

the COMMENTATOR

MAY 2009

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ABILENE

From the President

I can't believe that I'm writing my last Commentator article as President of the Junior League of Abilene. What a year this has been! I would like to take this opportunity

to thank so many of you who have made this year such a wonderful experience for me.

I want to start by thanking the ladies that served as your Board of Directors – Chesley Martin, Jessica Melson, Megan Cheek, Jenifer King, Julie Grohman, and Diana Flanagan. Each of these ladies

served the League with thoughtful *Risha Sanders, President* decision making, care and concern

for the members of the League and a passion for the mission. It was such a pleasure to serve with them this year. Thank you, ladies!!

Another member of the Board of Directors that many of you never see is my Sustaining Director, Sheryl Kendrick. I can't thank

Junior League of Abilene,

throughtout the planning.

Sheryl enough for helping me maintain my sanity. Sheryl was the person I would call if I ever needed to talk through a situation. She was always a great listener and provided very

sound advice. Thank you, Sheryl!!

There are so many women that contribute many hours of dedicated service and leadership and never receive much recognition. I'd like to thank and recognize the ladies who served as chair of a project or committee. Many times these ladies serve behind the scenes to keep our organization running smoothly. We couldn't accomplish

what we do in our community without their contributions to the League. Many thanks to Audrey Music, Jamie Snider, Paula Fiel, Lea Hutt, Molly Roberts, Amy Etchison, Laura Madison, Glenna Cordray, Linda Stanley, Yvonne Wright, Jennifer Lee-Shultz, Shannel Anderson, Holly Cowan, Allison Winklepleck,

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2008-2009 Executive Council

President Risha Sanders

President-Elect Chesley Martin

Community Director Megan Cheek

Communications Director Jenifer King

Treasurer Julie Grohman

Secretary Diana Flanagan

Membership Development/Mentoring Jessica Melson

Sustaining Director Sheryl Kendrick

Past President Kim Nussbaum

Community Advisory Board

Norm Archibald Leigh Black Roxy Childs-Cox Lupita Buitron-Martinez Larry Gill Leland Harden Nancy Liles Barbara Massey Mike McMahan Darrell Moore Joe Spano, Sr. Steve Stovall David Polnick Judy Wilhelm Petty Hunter Debbie McClure Jennifer Harper Margarita Scouten Joey Light

Commentator Committee Jamie Snider, Co-Chair Paula Fiel, Co-Chair Allyson Solymosy, Purvi Shah

Joy

Be well!



Thank you for your role in the Mayor's round-Up this year. The addition of the 1 mile Fun Run was a buge success and will only get better each year. Thank you for your generosity and for all the volunteers the day of the event. Your volunteers helped us provide a safe and well run event.

Katie was a great committee member and we enjoyed working with ber

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ABILENE the Commentator | 1

From the President, cont'd

Alecia McDaniel, Jen O'Sullivan, Angela Aycock, Tenia Fitts, Tifani Smith, Cindi Bumann, Patricia Malm, and Katie Browning.

Another group of women who make all that we do possible is the Christmas Carousel Committee. What an amazing job these ladies did this year! Thank you for the hours and hours of service to our organization. Thanks so much to Sara Field, Shannon Robinson, Angela Tomlin, Carey Arrington, Kari Polk, Tera Gibson, Alison Sims, Dulcey Fulenwider, Debbie Lehr, Jasa Ruff, Kerry DiGioia, Erin Moosbrugger, Lou Ann Davis, Shari Fitzhugh, Allison Cowling, Susan Bowles, Amy Brazel, Jennifer Sandquist, Jeannie Lunney, Kristin Marczynski, and Claire Mehaffey.

In an organization where the leadership changes from one year to the next, what would we do without Nancy? Nancy

is the glue that holds us all together. Thank you, Nancy, for putting up with me this year.

And finally, I want to thank you - the members of the Junior League. I am so proud to be a member of this organization. I am so proud of the difference we make in our community. There are so many of you who encouraged and supported me this year. Thank you to everyone who offered me words of encouragement or gave me positive feedback on a meeting. I am so appreciative of all my cheerleaders this year!

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your President this year! It has been a tremendous honor and blessing!



SUSTAINER SALUTE: Lynn Barnett

FAST FACTS: Lynn Barnett moved to Abilene from Austin with her husband and three kids 29 years ago and has been an active member of the Abilene community ever since. Currently, Lynn is the Executive Director of Abilene

Cultural Affairs Council. Ladies, she started this job the same week she moved here (hats off to you Lynn)! This JLA Past President (1995-1996) is still hard at work making a difference in the Abilene.

She served on many committees and projects for JLA and, like all of us, she does have a couple of favorites:

PRESIDENT: "It was an amazing experience to see these hard working woman coming together, working together to make a difference in the community."

TEEN OUTREACH: This project was a favorite because it allowed her "to come across a different aspect of the community" while working together with the counselors to help the kids at the middle schools here in town.

WHERE IS SHE NOW? When she is not at her desk at the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council, she is busy serving as president for "Texans for the Arts," a statewide arts advocacy organization in Texas. After sending the third (and last) of her three kids to college, she is spending her time doing what she loves the most -- helping to develop downtown Abilene by getting the word out to bring more tourists here. The Abilene Cultural Affairs Council is getting ready to publish their first quarterly magazine, Artfully Abilene, listing all that you need to know about the arts and entertainment in Abilene

KITK Kids In The Kitchen



n 2006, over 225 Junior Leagues across four countries implemented a League-wide initiative called Junior League's

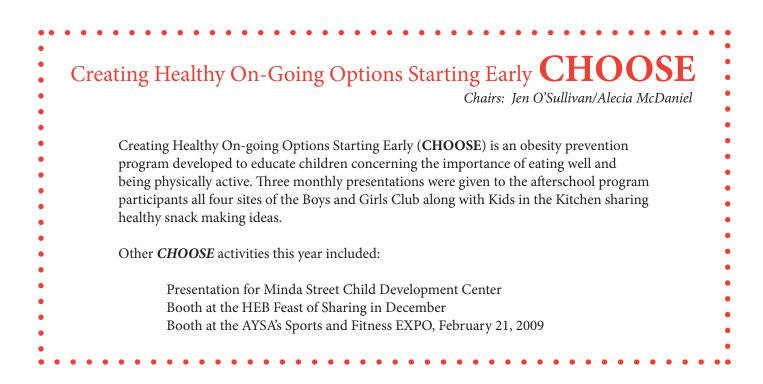
Kids in the Kitchen project, which is designed to help our communities address urgent issues surrounding childhood obesity and poor nutrition, as well as raise awareness of the Junior League brand and the accomplishments and community impact that it represents. The overall goal of the project is to empower youth to adopt healthy habits in an attempt to reverse the growth of childhood obesity by providing demonstrations related to preparation of healthy snacks and meals and by encouraging physical fitness.

In its first year as part of the Abilene Junior League's initiative, **The Kids in the Kitchen** project reached over

500 children at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wylie, Nelson, Fannin, and Highland, where the children enjoyed making a healthy snack that they could prepare



at home. The **Kids in the Kitchen** project is also proud to announce that, in conjunction with the Mayor's Round-up 5K Run/Walk, it co-sponsored a 1-Mile Family Fun Run with the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness on April 18th. Runners, walkers, and wheelers enjoyed a morning of fun and fitness with their family and friends! We are proud of what Kids in the Kitchen has accomplished in its first year and are looking forward to more opportunities for this project to reach out to the children within our community next year.



Getting to Know You... The 09-10 Board!

We cornered some new JLA board members and asked them for some little known facts about themselves.

Here's what we learned!

Chesley Martin, President ("Prez Ches")

Little Known Facts:

✓ 2009-2010 will be my 14th Active year in JLA.

✓ My daughter, Maredith's first Carousel experience was as a newborn when I worked a Carousel shift in League Checkin, six days post C-section (I know, I'm a freak, but I love Carousel).

✓ I teach a few water aerobics classes each week at the Redbud YMCA.

✓ I used to brush my teeth in the shower, but since I use a Sonicare now, I don't as often. BUT, I have been known to put people on speaker phone in the shower!

✓ If you get an email from me you might check the time. I am often up late or really early, like 4AM with things on my mind, so I go to the computer and work. The house is quiet and cool and there are no other distractions like the phone ringing, etc.

Favorite motto: My favorite motto was "stolen" from Sheryl Kendrick who told me, "It's not wrong; it's just different."

Pam Rosenbaum, Sustaining Director

Little Known Facts:

✓ I rode bulls in high school (I really liked cowboys and couldn't ride a horse well enough to run barrels).

✓ I painted my room purple in Jr. High because it was Donnie Osmond's favorite color.

✓ I have a secret desire to be on Dancing with the Stars

✓ I love getting to know older women and learning from their lives.

Favorite quote: "If it is to be it is up to me"

Favorite Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 "There is a time for everything, and a season for activity under heaven....and a time to dance." This was also the theme for my provisional course when I chaired Provisionals.

Five year goal: Be healthy and happy! And hopefully have all my children out of college, married, and expecting grandbabies!

Tonia Cook, Community Director

Little Known Facts:

✓ I really don't have any weird things about me other than I cannot let my food touch.

✓ The highlight of my life is my son, Coltyn. He is 7 and will be moving to Wylie Elem in the fall.

Favorite motto: "That which does not kill you, makes you stronger" from Steel Magnolias.

Five year goal: I hope to be raising a healthy happy 12 year old that is becoming a great man.

Jennifer Smothermon, Secretary

Little Known Facts:

✓ I grew up in three states twice.

✓ Cleaning the house is therapy for me.

 \checkmark I'm the shortest living member on both sides of my family.

✓ I love planning anything.

✓ I enjoy reading a good book or a favorite magazine in my backyard in the sun.

Favorite quote: "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." - Mother Teresa

Five year goal: I'd like to be planning or on a fabulous 15th anniversary trip with my husband, somewhere sunny and in my bathing suit!

Tracy Patterson, Communications Director

Little Known Facts:

✓ I love to read. I read at least one, sometimes two books a week--usually Christian novels. My favorite place to hang out is the bookstore!

✓ I like to invent new words and sprinkle them into everyday conversation.

✓ My family lived in Vienna, Austria for eight weeks in the summer of 2007. I was so wigged out about having to fly to get there that I seriously looked in to taking a boat to France instead and then renting a car and driving the rest of the way! (No, we did not take a boat--we flew and we were just fine!)

Favorite quote: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23

Five year goal: I want to write a Christian fiction novel and get my house and life ridiculously organized.

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PAVE	SUNSHINE DELIVERY	TEEN OUTREACH
BLUEBONNET ROOM	FORT IMAGINATION	GOODFELLOWS
YOUNG AUDIENCES	ABILENE BOYS RANCH	ARTS IN EDUCATION
SUDS BUDS	HOSPICE LIFT PROGRAM	HANDICAPPED HOUSE
HENDRICK LEAGUE HOUSE	CHOOSE	YWCA TEEN CENTER
ART CARTS	COMMUNITY PARTNERS	STEP PROGRAM
NCCIL	CALL FOR HELP	TEXAS SCHOLARS

2008-2009 Provisionals



NAME: Casee Harwell BIRTHPLACE: Abilene, TX OCCUPATION: Sales Director, Mary Kay FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: Husband Luke, two Welsh Corgis; Chet & Jessie

WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Shape or Fitness WHAT DO YOU COLLECT? Shoes WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Riding

our horses, shopping, crafting, decorating WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? Western Heritage Classic chair, West Texas Fair & Rodeo Committee member

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? The Notebook WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? Run a successful, profitable business - Be a National Sales Director in Mary Kay

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? Volunteer support, get others involved



NAME: Frana Sturgill BIRTHPLACE: Moses Lake, WA OCCUPATION: CT/MRI Tech at Hendrick Health system FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican food TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: Husband Danny WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Self, Fitness, Southern Living WHAT DO YOU COLLECT? Teacups,

Music boxes, Angels

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Working out, reading, traveling WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? Texas Society of Radiologic Technologists, American Society of Radiologic Technologists

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Mamma Mia! WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? I am in a really good place and very content with my life right now.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? I have already learned so much. I hope to support the Junior League of Abilene and their efforts to provide opportunities to women and children by contributing my time and resources to this organization.



NAME: Cynthia Morley BIRTHPLACE: Harlington, Texas OCCUPATION: U.S. Air Force FAVORITE FOOD: Bar-b-q brisket & Potato Salad

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: My wonderful husband of 4 years and our 3 dogs (boxers)

WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? People WHAT DO YOU COLLECT? Family

photos & crosses

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Gardening and walking my dogs at the park

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Pride and Prejudice WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? I would still give my maximum effort in all my endeavors WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? Hard work and dedication



NAME: Monica Houston BIRTHPLACE: Stamford, Texas OCCUPATION: Banker FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: I've been married 8 years, I have 1 older brother, 1 younger sister, 3 BEAUTIFUL nieces, and one handsome stepson. WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Self

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Water skiing, snow skiing WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? Kiwanis North Abilene, BUGS awards - Long Elementary WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Little Miss Sunshine WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? I would be self-employed and own my own business.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? Offer support and leadership when possible and when needed

2008-2009 Provisionals



NAME: Robyn Sharp BIRTHPLACE: Abilene, TX OCCUPATION: Insurance Agent/Own Sharp Allstate with my husband FAVORITE FOOD: Italian TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: My husband, John, and I have been married for 4 years. We have one little boy, Luke, who will be 2 in January. We also have two Labrador Retrievers who are like children WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Better Homes &

Gardens

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Reading & spending time with my family

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? You've Got Mail WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? Write a book

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? I hope to be a member for many years to come and contribute my time and abilities to further a great organization!



NAME: Toni Diller BIRTHPLACE: Cisco, Texas OCCUPATION: Teacher (St. John's Pre-K) FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican Food TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: Husband: Sage, civil engineer for Enprotec-Hibbs and Todd, daughter: Brighton, 2 years WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Covers of all in the grocery store line! WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Shopping, running, taking pictures

WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? Pioneer Drive Baptist Church WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? Photographer

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? I want to contribute my time and energy to our community and help impact the lives of the children in our schools.



NAME: Traci Smith BIRTHPLACE: Abilene, Texas OCCUPATION: Orthopedic Sales FAVORITE FOOD: Cheese TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: My family consists of me, two dogs (Bentley and Mercedes) and the newest member, a kitten named dodger WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? I barely read my company newsletter

WHAT DO YOU COLLECT? Magnets from my vacations and koozies from concerts

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Softball, golf, working out WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Out Cold (comedy) WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? Play the lottery!

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? I hope to contribute lots of my time and energy to the League and community. My mom taught me that one of the greatest gifts you can give is your time. I also hope to make many new friends and become someone that people know they can count on.



NAME: Jackie Evatt BIRTHPLACE: Denison, TX OCCUPATION: Kindergarten Teacher at Johnston Elementary FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican Food & Chocolate cake TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY: In my house it is just me, my husband and our 3 dogs WHAT MAGAZINE DO YOU READ EVERY MONTH? Oriental Trading

EVERY MONTH? Oriental Trading WHAT DO YOU COLLECT? Crosses YOUR HOBBIES? Golf, spending time with family

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Golf, spending time with family and friends

WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? Abilene Leaders of Tomorrow

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Pretty Woman, Steel Magnolias

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NOT FAIL? Play the lottery, become a country music singer WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO LEAGUE? I hope to help unfortunate children and adults in Abilene lead a normal and healthy life.



Junior League of Abilene 774 Butternut

Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 677-1879

Return Service Requested

MARCH APRIL MAY 08 P S S 02 Stearns, Diane 01 Sharp, Karen 01 Barnett, Lynn S 03 Lenker, Molly S 01 Fiel, Paula A 02 Simpson, Patty 07 08 P McCurley, Libby 08 P Α Gebhart, Amy 01 03 Lamb, Tiffany S 09 Love, Jackie S 01 Ruff, Jasa Α 04 Walker, Claudia McCaslin, Jan S 09 Teten, Amanda Α 02 S 05 Brock, Nancy S Duncan, Betsy SE 02 A/NR 07 Chappell, Carol 10 Martin, Stormy S 12 Lanier, Kay S 04 Music, Audrey Α 08 Liles, Nancy S 05 Reyes, Melinda Wray, Susan S 09 Davis, Jo Ann 16 Α 08 P S 05 16 Brown, Brandie Bumann, Cindi Α 12 Jones, Lisa S 07 12 S 17 Corley, Carol Worrell, Beth <mark>Thaxton, Kristi</mark> Α 08 P S 17 Watson, Kerry 07 Madiso<mark>n, Laura</mark> Α 12 Curry, Tara A/NR 13 17 Α 07 Harris, Dee Denison, Rayme Cowan, Holly Α 08 S 18 Browning, Katie Α SE 14 Fulwiler, Gloria Davis<mark>, Suzanne</mark> 18 Decker, Dana S 09 08 P 17 DiGioia, Kerry A Cromeens, Julie Α 10 19 S 18 Kitts, Sheila Smith, Tammye Α Davis, D'Ann 20 Baldwin, Tancy S 11 McDaniel, Gloria S 19 Grigsby, Kyna Α 20 Α S 20 S King, Jennifer 11 Stevens, Darlene Forman, Martha 23 Bander, Nancy S 12 S 21 S Eckert, Jean Rinard, Carolyn S 27 Parker, Cindy S 15 Patterson, Tracy 21 Carlson, Claire Α 29 Wright, Alice S 16 Connolly, Kristen A/NR 22 Sims, Summer Α S 30 Tutt, Tresa 18 Hodgin, June S 26 Warren, Susan Α 19 30 Polk, Kari Α Black, Leigh S 26 Grissett, Fawn Α 21 Rosenbaum, Pam S 25 Solymosy, Allyson Α 25 Stash, Jean S 26 Gray, Gayle S 28 Hines, Tracy Α 29 Hartgraves, Kay S 29 Toombs, Melinda Α 30 Meador, Emily S 30 Learney, Kasey 08 P



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