- WE BELIEVE -

When given what they need, the possibilities are endless.

That’s why we’re proud to support those helping make our community a better place.

Publix Super Markets Charities

bright house networks
Springtime is a “season of change” and we are in the process of our new slate for 2016-2017 leadership at JLCD. We have focused on change from the inside out this year and will continue to do so in the coming year along with looking at more effective ways to train our members and help them to develop as women, which is part of our Mission statement.

What can we be encouraging each other to do in our League to become stronger and more effective women in our roles in leadership, membership, community, workplace, families, etc.? I don’t have all the answers but, I do know that one very effective start is by lifting each other up!

I recently read a quote which said “There’s a Wonder Woman inside everyone of us,” by Diane Von Furstenberg and I immediately felt excited!

This is a list of five useful tools to start the process of discovering our own Wonder Woman:

- **Shine a light on the dark places** - Be willing to address root issues and “taboo” topics. When we get them out in the open the healing begins along with real change.

- **Express your Brilliance** - Don’t block someone else’s brilliance. Be an amazing woman, do good, be kind to other women.

- **Applaud each other’s success** - Help each other soar, there’s enough air space for all of us!

- **Even Wonder Woman has to rest** - Slow down, breathe and nurture ourselves. It’s much easier to be patient and supportive of one another with rest.

- **Consider our words** - Strive to be thoughtful in our word choices and tone with one another. Show kindness and grace every day!

Lynda Carter, who played the original Wonder Woman on television sums her character up very well:

“A real challenge in the 21st century is to strive to reach our potential by embracing our values. She sees the good in everyone, convinced they are capable of change, compassion, and generosity. She’s kindhearted and hopeful, and she has a great sense of humor.”

I believe these are values we embrace at JLCD and are striving to practice in our development of women. My Wonder Woman is cheering for yours!

Pati Arlo, who played the original Wonder Woman on television sums her character up very well:

“A real challenge in the 21st century is to strive to reach our potential by embracing our values. She sees the good in everyone, convinced they are capable of change, compassion, and generosity. She’s kindhearted and hopeful, and she has a great sense of humor.”

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With a truly global presence, Engel & Völkers can bring your listing the exposure and concierge-style service you deserve. Contact our office to speak to one of our Real Estate Advisors and receive a complimentary home valuation.
### by the NUMBERS:

- **43**: Number of Ladies in the 2015-2016 Provisional Classes.
- **51**: Years JLCD has held Art Harvest.
- **222**: Number of artists at the 2015 Art Harvest.
- **$63,826.00**: Total Net revenue brought in by Art Harvest in 2015.
- **423**: Total JLCD members.
- **6**: Members who went sustaining in 2015.
- **06**: Number of socials held throughout the 2015-2016 league year.
SEA OATS MAGAZINE [SPRING 2016]
Published by: Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin

SEAOATS COMMITTEE
Chair: Britt Blume
Chair Elect: Stephanie Chill
Editors: Meghann Bedell, & Valerie Sund

ART/DESIGN
Design/Layout: Meg Skelly of Mates&Co. Tampa FL
Printing: Wilson Printing, Clearwater, FL
Cover Photograph: Andrew Vernon Photography

2016-2017 GOVERNANCE BOARD
President: Patricia Irwin
Executive Vice President: Gwin Londrigan
Secretary: Melissa Moré
Treasurer: Kristine Hann
Treasurer Elect: Stephanie Johnson
Nominating Chair: Rene Weidman
Sustainer Representative: Kathy Rabon
At-Large Board Member: Sandra Higgins
At-Large Board Member: Sarah Kirchberg
At-Large Board Member: Stacy Walker
At-Large Board Member: TBD

2016-2017 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM
Executive Vice President: Gwin Londrigan
Community Vice President: Amy Foster
Finance Vice President: Helene Dalmanieras
Membership Vice President: Mary Ellen Shaffer
Communications Vice President: Britt Blume

JLCD CONTACT INFORMATION
Phone: 727-738-5523
Email: info@jlcd.org
Website: www.jlcd.org
Office Manager: Becky Cole
Bookkeeper: Jennifer Baralt
bookkeeper@jlcd.org

LOCAL CREATIVE SPOTLIGHTS

Andrew Vernon Photography

[JCOVER PHOTOGRAPHY]
Andrew Vernon is a local second generation portrait photographer with a passion for landscape photography and an eye for stunning sunsets and brooding stormy skies. Check him out at:
AndrewVernonPhotography.com

Meghan Skelly | Mates and Co.

[LAYOUT DESIGN]
Meghan Skelly is a local graphic designer, a creative counterpart of Mates and Co; a full service design studio started and owned by two best friends with an extreme passion for the creative world around us. Check out their work at: Matesand.co
Since our founding in 1948, the Junior League of Clearwater Dunedin (JLCD) has faced challenges. Like any organization, there are growing pains which means the organization is morphing into its next phase. In JLCD’s case the next phase has always been something better. Do we view those growing pains as a stepping stone or a problem? If we view them as a problem we will associate them with negative connotations thus wasting a great deal of energy spent focusing on negative statements like, “We can’t, we don’t have, we haven’t done that, we don’t want too etc.”

At JLCD, we have a common vision of building a better community. Choosing to see challenges as stepping stones or opportunities that we have encountered, will enable us to take the next step forward. Bringing positive statements and encouraging behaviors to our fellow members has and will continue to set us apart from other organizations.

We have a Kaleidoscope of professionals that are different in so many ways. Combining our efforts we will become better and more efficient at stepping from stone to stone. We need to be mindful of experience and hold onto what works, introduce new thinking and approaches where feasible and we need to stop what isn’t working. With that in mind, the Leagues Project Chairs, Board of Directors and Executive Management Team will continue to stay committed to the Leagues integrity and outstanding quality of service to our community. While most importantly, all of our Members- Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers should uphold the Leagues name by promising less and delivering more every time.

The stepping stones at JLCD are here, placement assignments for next year have commenced. I challenge each of you reflect and define your level of commitment to the league and bring positive energy and display encouraging words to the table so that next year and the year after, we will collectively step effortlessly into our next phase- taking JLCD from a good organization to a GREAT ORGANIZATION. I’ve enjoyed my time as SeaOats Chair and look forward to the next two years, serving as your Vice President of Communications.

“"At JCLD, we have a common vision of building a better community."”

Britt Blume
Sea Oats Chair, 2016-2017
Sun Coast Police Benevolent Association

"The voice of Law Enforcement since 1973"

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Leadership Teams

Board of Directors
From Left to Right:
Mary Ellen Shaffer - Executive Vice President
Coleen Chaney - Secretary
Lora Iosa - Treasurer Elect
Cristina Cruz LeFebvre - Member At Large
Megan Tolliver - Member At Large
Genevieve White - Nominating Chair

Front Row:
Jeannie Clary - President Elect
Patricia Irwin - President

Not Present:
Stephanie Newton Johnson - Treasurer
Julie Perrelli - Member At Large

Executive Management Team
From Left to Right:
Helene Dalmanieras - Vice President of Finance
Britt Blume - Vice President of Communications
Amy Jo Jones - Vice President of Membership

Front Row:
Mary Ellen Shaffer - Executive Vice President
Lauren Chambers - Administrative Vice President

Not Present:
Amy Foster - Vice President of Community

Nominating Committee
Left to Right: Vanessa Saetham, Genevieve White - Nominating Chair & Melissa More
Not Present: Danielle Mammen and Kristine Hann
On the warm and sunny weekend of November 7th and 8th, 2015, the 52nd annual Art Harvest was held at Highlander Park in Dunedin, FL, welcoming over two hundred artists and thousands of visitors. The event truly had something for everyone from various mediums of art spread, to delicious cuisine from local restaurants, and an interactive children’s tent where our youngest patrons could make their own artistic creations. The 2015 Art Harvest had a record number of artists who represented 27 states, as far north as Maine and as far west as California, vying for over $27,000 in prize money and the coveted Best in Show title. Despite Mother Nature sprinkling some showers down on Sunday afternoon as the show came to a close, this past Art Harvest was the most profitable show in years, netting the Junior League of Clearwater Dunedin over $60,000.

Art Harvest’s featured Artist: James Carter
Our featured artist in 2015 hailed from Southbury, Connecticut by the name of James Carter. His featured artwork, *Birds in the Tropics*, is a whimsical painting of a toucan atop a scene of books and palm trees. Another piece featured at his display was *Camera Shy*, a painting of two geese staring into an old-fashioned camera. Carter's art is a fascinating interplay of flora and fauna surrounded by elements of the modern world. His acrylic paintwork plays a trick on the eye by using a combination of shadows and surrealist elements to make the 2D images pop off the canvas. When asked about his work, Mr. Carter stated, “The interplay of light and shadows is important in my work. Color is almost secondary and used to add perspective and depth than out of primary concern for color itself.

Through my paintings, I strive to give the viewer a fresh, whimsical view of familiar- and some not so familiar situations.” Mr. Carter donated *Birds in the Tropics* to the Junior League of Clearwater Dunedin, and through our Opportunity to Win raffle tickets, one of our very own league member was able to take home a James Carter original. Luckily for patrons and our other members alike, the featured artwork was printed on apparel so everyone had a chance to own a Carter piece.

If you are interested in learning more about James Carter’s work, please visit: http://jamescarterstudio.blogspot.com/
This past year we had over three hundred artists submit their work to be considered for Art Harvest. Thirteen categories of art were represented, including oil/acrylic, sculpture, digital art, woodworking and metalworking. Many different styles and art themes were featured at the show: still life paintings, watercolors of Florida birds, wood carvings of abstract female forms, blown glass, and sculptures repurposed from scrap metal, just to name a few. The work of Best in Show winner David McKirdy incorporates mixed media to create non-objective works that focus on pattern, texture and light. As patrons walked throughout Highlander Park, they were treated to the hundreds of different types of art that delighted and inspired curiosity.

Our 52nd Art Harvest had artists from across the country, some of whom came from as far as Colorado, California, Ohio, New Hampshire, and even Maine. Even more of our artists are local residents of the surrounding Tampa Bay communities, including artists who are only a stone’s throw away from their studios in downtown Dunedin. The opportunity to support local artists and enable them to reach a wider audience through the approximate 50,000 unique visitors to Art Harvest is yet another aspect of the event that invests in the community.

Art Harvest simply could not happen without the hard work of the JLCD membership, and it is truly an “all hands on deck” event as every active and provisional member (as well as some of our actives) volunteers over the course of the weekend. What makes Art Harvest a true pillar of our community is the fact that the event receives so much support from our community sponsors.

Major sponsors of our event include Publix Super Market Charities, Morton Plant Mease Hospitals, Dimmitt Automotive, Blume Mechanical Service, Bright House, Tampa Bay Times and Tampa Bay Magazine, just to name a small snapshot of our supporters in the community. Last year we also had an extremely successful Shop and Share event with Warren’s, a locally owned gift and apparel boutique in Clearwater, which resulted in a $2,000 donation to Art Harvest.
As sustainers, we have a unique and very important role. Simply put, our role is to “pay it forward.” Pay forward the chance you had as a provisional to learn by doing. Pay forward the challenge as a new active to reach beyond your own capabilities and try something new. Pay forward the opportunity you were given as project leader to make a difference in someone’s life. Pay forward the ability that was given to you to become a leader.

Liz Wiseman, author of the Wall Street Journal Bestselling book Multipliers – How the Best Leaders Make Everyone Smarter and her research partner, Greg McKeown, spent years exploring the dynamics of leadership. Through their research, they discovered that some leaders seemed capable of generating higher levels of thinking and decision-making in those around them. They even appeared to “amplify intelligence” creating higher levels of thinking and instilling an atmosphere of “genius.” Wiseman and McKeown refer to these leaders as Multipliers.

Simply stated, Multipliers ignite passion and a desire for collective learning in others. They seek out innovation, higher levels of productivity and greater use of resources. Other leaders actually have quite the opposite effect on organizations. These leaders they refer to as Diminishers. Simply stated, Multipliers ignite passion and a desire for collective learning in others. They seek out innovation, higher levels of productivity and greater use of resources. Other leaders actually have quite the opposite effect on organizations. These leaders they refer to as Diminishers. Diminishers, it seems believe they hold all the answers.

Multipliers and Diminishers have many commonalities – they are customer oriented. They share strong business principles and insight. They like to be surrounded by intelligent people and consider themselves “thought leaders.”

But as common as these traits are, they have distinct and contrasting styles. Multipliers develop people, challenge others, involve others in decision making and create supportive environments. People demonstrating leadership styles of the Diminisher blame others, dictate direction and control decisions. They conclude, “Other people will never figure things out without me.” This style inevitably creates an environment that suppresses creative problem-solving, underutilizes talent, and creates confusion within the organization.

For our League, as sustainers we can pay our legacy forward by becoming Multipliers. Wiseman and McKeown studied over 150 leaders, identifying five disciplines which distinguish Multipliers from Diminishers.
As an organization, we have a proud, rich legacy of creating community impact, changing lives for the better and, in doing so, creating leaders of tomorrow. We are doctors, accountants, lawyers, homemakers, mothers, teachers and other professionals who have united to reach out and make a difference. All united by a common thread . . . "women as catalysts for lasting community change."

And as sustainers, we can choose to be a Multiplier or a Diminisher. We can support others by getting involved. Get out and lend a helping hand at Art Harvest. Involve a new member. Donate to the Scot Shop or the JLCD Endowment Fund. There are many, many ways you can pay it forward and, in doing so, multiply and grow our legacy.

"A leader holds a position of power. Those who people follow hold positions of inspiration."


**ATTRACT AND OPTIMIZE TALENT.**
-Multipliers are “talent magnets”

**EXTEND CHALLENGES.**
-Multipliers are “challengers”

**CREATE INTENSITY THAT REQUIRES BEST THINKING.**
-Multipliers are “liberators”

**DEBATE DECISIONS.**
-Multipliers are “debate makers”

**INSTILL OWNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**
-Multipliers are “investors”

**Modular means versatility**

Our Kokomo Sectional, in addition to custom fabric selection and unique matching pieces, can be configured in any size imaginable! Whether you need to furnish an entire room or simply add a quiet place to sit in the corner of the pool deck, the choice is yours!

**Kokomo Collection**

Elegance, Durability & Ultimate Style – all wrapped up into one dynamic collection! The graceful curved arms and tailored cushioning are a classic pairing that create this timeless look. Have fun with all the fabrics that Garden Classic’s offers to make your Patio truly special.

Available in Tortoise Shell or Oyster Grey finish and your choice of fabric available through special order.

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KOKOMO MODULAR
MODULAR MEANS VERSATILITY
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Florida Sun Approved!
Crafted from 100% Outdoor Materials
Made in the USA
American Made & Crafted Cushions
Create your Own
Choose from Over 250 Fabrics & Endless Configurations

CHOOSE ONE OF OUR STORES NEAR YOU!
10am to 7pm Monday-Saturday 10am to 6 pm Sunday

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TOLL FREE CUSTOMER SERVICE 877-538-5783

www.leadersfurniture.com
In October, the group hit the group running by helping to put on a Fall Festival at the Highpoint YMCA, one of the League’s past projects. Most recently, on January 23rd, they braved the cold while providing “womanpower” during the 32 was recently joined by 11 new ladies in the winter class, for a total of 43 ladies. They have been doing a great job with their provisional projects, which are structured very differently than past years. This year is the first year the class is putting on several “mini” projects, rather than one large project at the end of the League year.

This new project structure was implemented to help the new members have an opportunity to be involved in every aspect of volunteering in the League; from direct service, fundraising, and hospitality. So far, the class seems to be very excited about getting to be so hands-on with our service projects.

Run for the Arts 5K for Academie Da Vinci School in Dunedin. The school’s staff members were extremely thankful for the efforts our League provided. Miranda from Academie Da Vinci said, “We just can’t thank the members of the Junior League enough for all your help. You all were amazing! I truly enjoyed meeting and talking with all of you.” The next provisional project will take place in March, where the group will be revamping an apartment for RCS Grace House. Stay tuned for details on how you can be involved with this event!
Each year, the Junior League of Clearwater Dunedin trains groups of first-year members (Provisionals) to be effective volunteers and leaders in our community. Provisional members complete a comprehensive training series that allows them to learn about our League structure and programs, as well as experience some of our community programs first-hand. The Provisional series includes: educational courses, a bus tour of community partners, Scot Shop shifts, a community project, and attending League functions such as general membership meetings.

A great way to learn more about membership in The Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin is to attend one of our Recruitment Events! Representatives of the Membership Development Committee will be on hand to answer all your questions and guide you through the process to join! Please subscribe to our new member mailing list to be the first to know about JLCD news. Email: Recruitment@jlcd.org If you’d like to get a step ahead feel free to fill out an application (located on the next page) and mail it to our League’s headquarters. We will contact you to attend our next recruitment event!

**Membership Criteria**

1. Must be at least 21 years old as of September 1 of the year in which provisional membership would begin (there is no maximum age to join).

2. Applicants should reside in Upper Pinellas (north of Ulmerton Rd.) and Pasco Counties.

3. Demonstrate an interest in voluntarism and a commitment to community service, with most community service activities occurring within Pinellas and Pasco Counties.

4. A prospective member will participate in an orientation program detailing the privileges and responsibilities of Junior League membership.

5. Show an interest in developing her potential for voluntary community participation * Sign a contract stating that she understands the Responsibilities of Provisional Membership.
Heritage Park clean up.

Hiding from the sun shower at Art Harvest.

Volunteering at 5K.

Angels Shopping Day.

Back pack drive.

Legacy committee at Community Pride.

Birthday celebrations for Foster Kids.
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CLEARWATER-DUNEDIN
member application

First Middle (Preferred) Last Name

Street Address

City

State Zip Code

Maiden Name

Spouse Name

Month Day Year

*All candidates must be at least 21 years of age as of June 1 of current year.

OTHER INFORMATION:
How did you hear about us?

A current member
JUA/JL Veteran
JLCD Website/Ad
SeaOats Magazine
Attended Prospect Member Meeting
Attended JLCD Sponsorship Event
JLCD Scot Shop
Other

JLCD MISSION

The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) 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.
Why do you want to become a member of the Junior League and why is this a good time for to be proposed for admission to the Junior League of Clearwater- Dunedin?

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

Signature  Date

Application Reviewed by  Review Date
FUND DEVELOPMENT

"When a committee is newly formed or reactivated, there is a lot of foundational work that committee members must do before moving forward. For Fund Development, that work is both internal and external."

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL

Looking internally, annual dues and member required financial contributions were compared to other Florida-based Junior Leagues via a statewide survey. Leadership giving was examined in the context of making JLCD more "donor ready" for grant considerations and annual giving donations. Finally a "President's Circle" was explored in hopes of encouraging former JLCD President's to donate to our general operating fund and receive special recognition.

Looking externally we sought to improve our profile and public information on Guidestar (a nonprofit information clearinghouse), making JLCD information more transparent for both donors and volunteers. A successful connection with Amazon Smile now allows us to benefit from shopping dollars without our supporters paying more for items they were purchasing anyway.

"DONOR PROSPECTING WAS USED TO APPROACH FEMALE OWNED BUSINESSES."

GIRL POWER ALL DAY

Donor prospecting was used to approach female owned businesses, female philanthropists and organizations with similar goals to financially support art harvest. Engel & Volkers Belleair Bluffs, The Suncoast PBA, Warren's Gifts, Gold and Diamond Sources and For the Love of Boutique all answered the call and invested in us, we are enthusiastic about maintaining these partnerships.

Hours of research resulted in numerous grant and sponsorship opportunities being identified for Art Harvest 2016 and future committee projects.

Committee members did a comprehensive feasibility study that looked at a second printing of our cookbook From Grouper to Grits. We reached out to similar sized Junior Leagues from around the county who undertook second printings and weighed their experiences and sales with financials from our publisher and potential retail partners-- a re-printing doesn't make sense for us currently, however when we are ready to re-examine this idea, we already have a foundation laid to continue the process.

But perhaps the most fun were our Shop and Share events! At Tracy Negoshian’s Sundial boutique and Warren's Gifts in Clearwater members enjoyed exclusive, private shopping opportunities while returning a portion of sales back to JLCD. When all the tallies are in, we expect these events to have contributed between $4,000 and $5,000 to JLCD.

Both the Tracy Negoshian event and the Warren’s event resulted from trying to engage sponsorships for Art Harvest. Cheryl Hurst from Art Harvest Committee set up the Warren’s event and Fund Development publicized it - including phone calls to most of our sustainers.

Additionally, thanks to Colleen Chaney JLCD has achieved Gold Level participant status with GuideStar. This is a testament to our commitment to data transparency. By keeping our profile up-to-date and adding more impact data we are ensuring that timely and accurate JLCD information reaches their 7+ million annual visitors including donation providers, search engines, donor-advised funds, foundations, and more!
What is one goal that you would like to accomplish in your life time?

I would like to re-do a home. My dad is a contractor and used to build homes before he moved into commercial construction. As a little girl, I remember going on home sites with him. I loved to see the house in frames and have all these visions appear in my mind of the layout of a kitchen or where walls were needed. While I am far from an experienced builder, I did learn a lot of construction skills from him, and in high school and college, I would volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and help build homes. Someday, I would like to have the time and energy to take a home that needs care, completely gut it and make it shine for a family to love. I think that would be so much fun.

If you had an endless supply of any food, what would it be?

Oranges! I have at least 1 orange every day while they are in season. I grew up with an orange tree and would never let one go to waste. I enjoy oranges on its own, orange juice or orange bread. There is no shortage of delicious ways to eat an orange.

What is a unique habit or hobby of yours?

I do music theatre. Actually, my undergraduate degree is in Theatre, but I could not withstand the hard NYC winters; so, I chose to stay in Florida. Prior to the birth of my son, I performed in three (3) musicals a year with Francis Wilson Playhouse in Clearwater. I love to sing and dance, especially tap dance. These days you may see me once a year in a production. I love to tread those boards any chance I get!

If you had to describe yourself in 3 words, what would they be?

Loyal, Heartfelt, and Unique.

Who is your hero?

My dad. As an 18 year-old he went to war as an enlisted Marine. Served several tours, was a POW and came back and still loves his country. Despite seeing the unthinkable occur he is the most positive person I know. He always looks for the good in people and is unwavering in his ethics, no matter the personal cost. It would be so easy to lose yourself after experiencing torture, but he did not. He set a strong example for me as to what it means to be a good human and a productive member of society. But most of all he fights for what is right and that carried over to me. I build upon his strength in my job and advocate for what is right over what is easy. For all that he has given to me, he is my hero.
What is one goal that you would like to accomplish in your life time?

Professionally, I would love to be an Executive Director and/or a CEO of a YMCA. I love the organization that I work for and what we do for the community.

Personally, my husband and I would love to retire, purchase a boat and sail around the world. We love to SCUBA dive and would love to dive the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

If you had an endless supply of any food, what would it be?

If calories don’t count, then pizza. Pizza can be eaten at any point of the day because you have endless option for toppings; so, you can have all the food groups all in one piece.

What is a unique habit or hobby of yours?

My husband and I enjoy being outside and doing outdoor sports and activities. We love to go SCUBA diving, but most recently he has become enthusiastic about backpack camping. He would like us to go hiking and camping at least once a month to discover new places in Florida.

If you had to describe yourself in 3 words, what would they be?

Enthusiastic, Adventurous, Confident, Hardworking... sorry that was 4. :)

Who is your hero?

I don’t think I have a hero per say, but here are a lot of people who inspire me. My dad being one of those inspiring people. He dedicated 40 year of service to the military. He has always been a hard worker and pushed me to do the same. He taught me to not except mediocrity, but to excel and be the best I could be. Nothing was ever handed to me, I had to earn it.

My sister and I received an allowance every two weeks, only if we turned in a slip of paper listing all the chores that were completed each week. If you didn’t do it you didn’t get paid, similar to a job. At the time it just seemed like a meaningless task, but now as an adult I see my parents were instilling values and habits into my day to day life.
What is one goal that you would like to accomplish in your life time?

Essentially, my goal is to enjoy and treasure everyday as a gift from God. I consider my legacy to be my children, and on that front, I can confidently say “Mission Accomplished”!

If you had an endless supply of any food, what would it be?

Greek Yogurt with strawberries, blueberries and granola

What is a unique habit or hobby of yours?

Duplicate Bridge. This is the card game of bridge played as a couple. I play Duplicate Bridge with my husband. Sharing this hobby with my husband promotes togetherness and keeps the brain cells working.

If you had to describe yourself in 3 words, what would they be?

1. Diligent. My high school teacher used to say: “Good, better, best never let rest until good is better and better is best”. I try to live my life by this saying.

2. Optimistic. I believe in the future and what is to come.

3. Thankful. I am thankful to live in America, be a woman in the 21st century and to have a loving husband and children.

Who is your hero?

Elizabeth I of England. I studied English Literature in my master’s program, and came to know Elizabeth I as a woman of consummate power and ability.
The Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee, also known as SPAC, is a non-partisan education and advocacy organization representing 25 Junior Leagues and over 11,000 women statewide. Together, we have monitored legislation and advocated for issues of importance to our members for almost 40 years to help improve the lives for Florida women, children, and families.

- Sends delegates to meetings and conferences throughout the year to research and debate current issues.
- Advocates for specific legislation at the state and national level that is relevant to our key issue areas.
- Educates our league members about advocacy and public policy.
- Coordinates the exchange of information from community-based League projects to policymakers.
- Takes action on state and national issues that affect our projects, priority issue areas and communities, primarily by supporting legislation that we have identified as being critical to the work of our member Leagues, their community partners, and the lives of Florida women, children, and families. We select legislation that aligns with our Position Statements which are reviewed and updated annually.

Over the years, we have weighed in on various topics, including bicycle helmets for children under 16, car seat mandates, the Environmental Growth Management Act of 1995, the ‘911’ Emergency Medical System, child abuse, domestic violence, juvenile justice, education, healthy foods and human trafficking.

Our priority issues in the 2014-15 Junior League year were at-risk youth, child safety and welfare, and health and hunger. More than 10 of the bills we supported were passed by the Florida Legislature in 2015.

THIS LEGISLATION WILL:
- Allow unaccompanied youth to consent to medical, dental, psychological, substance abuse, surgical diagnosis and treatment for themselves and their children
- Limit the liability of public schools in donating canned/perishable food to charities/non-profits
- Prevent an estimated 10,000 children from falling victim to identity theft each year.
- Raise the age requirement for children to be buckled in an appropriate safety seat, thereby significantly reducing the severity of injuries inflicted on children in auto accidents.
- Help victims of human trafficking
- Create more restrictions and increased penalties for sexual offenders and traffickers

In recent years, we have also supported aging out of foster care reform, the eradication of food deserts to help decrease family homelessness and hunger, legislation on cybercrimes related to sexual images of children sent electronically, and many more issues.

JLCD IN THE NEWS:

New Bill for Human Trafficking Victims:
Spring is finally here! Before it gets to stifling out there, enjoy some great eats outdoors with people you care about. Here are a few of my favorites that I recently made! I used fresh fish that my husband caught, along with fish and stone crab claws that I had frozen from this past winter. It all turned out perfectly! I did make a modification to the Sangria though...let me know if you enjoyed this menu!

By: Britt Blume
COCKTAIL GROUPER CAKE w/ key lime tartar sauce

Recipe Courtesy of:
Black Cat Gourmet
To-Go Catering

• SERVES: 8-10

Combine grouper and Old Bay Seasoning with simmering water to cover in a saucepan. Poach just until the grouper is white. Drain & rinse with cool water. Crumble fish into large bowl. Add onion, scallion, celery, bell pepper, parsley, 1 cup bread crumbs, egg, ½ cup mayonnaise, Dijon mustard, Worcestershire sauce, thyme, cayenne pepper, salt and black pepper, mix well. Shape into small patties.

Wisk together the egg and water in a shallow dish. Dip patties in the egg mixture and roll in 1 cup bread crumbs. Arrange on a tray and chill, covered, for 6 to 8 hours. Combine 1 cup mayonnaise, sour cream, key lime juice, capers and parsley in a bowl, mix well. Chill until ready to serve. Sauté the patties in margarine in a skillet over medium heat until golden and puffed turning once. Serve with sauce.

The Columbia's 1905 Salad

The 1905 Dressing:

4 cloves of garlic
1 tbsp white wine vinegar
1 tsp Worcestershire
1 tsp lemon juice
1/2 c. Salt & Pepper to taste
1/2 c. E.V.O.O.

Combine minced garlic, Worcestershire sauce and oregano in a bowl and whisk until smooth. Whisk in the olive oil gradually. Stir in the vinegar and lemon juice and season with salt and pepper.

The Salad:

1/2 head iceberg lettuce
1/3 c. pitted green Spanish olives
2 ripe tomatoes (cut into 8)
2 tspns grated Romano cheese
1/2 c. (2 oz.) julienned Swiss
1/2 c. julienned ham, turkey or shrimp

Combine the lettuce, tomatoes, Swiss cheese, ham and olives in a salad bowl. Add the dressing and toss to coat well. Add the Romano cheese and toss again.
Combine the Semi-Sec, soda, simple syrup, orange liqueur and Brandy in a pitcher and mix well. Chill until ready to serve. Pour into glasses and garnish with an orange slice, lime slice and cherry.

Frenchy's Café Seafood Gumbo

- SERVES: 4

Melt the butter in a largo saucepan. Add the onion, bell pepper, celery, celery leaves, green onion and garlic. Sauté for 10 minutes. Stir in the flour, gumbo file, paprika, bay leaf, oregano, basil, thyme, cayenne pepper and black pepper. Cook for 15 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in the wine. Add the tomatoes, water, ham base, okra and corn. Bring to a boil and reduce the heat. Add the crab meat, shrimp, scallops and grouper. Simmer for 1 ½ hours. Let stand for 10 minutes. Discard the bay leaf and ladle into soup bowls.
CELEBRATE

life, happiness, love, success, support.

Amber Brice on her new position with City of Clearwater.

Laura Blitch-Ossian on her new position as a Pharmacist with Largo Medical Center.

Ashley Donnell Hackl on her new position as an Attorney for Pinellas County.

Kelly Ardis on her engagement & the closing of her new home.

Chelsea LaRue Mioduszewski, on her marriage to Jeff Mioduszewski.

Alexa and William on the birth of their son William Lesley Williams IV.

Leighann and James on the arrival of their daughter Grace Marie Sarantopoulos.

Jenny and John on the arrival of their son Jackson Goad.

Valerie and Justin on the birth of their daughter Haylie Rose Sund.
"The Junior League of Clearwater/Dunedin would like to THANK the following businesses and people, from the bottom of our hearts that support our League by donating extra funds annually.

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- Sun Coast Police Benevolent Assoc.
- Active Junior League Clearwater Dunedin Members: Britt Blume and Freda Daniels

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