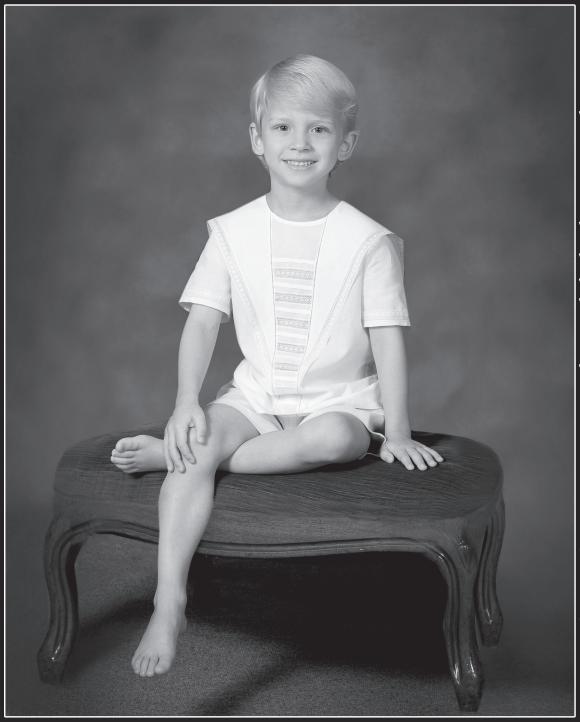


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Mission Statement

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

The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of The Junior League of Montgomery, Inc.

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Editor's Notes



Summer brings with it a time of reflection as the school year and active Junior League year have come to a close. As we, the members of the Junior League of Montgomery, look back on this past year, we can see how we have risen to Laura Stevenson's challenge to "Touch One Life." In the placement spotlight section of this month's League Logs, you will read about many lives touched through our work in the community in

places like Lee High School, the Family Sunshine Center and the Boys and Girls Club, to name a few. I am sure you will enjoy reading about our Sustainer of the Year, Charlene Holtsford, and the many ways she has touched lives through her community service.

Summer also brings a time of anticipation, looking forward to the year ahead. With that in mind, we introduce you to the 2011-2012 Board of Directors. We appreciate their commitment to serve and eagerly anticipate the direction in which they will lead us.

The May General Membership Meeting combined the best of the last active year and a preview of the year to come. The awards our members earned this year are highlighted, along with the recipients of Community Grants for the upcoming year.

The goal of League Logs is to tell the community what the Junior League of Montgomery does. Thank you to all the people who have worked so hard this year to ensure that our story is told. In addition to our wonderful staff, we have been grateful for help from guest writers and photographers. Thanks to our advertising manager, our graphic designer and our printer for your hard work in producing our magazine. As we move into a new season of service, we eagerly anticipate hearing the story of continued community service and the ripples you create when you touch one life.

Courtney Albrecht League Logs Editor











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Lee High School Library Placement-Boys
Boys and Girls Club Placement
Impact Alabama Placement
MACOA Placement
Montgomery County Water Festival
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Theresa Patterson, Jenny Thiessen and Kelly Whitaker
How Are JLM Grant Recipients Chosen?

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Laura Stevenson

President's Message

At the end of a long hallway at our Junior League office, sits a small quiet room. It is a room that houses tall filing cabinets with documents of our records not printed on paper anymore due to the convenience of computers. It also houses a treasure trove of photographs and mementos of our very special organization. During my year as president I would sometimes wander down that hallway, turn the knob of the door to that lonely room, and magically be transported to the past. I would sort through old pictures and newspaper clippings. They were meticulously placed in scrapbooks, some in piles, brown with age and very delicate. These papers became precious to me. They told the tale of the Junior League of Montgomery in words and pictures. They also spoke of those who kept a visual, tangible record of all the activities of our organization these 85 years. I always left that room with a better knowledge of where we came from and a great sense of pride of who we are today.



A sketch found in our archives room. This was in a small folder from an AJLI (Association of Junior Leagues International) conference by Mrs. John C. Curry, circa 1935.

A year has gone by in my life and the life of the Junior League of Montgomery. Although this year is just another drop in the bucket for this organization, it has been a year that I will always remember and cherish. This year as we pressed forward with our mission of strengthening families and developing the potential of women, I know that we helped to make Montgomery a better place. Through our fundraisers and community projects we have touched many lives. It has been an honor to serve as the 2010/2011 JLM President! Thank you for all you have given me. I have truly been touched.



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Compiled By Courtney Albrecht, Anna Kate Ingram, Theresa Patterson, Jenny Thiessen and Kelly Whitaker

MACOA

The Montgomery Area Council on Aging has served seniors in Montgomery, Autauga, Elmore, Coosa and Tallapoosa counties for over 30 years, and the Junior League has played a pivotal part for over 10 years. The meals prepared are for seniors who are homebound and unable to prepare their own meals. The MACOA placement is flexible for expecting mothers, mothers of young children or ladies who just love to cook! Each person had to prepare 50 frozen nutritional meals to complete their placement and deliver them to the MACOA office in downtown Montgomery.

Thanks to Jenny French, Chair, and her committee of Bridgette Allen, Jennifer Brewer, Kay Brummal, BB Burnett, Laura Erwin, Joy Howard, Ashley Hubbard, Susan Hunt, Laura Maxey, Lynn McCurtey, Heather Pinkard and Kandy Sasser.

Lee High School Boys Book Club

The Robert E. Lee High School Library Committee piloted a reading program for young ladies in the fall which was a big hit on campus. The librarians invited members of the J.R.O.T.C. to participate in another "Book Café "event. The book selected was The Tuskegee Airmen by Philip Brooks. Several copies were ordered and the selected students read the book before attending the book café. On the morning of the event, League volunteers decorated the café with red, white and blue swags hung along the hallway, along with paper airplanes and helicopters strung from the ceiling. Upon entering the library, students were greeted by second generation airman Colonel R.J. Lewis. Colonel Lewis led a discussion about the







book and his life as a Tuskegee Airman. He shared with the students how he learned to fly at the historic Moton Field in Tuskegee by legendary aviator C. Alfred "Chief" Anderson. Colonel Lewis has given seminars about the airmen for over 36 years in an effort to inspire students in their chosen careers and education. The students enjoyed visiting with Colonel Lewis and they appreciated special gifts donated by the Army Air National Guard. Committee members served lunch from Jim'n Nicks Barbeque.

Thanks to Wynn Allen, chair, and committee members Chacolby Burns-Johnson, Shena Davidson, Lena Fielder, Amy Godsoe, Keina Houser, Christen Price, Ashley Whatley and Leigh Winslett.

Boys and Girls Club

Beginning last summer, a committee of seven Junior League members had the wonderful opportunity to work with the West End Boys & Girls Club. Chaired by Darci Odom, the committee's goal was to spend time with the children helping them with their homework. Most of the children needed regular help in the main areas of Language Arts and Math. The tutoring schedule was steady, meeting every week with the children so that as the year progressed members saw the children progress in their subjects. The children also began to get into a good rhythm of getting their homework done. One child excelled so much that she is now enrolled for the Magnet program next year! This was clearly a win-win placement for both the children who improved in academic areas and the committee members who were rewarded in multiple ways. The committee members liked walking into the club and seeing the kids jump to do their homework and were happy to see great

improvement in the reading skills of the children. The rewards they received from working with the children came from the children's improvement in grades, their smiles and the big hugs they would receive on their way out the door.

League members Jacqueline Hughes, Lindsey McLendon, Ashley Meldrum, Lana Moore, Trisha Osuch, & Pamela Selmar all enjoyed their placement and time spent with the children.

Impact Alabama

Early spring brings many things each year...budding trees and flowers, warmer weather, and TAXES. This year, a group of League members assisted low-income, working families in preparing and filing their taxes. Impact Alabama's SaveFirst program trains volunteers to offer free tax preparation services, financial literacy information and opportunities for savings and investments to low-income families. The SaveFirst program exists to ensure that low-income, working families receive the full Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other credits to which they are entitled, counteract predatory lending practices and encourage long-term savings.

In the Montgomery area, there are over 30,000 families that qualify for the EITC. About 75 percent of those families use commercial tax preparers who offer short term loans with exorbitant interest rates which are repaid directly out of the tax return. Free tax preparation ensures that these individuals and families do not pay commercial preparers for such services, providing the family economic gains.

This year, in Montgomery, SaveFirst volunteers prepared 622 tax returns and helped taxpayers claim almost \$1.5 million in refunds. SaveFirst saved these taxpayers \$186,600





in commercial preparation fees. Statewide, SaveFirst prepared 4,320 returns, helping taxpayers claim \$8.2 million in refunds and saving \$1.3 million in commercial preparation fees.

In early January, League members serving on the Impact Alabama committee were required to participate in 8 hours of computerized training and pass an IRS certification test. Following the training and certification, each member worked approximately 23 hours in the SaveFirst tax center, which was open from January 24 through February 26. Under supervision of SaveFirst staff members, League members worked alongside students from Huntingdon College and other community volunteers in preparing taxes.

Committee chairperson Claiborne Moore reports, "From my perspective, this was a really rewarding placement for several reasons. There were tangible results – completed tax returns for people who would have otherwise either wasted money on tax preparation or not received the full refund to which they were entitled. I learned a lot about taxes—various credits, filing status, deductions, etc. I feel like our time was used efficiently. We really made a difference for a lot of people!"

For more information about the SaveFirst program and Impact Alabama, please visit www.impactalabama.org.

Impact Alabama Committee: Claiborne Moore, Chairperson, Mitzi Cole, Julia Henig, Karen Herman, Charneice McKenzie, Jessica Roberts and Jenny Thiessen.

Cancer Wellness Center

This past holiday season, the Junior League of Montgomery and the Montgomery Cancer Wellness Foundation worked together by giving help and hope to local cancer patients and their families. The Cancer Wellness Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to providing quality programs and services to cancer patients and their families. Since their incorporation in 1997, the Montgomery Cancer Wellness Foundation (www.montgomerycancer.com) has provided exceptional educational, supportive and research services to address the emotional and physical needs of cancer patients and their families. These programs and services are free of charge and available to all cancer patients. The Foundation is solely supported through the efforts and contributions of businesses, organizations and individuals.

Every dollar contributed to the Foundation is used in the Montgomery and Central Alabama area. This year, the Junior League of Montgomery donated \$8,000 to the Foundation and over 100 hours of volunteer time. The Montgomery Cancer Wellness committee members worked on two wonderful projects.

Committee members decorated four Christmas trees with doves, ribbons, ornaments and bows. Each Christmas season, individuals are given the opportunity to purchase doves in honor of their friends and family members who are cancer survivors, and in memory of those who have lost their battle. These beautiful and inspiring Christmas trees were placed throughout the Montgomery Cancer Center.

Committee members also worked with Angels Friends. Angel Friends is a program that provides cancer patients and their families an enjoyable and memorable holiday. Members focused on meeting







families' basic needs like food and clothing, but also knew it would not be an exciting Christmas without TOYS!! Members shopped for the families from their Christmas Wish List, wrapped the gifts and delivered them to their homes. The cancer patients and their families got the special holiday they deserve no matter what they may be going through. "The expression on a child's face when they open a new toy is priceless, but the glow on the face of the mother and father as you deliver presents to their family in a time of need is heartwarming." LeeAnn Smith, Cancer Wellness Committee Member.

Chair of the placement was Kelly Whitaker. The members of the Cancer Wellness Placement were Tina Booth, Christina Conner, Anna Dees, Allison Ferrell, Mandy Franks, Anne Hill, Nicci Jones, Leslie Meadows, Amanda Pemberton, Amy Sadler, LeeAnn Smith, Heather Talley and Anna Wilson.

Montgomery County Water Festival

Approximately 2800 fourth grade students representing 40 public and private schools in Montgomery County attended the Montgomery County Water Festival on the campus of Auburn University Montgomery. The Water Festival is an educational field trip provided free to all Montgomery County public, private and home schools where students participate in three hands-on activities and attend an environmental entertainment session.

The students participated in three 30-minute hands-on activities designed to appeal to various learning styles and reinforce the concepts taught at the festival. Students made Water Cycle bracelets with colored beads to represent different stages in the

water cycle. They also built a mini-filtration system to learn how pollutants enter our water supply, the process used to purify water, and how difficult it is to remove the pollutants. Finally students made an edible aguifer.

They learned what an aquifer is and how it works, what non-point source pollution is, and how toxic waste affects our groundwater. Common food items, such as ice cream, ice, lemon-lime soda and chocolate syrup were then used to build their own aquifer model.

After the hands-on activities, the classes attend a 45- minute educational performance by Steve Trash, a wonderful and dynamic entertainer, who performed magic tricks and illusions with the students to reinforce the material taught in the hands-on activities.

Thanks to chairman Lynne Payne and committee members Aimee Bentley, Christine Cook, Jewell Dickson, Charlotte Largen, Tammi Long, Tara Sinco, Amy Strickland and Wendy Wilker.





2010-2011 Community Research Committee members

Ashley White, Chair
Lisa Stevens, Co-chair
Pamela Averrett
Mandy Bailey
Susan Heck
Paige Justiss
Deborah Moore
Katie Richburg
Jennifer Seymour
Dawn Stephens

Tonda West

Have you wondered how it is that each year we get this great list of community grant recipients? How do community non-profit organizations apply for JLM grants? What goes into the selection process? Who chooses these grant recipients?

These questions may be answered by the JLM members who serve on the Community Research Committee. This busy committee works tirelessly receiving grant applications, reviewing applications, visiting applicant organizations, and attending numerous meetings to discuss volunteer possibilities and fund requirements for each applicant organization.

Serving on the Community Research Committee involves a two-year commitment. The committee is comprised of 10–12 members. The process starts each summer as community non-profit organizations are notified that the JLM's grant application may be accessed online. Generally, each non-profit organization is asked to submit a 4-page Project Proposal Form to the committee in August of each year. The Project Proposal Form gathers information such as the purpose and goals of the project, the plans for the administration of the project, the segments of the community served by the project, how many JLM volunteers would be needed, and what the specific duties and time requirements would be required of the JLM volunteers.

After receiving the Project Proposal Forms from the non-profit agencies, the committee members get to work. This past year, a record number of 40 grant applications were received and reviewed by the committee. Committee members are individually assigned several grants to research. Each member personally visits the proposed grant recipient to ask pointed questions regarding the agency, its mission, the volunteer opportunities for JLM members and how the funds will be used. The full committee meets weekly during the fall months to discuss the grant applications and the



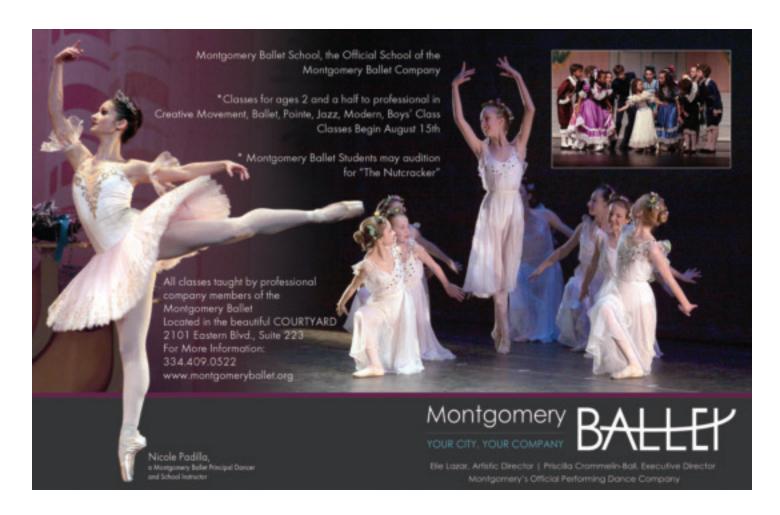
findings of the committee members. After all the grants have been researched, presented and initially voted on, the grant applications with the highest vote totals are then considered in a meeting where the committee votes on the final placements and the amount of money to award each agency. This process can be quite lengthy and can get tense. Many committee members become quite passionate about the agencies they research. Committee members are equally passionate about finding the best volunteer opportunities for JLM members, as well as being good stewards of the money JLM members have worked so hard to raise.

After the final committee vote, the agencies with the highest number of votes are presented to the JLM Board of Directors. Proposed projects are finally voted on by the JLM membership in our January or February membership meeting. However, projects are not officially accepted until a minimum number of JLM members volunteer to staff the project during our placement days

in April. Thus, a membership-approved project may be denied funding if members do not choose to volunteer for the project. In May of each year, the League and the grant recipient sign a contract and the grant recipient receives the check funding the project.

Serving on the Community Research Committee allows each member the opportunity to learn more about the non-profit agencies in the River Region as well as the positive impact JLM members can have in partnering with these agencies.

If you are part of a non-profit organization that may want to request a grant from the Junior League of Montgomery, please visit our website www.jlmontgomery.org for more information. Click on the Community Impact tab on the left side of the page and then click on the Request a Grant tab to download a grant application form.







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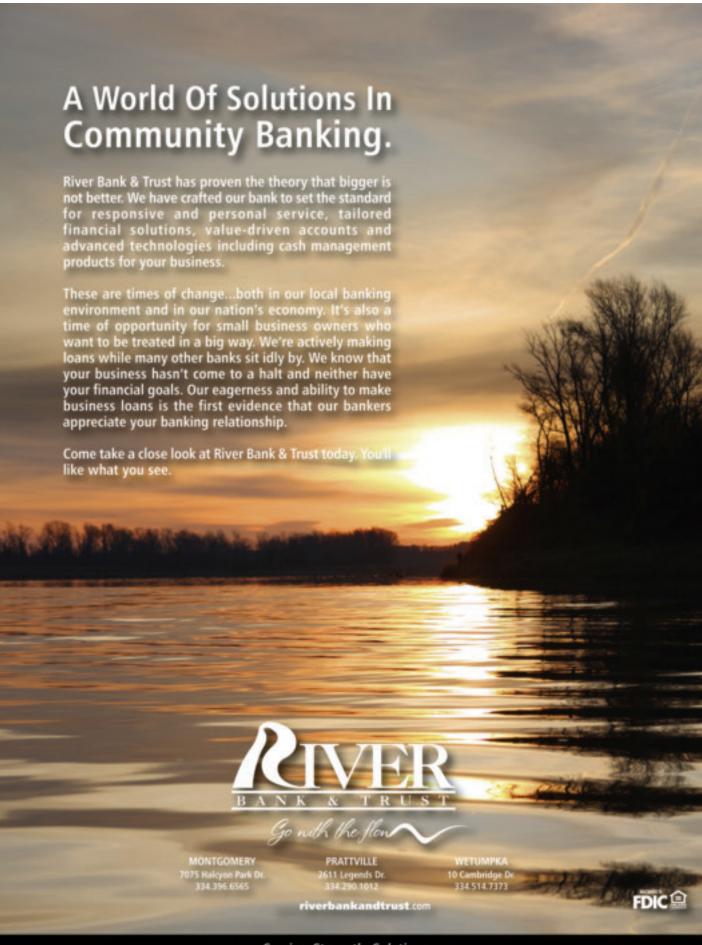
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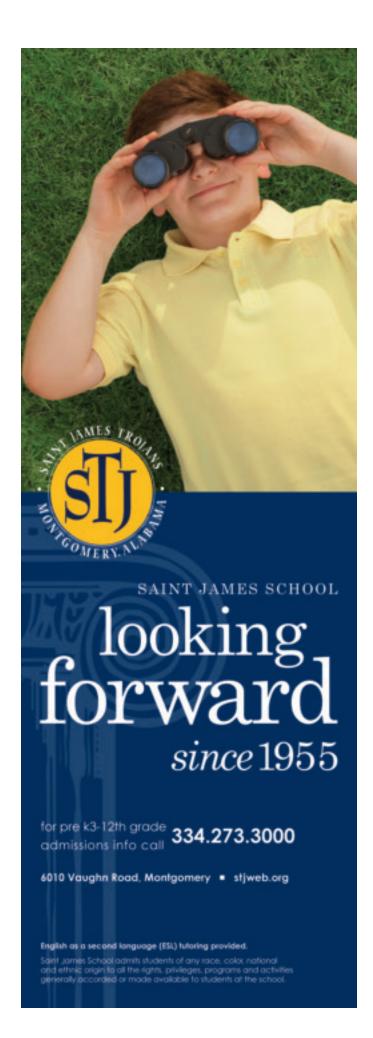
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Annual Conference

By Suzanne Davidson

Laura Stevenson, Marnie Dillon and Suzanne Davidson traveled to Philadelphia in May to attend the Association of Junior Leagues International 89th annual conference. The theme for this year's conference was "Transformation". The transformation theme is focused on using the league's long history and many accomplishments to position itself as the most relevant women's organization in the world.

The ladies from the Junior League of Montgomery attended many workshops during the conference such as, "Financial Awareness", "Collaborative Decision-Making", "Making Your Meetings More Engaging", and "High Performing Partnerships between the President and President-Elect". They also attended the annual meeting and enjoyed hearing the current AJLI President, Delly Beekman, as well as the keynote speaker, Nick Kristof. Kristof is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, whose latest book, *Half the Sky*, seeks to enlighten people about the plight of women in the developing world and lays out a plan to empower those same women to be agents of change.

An important development at the annual meeting was the vote to raise dues. While the Junior League of Montgomery and many other leagues voted to oppose the increase, it passed. As a result of this vote, a four dollar increase will take effect July 1, 2012 and a second four dollar increase will take effect July 1, 2013.

The members of the Junior League of Philadelphia were wonderful hosts! The weekend was a wonderful time of learning and networking and reinvigorated the ladies of the Junior League of Montgomery to come back and get to work for 2011-2012.





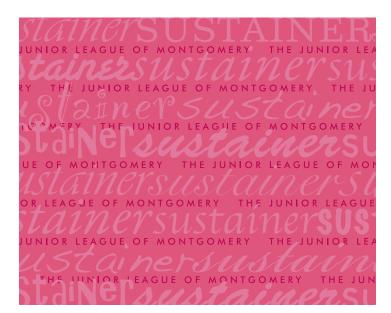
By Jenny Thiessen

Charlene Holtsford has been an avid supporter of her community for years. The 2002-03 President of the Junior League of Montgomery, Charlene has continued to serve her community in many different ways. Charlene continues to exemplify the mission of the Junior League of Montgomery as she promotes voluntarism through key leadership positions in community organizations, develops the potential of women by mentoring others, and improves the community through effective action and leadership through her service at her church, on community boards, and as a part of community initiatives. We are proud to honor Charlene Holtsford as our 2011 Sustainer of the Year.

Charlene grew up in Mobile, graduated from the University of Alabama with a bachelor of arts in communications, and has lived in Montgomery since 1987. Charlene and husband Alex L. Holtsford, Jr. have raised their three sons here. David will begin his senior year at Trinity Presbyterian School; Charlie is starting his second year at the University of Virginia; Trey will begin his second year of law school at the University of Alabama Law School. The Holtsfords enjoy family time together. Charlene enjoys cooking for her family and friends whenever possible.

Charlene joined the Junior League of Montgomery in 1992. She credits the JLM with developing her potential as a fundraiser. She admits that she is an avid fundraiser at heart. She enjoyed serving as chairman of Holiday Market, where she saw all the puzzle pieces come together. She enjoyed the camaraderie of the committee, the organization of the event, and especially the challenge of solicitations and the rush you receive when an individual or business agrees to financially support the League! When she chaired Holiday Market, her committee was responsible for soliciting funds from supporters. She discovered that she had the skills and drive to be a fundraiser.

Charlene also credits the League for some of her most cherished friendships in Montgomery. She enjoyed serving alongside many different women in the overall goal of bettering the community. She



also expressed appreciation of the experience, wisdom, and advice from past presidents of the League.

Currently, Charlene serves on the board of directors for Bridge Builders of Alabama. She is a past board member of the Family Sunshine Center (FSC) where she served as President of the Board of Directors from 2008-2009. Even though she's no longer on the board of the FSC, she continues to volunteer with the FSC's annual fundraiser, Making Homes Safe Havens.

Charlene feels that one of the League's challenges is to constantly evaluate our own fundraisers or research and create new fundraising events that are exciting and appealing to a diverse population. According to Charlene, local non profits are in need now more than ever for local funding. She thinks that we should always look to increase the funds we raise, so that we can give even more money and volunteer time back to the community. Charlene would encourage an ongoing research and development committee to think outside the box for new and exciting fundraising ideas.

Charlene is a firm believer that success in life has nothing to do with what you gain or accomplish, but rather what you do for others. The Junior League offers its members the perfect opportunity to make our community a better place for women, children and families.

When asked what advice she would give to new League members, Charlene said she would encourage them to stretch themselves and take responsibilities outside of their comfort zone. Charlene said that there were many times that she wondered if she had made a mistake when she accepted the challenge of being President of the Junior League of Montgomery. Now, she says, she would not trade that experience for anything! The League is an excellent place to strengthen your leadership skills and explore your strengths and gifts while positively impacting the community.







60th Anniversary of the rummage sale and new items never sold in stores!











By Kathleen Bradford



The groundwork for Bloomingdeals, the League's second largest fundraiser, began last summer and continued throughout the League season. "The last couple of weeks before the sale is the most challenging part—laying out the floor, organizing and pricing items—that's when we need the most manpower." Joanna said. "The dirt is in the details." With provisionals, actives, sustainers and even husbands and boyfriends pitching in, the countless hours of planning and work resulted in two days and a total of eight hours of shopping time for nearly a thousand customers.

Carla Gieske, Set-up and Supplies Committee Chairman, worked persistently to make certain that set up was orderly and that donations were smoothly moved into the appropriate areas. This year set up began earlier than usual, the Friday proceeding the event, and early preparations were complete by Monday morning.

League members were treated to an extra chance to purchase Bloomingdeals goods on Thursday evening at the Preview Party. In honor of Bloomingdeals' anniversary, the 1950s was the theme for the night and Steering Committee members and League Board











members attended the event dressed in attire from that decade. Musician Henry Pugh entertained members and their guests who also enjoyed wine and a variety of appetizers. "I thought the event was a great success," Joanna said. "The girls working were having fun and most attendees stayed over two hours." The event counted as a meeting credit, and members paid \$10 admission to shop early. New this year, the Preview Party was held on the floor of the Coliseum instead of being confined to the Boutique area. Members could buy items from the entire Bloomingdeals selection at twice the marked price, including items in Bloomie's Boutique. The Boutique displayed new with tag items donated by local merchants and the membership. The Boutique even included formal wear contributed by Bridals by Penolia's. Only half a dozen boutique items remained at the end of the night and they were subsequently snatched up during the Silent Auction. Only items from the sustainer section, Bloomie's Best, and furniture were excluded from the early sale.

Joanna attributes the success of the 2011 Bloomingdeals to the hard work and dedication of the Steering Committee chairs. "Each woman is enthusiastic about this fundraiser and truly loves Bloomingdeals," Joanna said. "Without devotion this event couldn't happen."

The Bloomingdeals Steering Committee included Joanna Kirkland, Bloomingdeals Chair; Jennifer Rogers, Bloomingdeals Co-chair; Renee LaBaaza, Boutique; Megan McCarthy, Cashiers/Treasurer; Shalissa Magee, Garden Cafe; Karen Herman, Merchandising and Quality Control; Marie Wise, Personnel; Ann Winborne, Publicity; Heather Pickard, Secretary; Carla Gieske, Set-up and Supplies; and Stacey Kimmel, Tickets.

In addition to the membership, sustainers were also a dedicated workforce whose years of experience always help tremendously in handling crucial details throughout the planning and execution of the event. In particular, sustainers Pat Kyser, Barb Grimes, Mimi Rush and Jeanne Schloss lent their energy and skill in organizing and managing the Bloomies Best section of the sale. Bloomies Best includes only the finest pieces selected from the entirety of the donated items. These devoted sustainers spent the week before Bloomingdeals painstakingly gathering and pricing the best of the best. They then artfully arranged the items so that during the fundraiser the area was reminiscent of a chic department store and was a genuine highlight of the sale.

The true reward for the devotion and hard work volunteers gave is the understanding that the over \$19,000 raised during Bloomingdeals will be allocated to many deserving local groups. The money raised from events such as Bloomingdeals is the monetary foundation of the programs the League uses to provide assistance to community organizations each year.











THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MONTGOMERY THE JUNIOR LINE OF MONTGOMERY THE JUNIOR LINE

Board of Directors



PresidentMarnie Dillon

Marnie Smith Dillon is a Clinical Psychologist and maintains an active private practice in Montgomery. She describes herself as passionate about her clinical work which she finds "fascinating and challenging."

Marnie has served on the JLM Board the past four years, as Corresponding Secretary, Community Council Vice President, Membership Council Vice President, and President-Elect. Her prior League leadership service includes serving as Chairman of the Community Research and Placement Committees. She is excited to assume the duties of President. Guided by the theme "Live. Learn. Lead" Marnie hopes to move the mission of the League forward through effective community service and enhanced training opportunities for members, equipping members to become agents of community and civic change.

Marnie's community service has extended to Board positions at the Volunteer and Information Center, The Children's Museum of Alabama, and The Salvation Army.

Marnie is married to R. Darren Dillon, a Montgomery dentist. They have three children: Maclou, 11, and seven-year-old twins, William and Marguerite. In her spare time, Marnie enjoys growing roses, reading, running, and traveling.

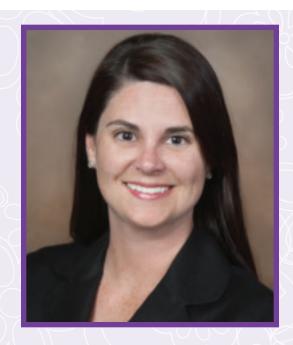


President Elect Suzanne Davidson

Suzanne Davidson grew up in Opelika and graduated from Samford University with a degree in Public Administration. She also holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Suzanne's past Junior League service includes placements with Medical Outreach Ministries and the Janice Capilouto Center for the Deaf. She has served as Fund Development Chair and Fundraising Council Vice President and as the Membership Council Vice President. Suzanne attends First United Methodist Church where she is the chair of the Fall Bazaar. She is Past President of the Montgomery-Autauga-Elmore Medical Alliance and is the President of the Board of the Children's Museum of Alabama.

Suzanne is married to Stephen Davidson, an oncologist at the Montgomery Cancer Center. She is a stay at home mother to Wyatt, 11, and Lela, 6. Suzanne loves spending time at Lake Martin with her family, playing tennis, and reading.



Recording Secretary Dell Murdock

Dell Hughes Murdock grew up in Hartford, Alabama, and attended Auburn University, graduating with B.S. in Business Administration in Finance.

Dell joined the Junior League in 2000, and immediately found her calling—Holiday Market! She has served as Silent Auction Chair, Treasurer, Merchant Chair and, Chairman of Holiday Market, and Fundraising Vice President.

Dell loves spending time at the beach, playing bunko, reading and watching Auburn football.



Community Council Vice President Dawn Stephens

Dawn Stephens grew up in Montgomery and has a bachelor's degree from Auburn University.

Dawn's prior League service includes Nominating, Advisory/Strategic Planning, Holiday Market and Decorator Show House Steering Committees, and Community Research Chair.

In the community, Dawn is currently on the Board of the Montgomery Clean City Commission, and she was recently appointed to a committee looking at revitalizing Dexter Avenue United Methodist Church. She is a member of First United Methodist Church where she is on the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, the Worship Committee, and teaches Sunday school. She volunteers every year for VBS and has been on the UMW Bazaar Steering Committee for the past 6 years having chaired the fundraiser last year.

She is married to Gary Stephens, who is originally from Huntsville. They have two children, Oliver, an eight year-old student at Forest Avenue Academic Magnet, and Margaret who is three. In her spare time she enjoys reading, watching reality television, attending sewing classes at Sarah Howard Stone, and spending time with her family and friends.



Membership Council Vice President Kara Cosby

Kara Cosby is the Technology Coordinator/Teacher at Wilson Elementary School. She grew up in Montgomery and earned her B.A. in Marketing and Public Relations and Journalism from Auburn University and a Masters of Education in Elementary Education from Auburn University Montgomery. Kara is married to Tab D. Cosby, also of Montgomery, and they have two sons, Zach (8) and Hunter (5).

Kara has served the Junior League as Chairman of Holiday Market and as Provisional Co-Chair and Chair. Kara has also served as Holiday Market Silent Auction co-chair and worked with Medical Outreach Ministries and the Adullam House. Kara is a past volunteer entertainment chair for Jubilee City Fest and has worked with the tutoring and mentoring program at First Baptist Church. She is past president, vice-president, and secretary of the Pi Beta Phi alumni group of Montgomery and has served as Alumni Advisory Chair in Auburn.

Kara attends St. James United Methodist Church where she has served on the Children's Council, taught preschool, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Terrific Tuesdays.

Kara enjoys traveling with her family, especially to Lake Martin. Her hobbies include flower arranging, event coordination, cooking, entertaining, and playing Bunko with friends.



Communications Council Vice President **Kelli Wise**

Kelli Wise serves as an associate justice on the Alabama Supreme Court. Prior to her election to the Supreme Court, she served as Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals. Kelli holds a BS in Biology from Auburn University, a jurist doctorate from Jones School of Law and a Masters degree from Auburn University Montgomery in Public Administration. She was recently selected as one of AUM's 40 Top Graduates during the University's 40th Anniversary Celebration.

Kelli has enjoyed many years with the League in placements such as Teen Court, Child Protect, Meals on Wheels, Public Affairs Chair, Rummage Sale Supplies Chair, Holiday Market Decoration, Preview Party & Art Booth Chair. She states that she has loved all her placements but that she definitely found her heart within the League while serving on the Community Research Committee-a placement she believes every member should have the opportunity to serve on. Kelli is involved in numerous professional and community organizations, serving on the Board of Directors for The Family Sunshine Center, Max Credit Union and Alabama's Junior Miss.

Kelli and her husband, former Montgomery County District Court Judge Arthur Ray, are the proud parents of Hanah-Mathis, a rising 6th grader at St. James School. The family attends St. James United Methodist Church where Kelli has served on the Staff/Parish Relations Committee, the Children's Council and has taught children's Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Kelli loves to travel with her family and friends and enjoys gardening and entertaining.



Operations Council Vice President Ashley White

Ashley Killian White is originally from Birmingham, Alabama. Ashley moved to Montgomery after graduating from Auburn University and Cumberland School of Law. She is married to Nowell White, who is a manager at Glidden Professional. She and Nowell have a daughter who is 4 years old, Killian Adams White, and a son who is 10 months old, Cooper Thomas White.

Ashley currently works as a senior staff attorney for Judge Beth Kellum on the Court of Criminal Appeals. She is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery, Class XXVI, and currently serves as President of the Family Sunshine Center Board of Directors and on the Advisory Board for the Landmarks Foundation. Ashley and her family are members of First United Methodist Church.

Since joining the League in 2002, Ashley has served as a volunteer for Rebuilding Together and MACOA. She has also served on the Arrangements Committee, the Holiday Market steering committee, and as chair and co-chair of the Community-Research committee and the Placement committee.



Fundraising Council Vice President Leigh Winslett

Leigh Winslett has previously served as the Chair and Co-Chair for Fund Development. Leigh is an attorney and is the Project Manager for QuestPlex, the partnership of the Children's Museum of Alabama and the Montgomery Public Library that will be located in 1 Dexter Plaza. Leigh is married to Joel Winslett, CCO for RiverBank and Trust. They have 2 daughters, Norah(9) and McKenzie(8), who attend Montgomery Academy. Leigh and her family attend First Baptist Church. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and playing the piano.



Finance Council Vice President Erin White

Erin Doss White works part time as a senior accountant at Wilson, Price, Barranco, Blankenship & Billingsley. This position has allowed her flexibility to stay home with her children as well. She earned her CPA after graduating from Auburn University with a B.S. in Business Administration in Accounting as well as a Masters of Accountancy.

Erin has served as the treasurer for both Junior League fundraisers, Bloomingdeals and Holiday Market, during her time in the League. This past year she served as the Assistant Treasurer for the League.

Erin is married to Kenneth White, Jr, a civil engineer. They have 2 children: Trey, 5 and Mary Surhea, 1. They are active members of First Baptist Church. Erin enjoys sewing, reading, antique shopping and spending time at the beach with her family.



Nominating Vice President Kimberly Baker

Kimberly Strag Baker has served in many different areas of the Junior League. Her prior League experience includes serving as Chairman of various placements and serving on both the Community Research and Membership Council Committees. Kimberly recently received the "Women to Watch" award from her peers in the Junior League. Kimberly is currently serving as President of the Board for ClefWorks and recently joined the Advisory Board for Alabama E. Health, an initiative of Montgomery Aids Outreach.

Kimberly is married to Benjamin E. Baker, Jr., a Montgomery attorney. They have three children: Isabella, 9 Benjamin, 7 and Liam 2. In her spare time, Kimberly enjoys playing tennis, volunteering at her church and spending time with her family and friends.



Governance Chair Tonda West

Tonda West is an administrative professional with Montgomery Public Schools. Tonda has worked at Robert E. Lee School for 22 years. She is described by her husband as a community leader whose heart is for the betterment of all mankind. She is actively involved in her community and humbly serves on several non-profit boards.

Since her provisional days Tonda has served as chairman of the following placements; Adullum House mini-placement, Montgomery Cancer Wellness, and Brantwood Children's Home. Additional league responsibilities include serving on the following committees: community council, and community research. During her time as a provisional she received the "That Girl" award and the Tonda West Provisional of The Year Award which was named in her honor. She also received the Association of Junior Leagues International "Rising Star" award.

Tonda is married to Matthew West. They have two children Tasharia, 23 and Joshua 14. She enjoys spending time with her family, shopping, reading, and collecting antiques.



Member at Large Jennifer Rogers

Jennifer Bolen Rogers is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University with a B.A. in Child Development and Family Studies and Auburn Montgomery with a Masters in Education. Her husband, Brian, is an Assistant Manager at Hyundai Motor Manufacturing. Jennifer is currently working at home with their 3 children Samuel, Harrison and Frances Ann. In past years she has worked with the American Red Cross and a private hospital in Fund-Raising, Education and Community Relations. She has also taught middle school.

Jennifer's past work with in the League includes Bloomingdeals Committee, Holiday Market Food Solicitations and Tickets Chair, Group Holmes for Children, Decorator Show House, and she will serve as Bloomingdeals Chair for the 2012 event.

Jennifer and Brian enjoy traveling with their children to New Orleans, Chicago and Gulf Shores to see family and friends. Mardi Gras in New Orleans is a special time they enjoy every year! Jennifer loves to cook, read works from Southern writers, and spend time with friends and family. She looks forward to serving as Member at Large and serving the League.



Sustaining Advisor Leah Stephens

Leah Snell Stephens was President of the Junior League in 2007-2008 and Sustainer of the Season in spring of 2010. Prior to becoming President, her placements with the League included tutoring at Brantwood Children's Home, co-chairing a home build with Montgomery Habitat for Humanity, Strategic Planning, Recording Secretary, Provisional Chairman and Membership Vice-President.

As a result of her League volunteer and training experiences, Leah has served on numerous local boards. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra and Montgomery Area Council on Aging and is a member of the Leadership Board for the University of Alabama's College of Arts and Sciences.

Married to Ken Stephens, Ken and Leah are active members of First Baptist Church where she enjoys teaching First Grade Choir. Together they regularly attend Biscuits baseball games, Alabama gymnastics meets, local theatrical and musical productions and enjoy traveling.

Leah is looking forward to serving the current Board and has already enjoyed participating in their initial training sessions facilitated by professional trainer Vicki Clark.



Advisory/Strategic Planning Chair Jodie Champion

Jodie Champion grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina and received a Bachelors Degree in Social Work from North Carolina State University. Jodie is married to Tom Champion who works for Summit Housing Partners in real estate development. She stays at home with their twelve-year-old twin daughters, Gracie and Chloe, and their son Jackson, who is five.

Jodie joined the League in 2000, and she has taken a leadership role from the start. Jodie served on the Community Research Committee for four years. She served on the Holiday Market Steering Committee in charge of both Merchant Relations and Entertainment; she was tickets chair for the Decorator Showhouse Steering Committee. Jodie chaired the AUM Humanics Placement for two years, and in 2009 and 2010, she chaired the Taste of the River Region Fundraiser. She served as last year's Community Council Vice President.

Jodie volunteers with children at First Baptist Church Montgomery, working in the nursery and teaching Vacation Bible School. She is also actively involved in the Women's Ministry.

Jodie loves to travel, and she is an avid runner. She also loves Auburn football!



Office Manager Gretchen Fischer

Gretchen Fischer has held this position since the summer of 2006. Before that, she was an active member of the League for 11 years, where she served in several areas including, Holiday Market Silent Auction Chair, Bulk Mail Chair, and on the Alabama Shakespeare Festival committee.

Gretchen grew up in Covington, Louisiana and attended Auburn University, graduating with a degree in Fine Arts. She is married to Andrew Fischer and has 2 girls, Claire (12) and Katie (10). In her free time she enjoys reading, taking pottery classes and visiting the beach.









By Courtney Albrecht

On Tuesday, May 10 under the watchful eyes of the giraffes at the Montgomery Zoo, Junior League of Montgomery members and other community leaders gathered to celebrate the achievements of the league during the past year and preview the work ahead for 2011-12.

While the lions roared in the background, members sipped this year's signature cocktail, a cosmopolitan before the meeting was called to order. Laura Stevenson opened the meeting, her last as President of the Junior League of Montgomery, by welcoming everyone before introducing Ashley White, Community Research Chair.

Ashley had the privilege of announcing the funded placements of the upcoming year as she introduced representatives of the selected organizations. The Family Justice Center will continue to be supported by the JLM with a \$15,000 grant. A new addition to the community, the Cloverdale Playhouse also received \$15,000 in funding. Other funded agencies include Aid to Inmate Mothers, the Children's Center of Montgomery, Easter Seals' Dogs on Call program, the Family Sunshine Center, the Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless, the Montgomery Educational Foundation, the Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Troy University's Rosa Parks Museum and Rebuilding Together.

In celebration of the JLM', eighty-fifth year of service, the 1926 Society and Fund has been formed to collect monies to fund a special community project. This year's funds will go toward a redesigned entry for the Montgomery Zoo. The year 2011 marks the 85th year of the JLM. In celebration of our 85th year of service, we are creating a fund to collect monies to help with a project. This year, we'll be giving funds collected to the Montgomery Zoo to perform a makeover of the front entrance of the Zoo.

Jeanie Parnell, Nominating Committee Chair, then introduced our 2011 Sustainer of the Year, Charlene Holtsford. Charlene is a past President of JLM who is dedicated to improving her community through effective action and leadership.

Suzanne Davidson, Membership Council Chair, had the honor of presenting the 2011 Member and Placement Awards. This year's Community Placement award recognized One Place Family Justice Center and chair, Katherine Jackson. The In-League Placement recognized for excellence this year was the Education and Training



Committee, headed by Carla Geiske. Katherine Jackson and Jennifer Rogers were lauded as volunteers of the year.

Sandy Gayden, Provisional Chair, then introduced this year's winner of the Tonda West Provisional of the Year Award to Kisha Bailey.

Ivy Ashworth, Placement Chair, recognized 2010-11 Placements and Chairperson, presenting each chairperson with beautiful spring begonias in appreciation of the hard work each member contributed this year.

With the devastating tornadoes that cut a path of destruction through so much of North Alabama still fresh in the minds of members of JLM, Meg Lewis, Jodie Champion and Kara Cosby provided opportunities to help communities in need. Meg informed members that ASF is presenting Moonlight & Magnolias on Wednesday, May 25, at 7:30pm to benefit Alabama

tornado relief. ASF & WSFA-12 News teamed up to raise funds and give all proceeds to the Red Cross' tornado relief. Tickets were "pay what you can," with a suggested donation of \$20. Jodie related that Community Assistance Funds were forwarded to the Junior League of Tuscaloosa to be distributed as they saw fit. Kara Cosby then thanked members who brought goods to be donated to the relief effort.

Outgoing President Laura Stevenson then took to the podium to reflect on her year of service before ceremonially passing the gavel to Marnie Dillon. Marnie thanked Laura for her commitment to JLM and presented her with gifts commemorating her time spent as JLM president. Then Marnie introduced the incoming Board of Directors and announced her theme for the coming year: Live, Learn, Lead.



By Anna Kate Bowen and Kathleen Bradford

As summer winds down, are you still looking for a great read? If you are like most of us, you've read the latest best-sellers, and your brain might be a tiny bit mushy from all the chick lit you've consumed. Not to worry! We've put together a book list that will engage your mind and spark your intellect painlessly.

First, our panel:

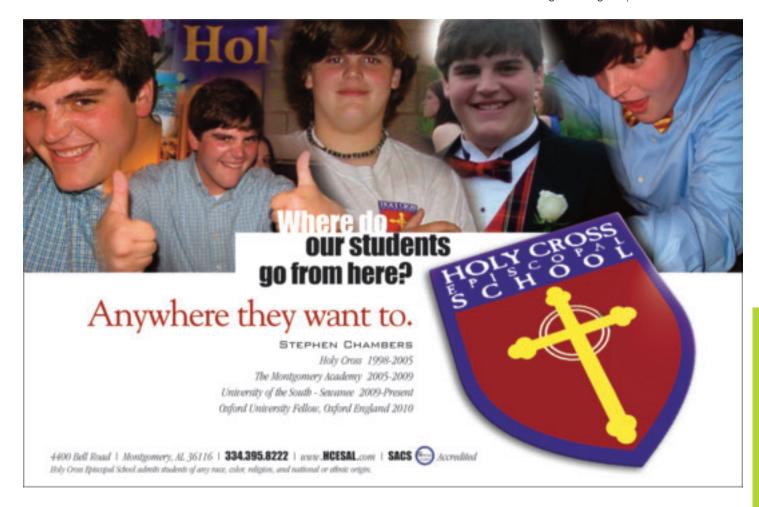
Leah Snell Stephens is this year's Sustaining Advisor, as well as a past League President and Sustainer of the Season, who has and continues to serve on a number of local boards. Leah grew up in Dothan among a family of avid readers. Her favorite childhood author was Noel Streatfeild who wrote *Thursday Child* and *Ballet Shoes* along with other classics. Her all-time favorites also include *The Chronicles* of *Narnia* by C.S. Lewis and books written by her childhood friend Andy Andrews. Her husband, Ken, also loves literature and recently completed a graduate course in the works of William Faulkner.

Carol Waters Butler has served for 19 years as the Executive Director/President of the Central Alabama Community Foundation. Carol is also a past League President and currently serves on the boards of Alabama Giving and Bridge Builders of Alabama. She is also the Top Chic for the 2011 Chics Ahoy dragon boat team that was awarded highest honors for team tent décor during the 2010 Montgomery Dragon Boat Festival. Carol is an enthusiastic reader who likes to use her sailing vacations to catch up on her reading.

Their recommendations:

The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Set in Barcelona in the 1950's, ten-year-old Daniel Sempere discovers a rare and valuable book. He soon discovers that every copy of every book written by the author, Julian Carax, is being burned. Daniel's coming of age mission, encouraged by his bookseller father, leads him to investigate the life, death, and secrets of Julian Carax. An intriguing cast of characters and a plot filled with mystery, adventure and romance make this novel a must read.



Gung Ho!: Turn On the People In Any Organization by Ken Blanchard and Sheldon Bowles

Written by a management legend and a master entrepreneur *Gung Ho!* is a business book packed with invaluable information, as well as a compelling story. Through the story of business leaders Peggy Sinclair and Andy Longclaw, Blanchard and Bowles reveal how two managers saved a failing company and turned in record profits with record productivity. The core ideas of *Gung Ho!* are simple: worthwhile work guided by goals and values; putting workers in control of their production; and cheering one another on. The book is a management tool that gives a step-by-step outline of foolproof ways to increase productivity by fostering excellent morale in the workplace.

Ahab's Wife by Sena Jeter Naslund

Naslund's epic work of historical fiction uses Herman Melville's Moby-Dick as a window into early-19th-century America. Through the eye of an outsider, a woman, the novel suggests that New England life was broader and richer than Melville's manly world of men, ships, and whales, creating heroines from his lesser characters. The narrator, Una, flees to the New England coast from Kentucky to escape her father's Puritanism and to pursue a more exalted life. She gets whaling out of her system early: disguised as a boy, Una has her ship sunk by her own monstrous whale. Rescued, she returns to land and pursues the life of the mind, where she meets the commanding Capt. Ahab. Naslund exposes the reader to the unsung, real-life heroes of Melville's world, including Margaret Fuller and her Boston salon, and Nantucket astronomer Maria Mitchell. There is a chance meeting with a veiled Nathaniel Hawthorne in the woods, and throughout the novel the story brims with references to the giants of literature: Shakespeare, Goethe, Coleridge, Keats, and Wordsworth.

The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig

The Whistling Season is set in the past in rural eastern Montana. The narrator is an aging Montana state superintendent of schools, Paul Milliron, who is charged with deciding the fate of the state's last scattered rural schools. The task brings Paul to recall the autumn of 1909, when he was 13 and attending





his own one-room school. Recently widowed, Paul's father hires a housekeeper, Rose. The beguiling Rose brings with her a brother, the scholarly Morris. The local schoolteacher deserts her charges, leaving Morris to take over her job. Though he's a novice to the West, to children and to teaching children, Morris brings inspiration to the task at hand. The flashback narration maintains the book's theme of the different ways of learning at any age.

Galileo's Daughter by Dava Sobel

Inspired by the remarkable surviving letters of Galileo's daughter, a cloistered nun, this biography takes place between the 16th and 17th centuries in Italy. Their letters to each other detail the close relationship between Galileo and his daughter Suor Maria Celeste. Of Galileo's three illegitimate children, the eldest best mirrored his own brilliance, industry, and sensibility, and by virtue of these qualities became his confidante. Her loving support proved to be her father's greatest source of strength throughout his most productive and tumultuous years. Galileo's Daughter recolors the personality and accomplishment of a mythic figure whose clash with Catholic doctrine continues to define the schism between science and religion. Moving between Galileo's grand public life and Maria Celeste's sequestered world, Sobel illuminates the Florence of the Medicis and the papal court in Rome during the pivotal era when humanity's perception of its place in the cosmos was about to be overturned.

Persuasion by Jane Austen

Persusion is Jane Austen's last completed novel and was published after her death. As the novel opens, the Elliot family is faced with the certainty of losing their estate, Kellynch. They embark upon a plan to lease the estate to and Admiral in the Royal Navy,

whose brother-in-law happens to be the lost love of the novel's heroine, Anne. When she fell in love with him more than seven years earlier, Frederick Wentworth was intelligent and ambitious, but poor. Her family and friends deemed this match unsuitable for Anne, so she broke off the engagement. When Wentworth shows up at Kellynch with his wartime successes and financial gains, he is suddenly very much the center of attention. Unfortunately for Anne, he is uninterested in falling in love with her again, and she must find a way to win him back.

Sarah's Keys by Tatiana de Rosnay

De Rosnay takes a rarely-mentioned piece of French history, the 1942 roundups and deportations of Paris Jews, and spins a fascinating novel. The plot alternates between Sarah's 1942 experiences and the modern-day life of transplanted American Julia Jarmond. Julia's assignment to write an article covering the anniversary of the Vél' d'Hiv' roundups leads to her discovery that the apartment she and her husband plan to move into was once occupied by a Jewish family who was deported. In her search to determine what happened to the family, she is confronted by a past filled with guilty secrets that must be addressed in the present.



Community Council Vice President Junior League of Montgomery 3570 Carter Hill Road Montgomery, AL 36111

Dear Jodie,

Thank you very much for the Junior League of MACH's Blanket Drive. With the League's sur than any previous year. At last tally, we have more sweaters, scarves, and general clothing community effort, as we saw parents, childre of life bring donations.

MACH members and volunteers were able items this week as our teams went out to or Homeless Enumeration/Point-in-Time Cou were extremely appreciative and thrilled t members can rest assured that their funds members of our community.

Thank you again for your support. You helped to make

Sincerely,

Molly M. St Executive Director

cc: Laura Stevenson, JLM President

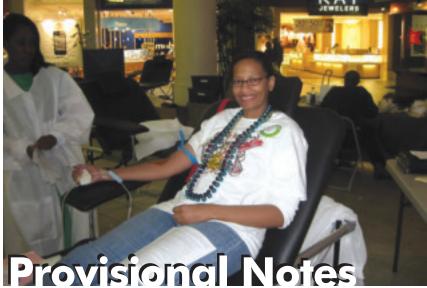
Thank you for taking us to the Polace eating at the museumand timin care. We like Thank Thank you again, Rebellah Jones

Jeremiah Jones









By Sandy Gayden

The 2010-2011 Provisional Year concluded in April after a fun year working together as new members. The Provisional Class completed their 3 spring fundraisers: Beads for Blood Blood Drive, Kids in the Kitchen and assisting with the Blue Gray Tennis tournament. Our class really worked hard this year and also made a lot of new friends!

Provisional members partnered with the American Red Cross to hold a Mardi Gras themed blood drive on March 7 at Eastdale Mall. They recruited donors and hosted the event. Donors received Mardi Gras beads in exchange for their donation. This drive helped fill a critical need in our area blood supply.

The Provisional Committee was pleased to present the *Tonda West Provisional Award* to an outstanding provisional, Kisha Bailey. It is always difficult to pick a stand-out provisional because so many of the ladies take on leadership roles and demonstrate a passion for service. Kisha was selected and honored with this award for her outstanding efforts this year. They included helping chair one of our mini-placements, selling the most tickets for Taste of the River Region (provisional fundraiser) and organizing efforts to donate funds to a local public school for school supplies. Kisha has great enthusiasm and seems to always have a smile on her face. It's been a pleasure to have her in the class this year and we look forward to seeing her and our other provisionals grow and develop in their service to the community. Thanks for your hard work and congratulations, Kisha!

JUNIOF LEAGUE OF MONTGOMERY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MONTGOMERY TH

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Norfolk Southern Corporation	Patron
Parnell & Crum	Patron
Sassy Cricket	Patron
Suzanne Davidson	Patron
The Hot Teas	Patron

Provisional Profiles

Compiled by Anna Kate Ingram | Portraits by the Robertsons



Melanie Lane

HOMETOWN
Fort Deposit

FAVORITE HOBBIES
Traveling, reading, dancing and volleyball

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE
The Color Purple



Arica Smith

HOMETOWN

Mobile

FAVORITE HOBBIES

reading and crafting

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE

The Bible



Carrie Cauthen

HOMETOWN

Pratville

FAVORITE HOBBIES

sewing and horseback riding

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE

Some Glad Morning



Mary Everette Saucer

HOMETOWN

Montgomery

FAVORITE HOBBIES

exercising and traveling

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE

James Patterson mystery novels



Meg Lewis

HOMETOWN

Hope Hull, Alabama

FAVORITE HOBBIES

baking, running, traveling

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE

Book: Wuthering Heights

Movie: Love Actually

More Provisional Class Members



Kisha Bailey



Liz Barton



Ashley Brandle



Kavanah Brooks



Laurel Crawford



Jordan Cobb



Anna Goldman



Carrie Gray





Jessica L. Hales



More Provisional Class Members (Continued)



Hannah Chadee



Jill Hicks



LaTonya Penn



Emily C. Meme



Anissa Parker



Yulanda Tye



Leslie Pitman



Jennifer Stevenson



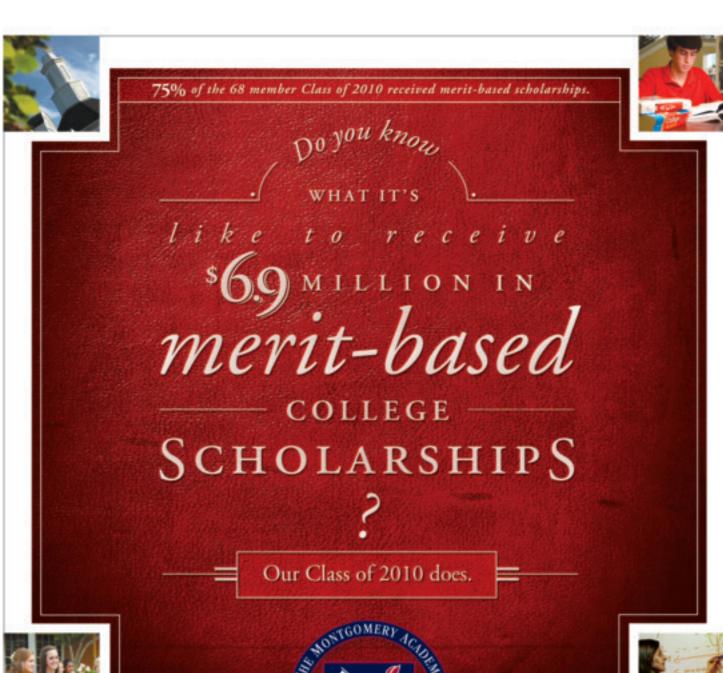
Melisa Tyson



Lori Ward

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