

# Lagniappe

Summer 2012

Junior League of New Orleans

**MEET OUR  
2012 "MEN  
OF THE  
LEAGUE"**  
P.20

**TRAIN FOR A 5K,  
THE RIGHT WAY**  
— CHECK OUT OUR  
LIVING WELL ARTICLE  
WITH DR. ANDREW MORITZ  
P.15

**LAGNIAPPE HITS  
THE ROAD**

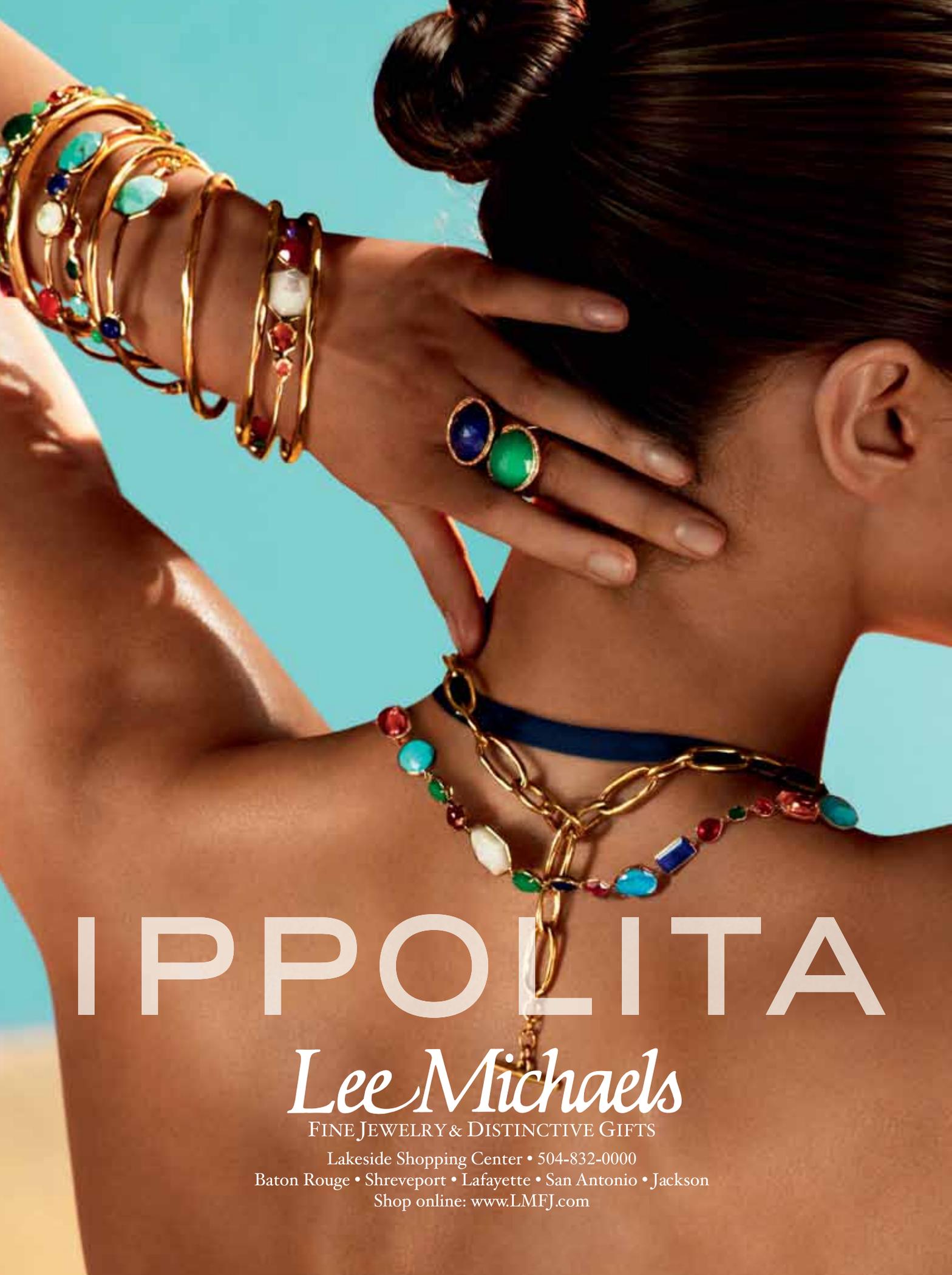


**SUMMER  
SWEET TOOTH:**  
CRESCENT  
CHEESECAKE WITH  
PECAN CRUST

**JLNO IS  
HOT HOT HOT:**  
3 SIZZLING  
SPRING  
AWARDS  
P.10

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Photo by: Emily Smith

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## On the Cover

Kingsley House Executive Director Keith Liederman welcomes Get on Board Co-Chairs Caroline Fayard and Leigh Thorpe, Mary Harriman Award winner Anne Milling, and JLNO Planning and Development Council Director Tara Luparello to celebrate JLNO's impact in the community.

## In Every Issue

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# Letter

from the President

Photo by: Neil Hurd



DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome to the Summer issue of *Lagniappe* magazine, an issue celebrating the ripple effect of the Junior League in our lives and our community.

Two remarkable examples of this ripple effect were recognized with highest honors by the Association of Junior Leagues International in San Francisco this spring. The Get on Board program, highlighted in this issue of *Lagniappe*, touches hundreds of volunteers and nonprofits with training and was recognized with the Association's prestigious Community Impact Award. Sustainer and Past President Anne Milling has put her Junior League training to work creating ripples and positive change for so many and was honored with the 2012 Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award for her reflection of the ideals and values of Junior League founder Mary Harriman.

Our cover photo, taken at Kingsley House, reflects yet another recognition of JLNO's impact in the greater New Orleans area. This spring, Kingsley House honored JLNO with the McMinn Citizenship Award for the many ways JLNO serves the city through Get on Board, Community Affairs, and Senior League involvement at Kingsley House.

With this issue, I bid you goodbye and thank you for the great privilege of serving as the 2011-12 President of the Junior League of New Orleans. I thank *Lagniappe* Editor Caitlin Brewster and Photography Editor Jessica Chin for a beautiful year in stories and pictures, and I am indebted to the board of directors, membership, and our community partners and sponsors for all of the wonderful accomplishments this year.

The year ahead is full of promise and opportunities to build a greater New Orleans and the Junior League of New Orleans is in great hands with the 2012-13 leadership team.

As always, please enjoy this magazine and share it with a friend. You can learn more about JLNO at our newly redesigned website, [www.jlno.org](http://www.jlno.org).

I'm off to make ripples!

*Gratefully,*  
*Blanche "Dee" McCloskey*  
*2011-2012 President*



Dee and Saints defensive back Malcolm Jenkins toast the great entries in the Lemonade Day taste contest.



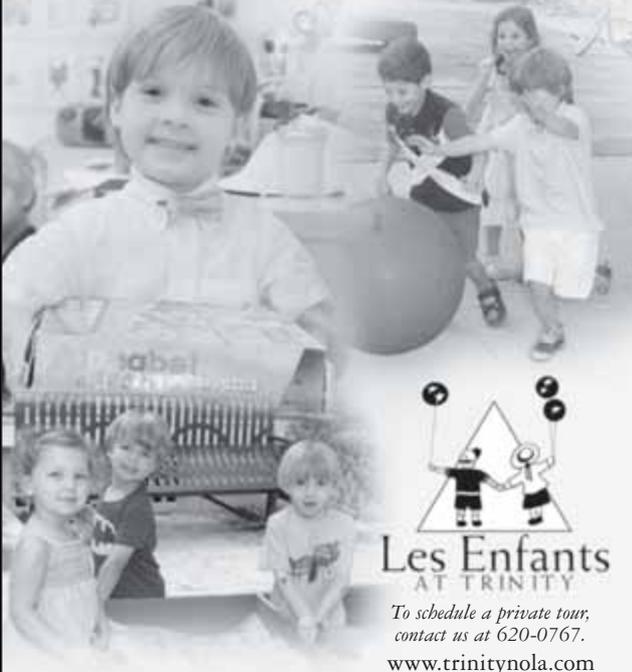
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# Letter

from the Editor



**HAPPY SUMMER!** Writing to all of you for the last time is bittersweet because while I am sad to leave the ladies of *Lagniappe*, it has been an amazing year of growth for the publication. In the summer issue of *Lagniappe* we followed the theme of “the ripple effect” knowing that every little thing we “Leaguers” do impacts someone or something else — no matter how big or how small.

Personally, I know I am so dedicated to the Junior League because I feel I can make a difference, even if it is being the editor of our magazine, *Lagniappe*. My small role helps get this publication of goodness out to the public in hopes to spread our joys and help others in the New Orleans community.

I cannot tell you how proud I am of our writers. Our cover story, written by Kelly Walsh, focuses on our Get on Board program, which enables League members, as well as members in the community, to train to become board members in our great city. The “ripple effect” couldn’t be more apparent here.

Another feature, which I am particularly proud of, is our League Member in the Community, Ann Herren, written by Mary O’Brien Huxen. Ann was a past editor of *Lagniappe* and was inspired to start her own magazine, *nola baby & family*. As a new mom, I am inspired by her accomplishments and look forward to reading every issue of her magazine.

Have you ever tossed a pebble into a lake or body of water when the water was completely calm? Although the pebble is small, the effect is large. From that tiny *plop*, ripples begin to spread out in all directions. And it never ceases to amaze me just how far they can extend.

This has been a fantastic year and I have enjoyed being editor of the *Lagniappe* and working with such dynamic women. I hope in a small way, I can act as the pebble tossed into the lake.

*Have a great summer –*

*Caitlin Brewster*

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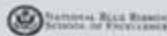
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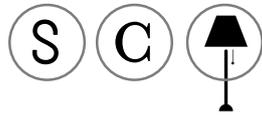
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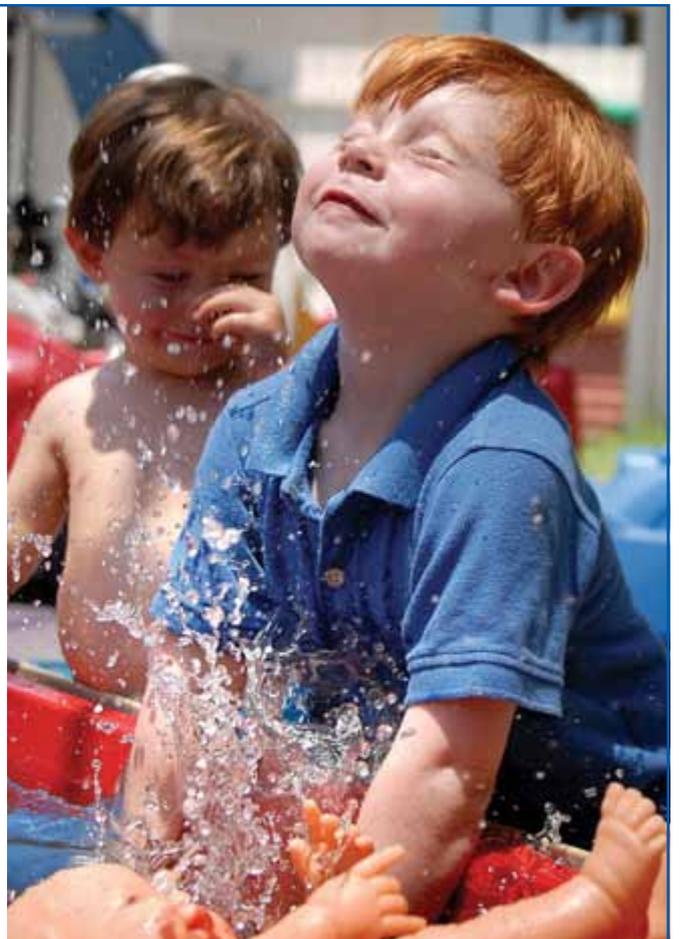
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Find past issues of *Lagniappe*



Spring 2012 Get on Board Graduates Emma McCreight, Jennifer Jeansonne, Mariel Ponseti, and Brandy Gilly.

Photo by: Dee McCloskey

# Get on Board Makes Ripples for League Members and the Community

By Kelly Walsh

AT ITS ANNUAL Conference each year, the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI), an association of the 293 Junior Leagues worldwide, recognizes outstanding League projects and programs in categories that include Marketing, Fund Development, and Membership. The 2012 Community Impact Award, regarded as one of the highest of these honors, was bestowed on JLNO and the Get on Board program at the Annual Conference in San Francisco this year. The Get on Board program is put on by JLNO twice a year — in the spring and the fall — to help participants develop the leadership skills necessary to govern area nonprofit organizations. While direct service volunteers for nonprofit organizations provide critical support and expand an organization's capacity, the board of directors provides strategic leadership for its growth and development.

The Get on Board program strengthens nonprofits by providing them with trained board members or interns and helps participants by

giving them the skills which will make them successful board members.

While Get on Board is a program for the whole community, there are many League members among the Get on Board alumni. In fact, 18 of the program's graduates this spring are League members. For these League members, the Get on Board program was a natural extension of their membership in the League and another way to improve and expand their volunteer skills.

One program graduate, Kimberly Fontenot, said she joined the Junior League in order to meet new people. But Kim then discovered that she enjoyed volunteering and has even served as the chair for a few League committees.

"Get on Board allowed me another avenue to have a leadership role in children's causes," Kim said.

Program graduate and League member Laura Smith felt the same way. Laura noted that she joined JLNO because of the networking



Spring 2012 Get on Board Graduates Alison Zink, Mark Vicknair, and Jake Wiley.



2011-2012 President Dee McCloskey, President-Elect Brandy Whisnant, and President-Elect-Elect Jeanne Boughton accept the AJLI Community Impact Award for the Get on Board Program from AJLI President Delly Beekman at the AJLI Conference in San Francisco on April 21, 2012.

and volunteering opportunities it provided as well as the power of the League mission. Laura then decided to participate in Get on Board because she “wanted to take her voluntarism to the next level.”

“Since high school I’ve served as a volunteer for several organizations on the ground level, participating in minute details,” Laura said. “Now, as an attorney, I can offer my ground level service as well as my professional perspective to make a more profound impact.”

Program graduate Mona Chawla joined the program so she could learn to be more effective as a nonprofit leader.

“I wanted to continue serving this community and thought that my professional and personal interests could help a local not-for-profit board. However, I wanted to make sure I fully understood the structure,

the board member’s purpose, and the responsibilities that are incurred when serving on a board,” Mona said. “When I heard that the Junior League was sponsoring this program to teach young professionals the ‘ins and outs’ of being board members, I knew it would be a quality program that I could benefit from.”

The “ins and outs” of being a board member are taught over several sessions and address several topics pertinent to developing a successful nonprofit leader. The topics include board roles and responsibilities, financial policies and fiduciary duties, legal considerations, strategic planning processes and effective leadership development. Upon successful completion of the course, JLNO matches partici-

continued on page 12

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS PLACING GET ON BOARD PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

- Amachi Charter School Association of Louisiana
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Louisiana
- CDC 58:12 Inc.
- Chard Gonzalez Dance Theatre
- Common Ground Health Clinic
- Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse for Greater New Orleans (CADA)
- Fountain of Youth Foundations
- Global Green USA
- Hope Stone Inc./Kid’s Play NOLA project
- KID smART
- Leading Educators
- Louisiana Green Corps
- Luke’s House Clinic
- National Kidney Foundation of Louisiana Inc.
- New Orleans Charter School Foundation/McDonogh City Park Academy
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- Partnership for Youth Development
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- Start the Adventure in Reading (STAIR)
- T.R.E.E. Teaching Responsible Earth Education
- Transport for NOLA
- Woodlands Conservancy
- World Affairs Council of New Orleans
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## Get on Board

continued from page 11

pants with local nonprofits for board participation or internship.

Each session is led by a community expert who incorporates role-playing, group work and facilitated panel discussion involving current board and agency leadership into the training. The community experts this spring include Kathleen Zuniga, a director in the audit practice of Deloitte & Touche, L.L.P. in New Orleans with 16 years experience serving a variety of clients including nonprofits, and Nancy Burris Perret, owner and management consultant at MindShare, which specializes in organizations anticipating or experiencing substantial change. Perret has had extensive experience serving on and providing consultation to several nonprofit boards including United Way of Greater New Orleans.

Another of the community experts leading a Get On Board training session this past spring was Nancy Fournier, Ph.D. Fournier is a nonprofit consultant who provides technical experience in strategic planning, organizational and board development, as well as executive recruitment, performance management, evaluation and proposal writing. Participant Laura Smith felt she benefited most from Fournier's strategic planning presentation.

"She taught the class insightful, key components including defining an organization's vision, mission and values in order to

Photo by: Jessica Chin



JLN members and Get on Board graduates Chalon Dominick, Laura Smith, Casey Perez, and Kimberly Fontenot.

develop the most effective strategy for the future," Laura said.

Charlie Heim, a 35-year fundraising veteran, always has a big impact on the Get on Board participants. Heim focuses on the analysis of fundraising programs, major gift efforts, board development and strategic planning. For Kim Fontenot, Heim's presentation resonated most.

"He energized me to feel like I could earn everything I asked for," Kim said. "I have spoken to him a few times since [the program] and am glad to have made that connection."

Not only does Get on Board provide leadership training for potential nonprofit board members, but it also provides nonprofit organizations with trained board members. Get on Board Program Chair

Leigh Thorpe said that, after graduation from Get on Board, most of the graduates are matched with nonprofit boards. In fact, of the 54 graduates, 47 asked to be matched with nonprofits and the others were already on boards and wanted to benefit from the program's training.

Kim will be serving on a board focusing on children's education and confidence building, two of her passions.

Laura looks forward to serving as a board member with the New Orleans Speech and Hearing Center.

"I selected this board because my father incurred hearing loss at age five, and I've experienced first hand the obstacles one faces with hearing and speech challenges," she said. ■

# Lagniappe



Put your company in front of the readers of *Lagniappe*, with an ad in our quarterly magazine. *Lagniappe* has been published by the Junior League of New Orleans since 1930 to promote the League's missions and goals. Its purpose is to educate our members and the community at large about the organization's projects, activities, fundraisers and membership.

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# Remembering Stella

*To make a gift in memory of Stella, or simply help JLNO's Retire the Debt on Freret campaign, please visit [jln.org](http://jln.org) or send contributions to the Junior League at 4319 Carondelet St., New Orleans, LA 70115.*

ON APRIL 3, THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS lost longtime friend and Bloomin' Deals employee Stella Mae Johnson Porche.

For almost two decades, Stella Porche has been an important part of the Bloomin' Deals family and leadership team. Stella managed the Annex, where JLNO receives and processes thousands of donations of rummage items each year, from clothing to housewares. JLNO members working their shifts in the Annex or dropping rummage donations remember her kindness, twinkling eyes, and laugh.

Thrift Shop Chair Maria Huete describes Stella as the "lodestone" of Bloomin' Deals. "Everyone was drawn to her by the magic she exuded," Maria notes.

JLNO President and former Thrift Shop Chair Dee McCloskey marvels at all of the first dates, last dates, wedding plans, pregnancies, bedwetting, children's first days at school, loss of their own parents, and other life events League members shared with Stella as they sorted clothes in the Annex.

"Provisionals working their Thrift Shop shifts may have been building relationships with their fellow League members, but for many, they were also building a relationship with Stella. The response from members learning about Stella's illness reflected how deeply loved Stella has been among

the membership and how tremendously members valued her cheer and counsel."

Bloomin' Deals manager Marc Berard smiles when he recalls that from the moment he met Stella, "the only thing she loved more than bingo was children, and because Stella had no children of her own, she considered the League members and their children her kids."

More than one generation of children knew how important it was to make sure and go in the Annex when visiting the Thrift Shop, where Stella would produce a treat or toy she had stashed away for little ones.

One of Stella's final wishes was that her estate benefit JLNO to help Retire the Debt on Freret. The Retire the Debt on Freret campaign is an effort to raise funds to pay the outstanding debt incurred on the League's 2010 purchase of the Thrift Shop building.

Led by the example of Ninette Charbonnet Eastman and her family's plans to match Stella's contribution, many

members have stepped forward to donate to the campaign in Stella's memory and honor. Stella's dedication to the Junior League of New Orleans will be remembered in a special way as JLNO dedicates "Stella's Spot" in the Annex facility in what will surely be a special day for members, staff, and the customers who knew and appreciated Stella so well! ■



*An excerpt from a letter to the League from JLNO Sustainer and Past President Ninette Charbonnet Eastman, who brought Stella, a longtime friend, and the League together:*

"When I was chairman of the Thrift Shop in 1993, we had serious growing pains and needed people who were up to the challenge. Who better than Stella to join the team? Bloomin' Deals became her home, family and community. Stella understood that the Thrift Shop was there to serve not only as a fundraiser for JLNO but also as a community center for the Freret neighborhood and she had her own way of doing things. She loved people, especially children, and they loved her right back. She knew the customers, their needs and interests. Even as she was settling into Chateau de Notre Dame Hospice, Stella was on her cell phone, helping someone find Mardi Gras items. She called the Thrift Shop, knew right where the items were, and called the customer back with advice to 'go by and get it right away!' The ultimate dealmaker, she even asked if I had anything stashed at my house that would suit the need!"



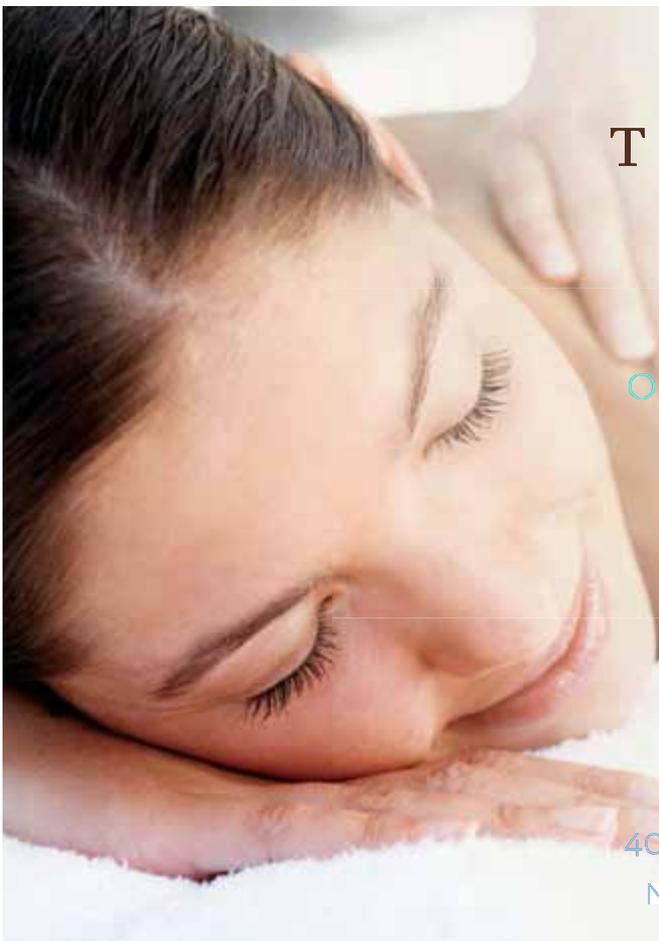
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## Tips for Preparing for a Race Without Getting Injured



**Dr. Andrew Moritz**  
Ochsner Health System

YOU SIGNED UP FOR your first race and ran every day for eight weeks in preparation. The week before the race, your shins started hurting. The pain prompted you to see your doctor, who required complete rest for two weeks, causing you to miss the race.

Where did you go wrong?

With the running season in full swing, Dr. Andrew Moritz in the Sports Medicine Department at Ochsner offers tips on how to avoid injury when preparing for a race.

“The number one cause of injury is overuse,” Dr. Moritz notes. “Runners need to gradually increase their mileage while listening to their bodies. If your body starts to feel like you are overdoing it, then you need to slow down and rest.”

How long before a race should a novice begin training?

While age, activity level and race goals will play a factor, a new runner should begin preparing for her first 5K approximately two to three months prior to the race. Dr. Moritz recommends a training regimen that includes cross-training and rest days.

“Depending on your goal, you should have one long run each week and either rest or cross-train the day after your long run,” he suggests.

Good cross-training activities include swimming and biking, which utilize different muscles than when running. In addition to a good training regimen, “stretching before and after your run is essential.”

Finally, keeping your body well fed and hydrated before the race is important. While many runners believe in “carb loading” the night before a race, Dr. Moritz recommends eating a light, easily digestible meal. Keeping your body hydrated is also essential, especially in the warm summer months.

By following these tips, runners can ensure that their hard work pays off and that they can cross the finish line. **■**

# Kitchen Tour Recap

By Danielle Sutton

Photo by: Elizabeth Hill

THE 7TH ANNUAL Junior League Kitchen Tour outdid itself once again this year. Kicking off with the Cocktails & Cuisine Party on March 22 at the gorgeous New Orleans Hyatt Empire Ballroom, guests were treated to gourmet food from Rommel's Catering, a sushi bar and YogurtLand frozen yogurt.

Chef Tenney Flynn from GW Fins was on hand doing cooking demonstrations, and there were fabulous specialty drinks from Old New Orleans Rum and The District New Orleans as well as a fully stocked bar compliments of Lulu B. Wine, Southern Eagle and City Wholesale.

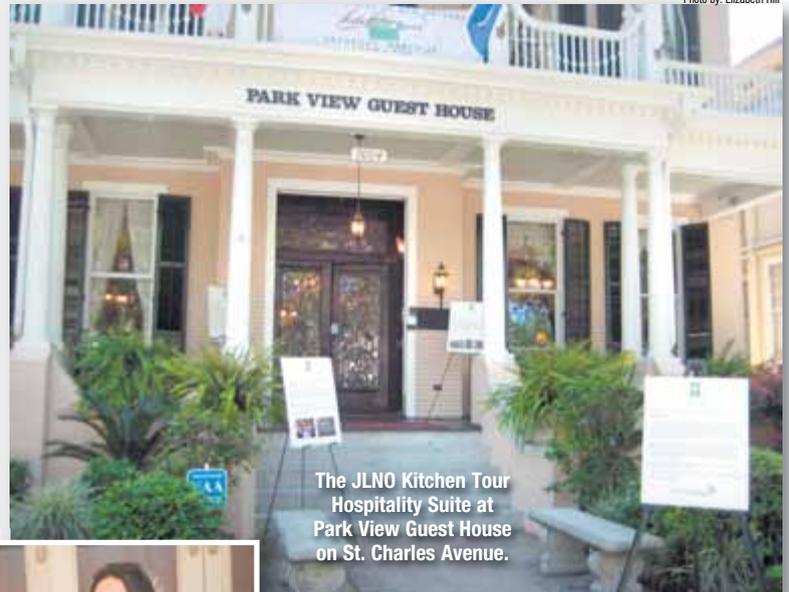
Auction items included a hunting trip, two rides in the Krewe of Tucks parade, a seven-day stay in a Destin condo, cooking lessons at Vom Fass, a private party at Blues Jean Bar and a catered Taceaux Loceaux party for 20. The auction raised more than \$12,000.

Hosted by Chairs Sarah Martzolf and Dana Parks, Vice Chair Heather Johnson and their committee, Cocktails & Cuisine will be a tough event to top next year.

The Kitchen Tour, a self-guided tour through a collection of 10 of New Orleans' and Old Metairie's finest residential kitchens selected by Co-chairs Melissa Beaugh, Lauren Boyce and Lila Fox, Vice Chair Amelia Arthur and their committee, took place Saturday, March 24. After Bloomin' Deals, the Kitchen Tour is the Junior League of New Orleans' largest fundraiser.

Tour kitchens included that of Julia Reed and husband John Pearce, who many locals know from her book, *The House on First Street*, as well as her columns in *Newsweek* and *Vogue*. Guests sampled delicious finger food donated by St. James Cheese Company, Maple Street Patisserie, Mondo and others.

New this year was the addition of a hospitality stop at Park View Guest House, where patrons could rest with refreshments and libations, purchase raffle tickets and peruse signs detailing some of JLNO's 15 current community projects. Similar signs were placed throughout the tour homes, detailing endeavors from Rebuilding Together to Judgment Call, and encouraging visitors to enjoy knowing their contributions would reap rich rewards in the New Orleans community. 



The JLNO Kitchen Tour Hospitality Suite at Park View Guest House on St. Charles Avenue.

Photo by: Kellen Pirri



Active Sarah Myers enjoys volunteering for the Junior League's Kitchen Tour.

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Photo by: Kellen Pirri



Attendees study a beautiful kitchen and look for inspiration.

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# Strength of Relationship

Planting the seeds of love, care and voluntarism today,  
for the strength of the women of the community tomorrow!

by Mona Chawla

WHILE ADOLESCENCE can be a challenging time for everyone, young women without a support system can feel particularly vulnerable. The women of the Junior League of New Orleans are helping guide some younger women in the community in partnership with the Raintree House, a community-based group home providing therapeutic and nurturing care for teenage girls age 12-17, many of whom have been abused or neglected.

Raintree House is the site of JLNO's Strength of Relationship community project, started in 2010. The program provides League members with an opportunity to design and conduct life skills seminars for girls in the foster care system.

In recent months the girls at Raintree House have had a series of events sponsored by the League. Gigi Roth, Co-Chair of the project talks about the first of their events, "It was a Saturday in October at their house. We got an instructor from NOLA Pilates to come lead a Zumba class on the front lawn of their lovely home in the Garden District." Co-Chair Olivia Graugnard says, "It really was a hit for the girls because of their love of dancing. We ordered pizza and ate outside afterwards and did an icebreaker question game. The girls really felt at ease and had fun." In addition to the Zumba activity, Gigi notes that NOLA Pilates spoke with the girls about snacking wisely to keep up energy in their growing bodies. Gigi sums up the day: "The girls had a blast!"



Photo by: Lacey St. Pierre

Raintree House provides a safe and loving home for girls in foster care.



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In February Nurse Olivia Fleming from Tulane University Medical Center came to talk about health, the girls' changing bodies, and an array of questions. League members accompanied some of the girls to SOMA Intimates at Lakeside Mall, where they had a personal shopping experience in which they were fitted properly with undergarments. The League purchased two t-shirt bras for each girl. The girls' confidence boost was not the only benefit of the day. Gigi explains, "That day and the following Saturday SOMA donated 10% of the sales to Raintree."

In March the young women received nutritional guidance from one of the Junior League's partners, Ochsner Health System, during a field trip to Rouses. Later that afternoon, they cooked a delicious meal at Raintree with fresh produce from the store. They enjoyed their lunch while listening to Gaynell Conner, a motivational speaker from the Intergenerational Guidance Group.

When asked about how the Strength of Relationship project has impacted the young ladies of Raintree, Gigi states, "One of the things we put as a priority with the girls is just "hanging out" with them – talking to them and making them comfortable. I think they really enjoy being with women who are just interested in spending time with them and letting them be teenagers." She goes on to say, "A



**Strength of Relationship Chair Gigi Roth and volunteer Olivia Fleming do a presentation at the Raintree House before the girls go to SOMA for proper bra fitting.**



instead! Perhaps they'll talk to their friends about their good experiences, help guide another young person in the future, and help get them back on the right track, too!"

few of the girls asked us when we were at the mall, "What is the Junior League?" We explained what we do and they were surprised that we weren't paid to hang out with them, but that we just wanted to. We told them about all our community projects and hoped that one day we'd see their names on a new member list."

The committee chairs credit the success of the Raintree partnership to the skilled staff and the tremendous effort they put into the program. "Giving them a home is a true gift," Gigi states. "We are so blessed to have been a part of it."

Considering the effect that can be created by harnessing the talents of women in our community, the Junior League is helping to take the love that members have experienced in their own families and extend that to the young women of the Raintree House. Using the power of a trained volunteer's relationship with a foster child, the Strength of Relationship program can have far-reaching results. Olivia notes, "Instead of the girls repeating the history of their families, we hope that we can show them a better example and have that ripple throughout the community

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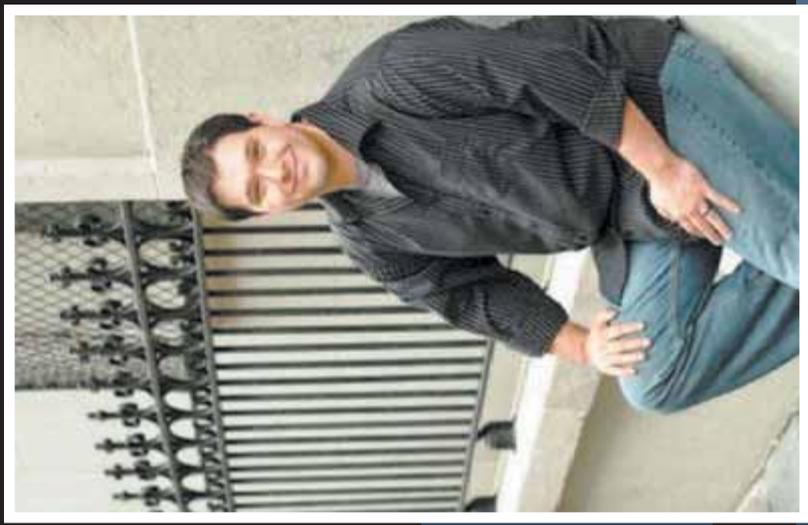
# 2012 Men of the League

Compiled by: Lucinda DeGrange

THIS SUMMER we would like to introduce you to our 2012 Men of the League. We think our guys are pretty special! From family support and donation duty to housecleaning, these men have gone above and beyond for the JLNO women in their lives by volunteering their time to help out and support us. Without our family, the women of the Junior League would not be the strong leaders who lead our community to bigger and better things. Thank you Men of the League!

## KEVIN CHIN

“My husband, Kevin, is so supportive of everything I do, especially the Junior League. Being a native New Orleansian, he loves this city and wants to make sure it continues to grow and thrive. He knows the Junior League plays a vital role in the revitalization and foundational support for New Orleans. Kevin also understands how important the League is to this city and to me. He supports me in all my League commitments and encourages me to be a strong member of the League, which will allow me to pay it forward to my new hometown,” Jessica says.



## BEN JANKE

Ben has always kept his family his number one priority. Although he works extremely long hours and has many late nights at the office, Ben never tells me he can't help out at home if I have a JLNO meeting or photo assignment.

I try to save a lot of my photo assignments — a yearlong placement — for the evenings or weekends, if possible. Weeknights, whether it is at home, the office, or the playground, Ben finds a way to spend educational father-son bonding time while I run to monthly meetings, credit shifts, or committee planning sessions.

When I'm out on assignment on the weekends, Ben will gather my designated donation bags — monthly in our home — as well as gathering family members' donations from around the city and bring them all to the donation center at Bloomin' Deals. It's gotten to the point where he doesn't even ask anymore where “these boxes” are going, he just knows to head over to the JLNO Thrift Shop! He makes it a fun event with our son, sort of a little ritual before heading out to the zoo.

So, if it were not for my man of the league, I would not be in the position to work and raise a family, while also having the satisfaction and joy of being a part, albeit small, of the larger impact on our community.

JLNO involvement, for me, doesn't just mean my commitments; it means it is a family commitment, one that, in the end, becomes just another part of who we are and our respect for the community.

## JOHN R. STELLY, II

John encouraged me to find an avenue to advance my efforts to become more involved in community improvement.

When I heard of the Junior League and suggested that to John as an organization dedicated to community improvement, he agreed it would be the perfect vehicle for me to achieve some of my personal goals. After all, John knew of the League's rich dedication to community improvement. Once I joined, John often adjusted his rather hectic work schedule to accommodate our attendance at League functions.

John has done his part to keep me as involved as possible in League activities. When I told John I was selected as Vice Chair for Community Affairs for the upcoming year, he was so proud and reassured me I would undoubtedly exceed expectations. Anecdotally, in an effort to reduce the



clutter in our house, John has tried, without success, to encourage me to donate at least some of my vast collection of LSU memorabilia to the Thrift Shop. Maybe, he'll have better luck next year.

John is special because of his selfless service to others. As a lieutenant with the Louisiana State Police, he is called upon regularly to assist other law enforcement agencies in the New Orleans metro area. He has seen things most of us could never imagine, yet I'm consistently amazed at his compassion for others in need and his ability to keep perspective.

He has encouraged me to apply these items to my League experience. "Always be mindful of others' circumstances because you have no clue what hand someone has been dealt," he says. "You have the ability to make the world a better place. It's up to you to make that difference."



## MARK STEPHENS

Mark says he loves to support anything and everything I do no matter how crazy the endeavor. He had always stated from the beginning of our marriage that he would never be the kind of husband to set limits for his wife. He would always support and take part in everything that his "other half" wishes to do.

"I very much support my wife's work in the Junior League because we are both firm believers in paying it forward," he says. "We had lost so much in the days of Katrina and received so much through the kindness and selflessness of others. Upon returning to New Orleans in 2008, we both vowed to give back to a city that we could no longer be away from."



## HYDER BREWSTER

"Hyder has been a tremendous support to me during the past four years while I have worked with JLNO. When I first chose a placement, I picked *Lagniappe* and after four wonderful years I am proud to be the Editor. As my responsibilities have grown, Hyder has shown his support and pride by helping around the house, caring for our daughter or assisting with last minute edits. Hyder is a beautiful writer. Most importantly, without Hyder as a behind the scenes husband, I couldn't have the strong team support which I need to further my volunteer efforts!" Caitlin says.

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# Fleur de League: Reaching Stylish and Savvy Online Shoppers

By: Allison Russell Waldron

WHAT'S A MOM with two growing boys and a \$500 BOB stroller they've outgrown to do?

With Fleur de League online, Ways and Means Council Director Lori Paige sold hers for \$300.

On Fleur de League, Junior League members can access Petites Annonces, where they can list an announcement, or browse other members' announcements. Classifieds are \$10 per month per listing, and there is no cost to browse. Members are already having great success selling items such as high-end baby gear and furniture, such as Lori's experience.

"I sold the BOB double stroller my boys used for \$300," Lori shares. "Two women were interested in it. The buyer got a great deal, as I originally paid over \$500 for the stroller, and I was delighted with the return on my investment."

Fleur de League is not just for individuals. Community businesses can promote themselves on the site through Petites Boutiques and Advertising. These are excellent ways to reach not only the JLNO market, but a much broader audience as well.

"It is the newest way to reach stylish and savvy local shoppers with just the click of a button," Enid Fahrenholt, Co-Chair with Samantha Daniels, explains.

Petites Boutiques start at \$10 per month and have three levels: chic, unique, and magnifique. The Junior League provides the template and know-how, and the business provides the goods. This service is ideal for businesses that aren't looking to support and maintain their own website but want to drive local, regional, and even national traffic to their business.

"Fleur de League has the potential to reach a huge audience," Enid says. "We'll not only reach the local shoppers in the New Orleans area, but also the whole community."

To that end, some businesses would prefer to market through advertising space on such a highly trafficked site. Advertising space starts at just \$75 per month, and businesses can either supply an ad or the Junior League can create one.

In addition to attracting web traffic, businesses will also be helping out the many community projects that the Junior League supports.

"We wanted to bring our training and knowledge with retail into the virtual community," Enid explains.

While helping local businesses to profit, the site fees generated by JLNO will help everything from Second Harvest to the Edible Schoolyard at Samuel J. Green Charter School. Businesses can profit, while the New Orleans community does as well.

For more information concerning Fleur de League, please visit [www.fleurdeleague.com](http://www.fleurdeleague.com). 



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# Where have you been with *Lagniappe*?



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## Community Assistance Fund Dollars Ripple Throughout the City

EACH YEAR, JLNO makes grants to area nonprofits through two Community Assistance Fund (CAF) grant cycles. During the 2011-12 League year, CAF Co-Chairs Lenetra McCord and Allison Steinfeld developed a new format and application process that focused each grant cycle on one of JLNO's focus areas.

The Fall 2011 cycle invited submissions for programs that match JLNO's focus on children's well being and education and the Spring 2012 cycle supported programs aligned with the Rebuilding New Orleans focus.

JLNO is proud to support organizations making ripples by distributing more than \$30,000 in 2011-12 grants.

### Fall Grant Recipients in Children's Wellbeing & Education

**Juvenile Regional Services** is a nonprofit juvenile public defender office serving children and families both during delinquency and Families in Need of Services (FINS) proceedings and outside of the court process with advocates and social workers to address the root issues that drive youth to the justice system. JLNO funds will provide laptop computer equipment to support the staff and volunteers who serve children and their families.

**Girls on the Run** is a youth development program, which combines a 10-week curriculum and running program to inspire self-respect and healthy life skills in pre-teen girls. JLNO funds will help expand the program to reach at-risk girls in New Orleans.

**Teaching Responsible Earth Education (TREE)** addresses science and environmental outdoor education through a series of curriculum and experiential learning activities that meet Louisiana benchmarks in science, English/language arts, math, and social studies. JLNO funds will provide educational materials and supplies for the program.

**Good Shepherd School** provides tuition-free education in a safe

and nurturing environment for at-risk children living below the federal poverty level. JLNO funds provided e-books, e-readers and listening centers to support students' education.

### Spring Grant Recipients in Rebuilding New Orleans

**New Orleans Neighborhood Collaborative** serves the Central City neighborhood with a focus on the new Harmony Oaks mixed-income housing development, formerly C.J. Peete. JLNO grant funds will provide infrastructure such as a shade structure, two garden build-outs, and shed repairs needed to start a community garden for residents.

**Evacuteer.org** manages all volunteer efforts associated with the city assisted evacuation plan in efforts to support high-need residents in case of an evacuation. JLNO funding will help install public art designating the seventeen neighborhood evacuation pick-up sites where residents in need of medical assistance or transportation will gather in the event of an emergency.

**Habitat for Humanity** builds and repairs homes in partnership with communities, volunteers, families, and sponsors. JLNO grant funds will support the "A Brush With Kindness" program offering painting, landscaping, and repairs for homeowners in blighted areas.

**Hike for KaTREEena** is reforesting the New Orleans tree canopy. Volunteers will replant neighborhood streets, parks, schools, and neutral grounds with JLNO funds providing monies to purchase, plant, and water trees.

**New Orleans Neighborhood Development Foundation** educates and assists low- and moderate-income families to build assets over a lifetime through home ownership. JLNO grant funds support their Financial Fitness education program that helps families gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities they will need to make healthy, sustainable financial decisions. **L**

# Preserving Our Past

By Brook Brown

SINCE ITS INCEPTION in 1924, JLNO has served New Orleans through myriad service projects throughout the community. Founding members recognized JLNO's efforts with handwritten accounts of their successes. Through the years, photographs, ledgers, membership directories, meeting minutes, and awards have all been saved. These have evolved into a vast archives currently stored at JLNO headquarters. These archives are a valuable record of the amazing impact JLNO has had on the New Orleans community.

The Archives Committee works to create and preserve the archives. Each year, one of their projects is to compile records of the events of the year and design an annual scrapbook. This includes the annual report, minutes, and photographs of activities throughout the year.

Additionally, the committee is available to help actives and sustainers research the past. Recently, Carolyn Hennesy, Archives Committee Chair helped a Sustainer look for information among the archives and came across an old photograph of her own great aunt at a JLNO event. These are the types of experiences and opportunities the Archives Committee wishes to make possible for members of the future.

The Archives Committee is also working to enhance JLNO's exist-



ing archives with personal stories and to "fill in the gaps" where publications or photographs have been lost or misidentified over the year. The archives are currently stored at headquarters, and JLNO is looking to improve the care and preservation of these often-delicate documents and photographs. An important first step is indexing the records, and plans are underway to work with local experts

who may be better able to care for these treasures. Some Junior Leagues across the country have worked with local museums or libraries to donate their League's archival materials to create a special collection that can be preserved professionally. This would allow better protection for the League's extensive collection of memories.

The Archives Committee is also working to enhance the archives with stories of notable members whose work may have been lost through the years. The League will invite all members — and especially Sustainers — to identify friends and activities in the photograph collection and to consider what publications or photos they may have in their own collections at home as the archive project gets underway.

Look for more information to come in *Tout de Suite* for opportunities to get involved. ■



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## Ann Herren

By: Mary O'Brien Huxen

ANN HERREN IS LEADING the fight to take the worry out of parenting. As founder of the magazine *nola baby & family*, Ann has been giving local parents tips, tricks, ideas, and courage to parent fearlessly for almost six years.

In fact, that's the slogan for *nola baby & family*: Parent Fearlessly.

"Parents wonder ... they're nervous. They're asking themselves, 'Am I doing this right?' or 'Is anyone else having this problem?' We're trying to take the worry out of it and make it fun," Ann says.

Ann got the idea for *nola baby & family* magazine after Hurricane Katrina, when she discovered there were



Photo by Elizabeth Janie

JLNO Sustainer and former *Lagniappe* Editor Ann Herren founded *nola baby & family* magazine shortly after Hurricane Katrina.



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limited resources for New Orleans parents.

"I started this on a shoestring budget, and actually the Junior League made it possible. I was *Lagniappe* editor at the time and many of my friends had been *Lagniappe* writers, like Carolyn Hennesy and Hallie Boh. All of my Junior League friends helped write the first issue for free. In fact, Hallie's baby was on our first cover."

Locally written, the bi-monthly magazine has gone on to receive national awards, including awards for overall writing, design, columnists, humor columns, photography and covers.

"We've won awards for just about everything that you can think of that's important in a magazine," Ann happily acknowledges. And the response from the community has been incredible.

"The best part is when I get those emails or calls from people thanking us for some way we've helped them."

Today, Ann has made *nola baby & family* a household name for local families. And today *nola baby & family* is also a website (nolababy.com), a newsletter, a Facebook page, and an annual resource guide, covering everything from adoptions to zoos. Ann even has her own segment on the local Fox morning show every Thursday.

Ann's involvement with the League continues, and her gracious support of League events is obvious. From publicizing family-friendly fundraisers such as the 5K Etouffee to promoting the family cookbook, *Crescent City Moons, Dishes and Spoons*, *nola baby & family* supports the League's efforts in the community.

"This really is the baby of the Junior League. I would never have started it if I hadn't been editor of *Lagniappe* and if my League friends hadn't helped to get the magazine off the ground." ■



*nola baby & family* magazine is a bi-monthly publication that focuses on local parenting resources and provides information on local children and family-friendly activities.

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## MEMBER JENNIFER CRUZ CHAMBERLAIN SHARES HER SUCCESSFUL HOLIDAY COOKING EXPERIENCE:

*It was the night before Easter and we had a family crawfish boil the next day. I was in charge of bringing dessert. We had just come back from a Hornets game at 10:30 pm, and I was on call and needed to get some rest. I was tired and I needed something relatively easy to make, good to eat and great for a party. This recipe fit the bill. It took no longer than 15 minutes of prep time and an hour to make. Plus, it didn't require many ingredients! This dessert was a beautiful addition to our family celebration and so easy to prepare. I hope you'll enjoy it as much as we did.*



### CRESCENT CHEESECAKE WITH PECAN CRUST

*From page 228 of Crescent City Collection*

**Servings:** 10

**Prep time:** 15 minutes

**Cook time:** 1 hour

#### Crescent Cheesecake

- ½ cup packed dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 tablespoon chilled unsalted butter; cut into pieces
- 1 cup finely chopped toasted pecans
- 32 ounces cream cheese, softened
- ¼ cup packed dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 6 eggs at room temperature
- ¼ cup heavy cream at room temperature
- ¼ cup bourbon
- 1 recipe pecan crust (see below)
- Chopped toasted pecans for garnish

Mix 1/3 cup brown sugar and the flour in a bowl. Cut in the butter until it is the consistency of coarse meal. Stir in the

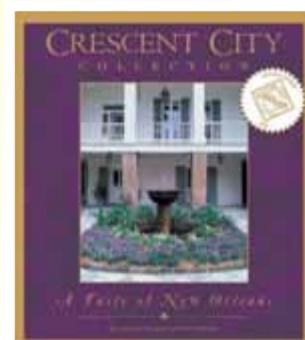
pecans and set the streusel aside. Beat the cream cheese and ¾ cup brown sugar in a bowl with an electric mixer until smooth. Beat in the cornstarch. Beat in the eggs one at a time. Stir in the cream cheese and the bourbon. Pour half the filling into the pecan crust (below). Sprinkle the streusel. Cover with the remaining filling. Run a knife through filling to swirl the streusel. Cover with the remaining filling. Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Reduce the oven temperature to 225 degrees and bake for 45 minutes or until the center is firm. Remove to a wire rack and cool completely. Cover and chill overnight.

#### Pecan Crust

- ¾ cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1/3 cup finely chopped toasted pecans
- 5 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons packed dark brown sugar

Combine everything in a bowl and stir until well mixed. Press the mixture over the bottom of a 10-inch springform pan. Set aside until needed.

**To order a copy of Crescent City Collection, please visit [jln.org/cookbook](http://jln.org/cookbook).**



# League Faces



Photo by: Katherine Miller

Photo Submitted by: Michelle Kulhanek



JLNO members Tricia Miller, Emily Trainque, Melissa Frederick, and Weezie de la Vergne at Esprit's Front Porch Friday at Winston's Pub on March 9, 2012.

JLNO Members attend League Day at the Louisiana State Capital on March 20, 2012. From left: Missy Allain, Susan Kliebert, Margaret Kemp, Business and Communications Council Director Katherine Raymond, Michelle Kulhanek, Louisiana State Representative Neil Abramson, Melissa Stelly, Blair Hodgson, Veronica del Bianco, Courtney Lane, Elena Korbut-Smith, Elizabeth Applewhite, and Tina Payton.

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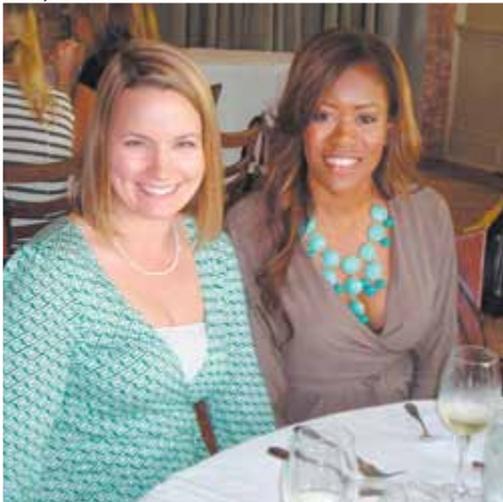
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Training and Education Co-Chairs Molly Demosthenidy and Jessica Bride flank Father Steven Sauer, S.J., and Rabbi Alexis Berk after the Spring Speakers Series, "A rabbi and a priest walk into a soup kitchen..." held on March 27.



Skye Fantaci, Enjoli Nelson, and Meredith Maxwell time from their busy schedules to enjoy lunch at Ralph's on the Park on March 15, 2012.

Photo by: Katherine Miller



Megan Patron and Mysheka Battiste enjoy each other's company at the Esprit Luncheon at Ralph's on the Park held March 15, 2012.



Photo by: Katherine Miller

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# League Faces

JLNO Provisionals pause for a photo while working hard at the Hagar House on March 18, 2012.



Photo Submitted by: Taylor Oertling

Photo Submitted by: Taylor Oertling



Provisionals Taylor Oertling and Marcelle Mouledoux work on a project for the Hagar House on March 18, 2012.



Photo by: Gaby Barnetzer

JLNO volunteers greet patrons at Cocktails and Cuisine on March 22, 2012.



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Cocktails and Cuisine party-goers mingle around the silent auction tables.



JLNO Volunteers share smiles at Freret Fest held on April 6, 2012.



JLNO Sustainer Anne Milling poses with her Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award, which she received at the AJLI conference on April 20, 2012.



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Auburn University	Hendrix College	<b>Roanoke College</b>	Whittier College
Austin College	High Point University	Saint Mary's College of California	Wofford College
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Baylor University	<b>Johns Hopkins University</b>	University of San Diego	<i>*ATTENDING</i>
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<b>Bowdoin College</b>	King's College London	<b>University of South Carolina</b>	
Carnegie Mellon University	<b>Louisiana State University</b>	University of Southern California	
Case Western Reserve University	University of Louisiana	<b>Southern Methodist University</b>	
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<b>Colby College</b>	<b>University of Miami</b>	<b>Texas Christian University</b>	
University of Colorado at Boulder	University of Michigan	<b>The University of Texas, Austin</b>	
Colorado College	<b>Millsaps College</b>	<b>The University of Texas, Dallas</b>	
Davidson College	Mississippi College	Transylvania University	
DePauw University	<b>University of Mississippi</b>	Trinity University	
<b>Duke University</b>	University of New England	<b>Tufts University</b>	
Emory University	<b>University of New Orleans</b>	<b>Tulane University</b>	
Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising	<b>New York University</b>	Ursinus College	
Fordham University	Oxford College of Emory University	<b>US Air Force</b>	
<b>Franklin and Marshall College</b>	University of the Pacific	Vanderbilt University	
Furman University	<b>University of Pennsylvania</b>	Vassar College	
	Pepperdine University	Villanova University	
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# League Faces

Photo by: Alyssa Fletchinger



Past President and 1989 Sustainer of the Year Kay Rapier, 2012 Sustainer of the Year Margaret Wall, and Past President Jennifer Couvillon gather for a picture at the Past Presidents and Sustainer of the Year Luncheon on March 23, 2012.

Photo by: Alyssa Fletchinger



Previous Sustainer of the Year recipients reconnect at the Past Presidents and Sustainer of the Year Luncheon held March 23, 2012. From left: Sybil Favrot, Barbara Bush, Anne Milling, Flora French, Cynthia Hammond and Susan Gundlach.

Photo by: Elizabeth Hill



On March 24, 2012, Junior League members Meggie Katz and Amy Harang with Claudia Cope at the Kitchen Tour Hospitality Suite at Park View Guest House.

Photo by: Kellen Pirri



Junior League Actives Lillie Joyce and Alex Kless enjoy the first days of spring as they greet people on the Kitchen Tour.

Photo by: Alison Waldron



Jennifer Medo, Mary Scott, and Walker the Boxer at the LASPCA Dog Day Afternoon on March 25, 2012.

Meg Kramer, Anna Justice, and Julia Widmann volunteer for their Provisional Project at the LASPCA Dog Day Afternoon.



Photo by: Alison Waldron

Photo by: Kellen Pirri

Members enjoying the weather at the JLNO Easter Egg Hunt.



Photo by: Caitlin Brewster



Katherine DeMontluzin and Beryl Patin explore a beautiful kitchen during the JLNO Kitchen Tour held on March 24, 2012.

Photo by: Caitlin Brewster



Mary Catherine Brewster, daughter of Caitlin Brewster, and Mike Graugnard, son of Olivia Graugnard, fill up a basket with Easter eggs found at the JLNO Easter Egg Hunt on March 31, 2012.

Photo by: Allison McCammon



Meggie Katz and Lafayette Academy Co-Chair Annie Phillips look on while the students enjoy *Llama Red Pajama* at the Pre-K Read Event at Lafayette Academy on April 4, 2012.

Photo by: Allison McCammon



Lafayette Academy students read along with JLNO Member Jill Wren at the Pre-K Read Event at Lafayette Academy on April 4, 2012.

“Beyond your involvement with Junior League, with what other organizations do you currently volunteer? Tell us how your JLNO experience has inspired you to “pay it forward.”

Compiled by Margaret Zainey Roux



I have worked with and learned from so many talented volunteers as a League member and community volunteer for the past seven years. The vast knowledge and experiences that I have gained from volunteering for local charitable organizations is truly invaluable. Because I have been blessed in my own life, it is my obligation to offer my time and talent to help those members of our community who cannot help themselves.

— Ann Heslin



I am involved with the Women’s Energy Network and have utilized my training from JLNO to help this organization develop over the past few years. We have established new financial policies and procedures as well as developed wonderful programming to help professionals in the energy industry expand their knowledge base.

— Allison Plaisance



The Junior League inspired me to volunteer in so many ways; on boards and through service to numerous causes. Currently, I serve on the Dress for Success Board of the New Orleans Chapter. Giving of my time generously to community and non-profits is my way of “paying it forward.”

— Diane B. Lyons



I currently sit on the following boards: American Red Cross, Family Service of Greater New Orleans, and Cancer Crusaders. The Junior League’s mission of training women has made an impact on me and how I try to behave when I am asked to lead.

— Kathleen Robert



In addition to JLNO, I serve on the Board of Directors of Crimestoppers of GNO, a nonprofit that works tirelessly to fight the crime that plagues our community. The training I’ve received from JLNO has taught me that every organization I volunteer with has different needs and the best way to serve is to arrive open minded, ready to work and prepared to tackle a variety of challenges all with the goal of leaving the organization better than it was when I walked in the door.

— Rebecca Schultz





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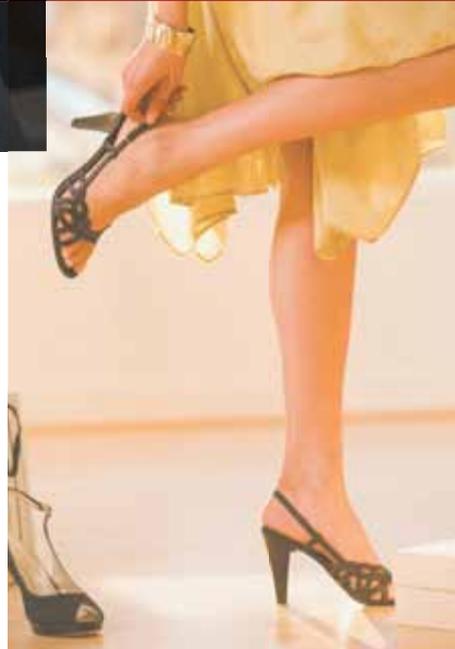
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