## PARISHSCOPE

A PUBLICATION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER, INC. | SUMMER 2020



jlsb.org



#### FROM THE EDITOR



Melissa Airhart

What normally is a time of concluding the League year by wrapping up placements and fundraisers, checking off meeting credits, and recognizing the hard work of our members at the May meeting, came to an abrupt end. But this isn't normal.

Instead, League leadership has worked tirelessly to accommodate the ever-changing circumstances that have touched all of our lives in some fashion. Meeting commitments have been marked as complete, Fund Development commitments are being decided upon, and the wildly popular Designer Bag Bingo fundraiser is being rescheduled. As you will notice, the *Parishscope* has had to pivot and regroup as well, nixing the traditional group photo of the incoming Board and Management Team and individual headshots.

One placement that remains essential is the Red Apron Pantry. Their services are needed more than ever and the committee and other League volunteers have worked tirelessly to continue serving those who are at risk of hunger. You can read about their work within these pages. We also take a look at how our membership has been touched by COVID-19 and social distancing. Teachers, healthcare workers, small business owners—all have had to adapt and adjust during this unprecedented time. Also, in this issue: a directory of member-owned businesses we may all support during this pandemic.



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

The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

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## LETTER FROM THE President



#### "In the midst of darkness, light persists." - Mahatma Gandhi

There is no doubt that the last several weeks have been an unprecedented period of uncertainty and darkness. For many of us, life as we knew it changed drastically on March 13, when the first round of closures—including schools and other public places—was declared by our Governor. Within 10 days, the Governor issued further orders that shut down many businesses and requested many to stay at home in an effort to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus and resulting disease COVID-19. At the same time, our essential healthcare and other workers were charged with fighting the disease on the front lines. Most recently, we learned that the stay-at-home order would be extended for a couple additional weeks, in an effort to reopen our economy successfully during the summer months. These pervasive changes have affected our livelihoods, schedules, daily routines, and hygiene habits in ways we never dreamed. But even in the midst of the uncertainty and darkness, good things—the light—have emerged.

The Red Apron Pantry, the League's food pantry executed in partnership with the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, has remained open throughout this period and continues to deliver necessary, life-giving supplemental nutrition to many households in need of food. Stacey Melerine, the project's head volunteer, was quick to make smart, effective adjustments to the method of food distribution and put safeguards in place immediately to protect both our member volunteers and the clients being served. In addition to its regular monthly distributions, the Red Apron Pantry served additional families by obtaining emergency food boxes from the Food Bank and distributing those to any Food Bank client in need. When most food pantries were shutting down amidst magnified needs, Stacey and the entire Red Apron Pantry committee were hard at work ensuring that our pantry would continue to distribute food to those who cannot afford it. I am just so proud of Stacey and the entire Red Apron Pantry committee for their perseverance and dedication to the League and clients throughout this period. Please see the article in this issue to learn more about the Red Apron Pantry!

I am also proud of the small business directory in this issue of *Parishscope*. Courtney Turner, next year's *Parishscope* Editor, has gone above and beyond to pull together this information to benefit our members suffering the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. This directory has been on my League "to do" list for a while,

though I hate that it came to pass as a result of the pandemic. Nonetheless, I truly hope that it is something we can build upon for years to come!

Finally, though it felt that the world shut down, our League did not! Our Board formed a "COVID-19 Response Team" comprised of myself, Maggie Pressly, Saige Solomon, Margaret McDonald, and Sarah Giglio to make recommendations to the Board so that our League could nimbly handle the effect of ever-changing circumstances of the pandemic on the remainder of our League year. These women and all other Board members have adapted beautifully to a completely different way of handling League business and navigating these unprecedented times. Our Communications team continued to promote our League on social media platforms, produce installments of League Links, and compile this Parishscope to ensure that our members were informed as developments occurred. In addition, we have made solid plans for our next League year and prepared to carry on our League legacy into the future. I am grateful for the hard work and dedication of each of these women!

I like to think that this shows our League remains strong and dutiful in the face of crisis and uncertainty, just as it always has. It is no surprise that our members have risen to the unprecedented times.

We also have to remember all of the wonderful accomplishments of our League this year! We successfully completed three Community projects and four Fund Development events prior to the start of the pandemic. Our Red Apron Pantry is running solidly and feeding families in the midst of the pandemic. Our other two "year-round" Community projects—MAGIC and Safe Sitter—had fantastic success prior to the shut-down and our members have handled the frustration of their efforts being curtailed with grace and understanding. Our Designer Bag Bingo committee agreed to rescheduling our biggest event and staying on to see it through on the later rescheduled date. Our member engagement team created and executed affinity groups to allow members additional opportunities to connect with each other. We cleaned out and inventoried Suite E and made the "Suite E Store" so that our resources could be wisely used. Our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer worked with the Board to update our financial practices and move many of our systems online (which has literally saved us during the pandemic, I assure you!). These are just a few

of the things that we have to celebrate as our League year concludes in a most unexpected way!

While these unexpected and uncertain times will remain for the foreseeable future, I think that we can count on this pandemic changing things on a fundamental level. We don't yet know what that will mean for our League in the coming year. However, one thing that is certain is that our community will continue to have social needs that must be addressed for the betterment of all residents. Thank-

fully, our League has a history of strength and unity in the face of adversity, as well as strong leadership to face these challenges gracefully and effectively. I am proud to say I'm a member of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier and you should be too!

Ratherine Douthitt

Katherine Douthitt

2019-2020 President



Thank you to this year's members of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier 1933 Society. Your support helps move our mission forward!

#### **LEAGUE LEADERS (\$1,000)**

Lee O'Brien Davis Katherine Douthitt Kim Foret

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Peggy Murphy & Carolyn Thompson

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## LETTER FROM THE INCOMING President



As we near the start of the 2020-2021 League year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the opportunity I have been given to serve as the President of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier. But, with that gratitude also comes anxious anticipation for what is to come.

I write to you now from my home office having completed five full weeks of social distancing and home isolation with my family due to the COVID-19 crisis. If you told me, 18+ months ago when I was invited to serve as League President, that my term would begin in the middle or on the tail end (God willing) of a global pandemic, I likely would have looked at you like you had three heads. To say this is a bizarre time may be an understatement.

While attempting to work full time from home while also teaching my kindergartner, chasing my toddler, and keeping our house in some semblance of order, I have surprisingly had a lot of time to think and reflect on this current situation and how it will likely impact the entire globe for the days, weeks, and months ahead. I can say beyond a shadow of a doubt that I need the Junior League, we (the members) need one another, and our community needs us—the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier.

Through our League I have made lasting relationships that transcend the limits of isolation; I have developed and continue to develop my own potential through the variety of internal and external placements I have been fortunate enough to be placed in; and I have had a unique opportunity to serve our community alongside an incredibly diverse cross section of Junior League and community members. All of these things have made me a better person and have unknowingly and uniquely prepared me for the unprecedented time we are now living in and for that, I am grateful.

Our membership is comprised of women from a variety of backgrounds, races, ethnicities, professions, talents, and more. If we allow ourselves to be open and vulnerable with one another, what we can learn from each other is limitless. And what better time to be open and vulnerable than now? While we may be isolated physically, we are not in this alone. I hope that you will use this time to pour into relationships formed in the League and draw near to other members mentally and emotionally through the common goal of our Junior League mission. We are all going through the same, unusual experience at the same exact time and we, the members, need each other.

While it may be easy to feel helpless at a time when so many are relegated to our homes or a few spaces we can call our own, the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier continues to pour into our community through programs like the Red Apron Pantry. And regardless of whether or not you are a member serving in this community placement, you are a part of the

impact the Red Apron Pantry is making—through your service to the League, your support of the League and our fundraisers, and your belief in the mission that we strive to move forward year over year. The community needs the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier now more than ever.

In the upcoming year, the League leadership will continue to move our mission forward through our Strategic Plan and annual plans. Our focus remains on our members and the experience you have in the League. More than anything, I want you to find joy and fulfillment in your service to the League, but I also understand that this looks different for everyone. If this sentiment does not ring true for you, I hope that you will reach out to me or another member of the Board or Management Team so we can learn from you and your time in the League and help you to get the most out of your League experience.

I recently read, "Stop defining yourself, your effectiveness, your productivity, or your happiness by the same measures as we did two months ago. Those measures don't exist right now. It's okay if things take longer, aren't seamless, or don't go as planned... Take a step back and redefine expectations based on the new reality. Success, right now, looks very different for ourselves, our teams, and our families." I have had this quote on repeat in my mind. The 2020-2021 League year will likely look different, maybe even drastically different, than other League years, but that will not mean we were not successful in fulfilling our mission.

Thank you for your commitment to the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier. I look forward to serving with you at a time when our community and the world need servants like the women of the Junior League now more than ever.

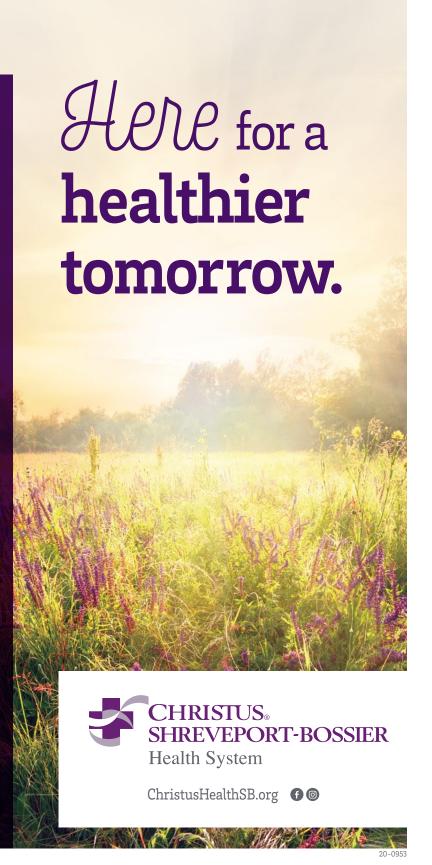
Warmly, Seige W. Solomon

Saige Solomon
2020-2021 President

1 Sarah Sims, In the Same Boat, Self-Care During COVID-19, Donor Relations Guru Blog, April 16, 2020, https://www. donorrelationsguru.com/post/ in-the-same-boat-self-careduring-covid-19



We are answering the call to help this community today, and tomorrow. In all that we do, we are devoted to keeping you, your families, our caregivers and our Associates safe. And we are here when you need care. Things may be changing every day, but so are our plans so we can provide the care this community needs. We are ready.



## PAST PRESIDENTS O LAN Melissa Airhart

#### **LILA KNICELY**

During what years did you serve as JLSB President? 2015-2016

Favorite accomplishment or favorite memory from your year as President? I don't have one particular favorite memory, but when I look back on that year, what stands out the most is the time I spent working alongside, and bonding with, so many great ladies that year.

What have you been doing since becoming a Sustainer? I have gone back to work full time as a title attorney at United Title of Louisiana and I have been enjoying more time with my family, and sneaking in a little tennis when I can.

What organization(s) or community boards do you currently serve? The Volunteers of America North Louisiana Cherish the Children of God Committee and the Cotillion Club.

How did your time in the League prepare you for future service in the community? There are so many ways my JLSB training prepared me for service on other community boards, but the ones that stand out the most are the ability to work within a budget and an understanding of how important it is to set your successor up with a good notebook to ensure their future success!



If asked, how would you advise newer members on their placements and/or advice you would give to those who have their sights set on being a board member or in a leadership position such as President? I would advise a new member to step outside of their comfort zone and try a placement that pushes them a bit or is not what they would have previously thought of as being in their "wheelhouse."

#### MELISSA FLORES

During what years did you serve as JLSB President? 2016-2017

Favorite accomplishment or favorite memory from your year as President? I have a lot of favorite memories from my years in the JLSB! One of my favorite memories was working with Sarah Brantley on the first King Cake Classic. It was amazing to watch Sarah and her committee take a fundraiser that had struggled in the past and revamp it to a very successful event that is still going strong today. I also love the King Cake Classic, because my son, Roy, and I run (or I walk it!) every year and it is something we enjoy doing together. We also love the King Cake afterward too!

What have you been doing since becoming a Sustainer? I am still practicing law at Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts, where I am a director and I serve as Vice President-Finance and I also serve as President of our title company, Sunbelt Title Company. My two boys also keep me plenty busy with all of their sports and activities!

What organization(s) or community boards do you currently serve? I serve on the Volunteers of America of North Louisiana Board of Directors and I am also on the Cherish the Children of God Committee. I also serve on the board for Shreveport Little League, Inc. and serve as the secretary.

How did your time in the League prepare you for future service in the community? My time in the League helped prepare me for future community service, because it provided me invaluable training to be able to serve on other boards and be a leader. I have found that in every volunteer job I have taken since being in the Junior League, I always use my training to get the job done, whether it be creating a binder, organizing a committee, assigning job descriptions, or making a plan. In different meetings, I have also said more than once, "Well, in the Junior League,

we..." I also have found that people ask me to do jobs, because they know the Junior League provides such great training to its members.

If asked, how would you advise newer members on their placements and/or advice you would give to those who have their sights set on being a board member or in a leadership position such as President?

I would advise members to say yes to jobs they are asked to do, but also to have the follow through on any jobs you accept. And probably my overall advice would be from my last President's Letter, which is to always remember that your Junior League years are never about the destination, it is always about the journey. So, enjoy your time in the League, make new friends, learn, work hard, and have fun!!



#### KATIE BAKER

During what years did you serve as JLSB President? 2017-2018

Favorite accomplishment or favorite memory from your year as President? This is a tough question because our League accomplished so much during the 2017-2018 League year. We celebrated our 85th anniversary, so it was a perfect time to reflect on our past, embrace our present, and plan for our future. It was important to me to give our members a sense of stability, enduringness, and also to remind us all of why we joined the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier and, more importantly, why we remain members of our League. As part of that effort, we engaged the members of our League to help our Board of Directors create a new Strategic Plan through their participation in a SWOT analysis to ensure the continued success of our mission through new initiatives. I am excited to see how the Strategic Plan will continue to guide our League into the future. I also have to mention that the 2017-2018 League year was the first year we hosted Designer Bag Bingo. It truly was an entire League effort to plan, implement, and support a brand-new fundraiser that raised over \$35,000 in its very first year!

What have you been doing since becoming a Sustainer? Believe it or not, I've kept pretty busy since becoming a Sustainer. We welcomed a sweet baby girl and bought a new house in 2019! I've also been really busy at the law firm. I was so fortunate to have a great group of law partners that supported me during my year as President of the League, because it definitely took up a lot of my time. In the last couple of years, I've had the opportunity to take on new projects that are both challenging and fun.

What organization(s) or community boards do you currently serve? I recently co-chaired the Institute for Energy Law's Young Litigator Oil and Gas Conference which was designed for new attorneys looking to begin representing clients in energy litigation matters.

How did your time in the League prepare you for future service in the community? What's great about the League is that no matter who you are you will find that there is something to learn in the League to better

yourself. I think we've all learned from our time in the League that diligent planning and dedication to a common goal results in successful projects and events. Also, through my service to the League on the Board of Directors, I learned a great deal about proper board governance. I've taken that training to other organizations to help them operate more efficiently and intentionally.



If asked, how would you advise newer members on their placements and/or advice you would give to those who have their sights set on being a board member or in a leadership position such as President? I would encourage our newer members to ask these questions of themselves not only as they relate to their current placement in the League, but also as to their future in the League: First ask, what is it that you are able to give to a placement—your time, your skills, your leadership, your excitement? Giving back can also be in the form of eagerness to learn! Then ask, what is the best you can do in that placement? Do that!

And remember, your time in the League should be a marathon and not a sprint. There will be years that you are able to give much more of your time and talent to the League and other years where you may need to take on a little less. That's okay. We are a group of volunteers that CHOOSE to give our time and talent to this organization because of, not only the massive impact our League has on the community, but because of the impact it has on each one of us.

#### **HEATHER PRICE**

During what years did you serve as JLSB President? 2018-2019

Favorite accomplishment or favorite memory from your year as President? This was the hardest question for me to answer! Serving as President of the JLSB was a huge personal accomplishment for me, but the Provisionals and Actives were the ones that had the major accomplishments for the 2018-2019 year! Every council and member played a key part in all that was accomplished during the League year. A few of my favorites were the end of the year MAGIC celebration at Peggy Murphy's house, unloading pumpkins for the Pumpkin Patch in the rain, looking into the River Dome and seeing the overwhelming turnout at Designer Bag Bingo, the excited crowd and number of volunteers that were at King Cake Classic despite the freezing temperatures, walking through the Revel and seeing all of the Red Aprons in the Pepsi booths and kids surrounding the Artist for a Day tent, seeing the huge smile on the gentleman's face as he picked up our first ever Red Apron Pantry food box, the excitement of the Provisionals delivering the SWAG bags to the Gingerbread house...my list could go on and on! This question definitely served as an excellent reminder of how grateful I am for the people that surrounded me during my presidency and the wonderful work happening in our League!

What have you been doing since becoming a Sustainer? I have enjoyed a little traveling, spending more time with my family, and having the opportunity to be more involved at my kid's schools. Oh, and I tackled a few large work projects!!

What organization(s) or community boards do you currently serve? I am currently the treasurer for the Forensic Nurse Examiners of Louisiana, Inc. and a member of the South Highlands Elementary Magnet PTA.

How did your time in the League prepare you for future service in the

community? When I reflect on my time in the League, I really think back on our mission to develop the potential of women and that is exactly what I received from my time in the League. There were many things that pushed me outside of my comfort zone. I developed relationships with not only great friends,

but mentors that have



impacted me in such a positive and powerful way. I believe that skills and relationships gained through the League help all members develop into a better version of themselves and every time that happens there is an impact on our community.

If asked, how would you advise newer members on their placements and/or advice you would give to those who have their sights set on being a board member or in a leadership position such as President? My advice for all members is that your League journey, whether you are a newer member or not, very often correlates with the effort that is put into the experience! If you are interested in a position don't hesitate to let your advisor or committee chair know. Also, don't be discouraged if you don't get a leadership position the first time you show interest. I remember the first time that I didn't get slated for a position that I wanted, but in the end it worked out much better for me. Sometimes you just have to trust the process and enjoy the journey!

## MEMBER Soldight



#### KRISTINA GLASS

Our mission in The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier, Inc. is that we are an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Kristina Glass is one, out of the many ladies that form our League, who exemplifies that mission.

Kristina started her journey in higher education at Baylor University with a major in Graphic Design, but she finally found her calling and followed in her mother's footsteps when she graduated in 2011 with her Bachelor's in Education. She went on to teach at W. T. Lewis Elementary School in Bossier City and has been there for the past eight years! You can find her, when school is in session, teaching 2nd grade Math and Science in one of her many crazy and fun costumes!

Kristina joined JLSB in 2015 in hopes of finding new ways to serve her community. During her time in the League, she has served on the Red River Revel's Artist for a Day committee, currently serves in the Membership Council as the Admissions/Provisional Assistant Chairman, and is on her way to serving as the Admissions/Provisional Chairman next League year. If you were to ask Kristina what placement she has enjoyed the most, she will humbly tell you, "All of them!"

In her time outside of JLSB, Kristina attends continuing education workshops, works as a Camp Counselor, and leads small group for her church's high schoolers. If you couldn't already tell, the common theme of even Kristina's free time is learning, developing, and training.

The desire to improve upon herself as not only an individual, but as an educator seems to come naturally to Kristina. It shouldn't come as a surprise that she was chosen alongside a small group of her peers at W. T. Lewis to attend training at the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, Ga. The Ron Clark Academy is an educational institution that has received national and international recognition for its success in educating students with academic rigor, passion, and creativity balanced by a strict code of discipline. Educators from around the world are invited to witness their dynamic teaching methods. They provide workshops and training programs for teachers, administrators, and superintendents so they can return home and use their new knowledge to impact their schools and communities in positive ways! When speaking to Kristina about her experience there, you could tell how passionate she is about making a difference in the lives of her students. She loved attending the academy to bring back new and exciting ways for our local educators to

bring up the next generation.

Kristina also writes a blog about professional development. In the next five years, she hopes to continue using this platform to help her peers in education. She would also like to return to school and earn her Master's Degree! Inside and outside of Junior League, Kristina is making waves in our community. Her bubbly nature, positive outlook, and can-do spirit, set an example for women who want to build better communities.





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### 2020-2021 Board



Saige Solomon, President

Family: Husband, Chris; two daughters, Lilly Grace (5) and Maggie (almost 2)

**Career/Occupation:** Director of Alumni & Family Relations at Centenary College of Louisiana

First Active Year: 2011-2012

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: Some of my

favorite memories center around attending AJLI training conferences with fellow members. What better way to get to know each other than traveling together and staying in a room together for several nights?

Fun Fact: I played the violin in Carnegie Hall in high school.



#### Sarah Giglio, President-Elect

Family: Husband, Trey Giglio

Career/Occupation: Attorney, Partner at Gilmer &

Giglio, LLC

First Active Year: 2016-2017

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** There are so many! Winter Leadership Conference with Saige and

Margaret is my most recent favorite memory, but I also really loved my time on the Super Safety Saturday committee. I made some of my very best friends there, and we still all get together regularly.

Fun Fact: I ran the Disney Marathon in 2013!



#### Margaret McDonald, Executive Vice President

**Career/Occupation:** Research Attorney at the Second

Circuit Court of Appeal First Active Year: 2012-2013

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: My favorite recent JLSB memory was attending Winter Leadership Conference with Saige and Sarah—especially the time

we spent discussing what we learned and how we can apply it to our League. My favorite placement was being the *Parishscope* Assistant Editor during my first Active year. It gave me a great overview of the League and helped direct my League career.

Fun Fact: I lived in Singapore from ages four to eight.



#### Hannah Alexander, Secretary

**Family:** Husband, Brannon; twin one-year-old boys, Boone & Bear; Otis the Goldendoodle & Opal the Rescue Hound

Career/Occupation: Chasing the twins!

First Active Year: 2013-2014

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: I always love unloading pumpkins at the Pumpkin Patch at Prov-

enance! Hanging out with women I don't usually get to see and meeting new ones, while getting a little bonus workout in and feeling the fall air: it's a win all around! **Fun Fact:** I had stitches in my shin that left a gnarly scar due to Box Jumps at Crossfit. Be careful out there, everyone!



#### Michelle Wallace, Treasurer

**Family:** Husband, J; Daughter, Sarah; and Son, Zachary.

Career/Occupation: Assistant Vice President Business Banking Relationship Manager with

Progressive Bank

First Active Year: 2018-2019

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: Red Apron Pantry

**Fun Fact:** I get to vacation in Germany later this year! Fingers crossed that travel restrictions may be lifted at that time!















#### Ginny Lamb, Nominating Chair

**Family:** Husband of almost 6 years, Rich; two year old, Virginia, and one year old, Chip.

Career/Occupation: Professional Volunteer

First Active Year: 2016-2017

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: My favorite JLSB memory is when I was running Designer Bag Bingo in 2019. I feel like a lot of people know that our son Chip ended up coming 5 weeks early, and only 6 days before DBB! As scary as it was, what I loved most about it was how everyone rallied around me to help. My mom, sister, husband, and especially the Junior League board and my committee really stepped up to make it the great event that it was. I could not have done it without the help of so many incredible women.

That is one of the reasons I love the Junior League so much! We come together when we need it most.

Fun Fact: My fun fact is actually more about other people. When I was living in New York, I was able to meet/see a lot of celebrities because of my job, or just walking around the neighborhood! I met (more like stared at) Paul McCartney when he was shopping with his wife, Nancy. I got to see Cameron Diaz at a wedding dress fitting for one of her friends. I saw Daniel Day Lewis walking to coffee when he had just won his Oscar. I tried to play it too cool and not actually scare these people by talking to them, but it was a neat experience!

#### Emily Smith, PR&D Chair

Family: My fiancé, Nick, and I are getting married on July 4, 2020.

**Career/Occupation:** Director of Marketing & Communications at Community Foundation of North

Louisiana

First Active Year: 2017-2018

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: MAGIC

Fun Fact: I've visited 24 countries!

#### Kezia Pigford, Member at Large

Family: Two furry sidekicks, Leviathan and Dera Career/Occupation: EL (English Learner) Teacher First Active Year: 2012-2013

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** My favorite JLSB memory would have to be our Provisional retreat. The moments rock wall climbing with Audra

Muslow Hicks and laughing hysterically while trying to balance on a chain with Hilary Wooley are forever etched into my memory.

**Fun Fact:** I love performing in community theatre productions!

#### Maggie Pressly, Member at Large

Family: Husband, Thomas and Son, Cinco (3)
Career/Occupation: Attorney, Bradley Murchison
Kelly & Shea

First Active Year: 2014-2015

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** All of the friendships I have made through the League over the years.

Fun Fact: I was born in Miami, FL.

#### Tracy Prestwood, Sustainer Advisor

Family: Husband, Roy; three incredible daughters, Courtney Ann and Rachel Lee (twins, 24), and Sarah Grace (19)

Career/Occupation: Wife and Mom First Active Year: 1992-1993

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: I have loved all my years in the Junior League. I loved my three years

on the Provisional Committee, serving as advisor, cochair, and then chair. I had the opportunity to meet so many different incredible ladies, many are whom are some of my closest and dearest friends.

**Fun Fact:** I was the State Fair of Louisiana Champion Bubble Gum Bubble Blower two years in a row.

#### Kim Foret, Sustainer at Large

**Family:** Husband, David; three daughters, one stepson, and two precious grand babies!

Career/Occupation: CPA/Currently CFO for Reliant

- . A ..

First Active Year: 1995-1996 (I think!)

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: Tie between President and Bargain Haul Co-Chairman Fun Fact: Since quarantine, I've found I could have a second career as a barber...my husband says I cut his hair better than his!

### 2020-2021 Manggement, Team



Jennifer Pou, Assistant Treasurer

Family: Husband, Gray Pou, with a baby boy on the way this summer

Career/Occupation: Venture Capital Investor First Active Year: 2018-2019

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: Safe Sitter Fun Fact: Born and raised an LSU Tiger fan, but graduated a Texas Longhorn!



#### Jennifer Bradford, Communications Vice President

Family: Husband, Seth; Poodle, Peanut Career/Occupation: Owner of Jennifer Bradford

Photography

First Active Year: 2017-2018

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** I love any memories made with my original Provisional small group. Yes, I have been an Active member for over

3 years now, but I still hang out with my Provisional small group any chance I get!

**Fun Fact:** I really enjoy cookbooks and will sit down and browse through one as entertainment on an almost daily basis. I love to spend time in the kitchen and always enjoy drawing inspiration, knowledge, and new skills from cookbooks.



#### Kelly Clayton, Community Vice President

Family: Husband, Josh, and our two spoiled dogs, Sadie and Jack

Career/Occupation: Agent with Farm Bureau Insurance

First Active Year: 2012-2013

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** Red Apron Pantry

Fun Fact: I've run three half marathons; Rock & Roll Las Vegas was my favorite!



#### Alex Person, Fund Development Vice President

Family: Husband, John David Person, and we have two children, Andrew (age 3) and Anna Claire (born November 2019)

Career/Occupation: Director of Education and a Forensic Interviewer at the Gingerbread House Child Advocacy Center

First Active Year: 2012-2013

**Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement:** I absolutely loved working on the Shopping for a Cause Market committee. I met some of my life-long friends while working on the committee for 3 years.

Fun Fact: I secretly love professional wrestling, and I have attended Wrestlemania twice.



#### Rebecca Radford, Membership Vice President

Family: Husband. Alex

Career/Occupation: Attorney at Blanchard Walker

First Active Year: 2014-2015

Favorite JLSB Memory or Placement: Between the

Lines

**Fun Fact:** I love to travel and read—especially at the same time! So far, I've visited 36 foreign countries and 5 continents.

## LEAGUE CAACICS



#### Q & A WITH GINNY LAMB

With Mother's Day right around the corner, what better way to celebrate than by spotlighting a mother-daughter Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier Legacy? Ginny Lamb and mother Nancy Broyles are a dynamic duo that have been graciously serving the JLSB for many years. We are grateful to highlight their experience and hope the family legacy continues!

#### What year did each of you join the League?

I joined in 2015. My mom joined the JLSB in 1985 and sustained after turning 40, around 1996.

#### Family Life:

My husband of almost six years is Rich Lamb. We have a two year old, Virginia, a one year old, Chip, and two dogs.

#### Why did you join the League?

I joined JLSB to get more involved in the community. I wasn't really sure where to start with community involvement, and I knew my mom loved her time in Junior League.

#### Have other members of your family served in the JLSB? Or another League?

My sister-in-law, Ila Broyles, is in JLSB right now. My husband's great-grandmother and grandmother were also

very active members in the Junior League!

### Can you tell us about your mother's time in the League and any memorable events or moments you remember during that time?

Nancy had placements in Bargain Haul rugs and appliances more than once, Pet Therapy, Shriners Hospital Play Therapy, Nominating Committee twice, to name a few. She especially loved the Community placements; however, she really enjoyed being on Nominating Committee! She really enjoyed Bargain Haul, because of how excited the community would get about it. People would wait outside for hours before they opened just so they could get something! I remember one time she came home with some old wedding dresses that my sister and I could use to play dress up.

#### What placements have you had? What has been your favorite?

Some placements have been Done in A Day, Arrangements Committee, Designer Bag Bingo twice, and Nominating Committee! My favorite JLSB memory was running Designer Bag Bingo in 2019. With our "Designer Bag Bingo Baby" (as Shelvia Grant calls him), Chip, coming only six days before DBB, it was such an exhausting, yet rewarding, experience!



GINNY LAMB AND MOTHER, NANCY BROYLES

## PROVISIONAL Space



"Everything is possible, even the impossible." Beloved storybook character Mary Poppins continues to be a symbol of grace and whimsy in times of uncertainty for generations, and our current climate is no exception. Though the close of another excellent Provisional year has arrived, and we find ourselves during these times with many questions and few answers, I am proud of the 24 exceptional women who have completed the curriculum with patience, diligence, and a love for the JLSB!

In August 2019, an intrepid group of intelligent, eager, and enthusiastic women began their Provisional curriculum under the motto "Anything Is Possible with JLSB." Armed with Red Aprons and a smile, they charged forth to learn and absorb all which was offered to enhance our community. Whether serving Pepsi at the Red River Revel, searching for "the Great Pumpkin" at the Pumpkin Patch at Provenance, participating with community programs like Super Safety Saturday, Artist for a Day, MAGIC, the Red Apron Pantry, and Safe Sitter, learning about the history of the JLSB from Sustainers at small group meetings, acquiring new skills in floral arranging and design at Christmas, cheering on runners at the King Cake Classic, or conquering the intricacies of the Placement Process, their zeal for growth as volunteers has remained steadfast. Each Provisional has given her best!

To Brittany, Lauren, Amanda, Elizabeth, Amanda, Kate, Stacie, Emily, Courtney, Margaret, Arielle, Libby, Shanequa, Angela, Nicole, Jessica, Emory, Kelsey, Stacy, Stefanie, Julia, Allison, Cheyenne, and Amanda, congratulations on becoming the newest Active members of the JLSB! Leading and serving alongside you over this past year has been an honor and a privilege. I hope you will reflect on this time with great fondness for new friendships, confidence in pre-existing and new gifts and talents to reach others, and a continued passion for making your community a better place to live, work, and play. It was an honor and a privilege to serve as your Provisional Chairman.

To the ladies who have served dutifully and selflessly on the Provisional Leader team, Abbie, Amanda, Adrienne, Jessica, and Katrina, thank you for your commitment and willingness to mentor this year's class. Your friendly faces and ability to answer a diverse array of questions to educate and encourage your groups was most appreciated! Finally, to Kristina, I am rooting for you all the way! You will be a fantastic Provisional Chair next year. Thank you for your desire to always lend a helping hand and serve as

system of support for me during this year. I am ecstatic to meet the newest class of Provisionals!

As change arrives with each passing season, we look ahead to the newest class of leaders who will continue the great legacy that is the JLSB. While we do not have specific dates for informational meetings, please encourage any interested women you know who would be an excellent addition to next year's class to contact jlsbprovisional@ gmail.com. Also, please encourage them to follow our social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter where updates regarding next year's class can be found. The Provisional Team is also searching for enthusiastic Actives and Sustainers to serve as friendly faces in the form of Provisional Sponsors. E-mail the aforementioned address to learn more. Cheers to a new year of being better together!









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RED APRON



Did you know that a significant portion of Shreveport-Bossier is considered to be a "food desert"? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention define food deserts as "areas that lack access to affordable fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat milk, and other foods that make up the full range of a healthy diet." That means that there are quite a number of people in our community who are not able to sustain a healthy diet because of any number of reasons. Whether it be due to financial hardship, no reliable form of transportation, or lack of know-how in order to use/cook items such as fruits and vegetables, there are people in our community that go without even during normal times. March and April of 2020 has been anything but what we would classify a "normal time." Due to the COVID-19 crisis leading to a global pandemic, the citizens of Shreveport-Bossier, whether they live in a food desert or not, need help more than ever.

The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier is here to provide that help with our very own Red Apron Pantry: a League-organized, year-round monthly food pantry. Since it started operations in 2018, the Red Apron Pantry has



been successful in serving families in our area. At the end of 2019, they were providing 75 pounds of healthy food to 15 families each month. The food pantry experienced a spike this past January and February, when more than 1,200 pounds of food were distributed. The Red Apron Pantry is happy to announce that, during this unprecedented time, they were able help the Food Bank of North Louisiana distribute emergency food when other food banks closed. Thanks to the donors who so graciously gave and to volunteers within the Red Apron Pantry and throughout the League, nearly 7,000 pounds of food was passed out in the months of March and April!

Head Volunteer Stacey Melerine said about these last few months, "As head volunteer during this time, I have been awed by those who were willing to leave the safety of their homes to help those they have never met." Among those who were willing to lend a hand was our very own Representative Alan Seabaugh and his wife, Laura.

When it's difficult to not think of all of the things we are missing out on right now, we should remember how our community has come together in ways we have never seen. This includes the actions of the ladies in our League through the leadership of the Red Apron Pantry. Our president, Katherine Douthitt, was on the Project Research & Development committee when they came up with the idea for the Red Apron Pantry. "The Red Apron Pantry has been an important and special community project from its very beginning. Through this program we are responsible for providing necessary, monthly supplemental nutrition to households in need, which addresses a core problem of food insecurity in our community," she said. "The COVID-19 crisis has magnified this problem and created even greater needs in our community! Our League is honored to do what we can to minimize the impact of the crisis by continuing to provide food to our regular clients and many more new clients finding themselves in need at this time. Stacey Melerine and the RAP committee have done a fantastic job ensuring that this vital service has been maintained throughout the crisis in a safe and effective way. They are the heroes of our League!"



















### 2020-2021 New Sustainers



#### Melissa Airhart

Favorite Placement: My favorite placement has been Parishscope Editor (a placement I have held for two consecutive years). I am a writer/journalist by trade and wanted to gain the experience of putting together a periodical from start to finish. Being at the helm of our magazine has been so rewarding, and I am very proud of the changes and additions that have been made in the past few years, including spotlighting our member-owned businesses and League Legacies, as well as stories about different aspects of our League's history. I am most proud of our vibrant covers this year showcasing the photography skills of one of our very own members!

Favorite League Memory: I love working at the Revel selling Pepsi products. In fact, I love it so much that I usually completed both of my Fund Development shifts doing so. The food, the music, and interacting with festival goers is so much fun! Another favorite League memory is the three years I spent on the Provisional committee—first as a director, then as assistant chair, and then chairman. This committee serves as the gateway to the League, and as such its members get to interact with all the new members. You get to have a positive impact on the Provisionals' introductory year in the League, as well as make new friends.



#### Twyla Carter-Abraham

**Favorite Placement:** River Cities Youth Summit **Favorite League Memory:** One of my favorite League

memories was working with the children at Spring Kids in the Kitchen.



#### Mollie Chelette

Favorite Placement: My favorite placement was serving on the Management Team as the Ways and Means Vice President during the 2016-2017 League year. I formed close relationships with the other Team members while also learning a lot about myself.

Favorite League Memory: It's hard to choose my favorite memory, but what comes to mind is attend-

ing the events put on by our League members. Some of my best memories include attending Designer Bag Bingo with friends, selling Pepsi at the Revel, and working King Cake Classic shifts. I know that every event we hosted was successful because fellow League members worked hard to ensure our success as an organization.



#### Katherine Douthitt

Favorite Placement: Of course, I have enjoyed leading the League this year as President! While it has had its challenges, it has been so rewarding to connect with so many women, form lasting friendships, and truly feel that we are making an impact on our community through our work. However, my favorite placement might have been PR&D Chair, when we developed and worked to implement the Red Apron Pantry. I also loved being the Sustainer Liaison! Each placement

brings something fun and new and lots of learning opportunities!

Favorite League Memory: I have so many great memories! I have loved getting to know so many members, and appreciate the special camaraderie we share as women volunteers. I feel like that's a huge gift! Perhaps my favorite memory, just because it's so silly, is unloading pumpkins in 2018 during a huge storm—we were soaked, but laughed until our sides hurt!



#### Leigh Flood

Favorite Placement: Health Literacy
Favorite League Memory: I co-chaired Market one
year—it was a lot of work, but the week of Market was
so much fun. I loved getting to know and support such

great vendors, the night time parties were a blast, and working with so many fabulous ladies of the JLSB was incredible. It was an amazing experience.

### 2020-2021 New Sustainers



#### Heather Fulco

Favorite Placement: Project Research and Development Favorite League Memory: Working the first Kitchen Tour!



Favorite Placement: Revel Artist for a Day
Favorite League Memory: There are so many! I especially
love helping children create a beautiful little piece of art
with materials that they might not otherwise have access
to, so for that reason the Revel is where most of my favorite JL memories were made!



**Heather Courtney** 



#### **Britney McDow**

Favorite Placement: Revel Artist for a Day
Favorite League Memory: My favorite League moments
were working the Revel anytime for Pepsi or Artist for a
Day. Helping kids with art and being outside talking with
other members was a great time. I met many new friends
through the League and am grateful to be a part of a great
organization.



Meg Schadwinkel



#### Frannie Powers

Favorite Placement: Red Apron Pantry. I enjoyed being able to work on a new project, and I felt like what we did had an immediate impact on the community.

Favorite League Memory: I always enjoyed Fund Development shifts—working at the Revel was always one of my favorite parts of the League year.



#### **Brandi Stephens**

Favorite Placement: My favorite placement by far is Super Safety Saturday. I have a special place in my heart for children and their safety. Super Safety Saturday allows for an abundance of experiences including interaction with the infamous Sheriff's Safety Town and a whole host of officers and first responders who are in the business of keeping our community safe. Since the event occurs annually in September in conjunction with Car Seat Safety Day, the planning over the summer allows for the attention this event so deserves. This family-oriented event is for children of all ages, given they can participate via an attendee or volunteer. As the 2018 Assistant Head Volunteer

and 2019 Head Volunteer Coordinator, I couldn't have asked for a better team of League members to plan and experience this event.

Favorite League Memory: My favorite JLSB memory will always and forever be, literally, every Red River Revel Pepsi booth shift. I looked forward to meeting and networking with the phenomenal League women in a casual atmosphere while serving refreshments to the community. League member Twyla Abraham recommended this organization to me, and I can't thank her enough for the community exposure, leadership skills, and volunteer opportunities the League has afforded me. Love and Blessings to you all.



### SUSTAINER OF THE





#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR: **SYBIL PATTEN**

The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier is thrilled to honor Mrs. Sybil T. Patten as our 2019-2020 Sustainer of the Year. Each year, this special recognition is awarded to a sustaining member who personifies the spirit of the Junior League beyond her years of active membership, and that is exactly what Sybil has done.

Sybil T. Patten was born to serve the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier, as she is the granddaughter, and namesake, of Sybil Jones Sample who was one of the founding members of the Junior Service League in 1930. Three years later, the Junior Service League became the Junior League of Shreveport. Sybil's mother, Katherine Sample Tyrrell, was also a member of the Junior League of Shreveport. Sybil recalls, "Both my parents were active volunteers for as long as I can remember." Sybil attended school at Broadmoor Junior High and Byrd High School while growing up in Shreveport.

Sybil was married to John Oliver Geoffrey Jenkins in 1961. She and John lived in San Francisco and have two sons together—Oliver Jenkins, and wife Anne, of Shreveport and Geoffrey Jenkins, and wife Andra, of East Hampton, New York. Even Sybil's grandchildren Frances and Arthur have followed in their family's legacy of volunteering by serving the Providence House and their church.

While she has unceasingly served the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier during her Sustainer membership years, Sybil's active membership years were spent serving the Junior League of San Francisco. She joined the Junior League of San Francisco in 1967 and remembers having a wonderful Provisional year and enjoyed selecting placements during her active years. One of Sybil's fond memories from her earliest times of her Junior League experience was meeting the President of the Junior League of San Francisco.

Sybil became involved with promoting the book Here Today, published by the Junior League of San Francisco, which features historical homes that were still standing at that time. Sybil's role included coordinating the details of bus trips planned to the nearby counties of Marin, San Mateo, and San Francisco to promote the book. Sybil served in a bookkeeping role for this by collecting

funds raised from the bus tours and book sales. She continued involvement with this committee by serving as Assistant Treasurer. She enjoyed meeting many native San Franciscans during this time.

While in San Francisco, Sybil also took a public speaking course and volunteered to work on promoting cultural activities for the San Francisco Opera, the San Francisco Symphony, and the American Conservatory Theater (ACT). The Junior League of San Francisco scheduled free public talks before concerts or productions for each of these non-profits that Sybil served.

In 1980, Sybil married Rev. J. Frederick (Fred) Patten, rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and returned home to Shreveport. Her years of community service and involvement with the Junior League of San Francisco provided her an opportunity to develop and strengthen her fundraising skills, which she continues to utilize now that she is back in Shreveport. She has put these skills to work as a Sustainer of the Junior League and while serving on various boards. She served on the board of the Shreveport Symphony from 1980-2010, as President for two and a half years, and still remains involved with the Shreveport Symphony. Sybil has served on The Shreveport-Bossier Opera Guild Board since 1990, and she served as President from 2003-2005. Sybil served as Chairman of Les Boutiques de Noel in 1998, and she also served on the Boards of the LSUS Foundation and the LSUS Health Sciences Foundation.

Lately, Sybil has enjoyed going to the Robinson Film Center for movies, playing tennis, attending exercise classes regularly, and traveling. While traveling, she loves to visit museums or attend classical musical concerts. Sybil continues to enjoy community involvement and serving local organizations. "Now I like jobs with a beginning and an end instead of a full year commitment," she says. It is evident Sybil embodies a servant's heart with her unending efforts to serve the Shreveport-Bossier community, and particularly the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier. Our community, and quite possibly our world, would be a better place if there were more enthusiastic servants to follow in the footsteps of Mrs. Sybil T. Patten.





SYBIL WITH HER HUSBAND, FRED, AND FAMILY



SYBIL AND HER DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW



FRANCES, SYBIL, AND ARTHUR



SYBIL WITH HER SONS, COTILLION 1995





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318-507-8200 | rachaelpetersconsulting@gmail.com RP Consulting Services advises individuals and companies on matters related to human resources and career development. Specific services include resume writing/quidance, cover letter/admissions letter quidance, personality assessments with interpretation (e.g., MBTI®), career interests assessments (e.g., Strong Interest Inventory®), and solution-focused HR auditing.



#### **ELIZABETH PIPPIN, Glass Services**

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#### FRANNIE AND MICHAEL POWERS, Global Conveyance, LLC

3825 Gilbert Dr., Suite 128, Shreveport, LA 71104 501-517-1783 | michael.powers@globalconveyance.com Global Conveyance, LLC is a freight and logistics management company, providing local and global services including full truck loads and LTL shipments.



#### **HEATHER PRICE, Porter's Cleaners**

Locations in Shreveport, Bossier City, and Natchitoches, LA; Carthage, TX www.porters-cleaners.com 318-742-1097 | info@porters-cleaners.com Porter's Fine Dry Cleaning's missions is to provide their customers with unparalleled quality and satisfaction as they pursue their commitment to restoring and delivering garments and household items to conditions beyond customer expectations.



#### LYNN S. ROOS, Realtor with Coldwell Banker

8805 Line Ave., Suite 100, Shreveport, LA 71106 318-869-5825 | lynn.roos@coldwellbanker.com



#### SHERI ROWELL, Reruns are Fun

Locations vary by year www.rerunsarefun.com 405-315-7500 | rerunsarefun@cox.net Louisiana's premier destination for children's and home consignment items for over 20 years.



#### LINDEY SMITH, Love by Lindey Photography

www.lovebylindey.com contact@lovebylindey.com Newborn, Baby, and Family Photographer



#### MICHAELA STANBERRY, The Moppet Shoppe 4840 Line Ave., Suite 4, Shreveport, LA 71106 www.moppetshoppe.com

318-865-7655 | moppetgirls@moppetshoppe.com The Moppet Shoppe has proudly served Shreveport-Bossier for over 36 years. We offer clothing and gifts for baby to tween and everything in between.



#### SESAME TEAGUE, Locks & Lashes by Sesame

2800 Youree Dr., Shreveport, LA 71104 www.locksandlashestoo.com 318-580-0637 | locksandlashestoo@gmail.com With Sisterlocks, the beauty is worth the time. Be beautiful and treat yourself to natural looking synthetic mink eyelash extensions!



#### JENNIFER AND RODNEY VARNADORE, BNB Systems

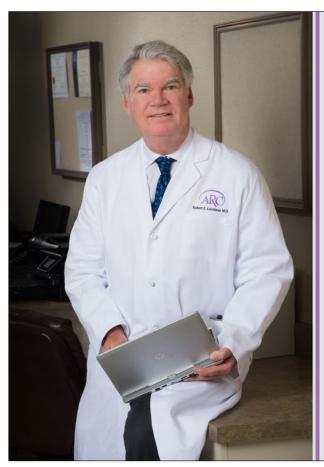
9205 Youree Dr., Shreveport, LA 71115 http://www.bnbsystems.net 318-795-2338 | rodney.varnadore@bnbsystems.net Services include printing, direct mail, promotional items, branded t-shirts and apparel, banners, office supplies.



#### ERIN WALKER, Erin Walker, DDS Family Dentistry

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# BUSINESS

#### **ELIZABETH PIPPIN, Sustainer**

#### Name of your business:

Glass Services

#### What service does your business provide?

Windshield glass repair and replacement for your vehicle, shower glass, windows and mirrors for your home, and commercial glazing are just some of the specialized services offered by Glass Services.

#### What niche does your business fill?

With the three different focuses of our business-auto, residential, and commercial, we cover a wide range of glass needs for various customers.

#### How did you get started in this business?

My husband, Charlie, has been in the glass business for over 24 years in North Louisiana. I began working with him 14 years ago. We have locations in Shreveport, Bossier City, and Mansfield serving Northwest Louisiana.

#### What has been the biggest win for your business?

This summer we celebrate 18 years in business!

#### The biggest risk?

Right now, our biggest risk is the current economic situation that we all find ourselves in. At the beginning of this year, we were looking forward to a prosperous 2020. Just a few months later, businesses are making decisions that we never really considered making. Being an essential business, we





ELIZABETH AND HER HUSBAND, CHARLIE

continued to operate through the stayat-home order, but with a reduced staff for several weeks. Our hope and prayer is that, in time, we will survive this pandemic and come out stronger than ever. We appreciate the support of our customers in the past, and we look forward to serving the people of Northwest Louisiana for many years to come!

#### Recent accomplishment?

At the end of last year, since we were beginning a new decade, we honored our employees who have been with us since the beginning of the last decade. Half of our employees have been with us for over 12 years! We are thankful for our employees, the knowledge that they have, and the service they provide to our customers.

#### MICHAELA STANBERRY, Sustainer

#### Name of your business:

The Moppet Shoppe

#### What service does your business provide?

Children's Clothing & Gift Boutique

MICHAELA AND HER SALES ASSOCIATE, CYNTHIA

#### What niche does your business fill?

The Moppet Shoppe takes pride in curating the finest and most unique children's clothing, accessories, and gifts that the market has to offer.

#### How did the business get started?

Margie Loe established The Moppet Shoppe in 1974, and was the owner for about 25 years.

#### What has been the biggest win for your business?

Without a doubt, the loyalty of our customers!

#### The biggest risk?

The Moppet Shoppe has weathered many storms along the way, but I am fairly certain COVID-19 takes the cake!

#### Recent accomplishment?

Continuing to serve our customers to the best of our ability, while keeping our staff and families safe during our closure due to the COVID-19 crisis.

#### Future plans?

To keep our tradition alive for many, many years to come!

#### **SESAME TEAGUE, Active**

#### Name of your business:

Locks & Lashes by Sesame

#### What service does your business provide?

Locks & Lashes by Sesame specializes in Sisterlocks<sup>™</sup> and Eyelash Extensions. I am a certified make-up artist, certified to do eyebrow threading and provide eyelash extension training for certification.

Sisterlocks is a Trademark interlocking hairstyle for women who love the creativity and flexibility of wearing natural hair that is "locked"—locked hair is commonly known as "dreadlocks." Sisterlocks are considered "micro dreadlocks" which allows women to wear their natural hair in various styles and experience low daily maintenance. Sisterlocks™ allows women to wear their hair free of harsh chemicals. Many women who choose Sisterlocks express that it's the best hair decision, ever!

#### What niche does your business fill?

Effortless and "natural" beauty is the name of the game.

#### How did the business get started?

As I was preparing for retirement from education, I knew that I wanted to be self-employed with a business that I would enjoy and would not require a great amount of demand. I had been wearing my hair naturally and wearing eyelash extensions for several years and decided to bring the two together. I love helping women look and feel their absolute best.

#### What has been the biggest win for your business?

I have always loved the beauty industry and wanted a business where women can do very little and still walk out the door winning. Helping women feel beautiful and confident makes Locks & Lashes by Sesame worth it.

#### The biggest risk?

My biggest risk in establishing Locks & Lashes was overcoming my fear of being an entrepreneur and failing. There are no gains if risks aren't taken. I had no prior business experience, but failing was not an option. Despite the pandemic of COVID-19, I am confident that business will be better than ever once normalcy is returned.

#### Future plans?

In the near future, Locks & Lashes will be adding microblading and permanent make-up. I look forward to providing great service to the women of Shreveport-Bossier and surrounding areas. In addition to beauty services, I will be establishing a non-profit organization, Pink Magnolia En-



terprises, that will focus on helping women build their dream career and establish their own financial independence through entrepreneurship.

## COVID-19 ON LEAGUE MEMBERS Me



It has been nearly two months since all of our lives changed in the wake of the COVID-19 shutdown in Louisiana and the rest of the country. On March 13, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a proclamation closing schools, shuttering non-essential businesses, and, in many ways, hitting the pause button on our everyday lives and activities.

The League responded swiftly to the changing circumstances. The remainder of the year's General Membership Meetings were cancelled and meeting credits granted, and the popular Designer Bag Bingo event postponed. The Board continues to lead decisively with the formation of a COVID Response Team, consisting of President Katherine Douthitt, President-Elect Saige Solomon, EVP Maggie Pressly, Membership VP and EVPE Margaret McDonald, and PR&D Chairman and PEE Sarah Giglio. The Board also finalized a pandemic policy for member commitments that was communicated through email.

Many League members are working on the front lines in healthcare, banking, and food service, just to name a few. While, for others, work looks different. Teachers are working with their students via online platforms, parents have become teachers to help facilitate their child's virtual learning experience, and other members are teleworking from home, while some are waiting to head back to their profession or reopen their business.



N95 masks and hair up (preferably in a cap) all day, no makeup or jewelry has become part of Active member **Jennifer Hart's** work routine. She is an internal medicine nurse practitioner at Willis Knighton Pierremont. The measures are in place to safeguard

the health of Jennifer and her co-workers while seeing patients. Temperatures are checked and screening conducted before entrance into the clinic and, once cleared, workers receive a wristband and must remain inside the clinic until the workday ends. Equipment and surfaces are thoroughly sanitized after every patient.

"People are scared to come to the doctor right now. Where I would normally see around 20 patients a day, we are lucky if we see six," she said. The implementation of telemedicine helps bridge the gap, but it isn't without its own challenges, particularly for older patients who may not have email addresses or be accustomed to the use of

technology. All of this has resulted in a ten-hour a week reduction in operating hours for the clinic, which heavily affects the clinic's receptionist and nurses.

At the end of each work day, Jennifer and her husband (also in healthcare and treating COVID-19 patients), undress in their garage and shower immediately, before heading to get their 21-month-old son. Jennifer's in-laws have been watching him during the day since daycares closed. "I'm so thankful that we have them to keep him, because if not, I don't know what we'd be doing," she said.

Orthodontist and owner of Lang
Orthodontics, **Dr. Morgan Lang**, Active, says
personal protective equipment (PPE) such as
eye wear, masks, and gloves were already the
standard in her practice. "We've always worn
eye gear and masks. We've always had that
standard of care," she said. "We are potentially going to be
wearing a different type of mask [in the future]. We're still
waiting on the full guidelines to come out."

Although it is closed, Lang Orthodontics is still providing patient care. Morgan says some patients can be tracked visually via video chat. "The nice thing about orthodontics is there is a lot that continues to work even if we don't see them directly in the office," she said. "Also, for us, most of our appointments are scheduled for 4 to 8 weeks and we're still within that time frame. So, some of them might be pushed out further, but not drastically further." Morgan says during this shut down, Lang Orthodontics also donated PPE to people and organizations in need.

On the personal side, Morgan says the change has afforded her and her husband more time with their children who are also home with them. "It's definitely a different dynamic than what we were accustomed to, but it's been a good change," she said. "I think the silver lining is people have bonded closer and you have realized what is important and what is not."

Active member **Heather Fulco** has her three-year old son home with her and teaches 6th grade Social Studies at Caddo Middle Magnet. She cares for him in the mornings before she begins working with her students. She posts assignments in Google Classroom on Mondays and is available during virtual office hours from 9 a.m. to noon on weekdays. She also updates grades, answers

student's questions, emails parents to check on students who may be struggling, and helps students troubleshoot technological issues. "They're all on different devices. They're on an iPad or a laptop, and some of them are on different operating systems," she said.

Another aspect to this new mode of learning is the addition of Zoom calls. "I've done a couple Zooms with my kids. I've tried to talk about the lessons, but they're just too excited to see each other," Heather said.

Heather has noticed some students who struggle in class have improved with online learning. "Next year, I think things are going to look different for quite a while," she said. "You are going to have kids who are part of the coronavirus generation in school."



After preparing and studying for the better part of a year, Active member **Stephanie Foster** was days away from sitting for her CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>TM</sup> Certification Examination. She is an associate financial advisor at RoseStone

Wealth Advisors, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services. Exam prep was extensive and included the completion of education modules and a Capstone course where she had to produce a financial plan. Stephanie then began an intensive three-month exam review after the CFP Board granted approval for her to sit for the exam. She also attended a four-day live review course in Dallas.

Stephanie chose March 16, as her test date and was scheduled to take the exam at the Prometric Test Center located at Bossier Parish Community College. "I was too nervous to take it on Friday the 13th, so, I picked Monday, March 16th," she said. When schools were ordered to close on March 13, Stephanie felt panic, because she could only take the exam at BPCC. She received a notice of cancellation the following day.

The exam is only offered in March, July, and November each year with a week-long window each time. Stephanie tried to reschedule and even considered traveling to a different test site (Tyler, Texas, and Alexandria, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans were still open). Stephanie managed to get the test rescheduled for the 18th, but then Prometric closed the remaining testing centers on the 17th. The CFP Board announced that all tests will be rescheduled to a later exam schedule.

"Thank God, I didn't end up taking it in March after all that went on," she said. "Despite doing extremely well in all the materials, I don't know if I would have passed after days of stressful communications between the CFP Board, the Prometric Test Center, and BPCC. It's a six-hour test."

Stephanie has a positive outlook and says she has enjoyed this time to slow down and regroup. She is working from home and able to focus on helping her clients even more during this time. She and her husband have been

able to go on walks—something they did not have time to do before. "It definitely is a really humbling experience. It's been a huge reality check providing time to realign and refocus," she said.

You've seen Jennifer Bradford's beautiful photos on the cover of the Parishscope, as well as throughout every issue highlighting JLSB events. Jennifer also has a busy schedule as a photographer outside of the League. She says the crisis has had a two-sided effect on the wedding portion of her business: couples who went forward with a scaled down version of their event and couples who chose to push back their big day. "I had a couple (as everything was shutting down) say they wanted to go ahead and get married. [The bride's] mother already had flowers on order, so her mom threw it together at their house," said Jennifer. The bride saved THE dress to wear for the actual ceremony rescheduled to August.

"That's one thing that you're really seeing across the wedding industry as a whole—a return to a really intimate wedding," she said. "I hope that continues even when we do go back to having full-scale weddings."

Jennifer also has couples who have moved their ceremony to a new date. One couple's July 4th wedding is uncertain. The couple are military and the groom is deployed overseas and won't make it back in time now. The unit scheduled to replace his can't train for the mission, because they can't gather in groups. And that means they can't deploy.

"It's hard to watch...you've had a year-long engagement, you're waiting for that day, and you have to postpone it another four or six months," said Jennifer. "That's all with fingers crossed that everything's going to start back up soon."

Jennifer has taken this time to focus on why she pursued a career in photography and what kind of business she wants to run. She has turned her attention to improving her website and processes to make things run more smoothly in the future.

She and her husband have enjoyed more time together. He is a musician, so between his job, music gigs, and Jennifer's work as a photographer, Sundays were often their only down time together. The couple has capitalized on this slower pace. "This forced time off has been good for US...we've spent time with each other, we've spent time around the house, we've done house projects."

People look for bright spots during trying times and our League members exemplify this—taking this strange season of life to appreciate and enjoy the positives. "We have, as a state, gone through a lot of events and big things that have changed our lives, changed the way we live," said Morgan. "We'll make it through the tough times, we always do."

## WINTER Conference



At the beginning of February, Saige Solomon, Margaret McDonald, and I made the trip to beautiful Scottsdale, Arizona, for the 2020 AJLI Winter Leadership Conference, and we learned so much. This conference is designed for the League's incoming leadership team (President-Elect, President-Elect-Elect, and Executive Vice President-Elect) to have the opportunity to learn with their counterparts from other Leagues across the country. This conference consisted of all types of sessions—from keynote speakers for all attendees to smaller sessions broken down by League size where we "workshopped" different ideas for each of our Leagues.

We all learned more about servant leadership, the implementation of the new governance structure, and how to increase diversity within our League. We were all able to participate in sessions with one of our favorites, Vicki Clark, who taught us about servant leadership and meeting our members where they are. Margaret and I attended a session which laid out for us the numerous resources that are available to Leagues and League members, and are excited to do a better job of communicating those resources to you, our members, throughout the next couple of League years. We also participated in a session with Phil Conte, who taught us about managing a high-performing League (which we are proud to report, very much includes the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier).

In addition to wonderful sessions led by the best speakers

AJLI has to offer, we also got the opportunity to network with hundreds of other League leaders. We got wonderful ideas from them, and shared some of what works for us with them.

One of the most important things that Saige, Margaret, and I did was brainstorm ways to make our League better. At the end of the conference, where we had all attended different sessions, we met for hours to discuss how to implement all of the things that we had learned over the previous two days. We celebrated the things that we learned that we were doing "right" and explored new ways to make our members' League experiences even better, while continuing to provide services and resources to our community. Thank you so much for sending us to Scottsdale so that we can better serve you in the years to come! We came back even more excited and prepared to lead you than before.





NATCHITOCHES - BOSSIER CITY - MINDEN - SHREVEPORT





































Cetebrations

Lindsey Pennington, MD (Active) and husband, Andrew Larson, MD, welcomed sweet baby Robert Alexander into the world on February 13. Congratulations, Larson family!





**Katrina Farris** (Active) was recently named the President/Executive Director of the Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Designer Bag Bingo was postponed. While we wait on a new date to be rescheduled, we would like to thank the committee who has graciously agreed to continue to work on our largest fundraiser despite all of the uncertainty!

A big thanks to: Molly Cook, Emily Dickson, Mary Barton, Ashley Busada, Victoria Christy, Michelle Hansen, Lesley Reed, and Marie Vanderlick.



### COOKBOOK RECIPE

### FOURTH OF JULY TRIFLE

#### *Ingredients:*

2 quarts fresh strawberries, sliced
Granulated sugar to taste
16 ounces cream cheese, softened
2 cups confectioners' sugar
1 cup sour cream
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon almond extract
1 cup whipping cream
1 tablespoon granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 (10-inch) angel food cake, cubed
2 pints blueberries

#### Directions:

4 bananas, sliced

Sprinkle the strawberries with granulated sugar to taste in a bowl and set aside. Beat the cream cheese and confectioners' sugar in a large mixing bowl until creamy. Add the sour cream, 2 teaspoons vanilla and the almond extract and beat until smooth. Beat the whipping cream in a mixing bowl until soft peaks form. Add 1 tablespoon granulated sugar and 1 teaspoon vanilla and beat until firm peaks form.

Fold the whipped cream into the cream cheese mixture. Add the cake cubes and mix gently. Layer the blueberries and one-half of the cake mixture in a trifle bowl. Top with the bananas, remaining cake mixture and undrained strawberries in that order. Chill, covered, until serving time. You may assemble and serve this in individual dessert bowls.

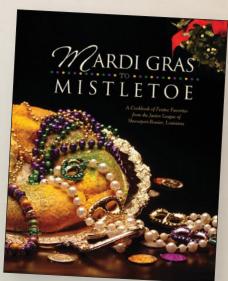
Mardi Gras to Mistletoe, recipe found on page 121

Mardi Gras to Mistletoe is the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier's third and most recent cookbook publication with its first printing in 2007. It honors the traditions from A Cook's Tour and Revel, while at the same time creating a modern publication with beautiful photographs from Neil Johnson and an extensive selection of recipes for cooks of today.

Mardi Gras to Mistletoe is just as it sounds, highlighting festivities and seasonal recipes throughout the year! The cookbook is divided into twelve chapters, one for each month, with each chapter featuring celebrations and traditions that are near and dear to the hearts of those in North-

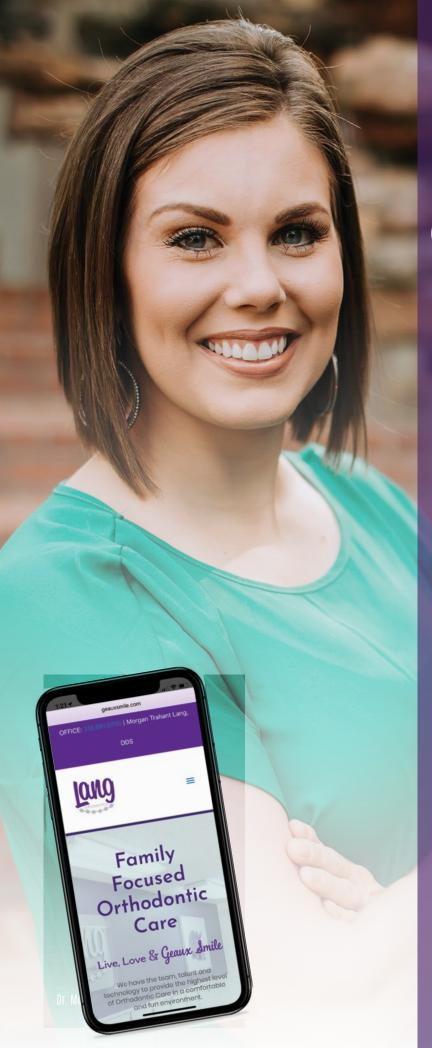
west Louisiana. Recipes are categorized into each month to help the reader create a seasonal menu, but each recipe also makes for a fabulous stand-alone dish!

If Mardi Gras to Mistletoe is not already in your cookbook collection, stop by the Junior League Office or visit jlsb.org to get one today!



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