”

Saiz also shared it is helpful to spread the word about Centers to health care workers and first responders fighting the COVID-19 crisis. “Recommend us to everyone you know – we could all use some help right now,” she said. “Centers’ therapists have a wonderful ability to ‘coach’ people through some of the difficult decisions and conversations during this time.”

Saiz stressed we should not hesitate to ask for help. “This is a time to give and receive help in any way we can,” she said.

Bynum School is committed to the ideals of dignity and respect in providing personalized educational programs to meet the academic, behavioral, and vocational needs of individuals of all ages with special needs.

Dr. Bill Maurer, Executive Director of Bynum School, and Keri St. John, Head of School for Bynum Schools, also did not hesitate to step into action for their students and parents. “The needs of Bynum students are often very different from the needs of typical students,” Maurer and St. John explained. “We began getting materials from teachers to students almost immediately, but many of our students require hands-on or manipulatives as opposed to paper/pencil work.”

Bynum administration, staff, and teachers have found it beneficial to use Zoom to connect with students and they provide assignments through EasyClass, Remind App, email, and physical packets are also provided

weekly. Story time is provided through videos, and they, too, have maintained therapy sessions through video communication software that ensure HIPAA compliance.

“Bynum School values parent involvement and we are pleased with parents’ responses to at-home learning,” Maurer and St. John shared. “Students are struggling with understanding why they are not in school, so we have sent social stories home for parents to help them understand – some students have decided school is ‘sick’ and that is why they cannot be here.”

Maurer and St. John explained that Bynum School continues to focus on its mission and vision as criteria for making decisions. “Teachers are holding spring parent conferences, as scheduled, to review Individual Program Plans,” they explained. “The intent and purpose are to continue helping students progress – Bynum recognizes that regression may occur while students are out of classes and teachers will be prepared to help students adjust to routines and procedures when classes resume.”

Maurer and St. John shared that Bynum School needs the community now more than ever. “We would ask that if you have given to Bynum School in the past, please continue giving – and if you have never given to Bynum, we welcome your support,” they said. “The special needs community is one of the hardest-hit groups during times of economic crisis.”

Approximately half of the student population at Bynum School receives grant money that is provided through fundraising. “We are firm believers that a student’s income level should not affect their ability to attend Bynum,” Maurer and St. John explained. “We expect the number of those needing student grants to increase in this economic climate, so we are actively trying to meet that need.”

We, the Permian Basin and the whole world, now open our eyes to a “new normal” and a new way of doing things. We are grateful to the superheroes of the community not only doing their best to keep their businesses and organizations pushing forward, but they are also supporting those around them to achieve successes. Let us all keep it at the forefront of our minds to support these superheroes, who are truly a major component in the wheel that keeps the citizens of Midland thriving.





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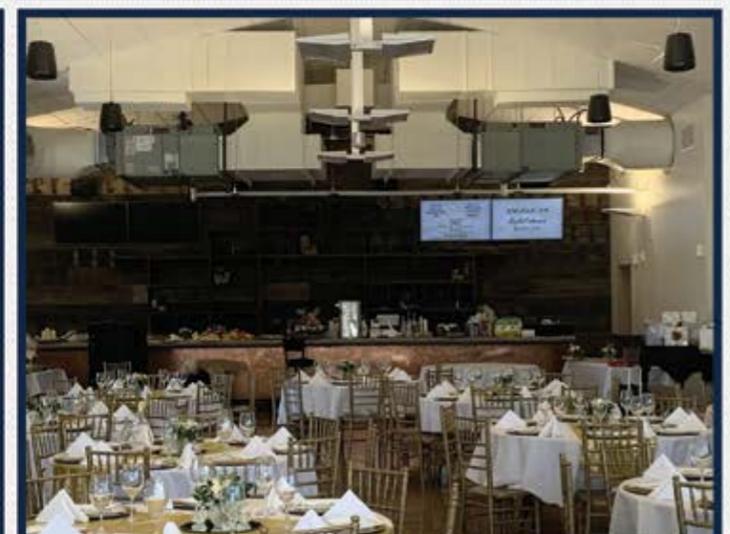
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Making an I.M.P.A.C.T

Imagine meeting your girlfriends on your lunch hour for a quick meal and catch-up on your life events. What starts as simple chit-chat progresses into a more vulnerable and deep conversation as the lunch continues. Relationships often form and grow over a shared meal, whether it is professional, familial, romantic, or platonic. The I.M.P.A.C.T program utilizes the rapport established in sharing a meal to build a mentoring relationship with participants.

The I.M.P.A.C.T. (Inspiring Mindful Progress in Academics and Community Together) program started at Midland Freshman High School in September of 2017. The program is now at both Midland Freshman and Lee Freshman High Schools. I.M.P.A.C.T connects freshmen girls with Junior League members over good food and conversation.

On the first and third Tuesdays of every month from September to April, Committee members meet at both campuses with I.M.P.A.C.T. participants. Each lunch period has an average attendance of 25 girls with 8-10 Committee members present. In the spring, both I.M.P.A.C.T Committees are lucky enough to add mentors from the Junior League's Provisional class which helps to make the sessions more interactive for the mentees but also gives the provisionals a chance to learn more about one of the Junior League's community projects.

A typical meeting starts with the lunch bell. Each school has two lunch periods, A and B lunch and we have Committee members who meet with the girls during each lunch period. During the first session, mentors are assigned a small group made up of three to five girls who they will consistently sit and meet within a more personal setting throughout the course of the year. The League has found that meeting with the same group of girls from month to month builds trust early on, thereby fostering more meaningful relationships between the Junior League mentors and the girls. At each session, a different topic is covered during the lunch meetings. The topics for this year include conversation etiquette, stress management, appropriate dress, substance abuse, bullying, healthy bodies, and cyber safety. Typically there is a speaker who leads a group discussion during the first Tuesday of the month and then we continue to talk about the topic of the month in small groups during the following session.

Whether it is putting on a silly "What Not to Wear" Fashion Show or sharing vulnerable stories from our own lives, being an I.M.P.A.C.T. mentor has given us all the feelings! Our program participants come from all walks of life - some are athletes, some are involved in zero extracurriculars, some come from broken homes, and some simply just need someone who they can confide in who will not judge them. The diversity within the small groups has allowed the mentors and the girls to learn from and relate to



Petra Woodrige teaches the girls techniques in stress and anxiety management.



Gwendolyn Taylor, a JLM member, discussed the transition from high school to college and the process in which to apply for school and how to further your presence in the workforce after graduation.



Tracy Marshall spoke with the I.M.P.A.C.T. participants on general etiquette and positive presentation of oneself to society.

each other even though everyone seems so different on the outside.

It is no easy task to feed 80-100 hungry teenagers and we could not provide this need without the help of our community. The Committee is so fortunate for the generosity of several League members as well as local restaurants who have provided food for all four lunch sessions between the two schools. The meals have ranged from sandwiches, to barbecue, to pizza (a favorite, of course!) but the message to the participants is the same: we care about you, we want to hear your story and also help you navigate the difficulties and hardships that ninth-grade girl's face.

The Junior League has seen and heard firsthand how I.M.P.A.C.T has made a difference among freshman girls in the Midland community. The Committee has heard directly from the girls themselves how helpful it is to have someone to talk to about issues they feel they cannot talk to anyone else about. Parents have also approached Committee members in public to let them know the changes they have seen in their children due to the mentorship of I.M.P.A.C.T. Our Committee is extremely grateful to have been given the chance to mentor these amazing teenagers. The Junior League is truly making an impact at Midland and Lee Freshman.

This year, the I.M.P.A.C.T. program faced a new challenge with the COVID-19 pandemic, which shut down businesses and schools in March 2020. We were not able to meet with the girls and to finish out the year, a disappointing development for us all! With social distancing the new normal, the I.M.P.A.C.T. Committees have put together 200 "survival bags" for the I.M.P.A.C.T. participants, which include snack bars, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, books, activities, notebooks, a personalized note, and pens. While we miss connecting with the girls in person every other week, we hope these goody bags will bring a bright spot to their day, and let them know that we are always thinking of them, as they have made just as large of an impact on each of us.

HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE CURRENTLY ON THE I.M.P.A.C.T. COMMITTEE?

19 Committee members, with 11 Provisionals that joined the Committee in the spring.

HOW MANY STUDENTS DID I.M.P.A.C.T SERVE THIS YEAR?

Approximately 100 girls regularly attended I.M.P.A.C.T. sessions this year.

HOW DOES I.M.P.A.C.T. SERVE OUR COMMUNITY?

We serve as being a "big sister" to these young ladies. We visit with them bi-weekly during lunch for an entire school year. We educate the girls by discussing relevant topics to their age group with the hopes it will benefit them in making good choices during the teenage years and possibly adult life.

WHAT HAS THE COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHED THIS YEAR?

We had good participation during 11 educational sessions with mentees. Many of them tried foods they never had before at our lunches. We strengthened relationships and created more of a presence with the faculty at both Midland and Lee Freshman campuses, as well as with other community organizations.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

By Evelyn Serrano, Community Vice President,
and Taylor Shorb, Project Research & Development Chair

Junior League of Midland Continues to Create Community Impact with its Community Programs

What an incredible year our community placements have had! The theme for our League this year was “Bloom Where You are Planted.” And, what a season it has been to bloom! This has been an unprecedented time in our lives, creating unique challenges and requiring a new way of doing things. But, the need for serving those through our programs has not diminished. If anything, the need to fulfill community needs through voluntarism is at a higher demand.

The League’s community programs were certainly affected by the impact of COVID-19 and faced some unique challenges, but the committees rose to the challenge and offered creative solutions to continue to help those in need. Over the past few weeks, we are proud to have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic in the following ways:

- Pink Pantry, the League’s newest placement providing feminine hygiene products in MISD secondary schools, packed and delivered over 600 hygiene packs to MISD’s 27 food sites to hand out to students in need.
- Reading Olympics at Taylor Park, the League’s program providing reading enrichment to students in K-6th grades, donated over \$2,000 worth of books and craft supplies for the Boys and Girls Club at-home activity bags.
- I.M.P.A.C.T., the League’s program providing a year-long structured mentoring program to at-risk freshman female students, created 200 activity packs to be distributed at MISD food sites for freshman girls to help them during their time at home.
- The League donated \$10,000 to Midland Independent School District to increase the number of available hotspots for distance learning. This money has allowed 200 kids the opportunity to continue with their studies while school is shuttered.
- The League has witnessed dozens of members around town helping other critical nonprofits fulfill their mission-based activities -- from making cloth face masks for health care centers to serving food at MISD food sites and Meals on Wheels to making baked goods for area food kitchens and pantries.

Let us also not forget the tremendous accomplishments of our League community placements have had this League year before the pandemic.

Face the Race, the League’s mentoring program focusing on increasing self-esteem in junior high school girls, welcomed 59 girls across the four junior high schools this year. During the eight-week program, participants learned about leadership skills, self-defense, cyber awareness, healthy choices, teen health issues, and, of course, training for the Face the Race 5K. As part of program evaluation, the League administered the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale to measure self-esteem and self-confidence in participants. This year’s survey results showed a 16% increase in high self-esteem and a 13% decrease in low self-esteem in the participants at the conclusion of Face the Race.

Level	Pre-Program	Post-Program
High (26-30)	5%	21%
Normal (15-25)	74%	68%
Low (0-14)	24%	11%

Suits with Skills, the League’s job-skills mentoring program for female survivors of domestic abuse and other under-served women, started at a new location this year, Centers for Children and Families. Suits with Skills at Centers had 6 women graduate from the program. Suits with Skills continued to serve at Buckner Children and Family Services graduating with 8 women from the program. Both programs showed an increase in the self-esteem/confidence of the participants.

Suits with Skills Centers		
Level	Pre-Program	Post-Program
High (26-30)	14%	50%
Normal (15-25)	86%	50%
Low (0-14)	0%	0%

Suits with Skills Buckner		
Level	Pre-Program	Post-Program
High (26-30)	14%	25%
Normal (15-25)	85%	75%
Low (0-14)	0%	0%

Reading Olympics, the League’s after-school program for students Kindergarten through 6th grade, is held at two Boys & Girls Club locations during the school year. Half Park club is the fall location and Taylor Park club is in the spring. The Half Park program served

“Meaningful impact is at the heart of our community programs. To measure the efficacy of our mentoring programs, we utilize the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, the most widely used measure of self-esteem for research purposes. The survey is a set of 10 statements such as, “I am satisfied with myself” and “I wish I had more respect for myself” with participants rating each statement from “strongly disagree” or “strongly agree.” By having our community program participants take this survey at the beginning and end of the mentoring programs, the League has a better idea of whether the programs are increasing participants’ self-worth and whether we are making a noticeable impact on the groups we strive to serve.”

33 K-3rd graders and 22 4th-6th graders this year and read 14 books over the 8-week program, including *The Day the Crayon Came Home*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, *Miss Nelson is Missing*, and many more. Over the course of the program, each child received 12 books to add to their home collection. Due to Taylor Park being the spring location, they were not able to finish their placement as originally planned. Instead, the Committee donated 450 books and craft supplies so that the Boys and Girls Club could put together take-home activity bags for the children.

Pink Pantry’s first year in operation was a success! Thanks to our collaboration with Communities in Schools, Pink Pantry started in 6 MISD secondary schools: Lee High, Midland High, Lee Freshman, Midland Freshman, Goddard Junior High, and Alamo Junior High. Prior to MISD campuses being closed, the program had distributed over 2,000 feminine hygiene products to students, which included tampons, panty liners, pads, shampoos, soaps, deodorants, and feminine wipes. We are making plans to expand Pink Pantry to all MISD secondary schools come August; stay tuned!

In addition to these four projects, we also serve the larger non-profit community through our Volunteers in Midland initiative. This year, we have provided our greatest resource -- our well-trained and attentive member-volunteers to area nonprofits, including, Cimmaron Place, Jubilee Center, Kids First, Mission Agape, Teen Court, Habitat for Humanity, Keep Midland Beautiful, the Midland Fire Department, and Project Hope. In all, Junior League of Midland members volunteered over 1,450 hours for our partners during the last 12 months!

Despite the unique challenges encountered this year, the League’s community placements executed incredible programs. This could not have been possible without our members’ participation/dedication to these programs and the tremendous support of our community and partners. Our members showed the true meaning behind the theme of the year to “Bloom Where You are Planted” and what a payoff it had to our community!

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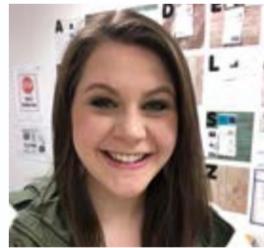
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SARAH BRANNON
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Fort Worth

Favorite League Placement

I enjoyed working with the provisional classes. The In-League placements are enjoyable as this is a fun way to meet and guide new members and learn about the League in general.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

The League is a great service opportunity to give back to the community.



MICHELLE HARRIS
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

My first year in the Reading Olympics Committee was the year we started it. It was so much fun seeing the implementation of a new program in our community and the joy on the children's faces each week as we introduced a new book.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I would recommend joining the League because you get the opportunity to help make a difference for others in the community and make new friends.



AMBER BURK
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Lake Charles, LA

Favorite League Placement

My favorite placement in the League was the Mistletoe and Moss Holiday Market in Lake Charles. I loved working closely with other League members to create such a fun event that gives back so much to our community every year.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

Joining the Junior League is a great way to connect with other women who want to join together to better our community.



AMBER HOELSCHER
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Bell County - Temple

Favorite League Placement

My favorite placement was Project Prom, which I co-chaired and chaired. I was able to expand the project to include more Bell County schools and provide a full prom experience from dresses to cosmetic services to dinner out.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I recommend joining a League to learn about challenges in your community and find projects that fit your interests and to help resolve these issues.



CHELSEA DAVIS
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Suits with Skills - I loved the connection made with women who were so driven and inspiring.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

It is a great way to meet people, but also get connected with our local community and the different organizations that we have in Midland.



LUCY LENNOX
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Board Member-at-Large - I enjoyed working with the Board to help develop the point system. We were able to take feedback and implement a plan that addressed a need for our League. I enjoyed the challenge while working alongside a great group of women.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

The League was a great way to plug into Midland and meet service minded women. It's a great community to be a part of while serving a wonderful city.



SARA DUNNAM
9 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Reading Olympics. I loved the direct impact you have with the community. I love the children and the books we read and the way their faces light up when they get to bring the books home.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

The Junior League offers a unique way to serve your community. I also loved learning new skills from various League placements that I can use in my own business and professional life.



REBECCA LINEHAN
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Volunteers in Midland Chairman - I was able to interact with and volunteer at so many different nonprofits around town.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I would recommend joining the League not only because it gave me lifelong friendships but also because it taught me a set of skills that I've carried with me and used on every board and in every professional situation that I've encountered.



JENNIFER LOPEZ
10 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

I loved being the first Chairman for the Reading Olympics. Reading Olympics is such an amazing program that we are able to partner with the Boys and Girls Club to truly create a love for reading one book at a time to children that typically don't enjoy reading.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I would definitely recommend joining the Junior League to women in our community, not only have I met lifelong friends through the League but I have benefited from my League training that has carried over to other areas in my life. Most importantly I have been able to make an impact on our community through a variety of my placements.



KENDALL MOORE
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Even though it was a lot of work, I really enjoyed Co-Chairing with Claire Compton for Face the Race 2017. I loved being able to see all the ideas we had worked so hard on come to life each Monday afternoon. The progress that the junior high girls made each week in their discussions and their workouts was such a wonderful thing to witness.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I would absolutely recommend joining the League because of the powerful impact that each placement has on our community. Being a part of something that substantial is really a special thing.



KELLY POPINO
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Shreveport, LA

Favorite League Placement

My favorite placement was as a Placement Advisor. I enjoyed meeting with the other advisors and getting to know my advisees during various walks of their time in the League.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

Bloom where you're planted has always been my motto, even before it was this year's theme. It is so fitting that I'm ending my time in the League this year. Our theme is exactly the reason I joined the League. I wanted to bloom in a new community where I knew no one, at first in Shreveport and then a short year later, when we moved to Midland. Joining the League was the best way to get involved and I was welcomed right away. I am so grateful for the 7 years spent in the Junior League of Midland. I am so appreciative of the knowledge that I gained and most importantly the friendships that I am taking away from this experience. If you're looking for the best way to "bloom", not just for friendships, but to get to know your community and taking an active role in helping Midland thrive, then the JLM is the place for you!



ELIZABETH RAINEY
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Advisory Planning - Working behind the scenes to shape the League was very rewarding.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

It is a great way to meet new people and learn about Midland. It's important to give back to the place you live and build a community together.



CAROLINE RITCHIE
7 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Placement Advisor - I had mainly community placements during my League career and it was fun this last year to see how the League runs from the inside. I loved getting to reach out to more people in the League I didn't know before.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

The League is a great way to learn about Midland, especially if you are new to Midland like I was. It lets you feel a part of this town by serving the community and making friends at the same time!



TARYN SNIDER
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Suits with Skills Mentor - I felt like I was really making a difference in the lives of the women we were educating and supporting.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I would recommend joining the League because the members find and meet real needs in the community, the organized approach to governance and management of the League is unmatched by any other organization that I'm aware of, and the women I've met in the League are the most supportive, caring, compassionate, intelligent, and truly quality women I've ever had the pleasure of knowing. The League is a place where real community impact is achieved while lifelong friendships are made. Few other pursuits in my life have offered such fulfillment and sense of purpose as the Junior League of Midland.



MARINA STANALAND
9 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

Although serving as President this past year was quite memorable, my favorite placement was actually serving as Nominating Chairman. This role really allowed me to understand and appreciate the inner workings of the League. This placement also permitted me to sit on the Board and attend ODI. As a result, it motivated and educated me to take on bigger roles in the future.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

I chose the theme for the year of "Bloom Where You are Planted" because it is so personal to my life within the League. Over the last nine years, I have been asked to serve in various roles within the League that I initially didn't feel were the right fit for me, but ended up being the perfect and precise place I needed to be in order to grow. The League has equipped me with numerous skills through trainings and has provided substantial opportunities to serve and help our community prosper. Plus, I have had the opportunity to meet some of the sweetest ladies; friendships that I will treasure forever.



HEIDI WINKLER
8 YEARS

Initial Junior League
Midland

Favorite League Placement

They're all my favorite! However, my top three, in no particular order, would be the Public Relations Committee, Webmaster/Web Committee and Shotguns & Stiletos Committee.

Why would you recommend joining the Junior League?

If you're looking to help the community and make life-long friends, there's no better way to do it than by joining the Junior League of Midland. There are so many memories made here for which I am so thankful and will never forget! Thank you, JLM, for all of the opportunities you've given me over the last eight years.

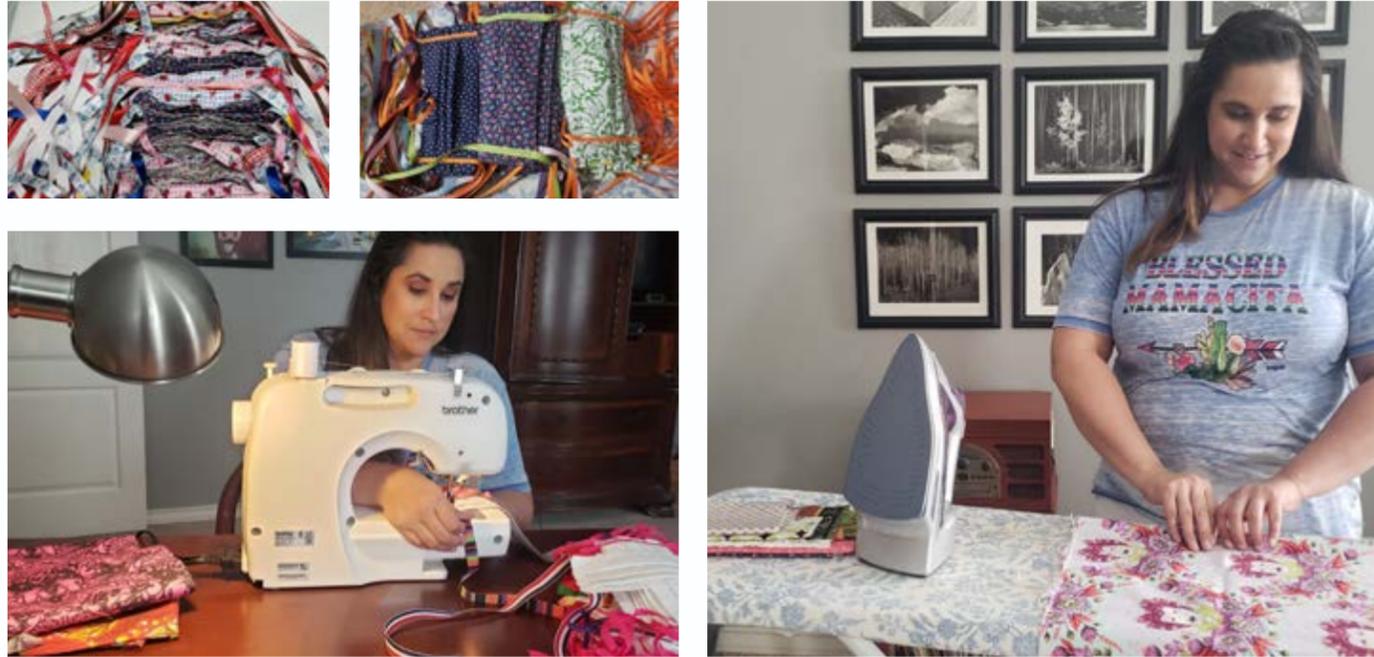
JLM is truly committed to its mission, vision and values and will always hold a special place in my heart.

Also sustaining, but not pictured are Randi Burlison, Bethany Etheredge, McKensy Hoisager Myra McKinley, and Rebecca Patry.

ACTIVE MEMBER USES TALENT TO HELP

By Rebecca Proctor

Jennifer Lopez sewed and donated over 400 masks to frontline workers at Midland Memorial and Odessa Regional Medical Center.



By Amber Hoelscher

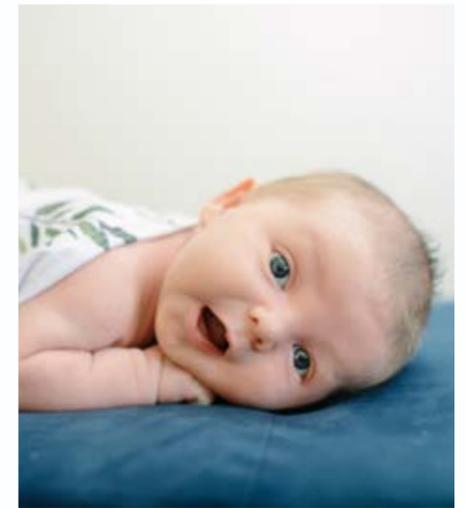
MEMBER MILESTONES



Suzy Prucka recently completed her term as PALS Coordinator within the Association of Junior Leagues International. PALS is a network of over 100 mid-sized Leagues within the Association, who mobilize together for the sharing of best practices but also to be fairly represented in organizational matters at the Association level. Suzy served as PALS Coordinator from 2015-2020.



Rebecca Proctor and husband, Leyton, welcomed their son Wesley Leyton Proctor on December 21, 2019. He weighed 9lb, 7oz and measured 22.5 inches long.



Ellecia Randle and her husband, Michael, welcomed Hudson Andrew Randle on February 6, 2020. He weighed 8lb, 6oz and measured 20 inches long.

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Hillary Mathis and husband, Mark, along with big sister Mary Evelyn and big brother Harrison, welcomed Walker Branch Mathis on February 12, 2020, at 4:23 p.m. Walker weighed 8lb, 9oz and measured 21 inches.



Lacey Holloman and husband, Jacob, along with big sister Fern welcomed Cora June Holloman on February 29, 2020, at 12:04 p.m. Cora weighed 7lbs, 10 oz and was 19.75 inches long.



Michelle Cohrs and husband, Frelyn, welcomed Clinton Price Cohrs on April 6, 2020, at 6:51 a.m. Clinton weighed 7lbs, 12oz and was 21.5 inches long.



By Kay Baker, Chairman

March Sustainer Luncheon

The Second Tuesday Club met on March 3, 2020, at the Ally Village for a progressive lunch. Owners from the shopping center's several stores gave short presentations about their businesses before setting out on a lunch tour. The shops are all so different from others in town — gourmet popsicles, beautiful children's clothing, unique floral designs, a small plate restaurant, exercise studio, ladies' designer clothing, high-end giftware, and exclusive art gallery. Merchants welcomed members with open arms and contributed door prizes to the day's fun. Attendees enjoyed a box lunch and socializing after the tour. Thanks to Ally Village for hosting the Second Tuesday Club this year.

Due to COVID-19, Second Tuesday Club was unable to hold their April event but want to encourage all Sustainers to join as we reconvene this fall. The Program Committee has a wonderful lineup of interesting and fun programs for 2020-2021. We look forward to having you join us!

To join Second Tuesday Club, please contact League Office Manager, Jamie Goodgame at office@jlmidland.org.



2020-2021 Second Tuesday Club Calendar of Events

September 8, 2020
Annual Sustainer Luncheon
Location to be Determined

October 13, 2020
The Best is Yet to Come
with Dr. S.B. Seotia,
Plastic Surgeon
at JLM Headquarters

November 10, 2020
Bill Bymum's Fantastic
Oceanic Excursions
with Erma Marino
at Carrasco Room, Midland College

December 8, 2020
Christmas Come & Go Brunch
at the home of Julie Stevens

January 12, 2021
The Newest Updates in Women's
Health Awareness
with Valerie Longoria,
Pink the Basin Director
at JLM Headquarters

February 9, 2021
Tumbleweed Smith:
A Humorous Texas Odyssey
at JLM Headquarters

March 9, 2021
I Married a Scoundrel:
Daisey Wettermark's Story
as told by Linda Bond
at JLM Headquarters

April 13, 2021
Dr. Benjamin Franklin:
Founding Father with
Candor, Wit, and Wisdom
as played by Debbie Moran
at JLM Headquarters

February Sustainer Luncheon

Lucia Gray and Joan Whitt co-chaired the February Second Tuesday Club luncheon at the new Midland Historical Museum. Additional hostesses for lunch were Susan Askins, Jann Bash, Edna Hibbitts, Jane Rambo, and Karen Scharbauer. It was a cold drizzly morning but the room was filled with warmth from red hearts and tulips making it feel full of Valentine joy.

Kay Baker called the meeting to order. President Marina Stanaland was in attendance and spoke about the upcoming Shotguns & Stilettos fundraiser.

After League business was completed, Joan Whitt introduced the curator of the museum, Jim Collette. Jim provided a brief presentation on the background of the building and insight into the museum's purpose of reflecting Midland's rich history. Then he led the group on a guided tour of the facility. The museum includes many artifacts and clippings about the early years in Midland as well as volumes of historical documents. Jim's wish is for all Midlanders to take interest and offer things of historical significance to be scanned or displayed in the museum.

TRANSFER WELCOME

By Jaimey Sloan Warren

Amber Burk

Amber Burk moved to Midland in January 2019 from Lake Charles, Louisiana, with her husband, Austin, and her two children, Camille and Tripp. Amber was a member of the Junior League of Lake Charles for seven years before transferring to the Junior League of Midland. Amber grew up in Waco, where she attended Baylor University earning a Child and Family Studies degree. Utilizing her degree, she taught preschool for over eleven years.

Amber has always enjoyed volunteering, starting with many summers as a camp counselor for Camp John Marc, a camp geared towards children with chronic disabilities, to her current Family Ambassador role for the Midland/Odessa March of Dimes Board. Amber's passion for the March of Dimes began with her own experience of caring for a child born prematurely at 29 weeks and the resulting complications.

Although she is sustaining this year, Amber has enjoyed all of her placements and feels her involvement with the Junior League has developed her skill set and expanded her knowledge of the communities in which she resides.



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