

THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOCA RATON, INC.

Volume 24, Number 4
May 2014

Women Building
Better Communities



- ☀ Stars of the League
- ☀ Cat in the Hat Draws Diaper Donors
- ☀ Summer Sun Beauty Tips
- ☀ 99 Days of Summer, 99 Ways of Giving Back!

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The Communication Bridge between the Junior League of Boca Raton, its Membership and our Community.

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

The Junior League of Boca Raton, Inc. and the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. reach out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.





LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It has been a truly wonderful experience serving as the Editor of the Bridge this year as chair of the Publications Committee. I was fortunate to have the support and commitment of a wonderful group of women and I'm especially grateful for the hard work and encouragement of the Bridge's Assistant Editor, Shawn Malone Sherlock, who will be the editor of *The Bridge* in the coming year. The Publications Committee had the pleasure and responsibility of communicating to the League members and community at large about all of the fantastic and impactful events which occurred over the past year. It is with both joy and sadness that we are preparing to move onto our new committees and new responsibilities for the upcoming 2014-2015 League year.



The accomplishments and successes of the Junior League of Boca Raton over the past year would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication, and commitment of each JLBR member. As part of covering the many wonderful events supported or hosted by JLBR this past year, we have had the honor of working with many of the dedicated leaders in our organization and in the local community.

In this issue, we highlight the amazing work of JLBR's committees and members. The Diaper Bank which is a part of the Child Welfare Committee hosted the 2nd Annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Party at the Community Garden and collected more than 8,500 diapers the day of the event.

Public Issues and Advocacy Committee reports on their

involvement and attendance at this year's SPAC conferences in Tampa and Tallahassee. In March, the Fund Development Council hosted its spring fundraiser, *Flavors*, which featured local chefs and restaurants and raised funds to support the mission of JLBR to conquer the issue of hunger in our community.

This final Bridge issue for the 2013-2014 League year also highlights the individual accomplishments of League active members, sustainers and past members including former Mayor of Boca Raton Susan Whelchel and past JLBR President 1984-1985, Marsha Love.

As we head into summer, take a moment to review the tips provided by Dr. Anthony N. Dardano to ensure you protect your skin from the harmful effects of the South Florida sun we all love so much. It is also important to remember that the needs of our community exist year round, in this issue learn how you can use the 99 days of summer to tackle these needs.

It has been a fantastic year for the JLBR as an organization, which would not have been possible without the leadership provided by its Board of Directors and committee chairs and the financial support of our Community Partners and donors. As I close out my final letter from the editor, I would like to thank each of you for taking the time this year to learn about all of the community events, fundraisers, training opportunities and accomplishments of the JLBR and trust you will continue to support our organization in the coming League year.

Alicia Laufer
Editor, *The Bridge*

2013-2014 ANNUAL JLBR AWARDS

TORCH: Jennifer Bracket & Monique Shide

STARBURST: Sara Ritzler

FOUNDER: Kellie Mejia

OUTSTANDING SERVICE: Margi Cross

OUTSTANDING SUSTAINERS: Linda Gunn Paton & Jan Kucera

"YOU ROCK": Liz Grace



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear JLBR Members, Friends and Supporters,

As May has arrived, the 2013-2014 League year has almost come to a close. My leadership theme this year was "Let's Make it Meaningful Together." I hope you have enjoyed your time this year with the Junior League of Boca Raton. Our League members have had many meaningful accomplishments, and for that, we should be proud.

We each have our own unique path that has led us to the Junior League of Boca Raton, whether as a member, supporter or just someone that happens to enjoy reading our fabulous *Bridge* magazine. But, what we share in common is our love of meaningful community involvement; our passion for service to others; and our belief that everyone should have a chance at happiness. My journey this year has been meaningful to me. I have greatly enjoyed our time this year and look forward to this last month together. But even then, when I pass the gavel onto the next JLBR President, my journey will not cease. It is a 'Journey to Be'.

In Community Spirit,

Crystal McMillin

Crystal McMillin
JLBR President 2013-2014

JOURNEY TO BE

by Mark R. Slaughter

I think I'll journey out some day to wondrous lands afar,
Or even chart a journey to a distant blazing star.
But rest assured that when my journey begs to take its cue,
Always know that when I go, this journey takes you too.
We'll start our journey out from here by horse and cart of old,
The seaside docks - and journey pauses - where we shall behold
A noble schooner for the journey primed to launch as planned:
To sail with dolphins cross the seas then journey back on land.
And so our journey goes by foot to conquer mountains tall:
A chapter hence the journey reached, with scenes that should enthrall.
But when we tire, let's rest our journey, stretched in fields of flowers,
And bathe atop the mountain from the journey - autumn showers!
Refreshed, our journey takes a turn - we'll venture back for home,
But first we'll let the journey take a tangent just to roam.
And in the winding route, this journey's bound to bide content,
But most of all take heed - let's make our journey life's event.





STARS OF THE LEAGUE

THE MOST VOLUNTEER HOURS COMPLETED!

BY KIM SAPASHE



Sherry, Melanie & Miyra

The DIAD Committee would like to recognize and congratulate three Junior League Members for the most volunteer hours completed!

I had the pleasure of interviewing each of these ladies on their inspiration to give back, most rewarding DIAD experience and helpful wisdom.



SHERRY WINTER

What has inspired you to volunteer 48 hours (so far) this Junior League year?

My inspiration started with the 40 for 40 anniversary challenge - it encouraged me to explore DIADs that I might not have otherwise considered.

What DIAD shift has been your most rewarding experience and why?

Anything and everything Twin Palms! I LOVE bowling with these amazing, and talented individuals, they are so much fun. I've enjoyed holiday parties, reading days, music programs, football, and the boating and beach bash. What I find so rewarding is that they are extremely genuine, loving individuals that appreciate everything that you do for them.

What encourages you to keep giving back to the Junior League of Boca Raton?

No encouragement necessary - I love JLBR!

What is your current Junior League position and what have you enjoyed the most?

I am currently the Training Chair and serve on the Board of Directors. All of my placements have been very rewarding . . . Membership Development stands out as one of the highlights because I had the opportunity to build relationships with 75-100 new provisionals each year.

What position have you selected to serve next year and why?

I will be continuing next year as Training Chair. I'm very excited

to be able to continue to develop and grow our programs.

What advice would you give to a Junior League Provisional?

Enjoy each and every minute of your JLBR Provisional Year, and some of these ladies will most likely end up being your closest friends. Attend as many events, activities, and DIADs that you can fit into your schedule. You get back what you put into your JLBR experience.

Tell us about yourself.

I wake up every day and remind myself how fortunate I am to live in South Florida - enjoying the sunshine, warmth, ocean and palm trees. As a native of Illinois, where it is very cold and snowy this time of year, I even appreciate it more. I enjoy spending time on the beach, on the boat, golfing, and happy hours with friends. I have a husband - Doug, beautiful daughter - Shelby, and the cutest pooch ever - Buddy.



MIRYA HOLMAN

What has inspired you to volunteer 48 hours (so far) this Junior League year?

I have been interested in direct service on hunger issues for a long time (for example, I volunteered in college with a sandwich program for the homeless in New Orleans), so those DIADs have been my focus. But, I also enjoy volunteering with new organizations so I seek out new DIADs all the time! I probably spend more time on Closerware than I should . . .

What DIAD shift has been your most rewarding experience and why?

I am always crazy about the Literacy Coalition's essay grading DIAD - it is a chance to see how a group of incredibly brave and hardworking individuals are overcoming enormous obstacles. They are sometimes very funny, too!

I also was inspired by working in the warehouse sorting the canned goods for the Feeding the Community food drive. Seeing all that food and all those volunteers was very inspiring!

What encourages you to keep giving back to the Junior League of Boca Raton?

I love giving back and meeting new people, and each DIAD is an opportunity to do both of these!

What is your current Junior League position and what have you enjoyed the most?

I am on the CHOW committee this year. I really enjoy how effective the committee is and how many awesome projects we have going on!

What position have you selected to serve next year and why?

I will be on CHOW again, serving as the Feeding the Community subcommittee chair. I applied for the position because hunger awareness is one of my core interests. I also enjoy the community interaction and want to coordinate DIAD opportunities and community interactions for our members.

What advice would you give to a Junior League Provisional?

Try out lots of different types of DIADs so that you can get a feel for all that the League does! It is also a great opportunity to meet other League members.

Tell us about yourself.

I have a Ph.D. in Political Science and am a professor at FAU. I live in Delray Beach with my husband, two dogs, and a cat. We like to travel, eat out, and go to see music. We are very excited to go back to Jazz Fest in New Orleans in May!

I like all of them, but going to school and packing the backpacks for the kids to have food over the weekend is probably my favorite.

What encourages you to keep giving back to the Junior League of Boca Raton?

It is rewarding of course, but honestly I think it is the chance to do something outside of job and home routines.

What is your current Junior League position and what have you enjoyed the most?

My current position is Co-Chair Elect CHOW and I have enjoyed working with my Chairs the most! They have inspired me to work harder and do as much as I can to support the team and issue.

What position have you selected to serve next year and why?

I am honored that I was selected to be Co-Chair of CHOW and I am excited to continue to learn about, and work on, hunger in our community.

What advice would you give to a Junior League Provisional?

I would say to ask questions about anything! No question is too trivial. If you want to know how to find things in closer ware or if you don't know what LWE stands for, ask! I have found that all members are always willing to help.

Tell us about yourself.

How about I tell you three things members probably don't know about me?

1. I have heli-hiked on a Glacier.
2. I have ridden an elephant.
3. I love Spam musubi!

Sherry, Mirya and Melanie, thank you again for your contribution to the Junior League of Boca Raton!



MELANIE DEYO

What has inspired you to volunteer 40 hours (so far) this Junior League year?

I love my placement and the issue (Hunger) that we are working on!

What DIAD shift has been your most rewarding experience and why?



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Getting to Know Former Mayor Susan Whelchel

BY KIRSTEN STEPHENSON

FOND LEAGUE MEMORY

"Here's a classic memory from the League days, which I'm sure will highlight how far not only the League but Boca Raton has come since I was co-chairing our 1960's themed rock and roll fundraiser with chair, Kate Toomey. It

was complete with 60's music, poodle skirts, and letter sweaters. Our greatest accomplishment of the fundraising event was the location that we secured. It was back before the League used the Hotel and Club as a base of activity and before venues cropped up around town to accommodate parties like this. We were so proud to secure the absolute best venue in town: the Lynn University cafeteria!" remembers Sustainer Susan Whelchel.

Kate Toomey added, "One of the highlights of the party was that Dan Burns, a car dealer in Delray and a good friend of the League, got us a 1958 Cadillac which he painted pink. We proudly displayed it at our party before raffling it off. I wonder where it is today! It was a great evening, the funds we raised went to our community service projects, and we all went down as a committee to Fort Lauderdale to buy our poodle skirts!"

"Of course, the greatest thrill came when the Junior Service League became a full-fledged Junior League," states Susan.

FORMATIVE YEARS

Growing up in the 1950s and 1960s on Kingsley Lake in North Florida, Susan quickly learned how politics worked in our great state. North Florida back then was, and to a certain extent still is today, a host of small towns and counties. This is as opposed to South Florida, which is neatly tied into three large counties: Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach. Case in point, Kingsley Lake is located in Clay County, however Susan's elementary and high school days were spent in Bradford county ten miles "up the road."

In those days, North Florida was a very interesting political place. It was the time of the "Porkchop" legislators vs. the "Lambchop" legislators. The "Porkchoppers" were rural, conservative legislators who supported each other on every bill. They stymied reapportionment efforts by Governors and South Florida voters in order to control the Legislature. In the 1960s, the Porkchoppers represented only 12.3% of the voters

in the State Senate and only 14.7% of State voters in the House. Their goal: to preserve the "North Florida" way of life.

"I grew up in a very political environment," Susan remembers. "My brother was, at that time, the youngest person ever elected to the House of Representatives."

RELOCATION TO BOCA RATON

Susan and her husband were happily settled on a large lake in Lake Mary and raising a family, while Susan taught political science, economics, and psychology to high schoolers. Her husband's profession frequently took him to the Caribbean and Central America. The closest international airport to fly out of was in Miami, and commuting was becoming more and more taxing for the family. In 1976, they decided to move south but were looking for something different from already established Miami and Fort Lauderdale. They were, however, intrigued by the fast-growing town called Boca Raton. At this time, Arvida was rapidly developing residential communities west of I-95, and housing development was thriving. Susan and her husband moved their four young children to Boca and settled in one of these new developments.

"My husband told me that he had found a charming house on a canal. We were moving from a large lake with a host of water sports, and I envisioned ocean access at the new location. Instead, we acquired a drainage canal composed of brown water and alligators!"

Susan immediately joined a tennis league and her new friends and contacts encouraged her to join The Junior Service League in the early 1980's.

THE BEGINNING OF A POLITICAL CAREER

Jamie Snyder, an avid Leaguer and chairwoman of the Community Redevelopment Agency talked Susan and Dorothy MacDiarmid into running a campaign for another friend for city council.

"That was a great, fun experience," remembers Susan. "Even though I didn't know what I was doing!"

Added Dorothy MacDiarmid, "It was her first campaign. She put in long hours learning all of the mechanics of a successful campaign such as from hand addressing 20,000 letters to sign waving. We had so much fun!"

The League was working on Children's Place South and petitioned the city to develop the location. They ran into road

. . . continued on page 10

blocks from every direction. It finally passed with three votes in favor, two opposed.

"That was an eye opener," stated Susan.

Jamie Snyder recruited Susan to run for city council. Friends Barbara Hill, Patty Damron, and Jayne Malfitano threw their support behind her. Susan won a seat on city council.

Jayne Malfitano noted, "The Junior League, in collaboration with HomeSafe, had found a site for an emergency shelter for newborns in Boca, and there was neighborhood opposition. The council was also mixed with regards to support. Susan felt strongly about helping the children in our community in the best way that she could. Her vision all along was to make a difference."

"Having taught at Boca High and having three kids go through Spanish River, I knew lots of kids in the community. Most of the kids told me that once they graduated from high school, they planned to leave town with no intention of returning to Boca. This was somewhere around 1993-1995. This concerned me, so I formulated a plan," said Susan.

Boca sits in the heart of South Florida, at the bottom of Palm Beach County and the top of Broward County. Boca's reputation includes being an excellently well planned community.

"I am a native Floridian, I remember as a kid our population being less than 3.5 million, and have watched it grow to more than 20 million. Most of this growth has occurred in South Florida, and this is one of the fastest growing places in the nation. There was never a question that Boca would grow, just how it would grow."

Her plan was to evaluate what makes a world class community in order to attract and retain the best population.

HER THOUGHTS ON A WORLD CLASS COMMUNITY

According to Susan, "It's not hard to evaluate what makes a community world class. I did the research and found that the following factors, among others, are critical. First, there needs to be quality education. Based on my history as a school teacher and having children in the school system, I felt qualified to tackle this. Second, a world class community needs excellent medical facilities. Third, higher learning opportunities are necessary. The fourth factor? Quality of life issues around day to day living are essential. For example, are services like garbage pickup and clean water met? Are there adequate recreational facilities? How is the coastline owned and managed? Are there public beaches? We had the city purchase stretches of the coastline to be turned into public parks, nature centers, and golf courses."

DID THE LEAGUE CONTRIBUTE TO HER POLITICAL SUCCESS?

I asked Susan about her League experience.

"At one point well prior to my political career, I was the Vice President of Community Affairs in the League. As a result of

being involved with the community, I became involved in the city. I developed an interest in the total community, therefore, my interests expanded. I honed my leadership skills and developed public speaking.

"The League provides training in a number of disciplines in different placements - both internal and external to the League. I was taught specific and powerful skills associated with leadership - in addition to other skills I acquired there. It depends on the interest of the Leaguer which skill set she would like to acquire or sharpen. Mine was leadership. This greatly contributed to my success in the political world."

Susan enjoys public speaking. She is both comfortable and entertaining. This is a skill she attributes to her League training.

"Being the head of community affairs put me out there and in front of people every day," she reflects. "I am still using the skills I learned in the League. If I had chosen to work with a particular nonprofit that we had started, perhaps I would have developed a different, equally valuable skill set. But I worked with them all and that defined me."

Susan spent about eight years in the League. She spent six years on city council. She then spent two years on the school board, followed by another seven years on city council before being sworn in as Mayor in 2008, an office she just retired from last month after hitting her term limit.

"My relationships in the community and through the League were instrumental in my political success."

REFLECTIONS ON LEADERSHIP

"I learned that the essence of leadership's job is to formulate a plan and work on convincing your board or council to buy into this plan. Of course it's possible that not everyone will be your advocate, but you're going for at least the majority. If you don't have that, recognize it and re-evaluate your plan. You need buy-in. Partnerships are crucial. Nothing gets done without partnerships. If you want to get something done, you better find yourself a group of people that believe in what you are doing."

Susan was fortunate over the years that her direction, her plan had support.

"Among many other things that I was proud of, I pursued a green concept starting in 2008 that was the first green initiative in Boca. We had always been a green city. Environmental sustainability was important, and this resulted in - among other things - a community garden that involved the League and Whole Foods, which required that a portion of the proceeds were donated to Boca Helping Hands, the local food bank. Thanks to my background as a teacher and my service to the School Board, I also pursued getting a high-tech alternative school in town - resulting in Don Estridge - that gave people a choice in the area of technological education for their children."

HOW HAS THE LEAGUE CHANGED OVER THE YEARS?

"For starters, sustainership was less defined and less lively. Now, there is a whole community of retired Leaguers in Boca and Delray that regularly meet for social activities, and even help active League members pursue their jobs."

INSIGHTS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR CITY AND OUR CITY'S NONPROFITS

Boca is a warm town packed with nonprofit agencies, many of which are founded by or run by Leaguers. Susan has always felt that what the League does in the community is powerful enough to invest significant city dollars towards the community on a yearly basis.

"By nonprofits spearheading much of the humanitarian and cultural efforts in our town, this takes that burden off of the city funding these efforts. These entities are critical to our community and I have always recognized that. The relationship between the nonprofits and our city are invaluable, and we need to remember that and be more in tune with the needs of the nonprofits and how the city can support their efforts."

ONE LAST THOUGHT ON THE LEAGUE AND YOUR SERVICE?

Tell us something more about the League and what it has meant to your life here in Boca?

"I'm leaving office feeling satisfied that I've kept my promises and never lost sight of what makes a city great. I am proud

of our partnerships that have enabled us to work together toward common goals. I am proud of our citizens involved in the process. The majority of my closest friends I met through the League and through other volunteer and nonprofit capacities are those citizens."

ANY LAST WORDS?

"Women these days have a wealth of opportunities available to them, much more so than in the past. They can have full time careers, stay at home with their children, volunteer in the community, run for office. I feel that a woman, a mother, a wife needs to recognize her own needs and fulfill them - a woman knows in her heart what is best for herself and her family and that may not be what others feel to be most important. But I feel we all need to stay true to ourselves."

MY MOTHER IS MY HERO

Three of Susan's children live and thrive here in Boca. Her daughter in-law Melissa Whelchel and her daughter Kristy Hartofilis are both active members of the Junior League.

According to her daughter Kristy, "My mother is my hero. She is a true inspiration for all the things that I want to try to achieve in my life. She's been there every step of the way and given me inspiration to be a better mother, a better friend, a better member of our community. One of the main reasons I joined the League is because of her encouragement. It was a path that she took and it has been a vital part of her life. I see how important the League has been to her and it encouraged me to join."

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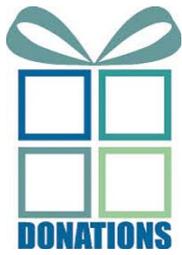
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JLBR ENDOWMENT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

BY LISA MILLER

I remember four or five years ago, I was sitting next to Nancy Dockerty at a happy hour to welcome new members who had transferred into our League. I happened to comment to Nancy something about the JLBR Endowment Board and before I knew it I was on the board. This is how things work in our League – talk about something that needs to be done and we do it. This is one of many reasons I love our League. Having served as V.P. of the Endowment Board for two years I continue to be amazed that our endowment is well more than \$1 million only 10 years after the fund was started. One of the many purposes of the endowment is to cover unexpected expenses. This year we had a flood in the VCRC that resulted in many unexpected expenses from plumbing repairs to new carpet to repairing the parking lot. The endowment was there to cover these unexpected needs.

Since my day job at Lynn University is spent asking people for donations, I know first-hand the value of contributing to an endowment fund. The best part is that our donations of \$50, \$100 or \$1000 are never used; instead, they remain a part of the fund. They are invested so the payout from the endowment can be used to take care of the VCRC and support trainings.

As 2013-14 comes to a close I will be the next President of the Endowment Board. I look forward to talking about the needs that can be supported by increased donations to our Endowment Fund. Whether the donations are part of our annual fund appeal at the holidays, in memory or honor of a special person or event or as part of a planned gift they all add up. As the donations increase so does the payout. With more donations we can do more to fund the resources that are part of the VCRC and to fund training for our members and community! To inquire about making a pledge, please call **561-620-2553** or e-mail to info@jlbrendow.org.

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Tampa . . .

On September 7th, Erica Reuter (Chair, Boca Raton's Public Affairs Committee) and Kirsten Stephenson (Advisor, Junior Leagues of Florida's State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC)) attended SPAC's fall state conference in Tampa. Former State Representative Richard Glorioso spoke eloquently and passionately about children in the foster care system, and how Leagues across the state can support them. This is an issue that SPAC has been highly successful within the past, and that it continues to monitor.

The Junior League of Orlando gave updates on Healthy Food Access legislation as it pertains to our mission of addressing Hunger on a statewide level. A passionate and poignant speech was given regarding Human Trafficking and how women and girls are benefitting from previous legislation thanks to SPAC efforts, with pointers on how SPAC delegates can continue to assist these victims through their leagues. Following, SPAC delegates from across the state broke out and discussed potential new issues worth pursuing brought forth by the 25 leagues across the state of Florida. A cocktail reception followed at the home of a sustainer, which was full of senators and representatives from the county.

The following morning, after an early board meeting, break-out groups were formed to discuss strategic planning efforts and priority issues. Once reconvened, delegates voted on which issues to pursue for this legislative year.

Tallahassee . . .

From the 3rd until the 5th of February, SPAC delegates found themselves in Tallahassee for the annual winter legislative conference. Boca Delegates included Fran Sharon, Amy Day, Yvette Drucker (secretary to the state board), Stefanie Moon, and Kirsten Stephenson (advisor to the state board).

Representative Ross Spano spoke to the group, followed by our own Miami Leaguer Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Wansley Walters. The group met with Senator Jack Latvala regarding the unaccompanied youth bill (SB 260), followed by an update on Human Trafficking legislation by the Junior League of Tampa. A working lunch focused on the legislative priorities, conducted by Leaguer and SPAC board legislative analyst Gina Evans. Representative Heather Fitzenhagen spoke to the delegates, followed by Representative Manny Diaz, Jr. The meeting concluded with a speech by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Director Robin Safley - from their Food, Nutrition and Wellness division. Delegates attended a House Insurance and Banking Subcommittee meeting in the House building regarding House Bill 151 - KIDS Act.

The highlight of the Tallahassee conference began at 5:30 p.m. at the private and wildly popular Governor's Club with a cocktail reception for all state senators and representatives. The attendance included just a few shy of all of them. This gave delegates from across the state the opportunity to discuss issues important to their leagues with leadership in a more informal setting.

The following morning, delegates met with their local representatives and senators, in their offices to discuss state issues as well as important local issues and establish (and reestablish) friendships and partnerships to better situate their leagues in the community.

These types of state conferences educate delegates on the legislative process, provide them with opportunities to learn about other leagues, opportunities to solidify relationships with their individual elected officials, and valuable information about the issues that both the state and individual leagues pursue. These conferences are invaluable resources to leagues across the state (and country).





CAT IN THE HAT Draws Diaper Donations

by Barbara

OVER 500 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ATTENDED THE SECOND ANNUAL CAT IN THE HAT EVENT MARCH 29, 2014 AT THE BOCA RATON COMMUNITY GARDEN

The event was organized by the Diaper Bank in order to collect diapers and raise awareness. Diapers were donated by families who brought diapers as admission for attending the event. Face painting, balloon art, and other fun activities were big hits with the kids. Boca Raton Fire Department was on hand with a fire truck, and a fire engine. The event was spearheaded by JLBK Members Renata DeNegri, Melanie D. DeNegri, and the Diaper Bank, CHOW, Community Garden and Kids in the Kitchen. Helping to coordinate the event was Colleen Jackson.

The Junior League of Boca Raton Diaper Bank is the only diaper bank in Palm Beach County. It has distributed more than 420,000 diapers to the community. The Diaper Bank distributes to the most needy babies in our community.

For more information about the JLBK Diaper Bank, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jlbrdiaperbank

SPECIAL THANKS TO: The Boca Raton Community Garden for providing gardeners for the event, The Boca Raton Fire Department and member Alex Kennedy for providing fire trucks, Boca Raton Downtown Library for helping to promote the event and for the balloon artist, and the sorority sisters of Alpha Delta Pi at FAU and the Girl Scouts of Troop 21017 for their proceeds to the Diaper Bank, Makeup Artists Elizabeth Lee, Liz Ernst, Diana Grimes, and Kidzbounce4fun for discounting two bounce houses, Grimes Events & Party Tents for her instrumental planning efforts and for being the best Cat in the Hat that Boca has ever had, Stephen Hooke for photographing the event, and The Container Store Boca Raton for providing the event space.



Donors to Boca Raton Community Garden

by Lisa Chester

SECOND ANNUAL DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY PARTY EVENT HELD AT COMMUNITY GARDEN AND HOSTED BY THE JLBR DIAPER BANK.

...ness about diaper need in South Palm Beach County. More than 8,500 diapers were ... e painters, bounce houses, food trucks, cupcake decorating and garden crafts were ... and Farmer Jay was there to give kids instruction on planting and cultivating their own ... eyo, Coleen Jackson, and Victoria Matthews, along with committee members from ... ate an event where several facets of the JLBR come together with the community, to host ... usands of diapers, has been a great learning experience and fulfilling role, says

... ach County and was founded two years ago. Since its inception, the Diaper Bank ... utes more than 15,000 diapers per month to more than 15 local agencies serving

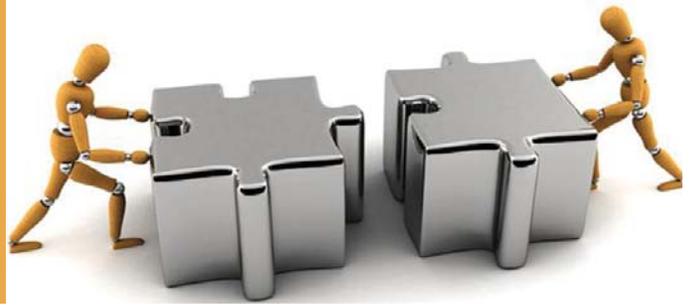
... facebook.com/BocaRatonELB or email us at diaperbank@jlbr.org.

... Brian Maguire, and helps Lynn Russell and Ann Langford as well as the great loca- ... truck tours, Farmer Jay for teaching the children all about how seeds grow, The Boca ... and craft station, CHOW for doing the snack bag and Cat in the Hat-themed recipe, ... volunteering, Best French Fries and Crazy Meatball Guy food trucks for donating 5% ... Monroy and her son for donating their time and supplies to the face painting booth, ... r discounting three tents, PB Parenting, i9 Sports, Melanie Deyo of Cendyn for all of ... ever seen, Xochilt Benedict and Yvonne Hermans for reading aloud to the children, ... or providing garden pots and goody bags.



A NEW AVENUE TO BUILDING BETTER BUSINESS SKILLS

BY SHAWN SHERLOCK



What started back in the summer of 2012 as a lunch meeting between a few like-minded friends rapidly grew into an empowering League business group. **WOMEN'S BUSINESS BUILDER GROUP** is the brain child of League members' Lisa Haines, Sarah Schelling Peet and Custodia Olivieri. The group currently has around 93 members and consists of a variety of highly skilled experts. Members include lawyers, publicists, accountants, tech savvy experts and more. I had the privilege of sitting down with founding member Custodia Olivieri to hear firsthand how it all started.

"It's fantastic to see how this group has developed over the past few years. What we needed way back then was a way to bounce ideas off other like-minded ladies on things like work, skills, promotions, mentoring and many other things too. We found that by gathering a group of us in one setting worked wonders to do just that. Word of mouth soon got around about the group and now we are at almost 100 members. It truly does feel wonderful to see how far it's evolved."

Other topics discussed within the group are:

- ◆ Learning more about different skill sets
- ◆ Best practices on the job
- ◆ Tips on how to move up within your company
- ◆ Marketing ideas on your business
- ◆ Mentoring within the group

This group is for JLBR members only. While the Women's Business Builder Group is a group of Junior League women who live, work and plays right in your neighborhood, it is not sponsored or affiliated with JLBR. The group usually meets the first Monday of every month at various locations across the Boca area. The next meeting is set for this coming Monday, May 5, 2014, at Delray Beach's Tryst. The meeting is set for 6:00 p.m. You can join the group via their Facebook link.



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SUMMER SUN BEAUTY Tips

BY DR. ANTHONY N. DARDANO

We all strive to keep our skin in the best condition possible. That is especially trying when living here in sunny South Florida. Throughout the year, the changes of the seasons bring about new concerns when it comes to skin care. As a result, you may have to switch products and alter your routine to ensure that your skin stays in great shape. During the summer there are several things that you must do to nourish, protect and maintain your skin. I had the pleasure of grabbing some summer sun beauty tips from one of Boca's finest aesthetic and reconstructive plastic surgeons, Dr. Anthony N. Dardano. Ladies, listen up! ~ Shawn Sherlock

Harmful UV rays are the most obvious culprits in causing skin wrinkles, brown spots and skin cancer. In addition excessive sun can also make your skin dehydrated which will make you appear older than your years. When it comes to your summer skin care routine think: Protect, Exfoliate, Moisturize and Prevent.

Below are some helpful tips that can help keep your skin healthy for the summer sun:



PROTECT

Sun block that protects UVA and UVB rays that are at least 30+ SPF applied before you go into the sun. Hats and protective clothing are the best defense against the sun. Sunglasses that are polarized help protect your eyes, and don't forget your hair and nails. TIP: Apply a sun block to your wet hair and brush in with a large-toothed comb to protect from chlorine, salt and sun damage. Use lip balm formula with a built-in SPF of at least 15 underneath a lipstick or gloss to further guard against dryness. Lips lack a protective outer layer, so they're incredibly sensitive to UV rays.

EXFOLIATE

Use a mild scrub or loofah to remove dead skin after being in the sun. This will allow the moisturizing lotions to penetrate your skin more evenly. TIP: Scrub your lips with a mixture of sugar and water to exfoliate prior to applying lip balms. This will increase the absorption of lip balm.

MOISTURIZE AND HYDRATE

Proactively hydrate your skin by adding an extra one or two 8 oz. glasses of water per day to your routine (add even more if are consuming alcohol). Hydration will assist with the body's natural detoxification process. TIP: Boost your post-sun hydration and reduce UV-induced dryness by applying your moisturizing lotion after you shower while you are still wet. Cover yourself with a moist towel to allow the lotion to penetrate your skin. The heat activates the lotion's ingredients, which keeps skin supple. Cocoa-butter is one of nature's best moisturizers.

PREVENT

TIP: The oral antioxidant Heliocare will assist in preventing damage from the sun's rays. In addition, the vitamin B, Biotin will help prevent damage from too much exposure to salt and chlorine. Research shows that a daily dose of the nutrient increases nail thickness by 25%, making nails less apt to split and tear.

Some great advice indeed! Walk away with these key words: Protect, Exfoliate, Moisturize and Prevention! Dr. Dardano has performed more than 1,300 plastic surgery procedures during his training, and is the author and coauthor of several papers and textbook chapters. He has presented his work at the prestigious Plastic Surgery Research Council, as well as the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons. He has also lectured internationally. You can check out his website for more detailed information.

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It's the season of happy! It's the season many kick back and relax. But, if you know our readers and League ladies, summertime is a time to kick it into overdrive with community efforts. Giving back is a wonderful way families can enjoy quality time together and impact the community they live in. And, it doesn't have to require enormous amounts of time. We wanted to kick off your summer with a plethora of ways you can give back. Enjoy the next few pages of this issue of the Bridge and get 99 fun ways you and your family can make a difference this summer in your community!

May 26-31



Day 1: Take time to visit an elderly neighbor or senior citizens home. While you're there, help them with chores, such as cleaning the kitchen or living room.

Day 2: Dig through your attic, garage or basement to find old fans and air-conditioning units that you can donate.

Day 3: Provide employees with volunteer paid time off to participate in a community service of their choice.

Day 4: Initiate the beautification of a local park with other neighborhood families. Have fun with activities that clean and beautify the park, such as planting flowers and picking up trash.

Day 5: Send a letter or necessities to soldiers in the U.S. Military.

Day 6: Ask your family to clean out closets and donate the clothes that don't fit any more to a local shelter, Goodwill or the Salvation Army.

June 1-30

Day 7: Support local racers running for a cause by volunteering to pass out water, cheer them on and pick up trash after the event.

Day 8: Host a bake sale in your front yard with yummy treats. Donate the proceeds to a local charity.

Day 9: Homeless shelters can use items outside of food and clothes. When you drop off donations, include a few other items, such as cleaning supplies and pest control. During the hot and buggy summer months, repellents will be greatly appreciated.

Day 10: Ask employees what charities they would recommend or are passionate about and do something to support those organizations.



Day 11: Partner with a local organization, such as Habitat for Humanity, to help build affordable housing for those in need. Volunteers of all ages and skill levels can learn to build a house!



Day 12: Offer your family's help at the local animal shelter by walking the dogs or playing with cats and kittens that need human interaction to make them more adoptable.

Day 13: Look up additional opportunities in your town.

Day 14: Research and make available volunteer opportunities for your staff.

Day 15: Pay employees to participate in pro-bono professional service during work hours.

Day 16: Employers, you can match employees' charitable contributions.

Day 17: Have a Shoe Party: Customize a box full of plain Sneakers with fun designs. Pull out the paint pens and draw polka dots, stars, or whatever you like. Find a local agency needing shoes and make a donation.

Day 18: Collect and donate children's books to schools and book fairs in underprivileged communities.

Day 19: Make sandwiches for C.R.O.S. Ministries and help serve the children of the Milagro Center, St. Paul Episcopal

and Village Academy after school programs.

July 1-31



Day 20: Buy a bag of groceries and donate the food to your local food bank. Boca Helping Hands is a perfect fit!

Day 21: Volunteer at your local library and give back by reading to kids groups.

Day 22: Participate/Volunteer in a summer parade that benefits a charity of your choice.

Day 23: Learn how you can aid J.C. Mitchell Elementary by volunteering unpacking food items from boxes, setting up an assembly line and packing six small food items into backpacks for children on free and reduced lunches to take home for food for the weekend.

Day 24: Become a volunteer for an event you have always wanted to become part of.

Day 25: Buy a brick from the Boca Raton Community Garden - www.bocaratoncommunitygarden.com

Day 26: Join a local "Adopt a manatee" or other animal programs in need.

Day 27: Give the gift of gab. Call a long-lost friend or relative on Face Time, Skype, or even a landline and lose yourself in a really great conversation.

Day 28: Handwrite a thank-you card to a deserving person simply to tell them thank-you.

Day 29: Ditch taking your car if you can for a day and use a bicycle. It will help the environment and save you money!

Day 30: Hit the beach with the family and help out a local coastal cleanup effort. There are always tons throughout the summertime.



Day 31: Host a Diaper Drive or Fundraiser for the Junior League of Boca Raton Diaper Bank!

Day 32: Host a garage sale, and give the proceeds to a local charity.

Day 33: Take your kids and their friends on a trash walk and clean up a local park.

Day 34: Team up with a friend and find a local "Meals on Wheels" program.

Day 35: Host a bake sale to benefit a charity.

Day 36: Create a company foundation and offer grants and monetary gifts to charitable organizations.

Day 37: Allow high school and college students to shadow you for a day.

Day 38: Sponsor a scholarship program for high school or community college students.

Day 39: Volunteer time with the Junior League of Boca Raton.

Day 40: Ask for Diapers in Lieu of Gifts at your next party and make a donation to the Junior League of Boca Raton Diaper Bank.

Day 41: Allow and pay for employees to volunteer on committees of community organizations.



Day 42: Coordinate a food donation drive of your own and donate to a local charity such as Boca Helping Hands.

Day 43: Help out a friend in need in any way you can.

Day 44: Donate company supplies to nonprofit community organizations.

Day 45: Encourage employees to serve on nonprofit boards.

Day 46: Be in the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) at your local school.

Day 47: Volunteer a day shift at a local food bank.

Day 48: Learn how you can be a big brother or a big sister.

Day 49: Volunteer to tutor kids after school.

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- Day 50:** Quilt for a charity.
- Day 51:** Handmade a craft for a cause.
- Day 52:** Collect and turn in your box tops for education.
- Day 53:** Collect nonperishable food items at your next party.
- Day 54:** Adopt a pet or foster a pet.
- Day 55:** Plant a tree.
- Day 56:** Host a movie night dedicated to exploring a social issue and discuss with friends/ kids/family after. Examples: Blind Side, Blood Diamond, Bell or Juno.
- Day 57:** Pick flowers, put them in mason jars, and brighten up your local senior center.
- Day 58:** Put together a birthday bag for a child living in a shelter.
- Day 59:** Give someone a random hug or thank you.



Day 60: Have a Shirt Party: Customize a box full of plain shirts with fun designs. Pull out the paint pens and draw polka dots, stars, or whatever you like. Find a needing local agency to donate the shirts too and donate.

- Day 61:** Donate to World Vision, an amazing program helping provide clean water for families.
- Day 62:** Volunteer at one of the more than 3,190 shelters in the USA.

Day 63: Employers: Provide career development support to others in need such as by reviewing resumes.



Day 64: Sponsor a cage at a local shelter to help rescue and provide temporary shelter to deserving animals.

- Day 65:** Host a garage sale and donate proceeds to a local charity.
- Day 66:** Collect and donate children’s books to the Florence Fuller Center - www.florencefullercenters.org
- Day 67:** Host a companywide volunteer day.

August 1-31

- Day 68:** Support an adult literacy program in the community.
- Day 69:** Collect soda caps and pull tabs to raise money for the Ronald McDonald “Pull for the House” program.
- Day 70:** Host a student invention or idea contest in your community.
- Day 71:** Tutor children in a low-income community.
- Day 72:** Buy local services and products for your business.
- Day 73:** Participate in a community cleanup event (e.g. Akron Partnership Green and Clean Day).

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Day 74: Get involved in a community mentor program.



Day 75: Create a "giving tree" where employees can purchase gifts for less fortunate children and families and are reimbursed by the company.

Day 76: Visit the sick at a local hospice organization or nursing home.

Day 77: Sponsor a dress down day to raise money for a charity.

Day 78: Volunteer with the Dare to Dream organization, a group dedicated to imbued girls with a sense they can be anything they want to be. - www.daretodream.org

Day 79: Donate or make a quilt for kids in need. - www.quiltsforkids.org



Day 80: Collect and donate children's books for the nonprofit group, In the Pines - www.inthepines.info

Day 81: Visit the sick at a local hospice organization or nursing home.

Day 82: Sponsor a dress down day to raise money for a charity.

Day 83: Participate in cleaning and painting tasks at residential facilities for the elderly or sick.

Day 84: Provide planting and landscaping volunteer services.

Day 85: Coordinate a Chili Cook-Off to benefit a charitable organization.

Day 86: Have employees volunteer as teachers for Junior Achievement.



Day 87: Host a picnic lunch for or deliver lunch to your local policemen and fire-fighters.

Day 88: Collect pajamas for children in the community.

Day 89: Assist disabled children and adults with summer camp activities at Camp Cheerful.

Day 90: Volunteer with the Caring Kitchen to help serve food to those in need. - www.crosministries.org/kitchen

Day 91: Support a neighborhood center with child care or by monitoring youth.

Day 92: Donate in-kind gifts such as blankets, car seats, or clothes.

Day 93: Go on a "Build Day" with Habitat for Humanity.



Day 94: Help out with the Spirit of Giving's Back to School Bash, a community-wide back to school drive and distribution to ensure that 4,000 students of our participating organizations receive all of his/her required school supplies and to eliminate redundancy in the community's back to school giving.

Day 95: Find out more on how you can donate to the Association of Junior League International's Kids in the Kitchen effort at kidsinthekitchen.ajli.org/get-involved

Day 96: Make lunch or dinner for the homeless and serve it at a local soup kitchen.

Day 97: Sign up as a volunteer with the Spirit of Giving Network, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing communities together to share resources and knowledge to improve the lives of children, families and individuals. - www.sognetwork.com/about-us

Day 98: Learn how you can become a volunteer with the Junior League of Boca Raton.

September 1



Day 99: Become a corporate partner of a nonprofit organization . . . like the Junior League of Boca Raton! - www.jlbr.org

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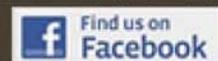


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SUSTAINER SCOOP!

BY LOUANN SUCH

Hello again for probably the 150th time since I started writing the SCOOP back in about 2000. Right now I am in the middle of getting ready for the three-day extravaganza known as Boca Bacchanal. My brain is whirling from all the work that goes into this Historical Society triple event, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. My hat goes off to Joyce DeVita and Betsy Fletcher who coordinate these three totally different venues. They started planning last summer and have worked on it diligently ever since. I thought running a one night Boca Helping Hands Monopoly and Casino Night was a big deal. Boy, was I ever wrong. I am exhausted just thinking of all the volunteer hours some of these ladies have given. Anyhow, for all of you who know how much time and effort you have given over the past years, we who attend these events with our biggest worry being what to wear, salute you.

BIG THANK YOU: OLD BAGS LUNCHEON: Talk about man hours, Linda Eckelson, Juana Franklin, and Sue Wicker spent a billion hours (Maybe I exaggerate a little) collecting and pricing purses that we all bring in for sale. They also scrambled around to find a new venue since the old Bridge Hotel did not get done in time. Instead we enjoyed ourselves at the Addison, an excellent substitute. Obviously, we had an excellent lunch, made a huge amount on purses we sold, and basically had a great time for our final get together till next fall. We can always count on Linda, Juana, and Sue to come up with a great party. Thanks to you three. Oh yes, they actually had helpers this year to deal with all of the purses, so thank you to those ladies, too.

VALENTINE LUNCHEON: When I wrote the thank you in the last Scoop, we had not yet attended the experience put on by Jami Guttenberg, Lisa Warren and Michelle Duffy. It was a blast. We were all given a canvas, an array of water color paints and instructions on how to copy a tree with hearts for leaves since it was almost Valentine's Day. We also received a great box lunch and all the wine we could drink. Needless to say, my picture was very good after my second glass of

wine. Most of the ladies did not imbibe. I gave my picture to my husband as a present for Valentine's. He was not impressed. Some of the pictures were amazing, others not so good. I know one lady placed hers in the dumpster behind the store, "Vino Van Gogh." Anyhow, I just wanted to rethank Jami, Lisa, and Michelle for an amazing Valentine adventure.

Now comes my new informative pieces about some of our amazing Sustainers. In this case we go from "soup to nuts." Our gourmet soup sustainer is KATHY DICKENSON, a phenomenal lady, a past president of the League and at present a very prestigious volunteer. On the other end of the spectrum our wonderful nut, NANCY DOCKERTY, also a past president and present head of the Sustainers and board advisor, who gives her all to her volunteer duties and in her off hours, has the greatest social life ever. Those who know me know that I am not insulting Nancy by calling her a "nut."

NANCY DOCKERTY has served on the Delray Beach Public Library Board of Directors since 2008, was appointed Treasurer in 2010 and President in 2013. As Treasurer of the Library Board of Directors, Nancy has worked strategically and thoughtfully to educate the community about our unique public-private funding and fundraising needs. The Delray Beach Public Library is a 501 (c) three not-for-profit organization that depends on both public and private funds in order to provide the community with free resources and programming. As President, Nancy's role is to develop the Board, working with local and civic leaders, raising awareness of the Library's growing endowment and be an ambassador for the Library within the community.

In addition to serving on the board, Nancy served as the Event Chairperson of the Delray Beach Public Library's Centennial Birthday Bash in April 2013, raising money to support the Library's endowment. Nancy has also served on various fundraising committees for the Library such as the Library's annual fundraiser Laugh with the Library, and the



Library's newest fundraiser "Girls, Pearls, Hats and Heels." (Remember Nancy also works full time.)

Sustainer **KATHERINE "Kathy" DICKENSON** has continued her Junior League training by participating in a number of activities in the last few years. She was appointed by the Department of the Interior in 2011 to serve on a Federal Commission charged with ensuring a suitable national observance of St Augustine's 450th Anniversary as the oldest city in America. Then Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar stated the story of St. Augustine is a microcosm of the story of America itself, with a tapestry woven by the Spanish, Native Americans, African Americans and other Europeans in times of conflict, struggles with issues of justice and equality but eventually flourishing. A few of the members of the Commission along with Kathy are Andrew Young, civil rights leader, Ambassador and former Congressman, Senator Bob Graham, former Governor and Senator from Florida, and Bruce Smathers, former Florida Secretary of State. Her term of office ends in 2015 as the year of celebration ends. In 2001, Kathy was appointed to the Florida Arts Council and continues to serve as an appointee of Governor's Bush [2003 until 2008] and Governor Crist [2009 until the present] serving as Council Chair in 2007, 2008, 2009. The Arts Council advises the Secretary of State on matters pertaining to culture, the arts and reads grants and recommends funding for Cultural Facilities, programs, arts education and more. This Council also votes on the Florida Artist Hall of Fame.

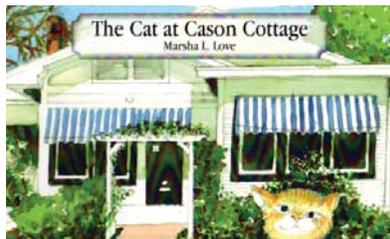
Closer to home, The Lynn Conservatory of Music asked her to join their Board, FOC, Friends of The Conservatory in 2012. This includes decision making, fund raising, event planning and acting as ambassadors for the Conservatory. She also is able to enjoy beautiful music by the Conservatory from talented students from all over the world. The Palm Beach Historical Society is another interest of Kathy's. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Johnson History Museum which restored the Old Courthouse in downtown West Palm Beach and spent years helping to raise money and restore the Courthouse for the Society.

The Department of State has recently asked her to join the Strategic Planning Council for the Arts in Florida to create a new strategic plan for 2015 to 2020. This includes traveling around the state to work with the stakeholders in this new plan.

Kathy was just informed that she will be receiving the Carl Weinhardt Award given by the Florida Trust for Historic

Preservation in Tampa May 16. This award is given to recognize significant achievements in leadership in non-governmental state Historic Preservation arenas.

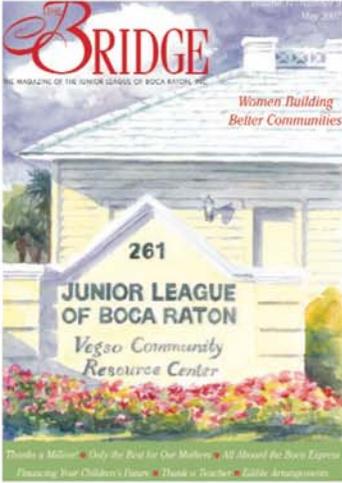
I will continue to let you know about more of our outstanding Sustainers. If you have a suggestion of someone who we should know about, please email me. I think these real life stories are so much more interesting than my babble. Don't all say "Yes" at once. Now for more interesting statistics, Wendy, our office manager and all around hard working lady, gave me these interesting facts.



MARSHA, LOVE, author, interior designer, and adjunct professor of English at Palm Beach State College, has received a national award from the Colonial Dames of America for her children's book, *The Cat at Cason Cottage*. The book, a story of Clarabelle the Cat's meetings with the ghosts of Delray's historic Cason family, is being awarded a special citation for excellence and for its contribution to the history of Delray Beach. The Colonial Dames of America is a lineage society which honors historically related books in both the adult and juvenile categories each year. Former winners include Tom Brokaw, Jon Meacham, and Doris Kearns Goodwin. The author shares her award with Robert Currie, the book's illustrator, and Middle River Press, its publisher. Love, of Delray Beach, is the great granddaughter of Dr. J.R. Cason of Cason Cottage and traces her literary genes to Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and James Russell Lowell. She is the Patroness of Cason Cottage and a former President of the JLBR, a former President of the Delray Beach Historical Society, a founding Co-Chairman of Cason Cottage Museum, and a former Assistant Dean of Students at Florida Atlantic University.

GOODBYE: We only have four issues of *The Bridge* now, so this article will have to satisfy you until the fall. Once again, many of you spread out all over the United States, Europe, Asia etc. Many go on college trips for your soon to be high school seniors. Many visit new grandbabies. Think of me back here is warm and sunny Boca, trying to convince people they should buy houses from me for the coming school year. Yes, I work and still have time to write this marvelous article.





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THE BRIDGE is the magazine of the Junior League of Boca Raton. More than 1,000 community members read *THE BRIDGE*, which is published four times per year in September, November, February and April. Each issue is posted on our website, www.jlbr.org

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