

A festive Christmas tree decorated with lights, ornaments, and a sign that says "JIM". The tree is the central focus, adorned with warm white lights, silver and white ornaments, and a large white sign with the name "JIM" in a serif font. The background is a deep red with a repeating diamond pattern. The overall scene is warm and celebratory.

# League *Logs*

HOLIDAY 2013

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## Editor's Notes

I remember reading through the pages of League Logs many years ago (before I joined the League) and being very impressed by all of the accomplishments of the Junior League of Montgomery. Like most non-members, I knew of the Junior League because of publicized events like the Rummage Sale and Holiday Market. But the League Logs magazine showed me all of the wonderful projects and organizations that the League and its volunteer base tackled head-on in order to make a difference in the community. I knew that I wanted to be a part of that...part of something that actually made a difference in the lives of others. However, what I have learned through my years of membership is that it is us...the volunteers, whose lives are also brightened by the works within the League, and the friendships we forge with some truly amazing women.

This issue is no different. It highlights the incredible feats that we accomplish in our community through our committee work. From College and Career Night, Taste of the River Region and the famous Holiday Market, we showcase our ability to "put on a great show!" These events could not happen without a strong volunteer force, some very organized women with impressive leadership skills and of course, our wonderful League sponsors. Our lesser known achievements are also featured in this issue, like the volunteer opportunity with the Montgomery City-County Public Library, a new placement option for members this year. This issue also includes an article by our Co-Editor, Jewell Dickson, that truly defines the spirit and dedication of a volunteer. Her memoirs and photos from a recent Mission Trip to Uganda were so touching; readers will be challenged to finish reading it with dry eyes. Her words mark the reason WHY we are all part of such a great organization and I hope that you find your own inspiration within her story.

As the Editor of League Logs this year, I look forward to keeping our readers informed of all of the meaningful work and examples of true dedication by the women of the Junior League of Montgomery.



Cindy W. DeLongchamp

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

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

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# League *Logs*

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Nightstand

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*one mission. one membership. one league.*

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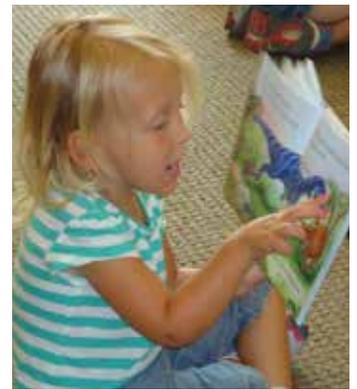
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## GETTING INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT: 2013 Holiday Market

To mark 25 years, the Silver Anniversary celebration included special events and workshops along with VIP guests at the Preview Party. *Story on Page 28*

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*Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received—only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.*

*—Saint Francis of Assisi*

*A man's true wealth is the good he does in the world.*

*—Mohammed*



## President's Message

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Junior League of Montgomery, I thank you for your support. What a great League year we are having so far! The 2013–2014 League year is already underway and we are making our mark in the community. Some of our members spent the summer helping with reading programs at the Montgomery City–County Public Libraries and others have been stocking shelves at the Montgomery AIDS Outreach food pantry. We have also given money to Habitat for Humanity, Lifetime Resolutions, Clefworks, Montgomery Christian School and Glenwood Clinic. Placement chairs are busy working with these organizations to make sure our volunteers can make a difference with these agencies.

Our 29th Annual College & Career Night was well attended with approximately 2,600 students and parents coming to speak with the over sixty colleges and universities represented. Our provisional class did a great job working on our fourth successful Taste of the River Region event, in partnership with the Alabama Restaurant and Hospitality Alliance.

Our 25th annual Holiday Market was held October 16–19 at the Multiplex at Cramton Bowl. Chris Hastings, with Hot & Hot Fish Club in Birmingham, was at our Preview Party Wednesday night

and our Silent Auction was a big success. The attendance at Holiday Market was up this year and the feedback from the sponsors, vendors, sustainers, League members, and community has been overwhelmingly positive. With over sixty new vendors attending, there was truly something for everyone at this year's Holiday Market.

I'm truly amazed at the dedication and teamwork I see every day from our members. Our members join the League for many reasons. Some to volunteer, some to learn leadership skills, some to help improve their community and some for the lifelong friendships they will make and grow through their League experience. It is such an honor to be the President of the Junior League of Montgomery this year and I am following in the footsteps of many great leaders over our 87 year history. Thanks for your support!

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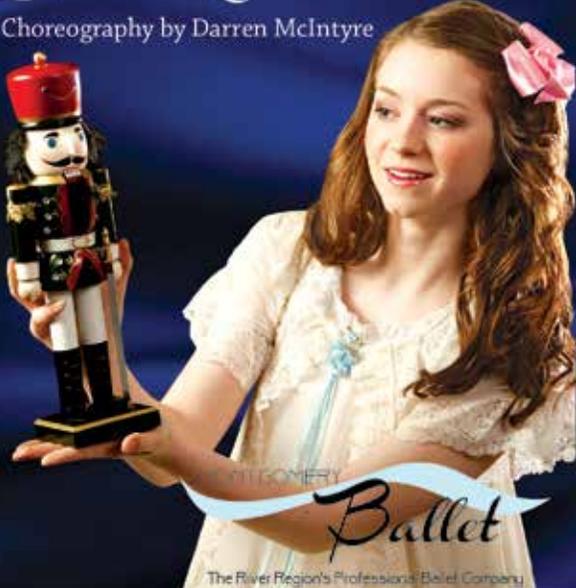


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# Loree Aronov

## SUSTAINER OF THE SEASON

### *Creating a Legacy of Giving*

By *Jewell J. Dickson*



The Junior League of Montgomery is proud to select Loree Aronov as our Sustainer of the Season. Loree has created a legacy of giving that has been a continual theme throughout her life and her involvement with the Junior League.

Loree's relationship with the Junior League began in the spring of 1994 with a lunch invitation from friends Ginny Haynes and Jennifer McConnell. The opportunity to join such a worthwhile group of women who were making a difference in the community perfectly complemented the values that had been instilled in her since childhood. At a very early age, Loree began serving with her mother at local hospitals. She found that simple activities such as reading the newspaper to a sick patient, playing cards, and doing crossword puzzles could make a difference in someone's life. She states, "I am indebted to my mother for instilling in me and guiding me in the gift of giving." Throughout high school and college, Loree participated in numerous volunteer organizations, but one of the most influential came during her time at Auburn University, working with the Big Brother/Big Sister program. While working with this program, she was able to provide emotional support for local children. This love and support of the children would become a continual theme throughout her life. After graduating from Auburn University, Loree entered the fashion, special events and



marketing field as the Assistant Fashion Director for Gayfers Department Store and then as Marketing Director for both Eastdale Mall and Zelda Place. Even with such an exciting and demanding career, Loree still found opportunities to incorporate giving back to the community by hosting events that would benefit the Family Sunshine Center and Brantwood Children's Home.

While an Active member of the Junior League, Loree enjoyed numerous placements such as Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels for MACOA, Brantwood Children's Home, In-League Fund Development, League Logs, and Bloomingdeals Sales Publicity. Her favorite placement is the annual Holiday Market, where she has served in various capacities including the silent auction, solicitation, gift wrap, and Publicity Chair. Loree's words of advice to new members of the League are to take the opportunity to explore as many avenues as possible and to get involved with in-league and outside of league placements. Loree still remains involved in Holiday Market on an annual basis and was excited to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Holiday Market this year. She volunteered in the Sustainer

Art Booth. Outside of Loree's involvement with the Junior League, she is involved on numerous boards at the state and local level. Her commitment to giving and service has enriched groups such as the Alabama Dance Theatre, The American Cancer Society's Vintage Affair, The Red Cross, Children's Hospital of Alabama, Family Guidance Center, and the River Region United Way.

A legacy of giving is something that Loree would like to instill in future generations. This is most evident in her personal life. Loree is extremely proud to be the wife of Owen Aronov, of Aronov Realty. They have two beautiful children, Josie, eight and Aaron, five. Loree cherishes her role as a stay at home mother and the opportunity to serve as a volunteer at their respective schools, Montgomery Academy and First United Methodist Church. Loree states, "It is a personal goal of mine to continue my family tradition of giving to others by molding my children in the manner in which I learned. What better way to teach children than by example? We take momentous occasions such as birthdays to serve as a way to teach to give back." For birthdays, in lieu of gifts for her children, she provides party goers the opportunity to give to agencies such as the Make a Wish Foundation or Montgomery Area Non-traditional Equestrians (MANE). Not only do her children get to see how small sacrifices can make a big difference in the lives of others, but it can also serve in raising awareness of the needs of these charities and encourages others to donate. Over the years several agencies have benefited from these "parties with a purpose" such as the Central Alabama Literacy Council, Children's Harbor, Soles for Souls, and Children's Hospital of Alabama. Whether it is packing boxes of food for the holidays for the Montgomery AIDS Outreach Food Pantry or delivering clothes and toys to the Family Sunshine Center, Loree's children actively participate in this legacy of giving.

As Loree reflects on her years of both Active and Sustainer service in Junior League of Montgomery, she says, "I can see how the Junior League cultivated my giving efforts, enriched my life, and generated life-long friendships." Loree believes it is the collective selfless moments doing things such as painting houses, preparing meals, tutoring children, and fundraising that have enabled the League to have such an amazing impact on the community. Having worked closely with so many members of the League over the years that share this vision, she believes all of us can create a legacy of giving. As Sustainer of the Season, Loree hopes to teach and continue this inspiration for others, especially for her own children, reflecting on the legacy of her mother to lead by example.

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# Pac-Man

By Cindy DeLongchamp



Do you ever feel like Pac-Man? It's truly one of my favorite video games of all time and I spent many quarters when I was a teenager making sure that I mastered the game and ate every single blinking dot that was put in front of me. I even ate my fair share of blinking, blue ghosts. Perhaps that is why the iconic little yellow chomper came to mind as I glared down at the scale beneath my bare feet.

I did not like the number that I saw. But admittedly, I had been acting a bit like Pac-Man lately in real-life and my actions were materializing in front of my eyes as I watched my weight creep out of the "I'm good with it" range. I would like to blame Halloween candy. Whoppers, specifically. I have zero self-control on the candy aisle. Could this comparison between Whoppers and the little dots that Pac-Man gobbled up just be a coincidence? I think not. I look at my calendar and realize that beginning in October, I have my own "maze" that I attempt to maneuver through. As Pac-Man tries to avoid colorful ghosts in his maze, I try to avoid eating my children's Halloween candy, the overflowing dessert table at Thanksgiving, pretty little non-threatening Christmas cookies and the New Year's buffet! I see now that it is those three months that completely throw me off my "healthy eating game." Those of you who know me personally know that I have been a strict vegetarian for 30 years, and granted, that is a tremendous plus for weight control because I bypass a couple of food groups. But until roast beef gets added to the banana pudding recipe, I will struggle with the rest of the minions to move away from the dessert tray! I have found no "proof" that the last three months of the year are to blame for our annual weight gain, but I interviewed the scale in my bathroom and, since it never lies to me, I am going forward with my hunch.

### *When it's burning, it's working!*

When January rolls around, I am one of the millions who make the weight-loss resolution and hit the gym hard to burn off the indiscretions of the previous year. While I enjoy the comfort of my recumbent bike, I like to look around the room at my fellow gym-goers. There are those who work out alone, and those who gather in small groups to sweat. These groups usually have a leader—some fit, little trainer with a dry erase board full of the hour's challenges. It was one

such morning that I hear personal trainer Casie Scott's voice echoing through the gym, telling her factions, "When it's burning, it's working!" While I continue my leisurely bike stroll, I consider her words. She is right. And although I wasn't in her workout group, her words moved me from my bike to the treadmill, where I begrudgingly began my slow trot.

*When you think you can't do another rep, do 10 more!*

Fast forward several months and while I see the positive transformation of bodies and attitudes in Casie's workout group, I also feel good about my own progress. I listen as she instructs her ladies to give her "10 more" and I notice that Casie can't count to 10. She keeps talking and the ladies keep crunching and probably push out about 20 more. I love her spirit and dedication to her clients and because of that, I pick her brain about my challenging "maze" that lies ahead, hoping that she has some words of wisdom that can help all of us.

*"Drink 8 ounces of water before all meals so that you are full before you eat! Eat turkey [if you aren't a vegetarian] and more veggies! Continue your portion control through the holidays...continue with those workouts, too! NOW is NOT the time to stop!"*

-Casie Scott

I consider her words as "food for thought"...pun intended...and I plan to heed her advice as I bid farewell to 2013. And if you plan to join me in the 2014 quest to lose our calories that are "so last year," keep Casie's words of encouragement in mind! If you need a peppy drill sergeant to get you motivated and steer you clear of the maze that derails your healthy lifestyle attempts, I encourage you to reach out to a personal trainer for help. Happy & healthy 2014 to all of us!

# Collaboration From the Ground Up:

*A Story of Chocolate, Vanilla, Montgomery, Haiti, Ice Cream, Cocoa, Fair Trade and Economic Stability*

*By Erin Schovel Turnham*



What could be better on a chilly evening than curling up with a delicious mug of hot chocolate? Discovering that the chocolate you are drinking has a fascinating and uplifting backstory!

Like many Junior League members, I joined in the sampling to be had at Taste of the River Region 2013. There were so many wonderful vendors! Along with my husband Chris and our little boy Charlie, I had a great time nibbling the offerings. As I made my way to the D'Road Café (already one of my favorite restaurants) I saw a silver tray with what I thought were shots of coffee. I almost passed by the tray, but Stephanie Reynolds of De La Sol offered me a taste of hot chocolate. I am so glad she did! That one sip of rich, sweet, velvety hot chocolate transported me. To where, I didn't know, but it was an adventure worth repeating. In the hustle and bustle of the event, I managed to grab a business card, but not a package of hot chocolate. I resolved to find out more. After getting settled back at home I checked out the website, [delasolhaiti.com](http://delasolhaiti.com) to find that my taste bud adventure had begun in the Caribbean—in Haiti to be exact. The single page website greeted me with a gorgeous view of lush green mountains, plus the teasers "Prepare to Embark" and "Fall 2013." Increasingly intrigued, I turned to social media and found that De La Sol had just posted photos of Taste of the River Region on their Facebook page.

The next day I called De La Sol and found myself speaking with Stephanie Reynolds, who gave me the company's history. Anne Reynolds and her daughter Stephanie got their first introduction to Haiti in 2000, when they accidentally crossed the border while visiting the Dominican Republic. While they waited for their paperwork to clear so they could cross back, they explored the area and fell in love with a local village. They saw the dire poverty that most often is cited as Haiti's only narrative, but they also

saw hope and resiliency among the people that brought them back to the country. The mother and daughter duo first established a children's feeding program, and then a school. As Anne came to know the villagers and they opened up to her, she began to understand that the best way to help was not to give aid but collaboration. She was determined to reach beyond a cycle of dependency to establish a revenue stream that could sustain the village. Farming cacao, the plant from which chocolate is made, was the village's main source of income. Although bringing in expertise to enhance farming techniques might increase the village's economy, it would only do so to the point of subsistence. Something new was needed to truly jump start the economy. Through their research, and with the collaboration of horticultural experts, Anne and Stephanie found that the vanilla vine, the world's most popular flavor and a spice second only to saffron in cost, grew well in Haiti's climate. Vanilla's expense is due to the fact that it is notoriously difficult to grow and takes five years to bear its fruit, the vanilla bean. The vine must be trained and supported. It turns out the perfect support was already growing in the village. Today it is the only place in the world where vanilla grows on cacao plants. Haiti could potentially become a global competitor in vanilla bean production. De La Sol (literally "Of the Soil") blossomed into existence. It truly is a story of collaboration from the ground up.

Anne and Stephanie now needed a buyer seeking large amounts of vanilla, ideally an ice cream company. That buyer called in March 2012. Darius Wilmore is known in the music world for his

work as Def Jam Records Art Director. He has worked with artists such as Jay-Z, Run DMC, LL Cool J and Haitian born Wyclef Jean. Darius left the business in order to support Taharka Brothers Ice Cream, a for-profit group in Baltimore, Maryland, focused on social change. It is an organization by and for young men trying to overcome their circumstances while surrounded by the drugs and violence pervasive in the city's roughest neighborhoods. Taharka Brothers Ice Cream uses vanilla in many of their gourmet, small batch flavors which have consistently been voted as best ice cream in Baltimore. Another collaboration in creative capitalism furthered the social goals of both companies. Darius specifically sought the possibility of buying Haitian grown vanilla in an effort to support the country, long mired in poverty and then rebuilding from the devastating 2010 earthquake.

Anne and Stephanie Reynolds were involved in Haiti for a decade already before the earthquake and have seen the effects that improving the local economy has on the lives of the villagers from whom they have learned so much. Stephanie, who was born and raised in Montgomery, expanded upon her experiences in Haiti by earning a Master's degree from Tulane University in African American and Latin American/Caribbean studies. She focused especially on the Haitian Slave Revolution of 1791. As a native of Montgomery, the birthplace of the Civil Rights Movement, Stephanie is keen to carry on that legacy through the business practices of De La Sol, namely creating opportunities for others to overcome their economic and social circumstances. Production in Haiti began with one worker and in six months grew to eight (with more coming) plus a new facility. Those workers had been living day to day, unsure of their next meal.

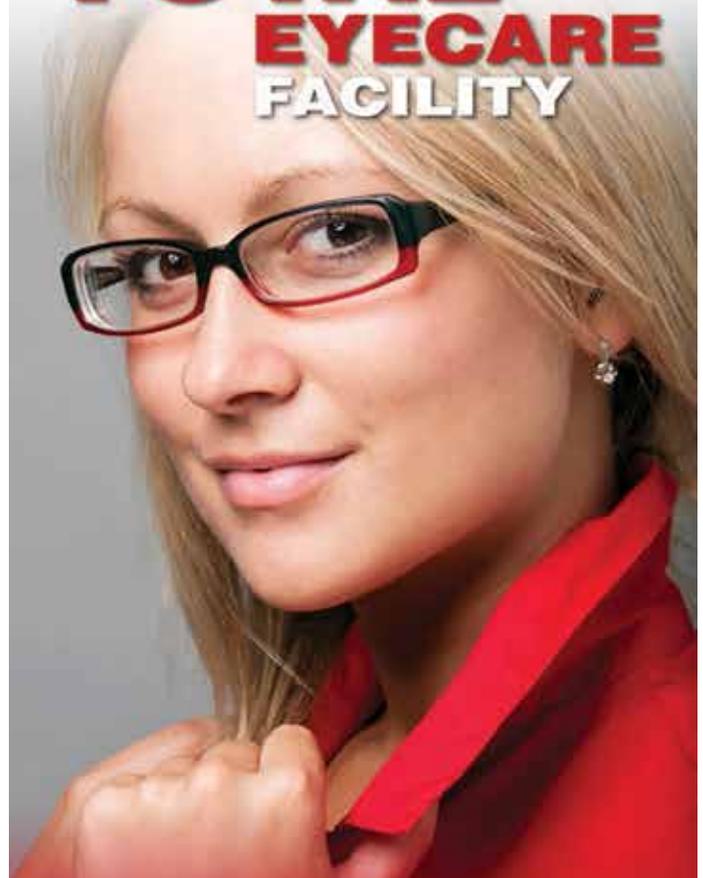
This inspiring company, based in our own city and written up in Forbes in March 2013, is bursting onto the scene this fall with delicious products available at local gourmet markets. Perfect for holiday gifts, De La Sol will begin their line by offering cocoa powder and hot chocolate mix. They will gradually expand into offering cacao nibs, savory spice blends made with cacao powder (which many cuisines around the world use in savory as well as sweet dishes), vanilla beans, vanilla extract, sea salt, mango, cinnamon and coffee. The beautiful symbiosis of the cacao plant and vanilla vine is a poetic match. Seek out this hot chocolate. Your own journey awaits.

Get in touch with De La Sol via Web: [delasolhaiti.com](http://delasolhaiti.com), Facebook & Twitter.



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# Education AND Training

By Felicia Stoudemire-Tyus



The Junior League Education and Training Committee is in full force and has already offered several opportunities for members to obtain their credits.

A domestic violence workshop called "Lunch and Learn" was made possible by one of our own, Kelly McTear, and was offered earlier in the fall at League headquarters. Another opportunity called "Ladies First" was held on Friday, October 11 at the Montgomery Riverwalk Stadium. This event is held every year and offers a daylong seminar where local women can share in participatory ways. "Ladies First" is committed to helping women find the very best resources that mean the most to them. Alabama's First Lady, Dianne Bentley, was just one of the presenters at this event.

Education and Training credits were also offered for any League member who participated in the "Holiday How To's" at the 25th Annual Holiday Market! What a wonderful opportunity to get a credit and prepare for the holiday season coming up.

The Education and Training committee recognizes that members of our League are not only parents, wives, and active participants in the community, but they are also "working women" who give their time and talents to continue to improve their community. What a wonderful opportunity to earn a credit and prepare for the upcoming holiday season.

League members are required to have two Education and Leadership credits at the end of the year. The committee plans at least four more opportunities in the future for members. Watch for details on the upcoming "Safety Workshop" presented by one the league's very own, Deborah Moore. This workshop will focus on helpful methods for women to stay safe in various situations.



# WELCOME First Year Actives!

Congratulations to the following women who persevered through their provisional year of membership and are now called Active members! We're so excited to see how you help us continue the mission of the Junior League of Montgomery!

Morgan Arrington

Angie Ashcraft

Nikki Bagley

Jodie Battison

Meredith Bishop

Jennifer Black

Rebecca Boykins

Katherine Chambers

Senna Colson

Belinda Davis

Julie Dettwiler

LaTonya Dupree

Shannon Ensley

Laura Eubank

Loree Fulton

Leah Garner

Marcy Gilbert

Amanda Hayes

Jessica Horsley

Nicole Johnson

Keyosha Jones-Shuford

Melody Kitchen

Janice Lyn

Mary Majors

Carla Martin

Cathy Martin

Erinn Martin

Barbara McCormick

Quenita Mitchell

Leanne Murphy

Michelle Patterson

Nicole Pinkham

Cassie Plunkett

Susan Reed

Deise Russell

Rheana Scarborough

Tondra Shambray

Cheri Sides

Melinda Stallworth

Katy Sulhoff

Ashley Tarrant

Sonya Thompson

Casey Thornton

Teshari Tucker

Monica Walker

Christa Wren

Araceli Wright

# Elliot's Light

## OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS LUNCHEON

By Jeanie Parnell



The Junior League of Montgomery partnered with Elliot's Light and The Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation on September 12, 2013, at an ovarian cancer awareness luncheon held at Trinity Church and attended by over 400 people. This event was free to the public and served as a Leadership and Training credit for Junior League members, who gave \$1,000 in community assistance funds to help sponsor the event.

### *Interview with Ed and Beverly Patterson:*

**Tell us a little about Elliot's experience with ovarian cancer. What have you learned that you wish you knew before?** Ovarian cancer caught Elliot and all of us by surprise. She was healthy and active one day, and the next day she went from stage one where the cancer was contained in the left ovary to stage four where the cancer spread to her lungs and liver in less than four weeks. Her cancer was rare and aggressive. At the time of her death, there was no medical case in Alabama on record like hers and relatively few worldwide compared to all reported cases. Looking back, there may have been some signs along the way. We wish her cancer had been ruled out or discovered earlier. We wish we had known more about this disease earlier. Whether it would have made a difference is unknown now. We also now know ovarian cancer is not just a woman's issue, but it affects an entire family. Anyone who has gone through what we have and continue to experience knows this.

**I'm sure the grief and healing process still seems very raw and new to you, but what can you tell others who might be experiencing this same pain, that might help them with their recovery?** Grief can be delayed but it cannot be hurried. While mourning and grief is different for each person, we advise others to not listen to those who say the

first year, the first birthday, the first anniversary of death is hardest since those are only the first of many more similar events. Walk straight through your pain. Stay engaged with others who are willing to walk beside you.

**Tell us a little more about Elliot's Light, what you hope to achieve with it, and what future events you are planning.** We want *Elliot's Light* to be the premier group in the tri-county area to raise awareness of ovarian cancer and support research. Just up the road at UAB Hospital exciting research is happening now. Funds to build a world class life sciences ovarian cancer research laboratory are being raised. Shortly we will bring more focus to this movement with the addition of a website which will include Elliot's story, a calendar of events, a blog, and links to other sites. Recently Ed was asked to join the board of the Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation. The next event will be a Cycle Out Ovarian Cancer Ride on February 23, 2014 from 8:00 am-4:00 pm at the Levite Jewish Community Center in Mountain Brook. We hope to have a large *Elliot's Light* Team from Montgomery there, and also offer training at a couple of locations in Montgomery prior to the cycling event. We will sponsor an *Elliot's Light* Team during a Motherwalk 5K & Fun Run in Mountain Brook on May 10, 2014, the Saturday before Mother's Day. We are available to share our story with any group, large or



small. Building on last month's tremendously successful luncheon, we will hold a second *Elliot's Light* Luncheon during National Ovarian Cancer Awareness month in September, 2014. In 2014 and beyond, we will seek creative ways to establish a solid support base in Montgomery in this much neglected area.

**What was your main objective with this first luncheon? Did you have anything specifically you wanted the public to learn?** We had two objectives: awareness of this disease and to honor Elliot's life since she was born here and grew up in Montgomery. We wanted the public to know ovarian cancer is no longer the 'silent killer' for there are some physical signs though common to women in general which might need the prompt attention of a physician: bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms (frequency or urgency). Other symptoms include fatigue, back pain, indigestion, pain with intercourse, constipation and menstrual irregularities. We also wanted others to know the large majority of women who get ovarian cancer have no known risk factors.

**I know you have learned a great deal about ovarian cancer, loss, and grief, but is there anything that you have learned about others through this experience that is uplifting?** Though our journey is still one of disbelief

and sadness, we have re-discovered the goodness and generosity within the human spirit and the value of living in community with others. The most amazing thing is the numbers of families whose paths we have intersected who also are suffering the debilitating effects of cancer or other losses. We are not alone in our suffering. Cancer does not discriminate as to age or gender. As we move down this road, we are able to look back and see others just starting their journey. We are called to help them as others have helped and continue to help us. From the time Elliot was a little girl, she lived her life, always stopping to listen to others, and help, care and support them. It is a joy to emulate her example.

**In closing, is there anything else you would like to share?** Elliot's courage and faith in the face of overwhelming darkness now gives us a passion to spread the light of her beautiful countenance to others while bringing her life into the future with us.

For more information about ovarian cancer, please visit [www.ovariancancer.org](http://www.ovariancancer.org), [www.NLOVCA.org](http://www.NLOVCA.org) or [www.foundationforwomenscancer.org](http://www.foundationforwomenscancer.org).



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# Holiday Market

By Katy Sulhoff



*For many, the beginning of the holiday shopping season is predicated on the Junior League of Montgomery's Holiday Market. With the official nod to commence Christmas purchasing, eager shoppers from around the River Region come clutching cash and credit cards intent on ticking off their Christmas shopping lists for family, friends, and, occasionally, for themselves.*

Holiday Market is the cure for the Type A personality who insists on having shopping completed well ahead of the scheduled calendar date when those carefully selected gifts will be unwrapped and enjoyed. But still, for the casual buyer, it is a chance to browse Christmas merchandise and enjoy the festive spirit. This year, Holiday Market Committee Chairwoman, Allison Bonds, and her committee outdid themselves as the League and community celebrated the event's Silver Anniversary. The planning began months in advance and materialized October 17-19 at Montgomery's Multiplex at Cramton Bowl. "It always amazes me how a 70,000 square foot room is transformed into a shopping mecca in two and a half days," said Bonds. "Everyone on the committee went above and beyond their individual jobs to help and make this year a huge success," Bonds said.

New event decorations with the traditional red, green, and silver Christmas color palette were debuted. The space was filled with dozens of beautifully decorated Christmas trees and festive trimmings. Seeing those, alone was worth paying the price of admission.

To mark 25 years, special events and workshops were added to the schedule and VIP's were invited. The Food Network's *Iron Chef America* winner and Birmingham native Chris Hastings

was the draw of Wednesday's Preview Party, which boasted an attendance of 350. He mingled with guests and signed his new cookbook. Hastings, who won the *Iron Chef* title in 2012 after beating TV celebrity chef Bobby Flay, is chef and co-owner of Hot and Hot Fish Club in Birmingham.

Guests could attend various "Holiday How-To" workshops including Christmas Tree Decorating by Rosemont Gardens, Holiday Party Planning by Jeffery Long Designs, Organic Gardening by E.A.T. South, and Holiday Cooking by Davena McRae. Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special appearance Saturday at Santa's workshop for crafts and pictures with the children.

Over 8,800 people came through the market and a sellout crowd of more than 128 merchants were recruited to participate, including more than 50 new vendors. Busy League members volunteered to staff the market, sell tickets, assist merchants, oversee the silent auction, and gift-wrap!

First-time vendor, designer and founder of Haul Couture, Kim Whitaker, praised the League for their hospitality. "From the minute we arrived (actually before!), the League ladies were precious and so very helpful," Whitaker said. "We have done hundreds of shows and have never gotten lunch on



set-up day—awesome! Our experience was great and we're loving Montgomery."

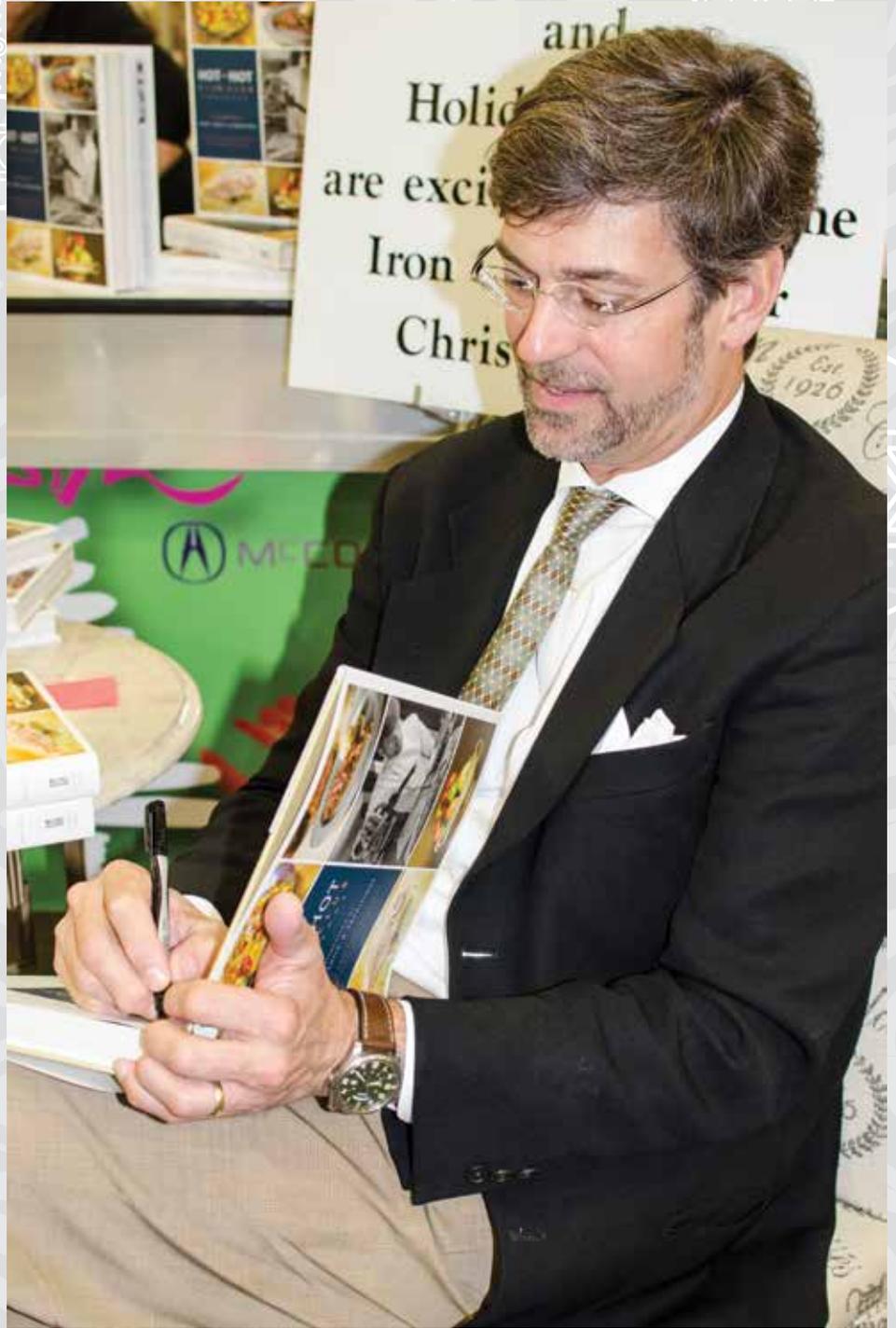
Another newcomer to Holiday Market, but not at all to Montgomery, was State Traditions. The company's co-founder Keith Brown is a Montgomery native. Brown and his business partner, John McElrath, recently ventured into selling at Junior League events after discovering their value. "We appreciate the Junior League as an organization first and foremost. It is a stalwart organization in communities across the country, supporting a diverse set of worthy initiatives," said Brown. "The holiday markets are a great platform to support the League and visit with our customers face to face. Our business is

primarily a wholesale and online retail operation, so we really enjoy the opportunities for interaction at the point of sale. This fall we're participating in Junior League events all across the country. The show in Montgomery was a hit. We had a lot of fun with everyone, the Montgomery League's support was fantastic, and sales were solid. We'll come again....if they'll have us!" Brown added.

A success with merchants and shoppers alike, Holiday Market brought in \$130,000 for the League to distribute to community charitable efforts—certainly a shining year to celebrate Holiday Market's Silver Anniversary.









*Special thanks to the 2013 Holiday Market Committee* .....

- Allison Bonds, Holiday Market Chair
- Lindsey Jinright, Holiday Market Co-Chair
- Amy Sadler, Secretary
- Mary Jane Guyton, Treasurer
- Susanne Shamburger, Assistant Treasurer
- Tara Sinco, Merchants
- Sommer Morris, Co-Chairman - Merchants
- Shena Davidson, Merchant Relations
- Kelly McTear, Personnel
- Joanna Kirkland, Personnel CO-Chair (Food Solicitations)
- Melissa Warnke, Publicity
- Melody Kitchen, Publicity Co-Chair

- Summer Patterson, Publications
- Carrie Cauthen, Decorations
- Casey Thornton, Decorations Co-Chair
- Melissa Eubanks, Set-Up
- Casey Earnest, Silent Auction
- Paige Justiss, Silent Auction Co-Chair
- Jacqueline Hughes, Gift Wrap/Signs/Nametags
- Dawn Owens, Santa's Workshop Chair
- Julie Spraggins, Special Events Entertainment Chair
- Carna Triftshauer, Preview Party
- Leslie Zeanah, Art Booth Chair
- Suzanne Davidson, Sustainer Chair

# 2013 Vendors

*Thank you for a successful Holiday Market!  
We hope to see you all next year!*

35

- Adjective Boutique
- Aimee's Linens
- Ala Carte Alice
- Alabama Art
- Alboe Inc.
- Alexander City Dermatology  
(Steven L. Mackey, M.D.)
- All of Us
- All Things Gallery
- ALTA
- Artist Tree
- ARTISTRY
- B Attitude
- B.Cool Shop
- B's Knees Childrens Clothing
- Baggo, Inc.
- Beauticontrol
- Bents N Dents, Inc.
- Best Soles
- Bunnies and Bows
- Busy Lizzie
- Ciao Bella Boutique
- Company's Comin'
- Cooper Candy Co,
- Coosa River Bath and Body
- Copperworx
- Covey and Paddle INC.
- D & D Foods
- D&K Hairware
- Darby Creek
- Deli Direct
- Designs by Barbara Kaye
- Diamond One Decor
- Discovery Toys
- Diva Daisies, LLC
- ElizabethGrace
- En Masse Mkt
- Engrave This, Inc.
- Fireflies and Fairytales
- For Healthy Pets
- Forrest Lights/Frabbits
- Frippery/Best Ever Brownie Mix
- gems @ minerals
- Gigi's Cupcakes
- Gingersnaps
- Girltrenz
- Glitz Galore-N-More
- Governor's Mansion Gift Shop
- Grits Bits
- Gumption Gals
- Haul Couture
- Heather Pierce Designs
- Hedge Farm Candles
- How Cute!
- I Flew the Nest
- Ink Spot Printer Inc.
- Its Good on ya
- Jeffery Long Designs
- Jennifer's Kitchen
- Jess's Dresses
- Jewelry On Ice
- John Oliver Dowdle Interiors
- Kathy's Accessories
- Kay's Jewelry
- Kazoo and Co. Toys
- Kidstuff Boutique
- Kim Box Photography
- Knicks
- Lady Turco Handbags
- Leah & Co
- Lilygirl Original Wearable Art
- Linda Theobald Art
- Little Monkey Toes
- Majestees, LLC
- MangoBay Design
- Maria's Creations
- Millie Ray's Rolls
- Minnie Belle Jewels
- Mommy Made It For Me
- Monograms For Me
- Mulberry-Be A Leader
- Musee
- My Messy Monkeys
- My Style
- N-vites
- Ocean Threads
- Organically Yours
- Origami Owl
- OrigAudio
- P.C. Accessories
- Peche
- Perfectly Posh
- Perky Moose
- Petal Bay
- PK Fine Imports
- Pomegranate Moon
- Priesters Pecans
- Prince Wimbley Productions
- Queen Lane Designs
- Rather Good Jewelry
- Ravens Nest
- RFI Industries
- Rusty Rooster
- Sarkis
- Scentsy Wickless Candles
- SilverWear
- Sophie's and Company
- Southern Candymakers
- Southern Distributors
- Starzz, LLC
- State Traditions
- Stray Cats Home Decor
- Swap-A-Top
- TeePees from Rattlesnake Crossing
- The Blue Lark
- The Christmas Angel
- The Light-Miracle Grill Mat
- The Rose Gardener
- The Spirit Tree at Toomer's  
Corner (Duke Tech LLC)
- Pastamore'
- Toggle Time Beedz
- Two Pearls, Inc.
- Two Wired
- Under Wraps
- Urbandillo
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- Vanishing Heirlooms Antique  
and Vintage Jewelry
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# Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Alabama

INDUSTRY LEADER, COMMUNITY SUPPORTER

By Leslie Pitman



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama has provided insurance coverage to Alabamians since 1936 and is the leading healthcare benefits provider in the state, covering two million Alabamians and another million outside the state. In addition, BCBS of Alabama includes community giving as one of its core values. This year, BCBS of Alabama is a Junior League of Montgomery's Gold Investor, giving \$5,000 to the League to support community projects.

Junior League Sustainer, Lisa Terry, has worked at BCBS of Alabama for 29 years. Currently a customer service manager, Lisa and her department handle over 20,000 calls a day and are busy preparing to help customers navigate the changes fast approaching as part of the Healthcare Reform. Lisa joined the League in 1992 and served as Arrangements Chair, Fund Development Co-Chair, Education and Training Chair and Co-Chair, and as a member of the Nominating Committee and Advisory Board.

As community giving is one of the company's core values, BCBS of Alabama supports causes across the state that seek to improve the health, wellness and education of Alabamians. And it's not just the company giving back, the "employees consistently play an active role in helping on an individual level," says Lisa. Last year, employees gave \$2.99 million to the United Way as well as participating in several service activities, including United Way



## BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

events, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama Kids' Mercedes Marathon, and various initiatives in the Day of Caring. As a company, BCBS of Alabama sponsors many health and wellness events. Among them are free exercise classes, National Walk @ Lunch Day, and Scale Back Alabama, in which participants lost an estimated 140,000 pounds last year!

According to Lisa, the company chooses to partner with organizations that "share the same passion and resolve to help build healthier communities. Blue Cross is pleased to work with the Junior League of Montgomery because of its commitment and long history of making the Montgomery community a better place to work and live." The League is excited to work with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, and is proud and grateful to call such a community-focused company its Title Investor for 2013.



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# JUNIOR LEAGUE Book Drive for Oklahoma

*By Mary Margaret Carroll*



Living in the River Region, we know all too well the horrific impact of severe weather, especially tornadoes. Many of us have been comforted and have benefited from the love, support, and generosity of others who stepped in during those difficult times to counter the devastation felt our own communities. Early this fall, the Junior League took part in an effort to provide similar relief to others.

On May 20, 2013, a series of Category Five tornadoes swept through the Oklahoma City area. Dozens of people lost their lives, and hundreds of others were injured. The area experienced significant physical loss. In September, JLM partnered with a service organization called XO Oklahoma. XO Oklahoma has solicited assistance from all over the U.S. to rebuild and revive the affected area. Specifically, they reached out to various chapters of the Junior League and asked members to donate books for the over-70 elementary school teachers who lost their classrooms to the tornadoes.



JLM President Dawn Stephens enlisted the assistance of local author and Community Council Vice President, Jeanie Parnell, to roll out a Book Drive initiative within the League to respond to the XO Oklahoma request. Members were encouraged through the League website and email blasts to bring books to donate during the first General Membership

meeting, which was held September 10th at the Montgomery Academy Lower School campus. Collections were ongoing through September at the League headquarters. **Thank you** to all members who graciously donated books to this wonderful cause!





# 12th Night of Giving

On the twelfth day of December,  
my Junior League gave to me,  
a special night out with friends!

Plus, a heartfelt warm and fuzzy!

Please join us for a Holiday Social and partnership with the  
Christmas Clearinghouse and WSFA's Twelfth Night of Giving:

Thursday, December 12th from 5:30pm–7:00pm

Junior League Office on Carter Hill Road

Please bring an unwrapped toy and books to donate to needy families.

*(League members will receive a leadership and training credit for attending and donating!)*



# The League Digs Into a New Project

MONTGOMERY CITY-COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Erin Schovel Turnham



Children have long announced the beginning of summer with the rhyme "No more teachers, no more books," but this past summer, hundreds of Montgomery area school children delighted in reading books and meeting authors.

The exciting new Junior League placement, the Montgomery City-County Public Library (MCCPL), began in June 2013 and will provide children with a broadened summer reading program. The Library's theme this year, "Dig into Reading," was open to children from birth to sixth grade and was available at all eleven branches.

## *Chapter One: Digging In*

This placement began when Rebie Morris, Administrative Assistant at the Library's downtown branch, submitted a grant request to the Junior League of Montgomery. The Library has, for many years, offered a summer reading program to area children. Library staff asked for funding and volunteers to expand upon this program. Upon receiving the grant request, the Community Research Committee (CRC) reviewed the proposal and made a recommendation to the Junior League Board of Directors that a partnership with the Library should be explored. The CRC then visited the Library branches and conducted interviews with library staff to discuss the proposal. The Junior League of Montgomery is determined to back projects that address a major community need, and aid in the League's mission to "Strengthen Families." The CRC ensures this focus by identifying, among other criteria, programs that promote parenting skills and the positive development and education of all children. The League's commitment to Community Research means that before a project is funded, the logistics have been discussed, including determining who will be involved, how many people will be affected and what volunteer resources will be needed. In the case of the MCCPL grant request, hundreds of Montgomery area children were afforded the opportunity to engage in reading in a way that was accessible, free of charge and fun. Jennifer Rogers, a Community Research Committee member, saw the project

from the beginning when it was first introduced as a grant request. As she noted, "It was a chance for the League to make a large impact over many people's lives in a short amount of time. Several members needed a summer placement. Not all members would read to the children, but they would all organize the events and coordinate the work."

Once the CRC determined that a placement with the Library would utilize volunteer hours in a meaningful way and would offer a variety of clearly defined volunteer opportunities, the proposal was put before the League's membership for a vote. The membership voted overwhelmingly for the project. As with all proposals, the project was not officially accepted until a minimum number of League members volunteered to staff the project. A contract was drawn up between the Junior League and the Montgomery City-County Public Library and the Library Placement Committee was selected.

## *Chapter Two: Shovel Ready*

The MCCPL had already established the framework for their Summer Reading Program, consisting of reading a book aloud to the children, involving the book's author when available and engaging the children in an activity inspired by the book. The program begins the first week of summer vacation, May 31 and normally runs through July. The League's project "year" runs from June 1 to May 31. As the previous project year was just ending, there was a short lead-time for committee members to rally the troops. A kick off at the Hampstead Library branch, in collaboration with the Pike Road and E.L. Lowder Libraries, got the summer started with a party, face painting, karate demonstrations, a visit from the Big Red Fire Truck of Montgomery



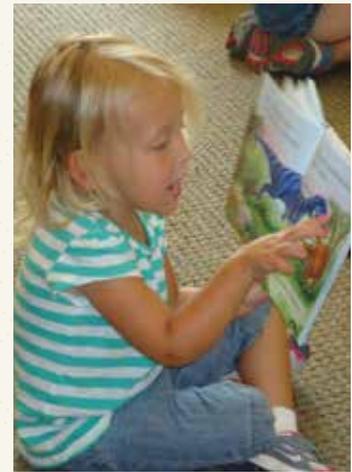
and, of course, registering participants for library cards. Although the placement got off to a slow start, soon Library staff and League volunteers were collaborating on exciting events for the children. Throughout the program, League volunteers assisted the Library by providing funding to bring in presenters like Russell Davis, a magician from Huntsville, to the Pike Road Library branch where he entertained a crowd of 65 children on June 18. League volunteers also assisted with special events throughout the city. At the Rufus A. Lewis branch, they hosted a tasty ice cream tribute to grandparents. A pirate theme day had the children trying on eye patches and tricorne hats. Sally Corley, a Library Placement committee member, never expected to show off her pirate swagger in front of an audience. This eight year League member works as Director of Government Affairs for the State Employees Insurance Board. She recalled, "I unexpectedly got to read a pirate book to a group of children one morning. I was a little nervous about my performance as the children took their seats. But that all melted away as I saw their eager faces light up with each new page. They didn't care that my pirate imitation was not perfect—they simply enjoyed having someone read a story to them. It was an awesome experience!"

On June 20, volunteers inspired by the digging and construction at Hampstead, led children in an exploration of construction techniques by building with marshmallows and toothpicks, measuring the children's height, and trying on different construction attire. At the Hampstead branch on July 11, League

volunteers continued the "Dig into Reading" theme by helping librarian Taylor Barth make dough for the children to press their "fossil" into for a dinosaur story time. Archeologists from the University Of Alabama Office Of Archeological Research read dinosaur books to the children and helped them compare their own footprints with those of a dinosaur. At the E.L. Lowder branch, children got to dig into reading in the dugout. Two Montgomery Biscuits players came along with Big Mo to the delight of the children.

### *Chapter Three: Flip Flops on the Ground*

Although the placement began later than expected, League volunteers balanced the late start by extending the Summer Reading Program through August. Members organized and led several reading sessions with activities. Matt Williams, librarian at the Pike Road branch, said "The most successful aspect of this collaboration was that the Junior League could send so many volunteers at once. Our program usually concludes in July but the League volunteers conducted story times on their own in August. The number of volunteers enabled us to reach more children than we would have with just our staff." Members assisted in a party on July 16 at the Pike Road branch with Bob Parsons of Walkabout Puppets and a chocolate fountain. Parsons delighted the children with the enormous book from which his puppets spring to life. As the library's usual program came to a close, League members added several events. On July 22, storytime featured several Pete the Cat books. Michelle Roark,



Library Placement Committee chair, read the books and led the children in dancing and singing to the songs that went along with the stories. The children also practiced lacing and tying with Pete the Cat shoe cut-outs. "Click Clack Moo" was the story for July 29 and volunteers helped children make cow masks. On August 5 the Pike Road branch held a Beach Party. As a final send off to summer, volunteers read back-to-school themed books, helped children decorate flip flops and gave the children a goldfish goodie bag.

#### *Chapter Four: Building Bridges*

The Library Placement was a project that benefited both the Montgomery City-County Public Library and the Junior League. Jennifer Rogers of the Community Research Committee followed up with the members involved in the placement. "Since this was the first year for this placement," Jennifer said, "the committee had to think outside the box to incorporate volunteer hours, to bring the authors in and to carry out the theme. Some events were entirely created and implemented by the volunteers. For some events the volunteers provided extra hands. The League

extended the program that the Library implemented. This summer enrichment program was available city-wide and for a longer time than the Library is usually able to offer."

Library Placement Committee members reported that their volunteer tasks, from reading to the children, doing crafts, taking photos of the events, to general crowd control, were enriching for them too. "It is rewarding to work with children," said Articia Johnson, one of the committee members. "I think there are a lot of women in the League who would enjoy working with the children especially in this placement." Articia, an active League member for four years, works as Prevention Director at Lighthouse Counseling Center and Therapist at Turning Point Counseling Services. She said she would recommend the placement to other League volunteers if it was continued next year.

The Committee received favorable feedback from the Library staff as well. Glenda Walker, Head Librarian at the Rufus A. Lewis branch wrote to Michelle Roark, Library Placement Chair, "Thanks for the support that your organization has given to our Summer Reading Program, and for volunteers who are willing to give of



their time and talent assisting with programming activities." From the Pike Road branch, Librarian Matt Williams commended the League on being able to organize volunteers to extend the program into August and added, "It was a pleasure to work with Michelle as she coordinated the volunteers across all the branches."

Michelle volunteered for the position of Committee Chair and stepped up to the plate to bring the placement to fruition. She oversaw the creation of the events and arranged for volunteers to serve at all the library's branches throughout the city. She also had a deep personal investment in the project. "I love reading," Michelle said. "I feel privileged to be part of a placement that wants to instill the love of literature in young children. I had fun reading to the children and loved having them actively participate in story time and activities. Seeing the children so enthralled with the stories made me smile." As a Kindergarten teacher, Michelle appreciated the opportunity to visit the different library branches. "I came away with some great books and activities to use in my Kindergarten classroom." Michelle's two children, Abigail and Will, also enjoyed going, listening to the stories and

participating in the activities. Abigail, who is four, especially looked forward to going each week so she could check out new books. Michelle recalled, "Receiving her own library card was the highlight of her summer!"

### *Epilogue: Roadmap for Success*

This first year of the Montgomery City-County Public Library Placement for the Junior League was a success. In the midst of creating a new partnership, the Library Placement committee worked out the details for collaboration model between the League and MCCPL. Their hard work and dedication benefited the community by providing an expanded quality library experience for Montgomery area children. If the Library is again selected as a Junior League member placement choice, the committee's work in this inaugural year will enable groups that follow to build upon their experiences and provide even more enriching reading opportunities for our community's children.

# Unto the Ends of the World

## MY MEDICAL MISSION TO UGANDA

By Jewell J. Dickson



*"...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all  
Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8*

Since graduating from Tuskegee University in 1999, I always dreamed of traveling to Africa and serving people in a meaningful way. In my career as an occupational therapist, I always had a burden to ensure that underserved populations' healthcare needs are met in the best and most effective manner possible.

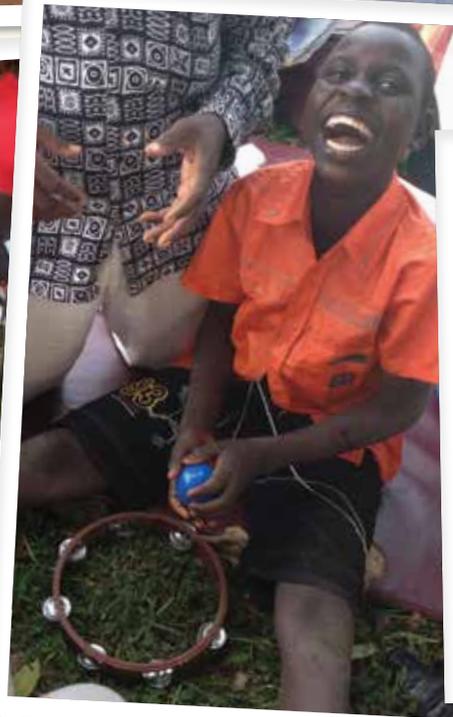
This desire led me to further my education in public health, move from Birmingham to Montgomery to begin a career in education at Alabama State University, and eventually pursue a doctorate in occupational therapy. Having been so richly blessed, I felt compelled to give something back to the world. The opportunity presented itself in January of 2013. After months of planning, prayer, and fundraising, on June 5th I traveled to Jinja, Uganda with **Our Hope International**, as part of a medical mission team.

**Our Hope International** is a non-profit organization committed to being "the hands and feet of Christ to meet the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of orphan children" in the world. It is also specifically committed to supporting the needs of an orphanage, Home of Hope, in Uganda that serves the needs of children with disabilities. Our team was made of six women of all ages from Birmingham, Montgomery, and Atlanta. I was one of two occupational therapists; the team also included a physical therapy assistant, two teachers, and one federal employee. The purpose of this trip was to address the rehabilitation needs of children with disabilities that lived at Home of Hope orphanage, as well as address the needs of children with disabilities in the surrounding villages. We also went to provide spiritual encouragement and support to those meeting the needs of these children. Each day in Uganda held a special adventure, but three defining experiences changed my life and redefined my purpose.

### *Home of Hope Orphanage*

*"...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40*

Home of Hope (HOH) orphanage is located in Bugembe, Uganda (outside of Jinja) and is home to 23 children with various disabilities such as cerebral palsy, blindness, hydrocephalus, and intellectual disabilities. The orphanage was founded and is run by Edith Lukabwe, who has dedicated her life to the care of these children as well as her son who has a severe form of cerebral palsy. When we arrived at the orphanage, we were greeted by the children and staff with songs and cheers of joy. We delivered the wheelchairs, clothing, and toys to the children. Our primary role was to evaluate the new children at the orphanage and provide treatment suggestions to the occupational therapy practitioners who work at the orphanage. At HOH, I was overcome by the power of the human spirit to prevail and find joy in the midst of very difficult circumstances. Many of the children came to the orphanage from abusive homes or were simply abandoned because of the shame and stigma that comes from having a child with disabilities. What I found disheartening was that many of the things that caused severe impairments for the children at the orphanage are easily addressed with medication or surgery in the United States. However, what lightened my heart was the humor and joy I saw in a little boy named Herbert, who lost both of his



parents to AIDS and who suffered a stroke related to the increased fluid on his brain. The playfulness of Rashida, whose physical development has been delayed because of sickle cell disease, but whose smile made my heart dance, and Grace, who had finally found a safe place after suffering unspeakable abuse. Home of Hope was exactly what the name describes; a place of hope for children the world had forgotten, but God had not. Home of Hope may not have had an abundance of creature comforts and resources, but the love that Edith and the staff had for each child made up for anything that was lacking. It was my privilege to use my skills as an occupational therapist to improve their quality of life.

### *Namatumba District*

*"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

*Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:36-38*

On our third day in Uganda, our team traveled to the Namatumba District to provide medical services and medication to the families that lived in the outskirts of the city. When we arrived, I was in awe to see what appeared to be hundreds of people sitting in an open field under trees waiting for our arrival. We divided into teams that were responsible for the distribution of epilepsy medication and folic acid, prayer and spiritual encouragement, and occupational therapy and physical therapy evaluations and treatment. For the next four to five hours, we sat on a mat and mother after mother placed their child before us with a look of desperation and hope. Many had traveled for miles on foot carrying their children to see the Americans that



would certainly be able to heal and help them. We provided basic first aid, completed brief evaluations, and offered treatment techniques to the families with the plan for the Ugandan therapist assisting and translating to follow-up in the coming weeks and months. Some left encouraged, realizing there were small things that could be done to improve their child's life. Nevertheless, others, those hoping for miracles, seemed to leave disappointed. Although they expressed gratitude, their eyes often said what their words could not. At moments, this was overwhelming. What could not be translated to the families we treated is that even in America we are looking for miracle "cures" to autism, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, and spina bifida. Although I was giving them the very best of what I had to offer, I recognized the only power I had was love of God in me. I was so grateful for the spiritual team that was there to pray with and encourage the families. Many of the women had lost husbands because of the blame placed on a woman if a child is born with a disability or impairment. Many of them believed that God only heard the prayers of Americans, because of our prosperity, but did not hear their prayers because of their condition. This was such an amazing opportunity to share the love of God and the power of grace.

### *Mt. Zion Primary School*

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Mt. Zion Primary School is a boarding school near Jinja, Uganda that provides education opportunities for all children including those with disabilities. It is one of the best examples I have encountered of creating an inclusive environment for all children, even with very limited resources. Our Home of Hope provides support for some of the children from the orphanage to attend Mt. Zion Primary School as well as helping to meet some of their basic financial needs to provide an education for all children, even those with financial limitations. Some of the teachers at the school even volunteer their time to make sure the students get the best education possible. At Mt. Zion Primary School, we had the privilege of interacting with all 100 of the students through song. We made bracelets that shared the gospel, and offered a lasting reminder of how much God loved each of them. Although there were language barriers, requiring a translator because many of the children spoke Loogundan or were hearing impaired; music and love are universal. I hope I never forget their smiling faces and sweet smiles.

My eleven days in Uganda changed my life and left an indelible imprint on my heart. I am still amazed that God would allow me to serve His people, to use my vocation for His glory.

To learn more about Our Hope International please check out their website [www.ourhopeinternational.com](http://www.ourhopeinternational.com).

*A special thanks to Adam's Drugs, True Divine Missionary Baptist Church, and Alabama State University for their support.*

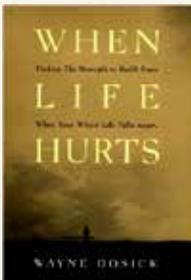
# Books ON THE Nightstand

Compiled by Marcy L. Ingram



The holiday issue of League Logs is one of my favorites. Perhaps it is because of the festive cover of the magazine, or the pictures from the Holiday Market and all of my purchases at Holiday Market, or it may just be because of the season. The holiday season seems to bring us closer and allows us to reflect on what is most important in our lives, and the things that have real value. Keeping these themes in mind, this "Books on the Night

Stand" segment will introduce you the 2013-2014 League Logs staff. Each writer selected a book that has had a life-changing effect; from overcoming hardship to developing a love for reading, to admiring characters that inspire readers to take charge. So put the kids to bed, fix a cup of hot cocoa, sink into your favorite chair and read on...there may be a book that can change your life.

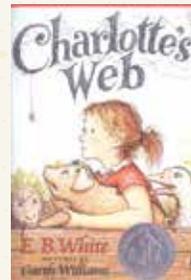


Cindy DeLongchamp  
*When Life Hurts*  
By Wayne D. Dosick

Editor, Cindy DeLongchamp, noted her favorite life-changing book to be *When Life Hurts*. "This is a book of hope, and allows readers to share tragedy with the author as well as the good that can follow. I read this

book at a very low point in my life and I felt that my world, like the authors, had been snatched away. I identified with the despair as well as the resilience. The book reminded me that we fight on. We live. We never give up." *When Life Hurts* by Wayne D. Dosick is the story of the author and his wife who lost everything they owned in a house fire. The author offers a spiritual journey through grief toward final acceptance, allowing readers to crawl inside his hurt, face traumas of their own and emerge on the other side of pain.

*Cindy DeLongchamp was born and raised in Troy and received her BS in Business & Marketing from Troy University. Cindy has been married for 17 years to husband, Michael, and they have two sons. Cindy also works with her husband at their business, Montgomery Automotive Group, Inc. Cindy stays busy with the local Montgomery Kappa Delta Alumnae Chapter where she is the Panhellenic Officer, and also serves on the Montgomery Area Panhellenic Council. Cindy's hobbies are keeping up with her sons' after school activities. The three words that best summarize the holiday season for her are Memories, Jesus and Family.*



Jewell Dickson  
*Charlotte's Web*  
By E. B. White

Co-Editor, Jewell Dickson, believes her life-changing book is *Charlotte's Web*. "This book began my love of reading. I can vividly recall sitting in my desk in 2nd grade, captivated by the relationship between Charlotte and Wilbur.

Although, it is very much a children's book, the themes of love, friendship, and sacrifice are timeless. *Charlotte's Web* showed me the power of books to take you to places that can only be found in your imagination." *Charlotte's Web*, by E. B. White, is about an eight year old farm girl. Fern Arable stops her father from killing the runt of the litter of pigs. Fern names the runt Wilbur and later she is forced to sell him to her uncle, where the pig lives and later learns of his fate in life. However, all is not hopeless because of the help of a very wise spider, Charlotte, who can help change Wilbur's fate. This summarizes that what we do for each other is what makes us have value as a friend.

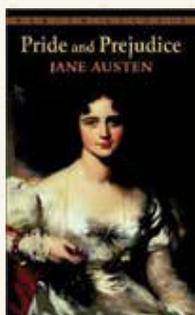
*Dr. Jewell J. Dickson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at Alabama State University in Montgomery. She has a board certification as an Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) from the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North American (RESNA). Dr. Dickson has expertise in adult physical dysfunction, healthy aging and community programming for underserved communities. Currently, she is serving a three-year governor-appointed term as Secretary on the Alabama State Board of Occupational Therapy (ASBOT). She also serves on the Milton Road Residence Quality Control Council and Rebuilding Together Central Alabama Board of Directors. Dr. Dickson enjoys spending time with family and friends, great music, and traveling. The three words that best summarize the holidays for Jewell are Faith, Fun and Family.*



*Erin Turnham*  
**First Light**  
 By Carol O'Biso

Erin Turnham's book selection is *First Light*. This book "made me realize that my fascination for dusty files and forgotten artifacts might be interesting to others if it is presented with passion, humor and humility." *First Light*, by Carol O'Biso, is a wonderful and funny true story of the day to day experiences of a woman who worked for one of the most prestigious museums in the world. Her journey, both physically and spiritually, revolved around creating and formalizing an exhibit of the Maori people of New Zealand and taking it on a world tour. This book is a great read in simply understanding how the author learned to deal with cultural differences and adjusting our perception of cultural customs.

*Erin began her studies at the University of Alabama where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Art History and Religious Studies. She worked in the University's Sarah Moody Gallery of Art. After graduation, Erin worked for three years as the Associate Curator of the Wiregrass Museum of Art in Dothan, Alabama. She then studied at Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey where she earned her Master's degree in Museum Professions. During her studies at Seton Hall, she interned at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City and worked at the Newark Museum in New Jersey. After graduating from Seton Hall she returned to Alabama, taught Art Appreciation at Troy University in Troy, married Chris Turnham and opened her own business, L.A. Art Services, LLC. Erin and Chris live in Pike Road and in 2012 they were blessed with a son, Charles Alan. Through her business Erin provides services in the care and handling of objects for private collections and family heirlooms. The words that best sum up the holidays for Erin are Holy Days and Peace.*

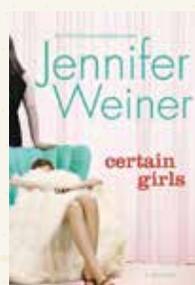


*Katy Sulhoff*  
**Pride and Prejudice**  
 By Jane Austen

Katy Sulhoff's book that has made a big difference in her life is *Pride and Prejudice*. Katy stated "not exactly a profound book, but I am a hopeless romantic! We're faced with a lot of negativity about relationships in our society, so as it gets colder, it is nice to cozy up and read a good love story." *Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen, is a witty comedy of manners, set in the early 19th century, in a world in which men hold the power and women are to negotiate a vast

array of mine-fields of social status, wealth, respectability, and love in order to marry a man to their liking, and to their family's advancement. It's a timeless story of the battle of the sexes told both with wit and style.

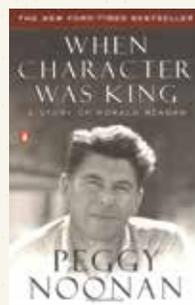
*Katy Sulhoff has been a member of the Junior League for five years and believes the three best things about the holidays are the celebration of the birth of Christ, cheese potatoes, and cheer. "My faith and my family have always been the greatest influences of my life," says Katy Sulhoff. Katy received her Bachelor's Degree in mass communications from Brenau University in Gainesville, GA. She originally started as a TV news anchor in Rapid City, SD, and later moved to Texas to pursue a TV news opportunity, and then landed in Montgomery. Katy is currently the Public and Constituent Affairs Director for Lieutenant Governor, Kay Ivey. Katy likes that Montgomery is a bit of a "big-small" city, where you often run into people you know. She stays involved in the community through the Junior League, her Alpha Delta Pi Alumnae Association, and Inner City Evangelism. When she finds the time, Katy really enjoys sailing with her dad.*



*Leslie Pitman*  
**Certain Girls**  
 By Jennifer Wiener

Leslie Pitman's book is *Certain Girls*. Leslie notes that it's "nothing life changing, but it is engaging and a nice escape from the things that keep us busy." *Certain Girls*, by Jennifer Wiener, is the story of a teenager who finds out some surprising things about her mother from a novel her mother wrote when her daughter was a baby. Wiener is a great storyteller.

*Leslie Pitman has been a tax attorney with Gilpin Givhan, PC for the last three years—the same amount of time she been a member of the League. Leslie's placements have been Dogs on Call and Brantwood Children's Home. She is married and is a new mom to twin infants, a boy and a girl.*



*Mary Margaret Carroll*  
**When Character Was King:  
 A Story of Ronald Reagan**  
 By Peggy Noonan

Mary Margaret Carroll's book is a selection inspired by her grandfather. "My late grandfather adored Ronald Reagan. I remember being with him the day Reagan died and it was as if he had lost a close friend. I read *When*

*Character Was King: A Story of Ronald Reagan* and others about the President to better understand my grandfather's admiration for him. This book was written by his former speechwriter, and it is more intimate than most biographies. It is apparent that my grandfather and others had faith in him as a leader because he was respectful, candid, and kind—to all people in all situations." *When Character Was King: A Story of Ronald Reagan*, by Peggy Noonan, will both enlighten and reveal the man and the leader. The story reveals the true nature of the man, who even his opponents now view as a "maker of history."

*Mary Margaret Carroll is an attorney and lobbyist at Fine, Geddie, and Associates, a governmental relations firm. She has been a member the League for two years and enjoys playing tennis and the performing arts in her free time. The three words that Mary Margaret believes best describe the holidays are Family, Music and Festivities.*



Joyce Loyd-Davis  
*The Color Purple*  
By Alice Walker

Joyce Loyd-Davis was inspired by the struggle of the main character Celie in the book *The Color Purple*. This main character showed how perseverance, and most importantly love, prevails in the end. *The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker, is the story of two sisters; one a child-wife and the other a missionary. Both remain connected through their lives by letters. Celie, whose letters tell the story of her life and those around her over a period of twenty years, shows her courage and struggle to overcome abuse and rage. In the end, she discovers that self love is truly captivating and inspiring.

*Joyce Loyd-Davis has an undergraduate degree from Tuskegee University and two Masters degrees from Troy State University. Joyce is a Family Nurse Practitioner. She is married and has three children and enjoys traveling, tennis and writing. The three words that best describe the holidays for Joyce are Enjoyment, Giving and Love.*

I hope during the holiday season your shopping will now also include a trip to the book store (or online store) to check out some of these great reads. Happy Holidays and may 2014 be your best year yet!

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# College and Career Night

By *Erin Schovel Turnham*



Choosing a path for one's life is an exciting and weighty decision. In an effort to help students navigate this important time, the Junior League of Montgomery presented the 29th annual College and Career Night.

On September 16, 2013 from 6 to 8 p.m., eager students and parents poured into the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa at the Convention Center to explore college and career opportunities, gather scholarship information and learn about financial aid possibilities.

College and Career Night has served as a valuable resource for the community for almost three decades and admission was, as always, free of charge. Students were encouraged to bring a friend or family member. Betsy Byrne, a sophomore at Trinity Presbyterian, attended with her mother, Junior League sustainer Betty Bobbitt Byrne. Betsy said she was impressed with the event and that the "variety of colleges was both interesting and informative." WSFA News anchor Tonya Terry brought her son AJ, who is not yet in high school. "The admissions process is so competitive," said Terry. "There are certain schools AJ is interested in already. I want him to experience this so he can have a practice run and see what it is all about."

Throughout the event, students contacted each other via social media about the opportunities presented. Elisabeth Bowman, a sophomore at Trinity Presbyterian, heard about College and Career Night on the radio the day of the event. "Most of my friends are here too, texting about it," she said. Elisabeth is interested in several different colleges and spoke to representatives about their engineering programs, dual enrollment and volleyball.

Over 2,300 people attended and met with representatives from 64 colleges, universities, vocational schools, organizations and the armed forces. Each student received a free Scholarship Guide, researched and published by the College and Career Night Committee. Deborah Bethea, a student at LAMP, attended with her friend Angel Parrish and grandmother, Patricia Greene. Patricia had attended College and Career Night for several years in a row with her own children and was enthusiastic to attend again with her granddaughter. "It is so much easier to find information here than to have to travel to all the different

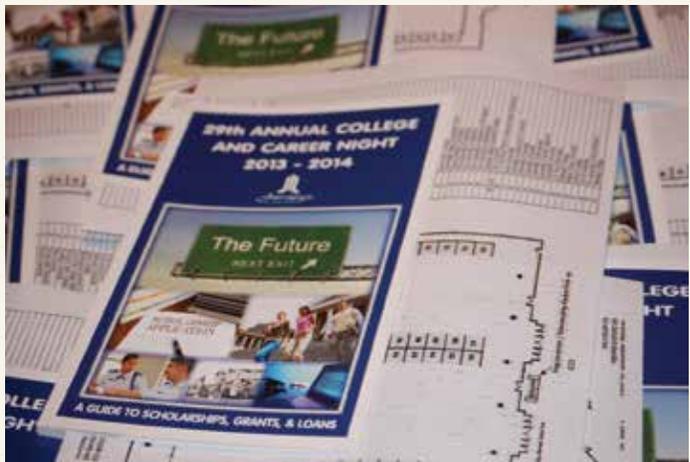


campuses," she said. Jacob Griffin, who attended with his friends, Sean O'Brian and Hunter Bruce, was glad to see out of state colleges represented. College and Career Night allows the community the opportunity to speak with college and university representatives they may not otherwise have the opportunity to meet in addition to exploring other career options.

The financial aid seminar, always a popular component of the event, drew many students. Betty Edwards, from Trenholm State Technical College, was the presenter. She has graciously given of her time, knowledge and materials for five years and each year the College and Career Night Committee receives great

compliments on her presentation. This year was no exception. Ms. Edwards demonstrated how to complete the FAFSA form and explained grants and types of loans.

The event was a success for the community, the colleges and the Junior League. Wesleyan College representative Lindsey Culpepper was pleased with the responses she received. This was the first time Wesleyan was represented at the event and Culpepper said her college would be back in 2014. Major Herman Payne of the United States Air Force said that the event was a great opportunity for high school students to get exposure to other options in addition to college. "I am glad that the Junior



League decided to bring together colleges and career opportunities for the benefit of area youth," said Major Payne. College and Career Night Chair, Shalisa Magee, was also pleased with the event. "College and Career Night allows me to immediately see the fruits of our labor," she said. "My goal with this event is to impact the path of at least one child and this year was no exception. During our event, a student was offered a full scholarship by one of the presenting universities. Another year, another goal achieved."

Karen Herman, Victoria Belton, WSFA, Brendle's, Atlanta Highway Kwik Kopy, Sheryl Jones and the Event Staff at the Renaissance Hotel and Spa Convention Center for their support in making this event a success. Thank you also to the College and Career Night Committee Chair, Shalisa Gooden Magee and the Committee: Pamela Selmar, Loree Fulton, Deirdre Kennerson, Leslie Meadows, Erica Strong, Sandra Washington. The Committee is grateful for the help of volunteers Carla Gieske, Vernessa Harris, Articia Johnson, Ashley Tarrant, and Felicia Tyus.

Thank you to all College and Career Night sponsors including Title Investor Baptist Health. Special thanks to Jacque Foshee,

Next year's event is scheduled for September 15, 2014.



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# Taste of the River Region

By Joyce Loyd-Davis



The Taste of the River Region kicked off with an exuberant line of people waiting to enter the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center. There were attendees that began to line up as early as 4:00pm with the excitement of entering this event. The Junior League provisional class opened the doors and began collecting tickets at 6:00 pm. Over 30 food vendors from the River Region signed up to participate.

Inside the Convention Center, the crowd eagerly and patiently waited to visit each vendor to taste their delectable selections. The atmosphere was very inviting and the Junior League provisional class was quite helpful in assisting people throughout the event. The Committee Chair, Kimberly Baker, said "This experience is great for the Provisional class to understand how a fundraiser works and see the connection with the community."

This year's fundraiser will give a portion of the proceeds to help support Carver High School Culinary Arts Program.

The Junior League has helped to host this event for the last five years with the partnership of the Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance. This year's event raised a record \$26,000, with over 800 people in attendance during the two-hour event. Kimberly Baker also highlighted what this event does for the Junior League. She stated, "Raising a lot of money in a short amount of time, with minimal resources and a small committee of seven people, makes this a worthwhile fundraiser."

#### The Taste of the River Region sponsors included:

The Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center  
ITEC Institute for Total Eye Care, PC  
Budweiser "Enjoy Responsibly"  
Auburn Montgomery Outreach  
Creek Casino Montgomery



The support of the sponsors helped to culminate such a wonderful evening, which was described by many as "perfect." The attendees seemed to enjoy many of the vendors, but everyone was "wowed" by the display presented by Creek Casino. The array of fanciful shrimp cocktails and the chocolate strawberries were a big hit of the evening. The Food and Beverage Director, Mark Maurer, said, "I'm new to Montgomery and this is a

great way to become acclimated to the community, promote Alabama and help share the love for food." Fellow vendor representatives Cupcakes by Tish, Central, Jim N Nicks and Wintzell's commented that the event is a great way to connect with the community and noted that it felt good to give back. Several of the vendors have participated in past years and look forward to the years to come.

The River Region's own local celebrity, Tonya Terry, summed the event up best with her comment, "This is a good event in the heart of downtown Montgomery; the good food brings good people and creates good exchange!"

Many organizations in the community will benefit from the success of the Taste of the River Region and the fundraising efforts of the Junior League of Montgomery. Therefore, I say until next year, continue to Taste the River Region!

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## SPOTLIGHT ON Spring Fundraisers

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The Junior League of Montgomery's annual Rummage Sale is back! This is an opportunity to purchase new and gently used items donated to our sale. The 2014 Rummage Sale will be held on February 7th from 5-9pm and February 8th from 8-11am, at the Garrett Coliseum. Tickets will be available at the Junior League office at 3570 Carter Hill Road and various locations throughout Montgomery soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Visit [jlmontgomery.org](http://jlmontgomery.org) for information and details on both of these great events!



The League's second annual Shamrock Shuffle 2K/10K Run will be held on March 15, 2014! Proceeds raised by the Junior League of Montgomery support their work in the community through projects that improve the quality of life for families and children.

# WELCOME TO THE LEAGUE!

# Provisional Class

## 2013-2014

*Compiled by Jewell J. Dickson*



In each issue of League Logs, we will feature a group of our Provisional members so everyone can get to know our newest League ladies a little better. Please greet these new members when you see them at our next event!



**Lauren Barnes**, from Montgomery, hopes through the League she will develop friendships with women in the area and also serve the community she grew up in. Lauren participates in Les Dames and enjoys attending Auburn football and basketball games. One of her favorite traditions is spending time with family at Lake Martin.



**Christina Brown**, from Montgomery, hopes through the League she will gain lasting friendships with women who are looking to make a difference in the community. Christina is a member of the Alabama School Counseling Association, the Alabama Counseling Association, and the Ethical Committee for the Marriage and Family Therapy Board of Alabama. She also volunteers at various places in Montgomery throughout the year. Christina enjoys spending time with close friends and reading and writing poetry. Her favorite tradition occurs during Thanksgiving, where all of her family members sit at the same table, sharing stories and reasons why they are thankful.



**Deniese Brown**, from Lake Charles, LA, hopes the League will allow her opportunities to help the people of Montgomery and have fun while doing it. She also desires to make some lasting friendships. Deniese is a member of the Administrative Team at Church of the Highlands Montgomery. In her free time she enjoys reading, cooking, and Cross Fit. Deniese loves SEC football but lives in a house-divided; GO LSU/GO UA!

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Erica Collins-Thomas, from Miami, FL, hopes the League will increase her community involvement and networking opportunities. She enjoys reading, traveling, and shopping. Erica's favorite tradition is dinner with her family and spending time with them at the Walt Disney World parks in Orlando.



Caitlyn DeMouy, from Mobile, hopes to meet new people and get more connected to the community through the League. She is involved in the FCA ministry at Huntingdon College and coaches cross country and soccer at Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School. In Caitlyn's free time she enjoys playing soccer and watching baseball as well as making crafts and jewelry. Her favorite tradition is going to Mass on Christmas, and exchanging presents at her grandmother's home.



Jena DiPaolo, from Buffalo, NY, hopes the League will allow her to increase her network and opportunities to volunteer in the community. She is the Child Protect Junior Executive Board Secretary, a graduate of the Torchbearers Class V, and a member of the American Cancer Society Junior Executive Board. Jena enjoys reading and watching sports and her favorite tradition is spending time in Buffalo with her family for the holidays.



Rebecca Fulks, from Charleston, WV, hopes the League will teach her new ways of putting things together and how to more effectively apply for grants. She is a certified lay speaker in the United Methodist Church (UMC), Evangelism Chair at Dalraida UMC, graduate of Leadership Montgomery, and is a volunteer with the Alabama Department of Transportation Call Center. Rebecca enjoys cooking, reading, and traveling. Her favorite family tradition is going to the park.



Marissa Gordon, from Madison, AL, hopes to the League will provide knowledge on how to be a strong community leader as well as provide opportunities to network with like-minded women. She is a member of Montgomery Public School's Hospitality and Tourism Board, Event Services Profession Association (ESPA), and National Association of Professional Women (NAPW). Marissa enjoys working out, watching football, writing, spending time with friends and family, as well as volunteering. Her favorite family tradition is the entire family coming together for Christmas, enjoying each other's company, opening gifts, and eating dinner together.



Kimberly Haynes, from Dallas, TX, hopes to learn more about Montgomery and find ways to connect with more community service opportunities through the League. She also looks forward to building new friendships. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Montgomery. Kimberly enjoys scrapbooking, travel, going to the beach, and spending time with family. Her favorite family tradition is riding bikes with her daughter, attending Montgomery Biscuits games, and supporting the "Angel Tree" every Christmas.



Jessica Johnson, from Atlanta, GA, hopes to the League will allow her to meet like-minded women and give back to the community that she now calls home. She teaches first-grade Faith Formation at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and is the Five for the Fight Chairperson for the American Cancer Society Junior Executive Board. Jessica enjoys Pure Barre®, running, and tennis. She also enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with her dogs. Jessica's favorite family tradition is spending time with her mom and partaking in all of the holiday decorations.



Allison Jones, from Montgomery, hopes the League will provide an opportunity to network and give back to the community. She volunteers at Montgomery Academy and is a member of CHARGE Syndrome Foundation. Allison enjoys cross stitching, watching college football, and spending time with family. Her favorite tradition is Sunday night family movie night.



Elizabeth Lyerly, from Charlotte, NC, hopes the League will help her in developing friendships and serving the community. She enjoys reading, walking, and Pilates. Elizabeth's favorite family tradition is eating breakfast together. Her favorite movie is *Under the Tuscan Sun*.



Amanda Mann, from Grand Rapids, MI, hopes the League will provide opportunities to volunteer in the community and meet new people. She volunteers with Feeding God's Children. Amanda enjoys knitting, reading, crafts, working out, and running. Her favorite family tradition is road tripping with her husband and/or family.



Angie Martin, from Ringgold, GA, is looking forward to participating in several different community service organizations that partner with the League. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Montgomery. Angie enjoys spending time with family, exercising, antiques, shopping, and reading. Her favorite tradition is spending Thanksgiving with her family and traveling to Disney to celebrate her son's birthday.



Bethany McKee, from Cullman, hopes the League will provide opportunities to give back to the community and make new friends. She enjoys swimming, jogging, and crafts. Bethany's favorite tradition is attending Auburn football games.



Brook Peavy, from Auburn, hopes the League will allow her to make a positive impact locally and build friendships. She serves as a meeting planner for the Alabama Council of Association Executives and enjoys planning their annual silent auction that provides support to local charities. Brook enjoys golf, reading, traveling, Pilates, and spending time with her husband. Her favorite tradition is watching Christmas classics with her family on Christmas Eve.



YaShica Ware, from Camp Hill, AL, hopes the League will provide opportunities to connect with people in the community that have a passion and dedication to help others, and to gain better insight into the needs of the area so she can be a better asset to the organizations that the League serves. YaShica serves on the Blount Elementary PTA Membership Committee and is a LAMP High School parent volunteer. She enjoys spending time with family and close friends, reading, writing poetry and short stories, cooking, shopping, and attending church. YaShica's favorite tradition is getting together with all of her family for the holidays and reunions.



Carly Wilkins, from Decatur, AL, hopes to contribute to the community and meet new people as part of the League. She participates in the Alabama State Bar Volunteer Lawyers Programs. Carly enjoys playing with her dogs, Leila and Lola, and cooking and entertaining friends. Her favorite tradition is cooking Easter brunch for her in-laws, parents, and extended family.

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# Thank You JLM!

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 **Girl Scouts**

June 11, 2013

Ms. Ashley White  
Community Council Vice President  
Junior League of Montgomery  
3570 Carter Hill Road  
Montgomery, AL 36111

Dear Ms. White,

Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama expresses its sincere appreciation to the Junior League of Montgomery for the \$1,000 donation received on 6/7/2013 for the purchase of two flat-bottom boats for campers at Kamp Kiwanis. We will send you photographs for inclusion in your publication for your members.

Your foundation makes a difference in the lives of many people in our community. Because of your generosity, many more girls in our community will experience the benefits of Girl Scouting. As Girl Scouts, girls participate in fun and exciting activities that help them develop leadership abilities, positive self-esteem and life skills. It is these attributes that will enable our girls to become women of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 334-272-9164 or by email at [lsrent@girlscoutssa.org](mailto:lsrent@girlscoutssa.org). Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the lives of so many girls.

With great appreciation,  
*lsrent*

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800.476.3347  
Fax 251.344.4181  
[www.girlscoutssa.org](http://www.girlscoutssa.org)

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800.229.4836  
Fax 334.272.8574

June 17, 2013

Mrs. Suzanne Davidson  
The Junior League of Montgomery, Inc.  
3570 Carter Hill Road  
Montgomery, AL 36111



Dear Suzanne:

On behalf of the Board, staff and partner families of Montgomery Habitat for Humanity, I would like to express our deep appreciation to you and the members of Junior League of Montgomery for your partnership in the 2013 Women Build. Thank you for your generous contribution to build homes and hope with families in need of affordable housing solutions in our community.

We sincerely appreciate the Junior League of Montgomery's donation of \$15,000.00 to support the construction of the next Habitat for Humanity home through the Women Build. Habitat for Humanity partner families consistently share that owning their own home has provided their children with a safe environment in which to play, study, sleep and dream the dreams of a meaningful future. Because of your generosity, our next partner homeowner will soon join nearly 75 families who have partnered with Montgomery Habitat for Humanity and bear witness to our house-building, hope-building mission. You are helping to build stronger families, hope-filled futures, and a healthier community for us all.

Thank you all for investing your resources in our partner families and in the vision of a community where everyone has the right to a safe and healthy place to call home. As our journey continues, we are thankful that you remain in solidarity with us since this vision can only become a reality through inspiring community supporters like you. We look forward to serving alongside the Junior League members in the coming months as you volunteer to complete the Women Build home together. On behalf of all Habitat homeowners and those who will soon join them through your generosity, I thank you for your faithful response to build hope for a better future in Montgomery.

Yours in gratitude and partnership,  
*Elizabeth Saliba*  
Elizabeth Saliba  
Executive Director

*We are truly grateful for your generous donation! Thank you for helping to build a home and build hope for many Montgomery families through the Women Build!*

*Seeking to put God's love into action, Montgomery Habitat for Humanity builds homes, communities and hope.*

Your contribution is tax-deductible. Please see your receipt for more information.

October 8, 2013



Dear Jeanie,

On behalf of the Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation, we want to thank Junior League of Montgomery for the \$1,000 grant the organization made to help supplement the cost of the Elliot's Light Ovarian Cancer Awareness Luncheon. Through this generous contribution, approximately 400 people in attendance were educated about the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer and the advances that are being made in the treatment of this deadly disease.

In addition to educating people across our state on September 12th, we also celebrated the life of Elliot Patterson Williams. Elliot was, and continues to be, an inspiration to all who know her and to those who have heard of her courage and faith. We are so sorry you were unable to join us at this memorable and meaningful event. Thank you for all you did to make the event a tremendous success!

Thanks to your commitment, together we are making a difference for our daughters, and friends. To learn more about how we make a difference, please visit us at [www.nlovc.org](http://www.nlovc.org).

With deep gratitude,  
*Susan Greene*  
Susan Greene  
Executive Director  
NLOCF

*Ed Patterson*  
Ed Patterson  
Elliot's Light Committee

The Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. You did not receive any goods or services in exchange for your gift. Please use your receipt to verify the above donation was made to a charitable organization.

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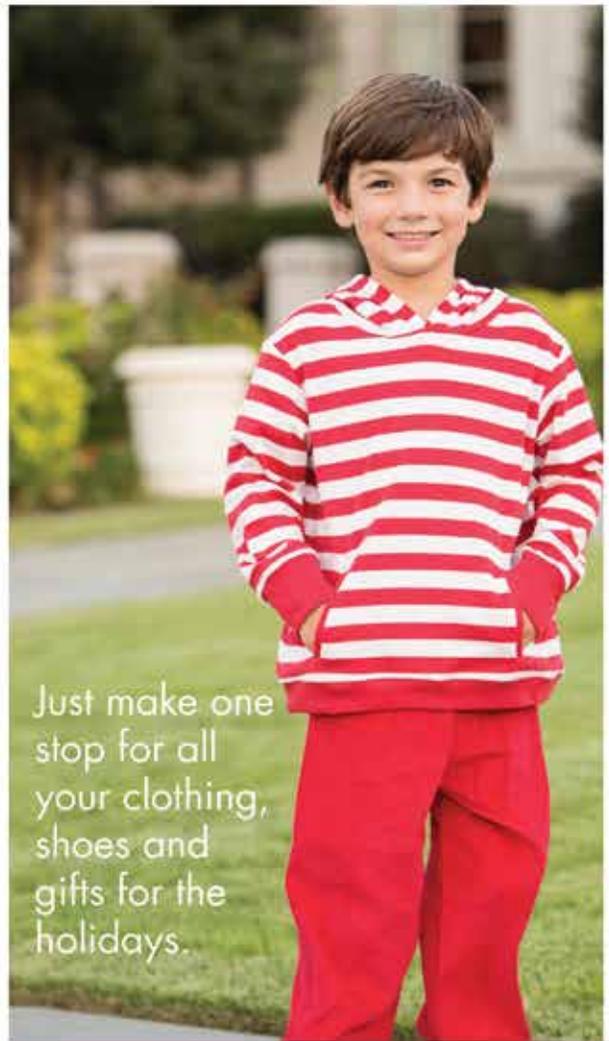
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