

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TULSA

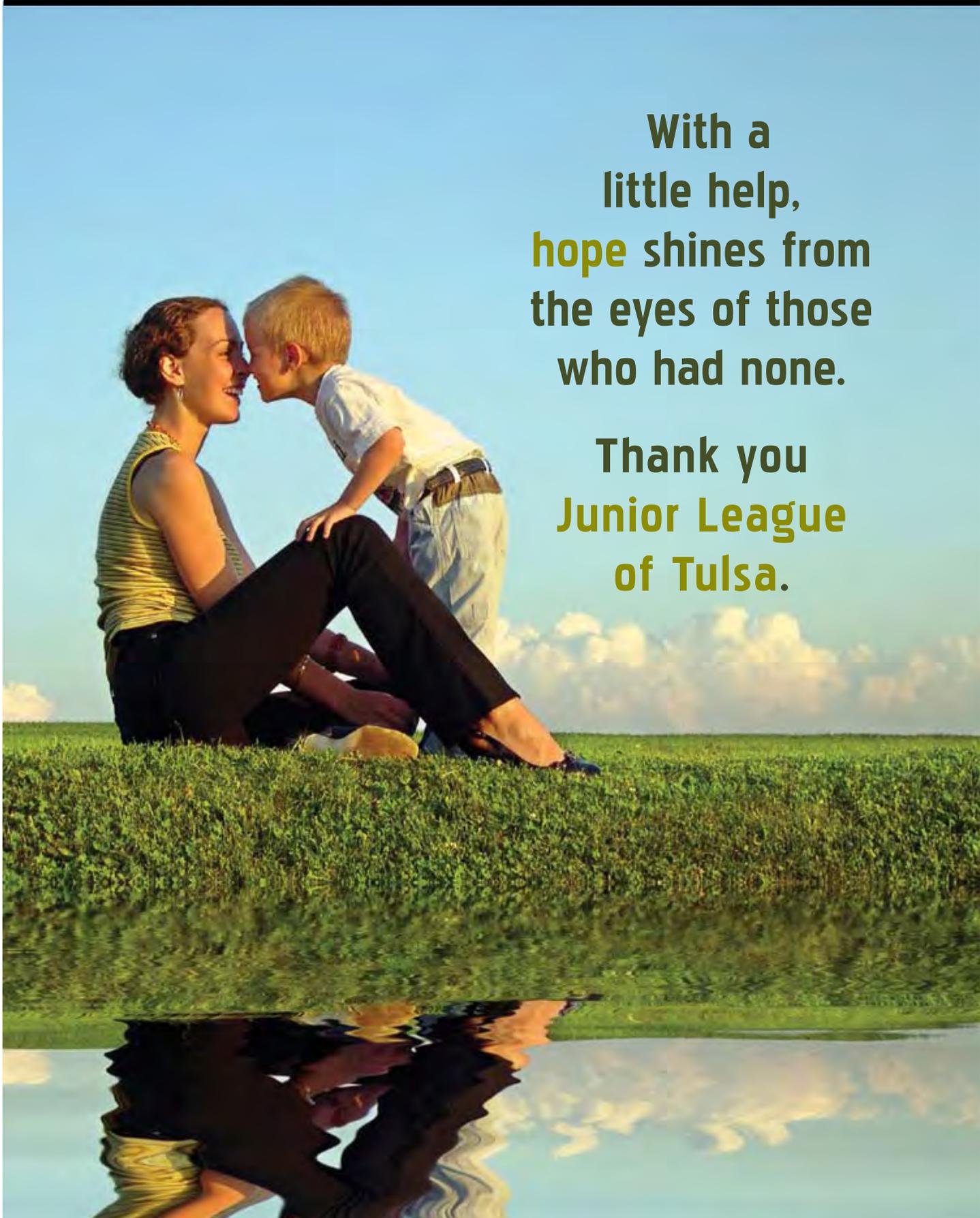
Volume 7, Issue 1
WINTER 2010

gusher



**Resonance
& JLT
Celebrate Recovery**

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JLT to Hall of Fame • Laura Dester's New Home • IMPACT Projects



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from the editor...

Winter is in full swing and with the holidays behind us we put away our decorations and gear up for 2010. Beginning a New Year we reflect on our plans and aspirations. Some of us will set New Year's resolutions in hopes of making changes we want (or need) to make. Whether our resolutions are made by public proclamation or remain unspoken, we often find our success is influenced by the support of those around us. Likewise, many in our community share similar dreams and goals for their own lives, but they need our support, involvement and encouragement in order to take the steps necessary for change.

The Junior League of Tulsa is committed to helping our communities to become stronger, improve the lives of individuals and families, helping women and children step closer to their dreams in 2010. In this issue, we highlight two agencies who are dedicated to saving lives and supporting women, children, and families. Our lead article focuses on Resonance Center for Women, Inc., who for 30 years has restored women's lives through intervention, prevention and support programs. The Laura Dester Shelter also has 30-plus years of caring for the most vulnerable children in our community who need short-term refuge and protection. We bring you their stories and how JLT is currently helping these agencies reach their goals. Our IMPACT committee shares some of the various "Done in a Day" community projects completed this past fall. We are truly making a difference in Tulsa and as a member of the Junior League of Tulsa, you should be proud!

This issue showcases two of our sustaining members, Phyllis Dotson and Linda Frazier, who were recently inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame. Both are wonderful examples of women who received hands-on training in the JLT and, utilizing those skills, have served the Tulsa community long term. And they will tell you, they are not finished yet. WOW, do we have big shoes to fill!

I want to thank the *Gusher* production committee who help me edit articles on tight deadlines and have been very eager to offer assistance with any task. Our committee is also tasked with finding advertisers to support our *Gusher* production costs. This allows funds raised by JLT to go back into the community through our worthwhile projects. Please take a moment to review our *Gusher* advertisers and thank them when patronizing their business.



Many Thanks,

Jennifer Roberson
Editor 2009-2010

On the cover: JLT Resonance Committee Chair, Betsy Endicott and JLT Resonance Committee Vice-Chair, Summer Owens in the Resonance House with Resonance Executive Director, Pam Richardson and Resonance Job Development Coordinator, Kim LaBass. Photograph by Leslie Hoyt, www.lesliehoyt.com.

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gusher is a quarterly publication of The Junior League of Tulsa, Inc., 3633 South Yale Ave., Tulsa, OK 74135; devoted to informing the membership and the community of current League projects, events and issues. For more information on advertising, please visit www.jltulsa.org and click on *Gusher* or e-mail gusher@jltulsa.org.

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Letter from the president

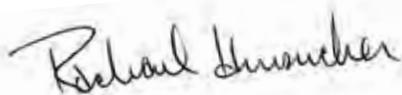
As we celebrate the holidays and mark the New Year, I want to take a moment to thank you, members and sponsors of The Junior League of Tulsa, for all your accomplishments thus far. These achievements were made possible through your support, time and commitment to improving the lives of women and children in transition in the Tulsa community. These efforts are truly appreciated by those whom you have touched. The impact and importance of membership and participation is evident with each project and in each success story.

The first half of the year has been busy. In this issue, you will learn about JLT's community partnership with Resonance as well as efforts and assistance with the new facility for the Laura Dester Emergency Children's Shelter. These projects are in addition to on-going work with Global Gardens; helping high-risk children build self-esteem, staffing of the Resource Library at the Children's Hospital at Saint Francis, providing assistance through IMPACT to many area non-profit agencies, and general League support operations. Recently, JLT also successfully held two fundraisers. The annual Holiday Market shopping experience continued to grow and the American Girl Fashion Show which provides positive role models and character building for young girls. Other JLT members participated in training sessions, attended planning meetings, learned new skills, mentored other members, and provided personal support.

In the second half of our year together, we will continue with the Junior League of Tulsa mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The focus of the January membership meeting will be our incredible members. In February, the Decadence ROCKS fundraising gala will be held as well as JLT-University. Several training opportunities will be offered during JLTU with flexibility to allow members to attend several training sessions. Community projects will be launched. *Operation JLT* is a League-wide community project hosted at five different Community Schools providing family enrichment nights for children and their families. This year we are excited to partner with Gilcrease Museum for the May annual meeting. Members, sponsors, and advisors will be honored at this celebration for the end of the 2009-2010 JLT year.

Through our collective efforts we provide an even greater impact than one of us individually. Thank you again for choosing to spend your time with us to build a better Tulsa.

Sincerely,



Rachael Hunsucker
2009-2010 President



Junior League of Tulsa reaches out to women of all races, religions, & national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.

Mission Statement

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

Core Values

- Community:** It is the heart of all we do
- Diversity:** The synergy of different perspectives
- Voluntarism:** An essential component of our society
- Mentoring:** Essential growth for future generations
- Leadership:** The development of individual potential
- Respect:** For our members' time, energy and skills
- Collaboration:** Forming partnerships and strategic alliances
- Well-being:** Physical, mental, emotional and social

Board of Directors 2009-2010

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Transitions

JLT Hugs Committee celebrates and supports our members. Let us share the times that are taking place in your life. You are encouraged to share the following announcements: births, engagements, weddings, condolences, community and business recognitions, new jobs, and/or new job promotions. Please send all details to Heather Cowdery, heather.nichols@poloralphlauren.com



Small Miracles

Landon Walter Danz

Son of Mary (S) and Don
Born April 27, 2009



Charles "Oliver" Sack

Son of Kristal (A) and Justin
Born August 10, 2009



Elizabeth Vivyan Buchan

Daughter of Sarah (A) & Craig
Born August 16, 2009

William Maxwell Bashaw

Son of Tara (A) & George
Born September 24, 2009



Wyatt Calhoun Haskell

Son of Katherine (A) & Henry
Born September 26, 2009

Amelia Creekmore Cooper

Daughter of Carissa (A) & Brad
Born October 10, 2009



Meryl Scout Stauffer

Daughter of Whitney (A) & Joey
Born October 15, 2009

Wedding

Brittney Lauren Barnes (P)
to Christopher Adam Hall
on August 22, 2009



Engagement

Summer Owen (A)
announces her
engagement to
Jason Craig.

Achievements

Linda Frazier (S) and **Phyllis Dotson (S)**
were inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame.

Condolences

To **Allison Hunt (S)** on the death of her father.

To **Debra Grillot (S)** on the death of her mother,
Marilyn Riggs (S).

To **Mary Warner (S)** on the death of her husband.

To the family of **Beverly Lindsay (S)**.

To the family of **Cynthia Yandell (JLT Past President)**.

To the family of **Betty Lou Walker (SE)**.

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Hello, Sustainers!



Sue Curry
Sustaining President

2009-2010

Sustaining Board

Mary Alice Ahlgren

Laurie Brumbaugh

Carol Bush

Robyn Cannon

Ann Foster

Shari Graham

Amy James

Annabel Jones

Brenda Jones

Rachel Kopczynski

Deborah Kurin

Eat, Read, and be Cheery!

Fall was beautiful as the leaves changed to gorgeous autumn colors, which set the stage for a wonderful evening to host the Fall Sustainer Party at JLT Headquarters. Sustainer, Gaylyn Wattman, of Mary Murray's Flowers, presented a sensational program on how to update and add to existing holiday decorations using the latest trims, ribbons, wreaths, garlands and other accessories. Her program presented beautiful examples in color and design. The items she used to illustrate her ideas were from Mary Murray's and are available for sale. Those attending became inspired to decorate; incorporating many of the ideas into their homes for the upcoming holidays. Warmest thanks to Gaylyn for an inspiring and delightful evening!

New Tradition

A new dinner tradition began this fall, hosted by the Sustaining Board, at Los Cabos for new sustaining members. Amy James, Lisa Muller and Patty Lawson joined Sustaining Board members for an outstanding evening. Many ideas were exchanged and a big success that the dinner tradition will continue in the fall of 2010.

Sustainers have also enjoyed gatherings at the Restaurant Club and the Book Club. Both clubs welcomed new members! The Restaurant Club enjoyed delicious dinners at Oscars Gastro Pub in October and Villa Ravenna Italian Restaurant in November. The highlight of the Fall Event was dinner and a surprise birthday party in September for the Club Coordinator, Ann Foster. The ladies had a wonderful time in a private room at Michael Fusco's Riverside Grill, complete with birthday cake, cards and gifts from the members. The Restaurant Club wrapped up 2009 and celebrated the holidays at the Celebrity Club in December.

The Book Club reviewed books such as, The Help by Kathryn Stockett in October at the home of Erma Henson and My Life in France by Julia Childs (accompanied by real Julia Child recipes) in November at the home of Earlene Gathright. A special literary treat at the September book club meeting, hosted by Pebble Moss, was a book review program presented by Sustainers and authors, Cheryl Forest and Georgia Snoke, of the book, Jasinski. Their colorful, entertaining and poignant discussion of Roman Jasinski, founder of the Tulsa Ballet, and his wife Moscelyne, was informative and touched our hearts. Their research, travel and personal interviews with Roman and Moscelyne, over the many years in writing the book, illustrated their passion to share the story of a wonderful Tulsa couple whose talent and dedication developed a Tulsa treasure, the Tulsa Ballet. Thank you Cheryl and Georgia, for a delightful program and book!

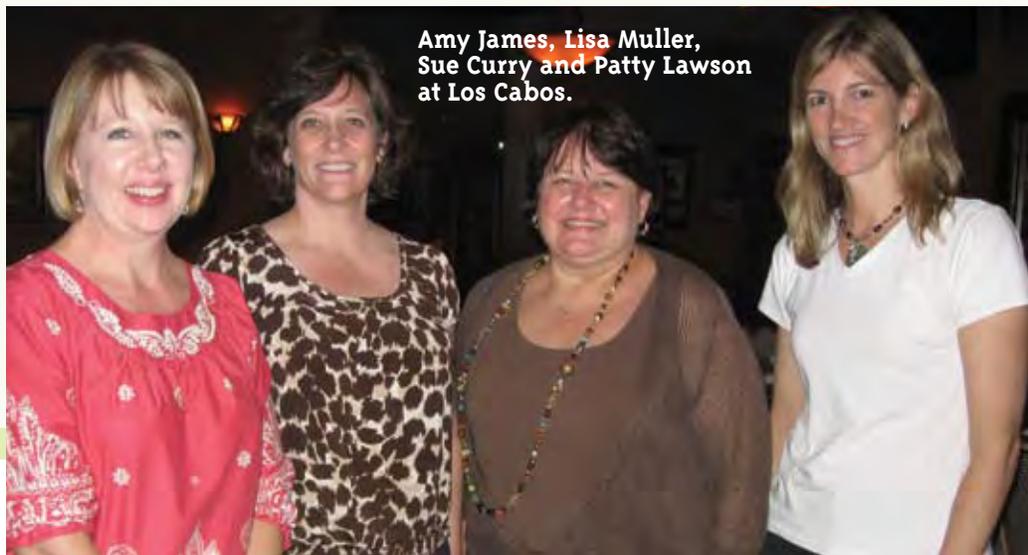
Lisa Berry hosted the December Book Club Party. Beginning the New Year, two upcoming book selections to be reviewed are: Shanghai Girls by Lisa See, in January and Years of Wonder by Geraldine Brooks, in February. Additional books for 2010 will be announced.

New Addition – Lunch Club

A new addition to the Sustainer activities is a Lunch Club to begin January 2010. A very good response of interested members came following the Fall Sustainer Letter. Amy James is the new Lunch Club Coordinator and will lead the group in sharing more good times and friendships! If you have not joined a club and wish to do so, please contact one of the club coordinators: Ann Foster, Restaurant Club at 694-6118, Annabel Jones, Book Club at 629- 7552 and/or Amy James, Lunch Club at 298-2823. As always, if you have questions about Sustainer activities, please call me at 298-4651 or email brent-curry@cox.net.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

Sue Curry



**Amy James, Lisa Muller,
Sue Curry and Patty Lawson
at Los Cabos.**



Left to Right: Mary Lee Torbert, Laurie Brumbaugh, Debbie Luthey and Lynette Danskin at the September Book Club evening.



Susan Staudt and Margaret Koro



Tucky Hazen, Anne Erker and Nancy Daniel



Cathy Swadener and Ann Foster

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A Road Worth Taking

By Sarah Rehm, Jennifer Roberson, Lauren Davis

On December 22, 2008, Cheryl was arrested and charged with her third DUI. After spending three weeks in jail, she was placed in the Tulsa Drug Court program and assigned to receive treatment through “Twelve and Twelve” and eventually Resonance Center for Women.

When she began treatment with Resonance, Cheryl worried that the program requirements were too stiff and that she would lapse in her recovery efforts. She felt tremendous stress over meeting everyone’s expectations. By her own estimation, only a small percentage of participants successfully completed the program and became sober. Surrounded by those who dismissed the likelihood of recovery, and with her own prior mistakes a constant reminder, it would have been easy for Cheryl to give up, to admit defeat, and to settle for a life under the influence.

Acceptance is the answer to all my problems today. ... I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing, or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment.

- Alcoholics Anonymous

Fortunately for Cheryl and her family, she made the difficult choice to become sober and embarked on a year-long process of counseling and treatment. Once she was honest with herself and acknowledged her mistakes, Cheryl understood that her sobriety was a choice.

Cheryl’s journey was not without challenges. During her first year of sobriety, Cheryl was faced with her mother’s death. With her mother’s passing, Cheryl lost not only her mother but her strongest source of morale support. From deep within, Cheryl found the courage to cope with her loss, and she expresses gratitude that she was able to be with her mother, sober, when she passed.

Through counseling, Cheryl has learned to reframe her childhood perceptions and experiences as the daughter of a single mother. With her therapist, Martha Brewer, she has learned to focus on ways she can exercise her time and her surroundings without drinking. During this first

year of sobriety, she has also re-established relationships with two of her estranged daughters. One of her daughters states how proud she is of her mother for staying sober after years of drinking, for building up her self-confidence, and for relying on herself and not an external substance for strength.

Awareness is the key but it’s action that opens the door...

- Alcoholics Anonymous

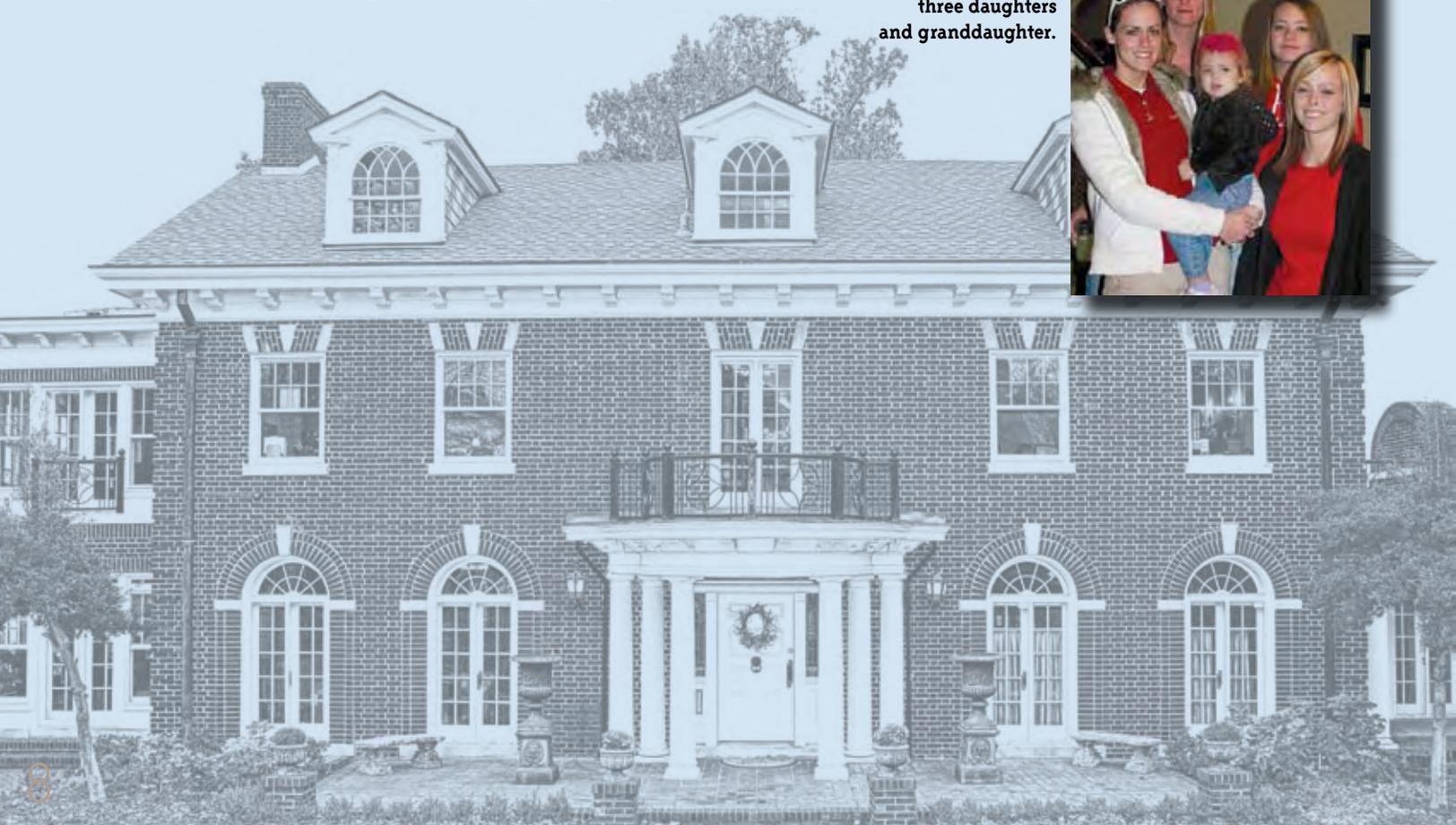
Although Cheryl has made mistakes, she is proud of who she has become. She is proud to discover that she doesn’t have to drink to cope with life’s challenges. She has also received two associate degrees, and she knows that her mother would be proud of her.

Cheryl wants to thank her daughters for their support and issues a special thank you to her daughter who has been both her chauffeur and comic relief. She wants to thank her therapist Martha, her sponsor Shelly, the Drug Court coordinators, and her new grandbaby, whose smile lifts her spirits.

Cheryl’s story is her thank you to the Resonance staff for their help. She asserts that if she needed help again, she would seek out Resonance for counseling and assistance. Their many programs, from budgeting and parenting classes to therapy and the events which help women feel better about themselves, demonstrate that Resonance cares about its clients and wants them to succeed.

Poet Robert Frost reminds us that the road less traveled can make all the difference. For Cheryl and the clients of Resonance who have chosen the difficult path of sobriety and self-sufficiency, the journey to recovery offers a path of transformation. It offers us all a reminder that it all begins with a first step and a belief that Cheryl has learned to embrace, “It is possible”.

Cheryl with her three daughters and granddaughter.



JLT Partners with Resonance To Celebrate Recovery

By Sarah Rehm

At the 87th Annual Association of Junior Leagues International Inc., (AJLI) Conference, Leagues worldwide adopted a new vision for the Junior League: "Women around the world as catalysts for lasting community change". The Junior League of Tulsa has embraced a strategy to improve the community through select hands-on projects and collaborative partnerships, and JLT's partnership with the Resonance Center for Women is an excellent example of this strategy in action.

Resonance provides intervention, prevention, and support services for women seeking self-sufficiency. Founded in 1977 as a resource center for women, Resonance has since expanded its scope of services to become a gender-specific, dually accredited, outpatient substance and alcohol abuse treatment facility. Resonance's goal is to break the cycles of chemical addiction from a mother to her children and to provide alternatives to punitive measures for female substance abusers. Resonance provides individual and group counseling, case management and treatment for women involved in the justice system or at risk of incarceration. Resonance also provides job skills training for women who face barriers to employment due to previous incarceration and/or involvement with the civil and criminal justice system.

Over the years, Resonance has helped thousands of women like Cheryl take those first crucial steps on the road to recovery. In 2009 alone, Resonance has proudly graduated over 30 women from Drug Court and has served over 900 individuals with individual counseling, group counseling, on the job training, and job placement programs. To meet this demand, Resonance collaborates with various private and governmental agencies in the Tulsa community, including the Junior League of Tulsa.

In late October, the JLT members of the Resonance Committee worked with the staff of Resonance Center for Women to put on a Diva Day event for those graduating from the Drug Court program at the Resonance House on South Elwood. In one room, the Resonance Committee set up a mini-clothes closet. Each woman attending had the opportunity to add two new outfits to her professional wardrobe, including shoes and accessories. In another room, decorated for the festivities, the Resonance Committee supplied light hors d'oeuvres for the graduates and their families. Placed atop each table were "grab bags" for each graduate with samples from Saks, the Apothecary Store, and other generous contributors. The event concluded with a ceremony put together by the Resonance staff, recognizing the graduates with an affirmative statement from each therapist who offered words of both praise and wisdom for continued success.

The event highlights how JLT members can work in collaboration with community agencies. Pam Richardson, Executive Director, offers, "The Junior League's support of the ladies served by Resonance is truly a precious gift. Your sensitivity and compassion for women involved

in the criminal justice system is appreciated by the clients, staff and Board of Resonance. Your numerous acts of kindness are unequalled! Thank you for caring and for helping Tulsa area women on their journey to a better life and self-sufficiency. The volunteer partnership with Junior League is making a tremendous impact upon our ladies' lives, their families and our community."

Resonance serves clients referred by various sources including Tulsa County Drug Court, Family Drug Court, Community Sentencing, Child Welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Oklahoma Probation & Parole. Resonance carries dual certification as a rehabilitation facility from Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) and a three-year accreditation from Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

For more information on Resonance Center for Women, visit www.resonancetulsa.org.



Leesa Crawford,
Resonance Receptionist &
Building and Grounds
Coordinator



Left side: Betsy Endicott, JLT Resonance Committee; Pam Richardson, Resonance Executive Director; Summer Owens, JLT Resonance Vice-Chair.
Right side: Kim LaBass, Resonance Job Development Coordinator

From the Junior League of Tulsa...to

By Connie Doverspike and Mary Anne Thoman

On October 15th, the Tulsa Historical Society held a gala dinner at Southern Hills Country Club to induct seven new members into the Tulsa Hall of Fame; two of them are valued members of the Junior League of Tulsa.

The Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) is widely known for the volunteer work performed continuously in the Tulsa community since 1923. The legacy of generations of JLTs' volunteer efforts and hands on training reflect in some women who become the effective leaders and volunteers of the community long term. Since 1987, the Tulsa Historical Society has sponsored the Tulsa Hall of Fame each year, to recognize a handful of outstanding past and present Tulsans. We are so proud that the Tulsa Historical Society has substantiated JLT's belief, bestowing members, Linda Frazier and Phyllis Dotson, inducted along with her husband George Dotson, with this well deserved recognition.

Phyllis Dotson's

community service reaches out to health, education, the arts and more. She serves as a trustee of the Saint Simeon's Episcopal Home Foundation and the Philbrook Museum of Art. Dotson also serves on the advisory boards of the Tulsa Ronald McDonald House, Mental Health Association, Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Crosstown Learning Center

and the Assistance League of Tulsa. She is a member of the Girl Scouts Juliette Low Society and Resonance's Open Door Society, and Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Tulsa. Phyllis is a lifetime member of St. John's Medical Center Auxiliary and Saint Simeon's Volunteer Auxiliary.

Her work has been honored by the Ronald McDonald House, Mental Health Association, Women in Communications, Simmons College and the Tulsa Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives.

In 1970, Phyllis and husband, George were considering a move to Tulsa; that's when she met Junior League member Peggy Helmerich.

"Peggy told me about the Junior League of Tulsa's many outstanding projects, the unparalleled training opportunities, and the ability

to meet many new friends. Peggy was my Sustaining sponsor in 1973 and I will always be grateful," says Dotson.

Today, most of Phyllis's closest friends are Sustaining members of Junior League and they continue their volunteer efforts together all over the city.

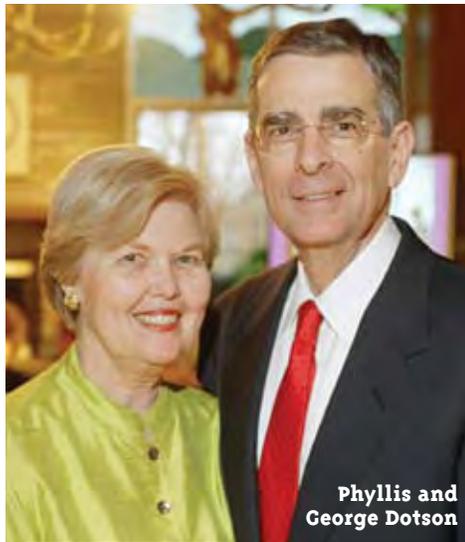
In the 1970's, Phyllis envisioned the Pediatric Enrichment Project (PEP).

"I realized why Junior League has been so successful in all community projects it starts. First we spent a year as a Research and Development committee doing a feasibility study, membership assessment and then the careful planning of a potential project with budget and manpower. PEP led to outstanding leadership

and involvement by so many Junior League members, a community advisory board, the development of a pediatric health fair and a relationship with all the hospitals. All this paved the way for the start of the Tulsa Ronald McDonald House which reflects the best of Junior League and Tulsa!

Phyllis states, "I often say if people ask how I would want to be thought of or remembered by future generations, it's simple, our legacy

is the life we lead. Nowhere is that better expressed than in what the Junior League of Tulsa has taught us to do. Look for challenges, dream solutions and then make them happen by positioning them for long-term success. I am deeply honored to be inducted into this year's Tulsa Hall of Fame along with my dear friend and Junior League colleague, Linda Frazier. We both have been very active in our years in Tulsa and just like the breadth of JLTs' talent, training, and capabilities, our causes have taken different paths; but our passion for helping Tulsa and all Tulsans' has been identical. I am grateful to the Junior League of Tulsa and all the members I know and admire. It is also an honor to be in the company of all the past well-deserved Junior League of Tulsa honorees!"



Phyllis and George Dotson



Linda Frazier

Linda Frazier is a past president of the Junior League of Tulsa, the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa, Chamber Music Tulsa, the Alliance Francaise de Tulsa, and the Ruskin Art Club. She was the founding chair of the Harwelden Institute, an arts education program of the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa. She served on the Oklahoma Arts Council for nine years, four of those as chair. She continues to fill a mayoral appointment on the Tulsa Arts Commission and was chair of that commission during the selection of art for the BOK Center.

Frazier currently serves as president of the board of directors of the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra and as a member of the boards of the Mid-American Arts Alliance, Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa, Tulsa Ballet, Oklahoma Arts Institute, Chamber Music Tulsa and the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation.

Her honors include the Governor's Arts award in 1991, Marilyn Douglas Award in 1995, Pinnacle Awards in 1990 and 2000, DePauw University Community Service in 2007, Charles E. Norman Harwelden and Distinguished Service Award in 2008.

Linda's love of the arts goes back to her childhood; thanks to her parents and the arts education in Tulsa Public Schools.

"My volunteer path in the arts originates unquestionably with the Junior League of Tulsa. How fortunate I was to work on Project Gemini with Liddy Doenges and be at the inception of the wonderful partnership of the Junior League, the Tulsa Public Schools,

the Tulsa Hall of Fame

18 Junior League of Tulsa members have been honored by induction to the Tulsa Hall of Fame:

Linda Sellen Frazier	2009
Phyllis N. Dotson	2009
Roxana Rozsa Lorton	2008
Billie Barnett	2007
Sally Minshall	2007
Francis O'Hornett	2006
Ann Graves	2005
Margery Mayo Bird	2002
Nancy Meinig	2001
Marylouise Tandy Cowan	2000
Florence L. J. Barnett	1999
Mary Veasey Leech	1995
Ruth G. Hardman	1995
Betty B. Bradstreet	1994
Leta Chapman	1994
Pauline Walter	1994
Peggy Helmerich	1993
Kathleen P. Westby	1991

and the Arts and Humanities Council that led to programs now serving over 150,000 students of Tulsa County. That experience was extraordinary training. I watched how the Junior League did research, brought the right people to the table, and served as the catalyst for creating programs that would make a difference in our city. I also learned how important it is to treat volunteer responsibilities as you would professional responsibilities and apply the highest standards to everything you do. And, most of all, I learned the rich reward of working with remarkably talented people, like Phyllis Dotson, and forming enduring and treasured friendships," she said.

Linda is passionate about the importance of the arts to the education of children.

"Engagement with the arts helps children learn how to learn and puts them on a path to lifelong joy and success. Tulsa is truly distinguished by its arts organizations, and every child in our schools should have the opportunity not only to have arts

instruction as part of their daily curriculum but to experience these rich community resources, such as the symphony, ballet, opera, theatre, and our extraordinary museums." Frazier stated.

She is equally passionate about the critical role of the arts in the future of our city and feels that although the arts are wonderful for their own sake they are also vital in attracting businesses and individuals to come to Tulsa to live, work and play. "It is in the interest of Tulsa's business community and they must be a part of our civic agenda," declares Linda.

A favorite quote of Phyllis' is by the historian and author David McCullough: "What is our attitude to be . . . What we love? What do we want our children to see that we love . . . if we want a culture that counts for something, it's up to us. We must get busy and make it happen." Linda also adds, ". . . and knowing Tulsa, I am confident that we will!"

SAVE THE DATE!

January

- 1** **New Years Day**
JLT offices closed until January 4th.
- 13** **Laura Dester IMPACT**
Committee activity at shelter.
- 20** **General Meeting**
JLT meeting at 6:30pm held in the Mabee room. Join us for Brinner. . .breakfast for dinner!! The brinner will be complete with mimosas! Membership council will be handing out prizes this evening as a thank-you to our valued membership.
- 27** **Laura Dester IMPACT**
Committee activity at shelter.

February

- 6** **Decadence "Diamonds & Denim"**
A fun evening with live & silent auction at the Summit Club with live band Admiral Twin.
- 10** **Laura Dester IMPACT**
Committee activity at shelter.

14

Founders' Scholarship Deadline
JLT will award two \$1,500 Founders' Scholarships. Completed applications must be received by 5 o'clock. For more information, log on to www.jltulsa.org.

17
19

JLT - U
Training opportunities for our members.

Gusher Deadline
Feature JLT's latest events and happenings in the Spring issue. Submit your pictures and stories to gusher@jltulsa.org.

Laura Dester IMPACT
Committee activity at shelter.

24

March

3
10

Laura Dester IMPACT
Committee activity at shelter.

General Meeting
League meeting at 6:30 held in the Mabee room. The 2010-2011 Chair Announcements will be made!

17

Laura Dester IMPACT
Committee activity at shelter.

Thank you to our generous sponsors, in-kind donors, volunteers and the community for making the sixth annual American Girl Fashion Show fundraiser a success.



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Meet your Junior League of Tulsa Board Members:

Shea Eby

Community Program VP

PLACE OF BIRTH: Webster, Texas

PROVISIONAL YEAR: 2005

EDUCATION: University of Mississippi-Broadcast Journalism Major

FAMILY: Husband-Rick, Daughter-Chandler 7, Son-Seth 4, and a baby due in April.

EMPLOYMENT: I'm taking a mommy break.



Shea and Rick Eby with Chandler and Seth

HOBBIES / INTERESTS:

Being outside, biking, snowboarding, photography, scuba diving

FAVORITE SPORT: I enjoy basketball.

FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:

Growing up in Colorado, my family and I would hike all day in our moon boots and finally find the perfect Christmas tree in the mountains for our home.

GOAL YET TO ACHIEVE:

Mountain biking in Moab.

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT SO FAR: Professionally, winning Promax gold and silver awards and a regional Emmy for producing a Seinfeld promotional campaign while working as a Promotions Producer at KDVR FOX 31 in Denver.

HAVE YOU LEARNED ANY SKILL IN LEAGUE THAT YOU HAVE APPLIED TO OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE? Working successfully as a team.

IF YOU COULD TRAVEL BACK IN TIME: I would spend time with my parents as young adults and experience what life was like when they were growing up.

IF TIME AND MONEY WERE NO OBJECT: I would travel the world on the ocean with my husband and kids.

MY FAVORITE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY: Helping the Global Gardens students outside in their gardens. I also enjoyed helping the models from American Girl get ready for the fashion show. They were so excited to walk on the runway.

FAVORITE FOOD OR RESTAURANT: I love soups. I enjoy making them too.

FAVORITE PLACE YOU HAVE TRAVELED: Jamaica

OTHER RELATIVES IN JUNIOR LEAGUE (ACTIVE OR SUSTAINING): My mother-in-law, Gayle Eby was in the Junior League of Tulsa. My sister-in-law, Tucker Humphrey, was a member of the Junior League of St. Louis.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN JLT: The Junior League has gotten me involved in the Tulsa community in a time in my life when I can give back. It has been really rewarding knowing that I am making a difference.

ADVICE TO PROVISIONALS: I read this piece of advice when I was a provisional: the more you put into Junior League, the more you get out. I believe this. Don't be afraid to try something new. JLT is a great place to learn new skills.

Kim Smith

Recording Secretary

PLACE OF BIRTH: Kennett, MO

PROVISIONAL YEAR: 1991

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Music Education from University of Tulsa; Juris Doctor from University of Tulsa

FAMILY: Husband, Bob Stanley and four darling furry children (cats): Tipper, Arnie, Leo & Shelly (named after Shelly Drullinger, JLT President when I found my Shelly in the JLT parking lot)

EMPLOYMENT: Social Security Administration Office of Disability Adjudication & Review, Senior Case Tech & Scheduler

HOBBIES / INTERESTS: gourmet cooking, traveling, ballet, music, art, reading

FAVORITE SPORT: Baseball, but I am an Olympic junkie--winter or summer, doesn't matter, just put me in front of the TV and I'm in heaven--I enjoy the less televised sports--curling, equestrian, anything you don't usually see live on or TV

FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: Going to Annapolis, MD and seeing all those cute sailors in their white uniforms!

GOAL YET TO ACHIEVE: Having more time and money to contribute to causes that are near & dear to my heart

HAVE YOU LEARNED ANY SKILL IN JUNIOR LEAGUE THAT YOU HAVE APPLIED TO OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE? Fundraising, desktop publishing, website design/maintenance, how to write a press release

IF YOU COULD TRAVEL BACK IN TIME: I would love to live during the 1940's to experience the fabulous sounds of the big bands and to participate in the spirit and pride of a nation brought together by World War II

IF TIME AND MONEY WERE NO OBJECT: I would contribute more to the Tulsa community, I would travel the world and I would open the most fabulous gourmet food store in the universe!

FAVORITE JLT PLACEMENT/WHY? Generally whatever I am doing that year, but I did LOVE Blooming Deals and Holiday Market...but I also LOVED Pipeline and IMPACT...

MY FAVORITE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY: Planning special events and PR for an event

FAVORITE PLACE YOU HAVE TRAVELED: Since I just got back from a month in Italy, I'd have to say it is Italy but Turkey was also quite exciting and historical. In the states it would be Boston. I love history!



Bob Stanley and Kim Smith

OTHER RELATIVES IN JUNIOR LEAGUE (ACTIVE OR SUSTAINING): My sister was a member of the Kansas City League

ADVICE TO PROVISIONALS: Place on a committee where you will learn something new. Communications Council can teach you all kinds of marketable skills PLUS it is fun!



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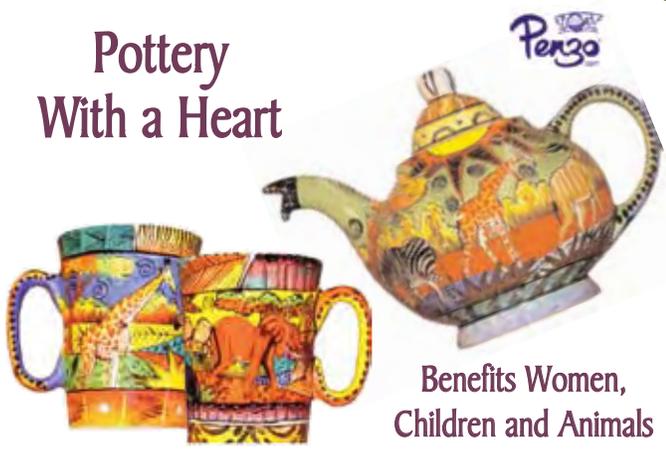


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Sheltering Our Children

The Laura Dester Children's Shelter Gets a New Home

By Mary Anne Thoman

shelter

n

1. something that provides cover or protection, as from weather or danger; place of refuge
2. the protection afforded by such a cover; refuge
3. the state of being sheltered

vb

1. (*tr*) to provide with or protect by a shelter
2. (*intr*) to take cover, as from rain; find refuge
3. (*tr*) to act as a shelter for; take under one's protection

As a verb, the Laura Dester Shelter has been caring for children at the present site since 1979. These children have been removed from an immediate danger or an unsafe environment or abandonment and placed into the protective custody of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) and therefore the Laura Dester Shelter. The shelter is a temporary emergency shelter for children, ages 0 through 17 years, providing refuge and protection physically, sexually, and emotionally through a caring staff and dedicated volunteers including Junior League of Tulsa Laura Dester IMPACT committee members.

As a noun, Laura Dester Shelter has given these children a roof over their heads and a warm bed to sleep in. It has served them well at the present site for 31 years. However, the current location has long since passed the point of simple repair; it's time and it's necessary, for the health and wellbeing of our children, to build a new and safer facility. Ground was broken on the new Laura Dester Shelter on January 9, 2009, with an expected completion in May 2010. Junior League members will have the opportunity to assist with an open house prior to the children moving in, date to be announced. .

History

OKDHS assumed responsibility for the Tulsa children's shelter in 1964. Before that date the Juvenile Bureau of the Tulsa District Court had the responsibility. The current shelter facility served as the Tulsa Boys home from 1948 to 1979 when it was purchased by OKDHS. The current site is a twenty-four hour, non-secure facility with three dorms and an administration building with other buildings on the campus site used as OKDHS offices.

The residence for the younger children (ages 0 to 4 years), commonly referred to as "the little house", was formerly a caretaker's house, which has been added on to and expanded to accommodate more beds. This building is one story with a small kitchen, a dining room area, living room, playroom, and one office; bedrooms contain multiple beds and cribs. A cramped storage area for clothing and a medical clinic make use of every inch of space.

The residences for the older children, commonly referred to as

"the middle house and big house", are in two, two-story buildings; the sleeping quarters are on the second floor with bedrooms containing multiple beds. One of the residences has a nurse's office, kitchen and dining room. The present shelter has no facilities for indoor recreation during inclement weather, one of many challenges the new shelter will resolve.

A New Beginning

The design and environment for the new shelter was researched by a panel of community citizens, local agency representatives, OKDHS administrators, and architects. Consultation was sought from local and national leaders in the area of childhood trauma. Modern residential facilities were visited. The new shelter will address many issues the current shelter cannot with the ultimate goal of providing a comforting, healing environment for children traumatized by abuse and neglect.

The new Laura Dester Shelter will have an administration building/ activity building and four cottages. One cottage will house the infants, particularly those with older siblings. Although OKDHS is constantly working to develop a good supply of Emergency Foster Care homes in the Tulsa area, these children sometimes take longer to place because of the need to keep the sibling group together. Two other cottages will provide a total of 32 shelter beds for the older children.

Cottage C will house a Reception/Assessment Center so OKDHS employees can perform diligent search, background checks and fingerprinting. The bedroom wing of this cottage is presently planned for overflow shelter beds as well as respite shelter for teens who have aged out of the program, but occasionally return to the shelter with no place to go.

With one driveway in and out of the property the new shelter will offer safety features not available in the present shelter. Security fencing will surround the entire campus and all visitors will enter and check in at one place- the administration building. This feature will be enjoyed by our JLT volunteers who currently meet after dark in a non-secure parking lot to go over the census and divide into the houses for enrichment activities.

Some of Laura Dester IMPACT Committee members visit the construction site: Mary Catherine Ward, Christy Gilliam, Amanda Chalmers, Kim Eshelman, and Chair, Mary Anne Thoman.



Somewhere the Child

**Among the thousands of tiny things
growing up all over the land,
some of them under my very wing –
watched and tended, unwatched and
untended, loved, unloved, protected
from danger, thrust into temptation –
among them somewhere is the child
who will write the novel that will
stir men's hearts to nobler issues
and incite them to better deeds.**

**There is the child who will paint
the greatest picture or carve the greatest
statue of the age; another who will
deliver his country in an hour of peril;
another who will give his life for
a great principle; and another, born
more of the spirit than of the flesh,
who will live continually on the
heights of moral being, and
dying, draw men after him.**

**It may be that I shall preserve
one of these children to the race.
It is a peg big enough on which
to hang a hope, for every child
born into the world is a new
incarnate thought of God, an ever
fresh and radiant possibility.**

~Kate Douglas Wiggin

Opportunity: Be a part of the solution

The Junior League of Tulsa currently supports the children of Laura Dester Shelter through our volunteer efforts providing enrichment activities and the much needed attention of warm, stable, caring adults. Through our activities we have seen firsthand the genuine need for a new shelter. In light of this JLT has secured \$10,000 to support TAPC's worthy efforts and help fund a playground at the new shelter. If you would want to be a part of this important community effort, additional donations will be graciously accepted. Please call or email Laura Dester IMPACT Chair, Mary Anne Thoman, (918) 748-8088 or tourguidе.barbie@cox.net.

One story cottages will have a "clear line of sight" down all hallways and each child will have his/her own individual sleeping area and bathroom. The common areas in cottages will be designed to split children and youth into groups instead of having them all combined.

Program opportunities will be enhanced due to the building design specific rooms for learning, counseling, physical examination, family counseling, visitation, etc. There will be indoor facilities for activities and play when inclement weather limits outdoor activities.

The Junior League of Tulsa is helping to fund one of four outdoor play spaces with equipment designed to meet safety and developmental needs of specific ages. An outdoor basketball court and spaces for baseball and soccer spaces will encourage and facilitate playing together. Walkways and tricycle paths will line the campus.

From Dream to Reality

Building a new shelter has been a 13 year-long dream that has become a reality due to the hard work and diligence of the Tulsa Advocates for the Protection of Children (TAPC). Funding for such a project comes not just from the state but in larger part from the private sector and the community. Without TAPC's tireless efforts spearheading the capitol campaign the new shelter would not be a reality.

TAPC is a non-profit organization of community volunteers, committed to improving the lives of children and youth in the child welfare system. For over 14 years, TAPC has invested in a campaign of advocacy and fundraising on behalf of the Laura Dester Shelter's children. TAPC's vision is a safe, modern, developmentally appropriate emergency shelter for our children who have been abused and neglected. Today this dream is being realized. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Tulsa Community Foundation, and Tulsa Advocates for the Protection of Children joined forces in a public/private partnership to fulfill this vision.

Julie Gustafson, TAPC Board member and Co-Chairman of Tulsa County Emergency Children's Shelter's Capital Campaign remarks, "As I walk through the building site of Tulsa's new emergency shelter and see its buildings rise and take shape, I feel relief. The children's safety and special developmental needs are being addressed and the indoor living areas are pleasantly bathed in sunshine from high windows. My heart swells with thanksgiving when I think of our generous donors, who are making this shelter a reality, so that our most vulnerable children will feel, for maybe the first time in their lives, that they are special, and safe, and hopeful."



IMPACT

By Belinda Hedgecock

What do you think of when you hear the word “impact”? Do you think of the following meanings, such as “to pack together, to influence strongly or to have a strong effect upon”? The word impact dates back to 1601 and still has the same emphasis today as it did years ago, at least to the IMPACT committee of the Junior League of Tulsa.

The current IMPACT committee consists of 20 women who feel empowered to make a difference in the Tulsa community one project at a time. The membership includes: Belinda Hedgecock, IMPACT Chair; Jennifer Bennett, Courtney Cain, Jamie Cooper, Molly Crawford, Katie Culver, Kelly Feemster, Stephanie Leonard, Allison Loehr, Lacey Matney, Melissa Mize, Andra Nelson, Jana Painter, Beth Pielsticker, Casey Reed, Kristal Sack, Abby Schroeder, Heather Sher, Lindsey Vedros and Jennifer Walling.

At the beginning of the League year, these women gathered to review and evaluate applications they received over the summer from Green Country organizations. These organizations were asking for assistance with upcoming projects and events, which would not be possible without League support.

IMPACT worked tirelessly to try to accept the majority of requests resulting in more than 15 “Done in a Day” type projects throughout the year. The requests are as diverse as the women performing them, but all equally rewarding.

During the year projects will include: Youth at Heart, a special bowling event with disadvantaged youth; decorating at the OASIS Adult Day Center and spending time with some of the adults and senior citizens who spend their days there; as well as providing staffing and gifts for holiday parties for organizations such as CASA, The Mother’s Group and the Down Syndrome Association. The committee is very excited to know they are going to be providing over 200 new books for children at these events as well as leading them in craft activities and other holiday celebrations.

Stephanie Leonard and Molly Crawford posing for the camera with Youth at Heart bowlers.



However, the work continues after the first of the year with many product donation drives for organizations such as the Parent Child Center, Tulsa Area Burn Survivors and Family and Children Services. These organizations are continually in need of materials for their clients who are expecting children; may suffer from mental illness and living on the streets of Tulsa; or have had to leave home in the middle of the night due to a fire with nothing but the clothes on their backs. IMPACT will be creating care packages, as well as hosting baby showers for young families who need the basic necessities for their newborns.

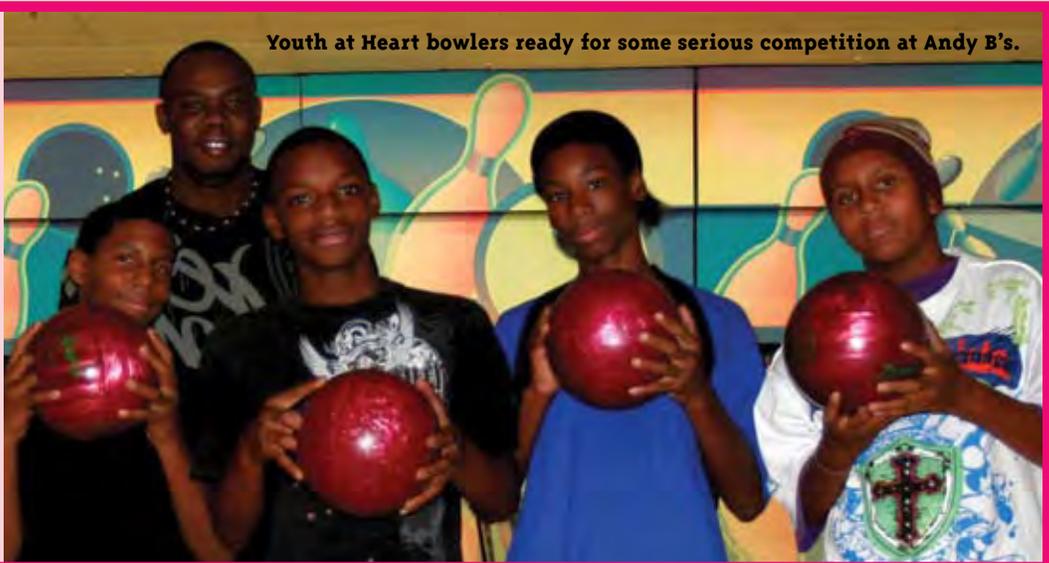
Since IMPACT is able to have such involved contact with the Tulsa community, several of the members have asked to be placed on the committee more than once. In fact, a few have even been on the committee three times! This is a testament to how rewarding the projects are not only to the clients but also to the Junior League members.

Another large project taking place in the spring under IMPACT’s watchful eye will be the *Kids in the Kitchen* program. The KITK was originated by the Association of Junior Leagues International and is now hosted by Junior Leagues throughout the country. This year JLT will be partnering again with Tulsa Public Schools to promote the Get Fit Challenge. The Challenge promotes healthy eating habits and exercise among youth in the community. Watch for more details in upcoming issues of *Gusher* regarding this event.

Current IMPACT Events:

- Youth at Heart
- OASIS Day Center
- Project 12
- Family and Children Services
- CASA
- Tulsa Area Burn Survivors
- McKinley Elementary
- Cooper Elementary
- Kids in the Kitchen
- Parent Child Center
- DVIS
- The Mother’s Group
- Down Syndrome Association

Youth at Heart bowlers ready for some serious competition at Andy B’s.



Katie Culver and Lacey Matney proudly join Youth at Heart participants.

Lacey Matney is all smiles after a few games of bowling with some of her new Youth at Heart friends.



If you know of an organization or association who could benefit from assistance of the IMPACT committee please contact Belinda Hedgecock, IMPACT Chair, at thehedgecocks@cox.net or 605-7265 for more details on how to complete an application or if you are interested in contributing to one of their current projects.

Plus, if you know of an organization or association who could benefit from assistance of the IMPACT committee please contact Belinda Hedgecock the IMPACT Chair at thehedgecocks@cox.net or 918.605.7265 for more details on how to complete an application or if you are interested in contributing to one of their current projects.

2009-2010 Community Projects

Each year the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) conducts in-depth research to identify critical emerging needs within our community and respond by developing projects to address those needs. Through collaboration with sponsoring agencies, intensive training of our membership, and direct service through volunteer hours and fund development, JLT strives to establish each community project as self-supporting before it is returned to its sponsoring agency for long-term implementation, usually within three years. This unique leadership model has allowed JLT to serve a vital role in the success of Tulsa's most prominent community agencies, such as Ronald McDonald House, Youth Services of Tulsa, Mayfest and the Francis Willard Home for Girls, while providing essential training for Tulsa's next generation of community volunteers. Current community projects of the Junior League of Tulsa include:

The Children's Hospital at St. Francis Family Resource Library Signature Project

Chair: Kathleen Jones

JLT volunteers staff the Family Resource Library in the new Children's Hospital at Saint Francis to assist families in obtaining information about their child's medical condition and help them become informed participants in the health care process. In conjunction with this project, JLT also donated \$25,000 to the hospital to completely furnish the library.

Scholarship

Chair: Ronda Lau

This committee oversees all aspects of awarding two \$1,500 scholarships to high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to volunteerism. Also, the committee will oversee the awarding of a \$1,500 need-based scholarship to a woman in transition living in our community. The committee will also work to maintain contact with former recipients.

Laura Dester

Chair: Mary Anne Thoman

This committee provides volunteer assistance to the Laura Dester Children's Shelter. A variety of "Done in a Day" projects are chosen, planned, and implemented by the committee with direction from shelter staff.

Resonance Connecting Women with Careers- Career Services

Chair: Betsy Endicott

This project provides financial assistance and volunteers to support the Career Services Program at Resonance Center for Women, Inc. The Career Services Program currently provides job readiness and life skills training for women re-entering the community from the state and federal criminal justice system.

Impact

Chair: Belinda Hedgecock

Impact provides short-term volunteer assistance to 501(c)(3) organizations in the Tulsa community. Organizations apply for assistance and short-term ("Done in a Day") projects are chosen, planned, and implemented by the committee. Also falling under this committee is *Kids in the Kitchen*, a national initiative designed to promote healthy eating and lifestyles among children. In addition, we also participate in the Tulsa Metro Chamber's Partners in Education through our activities at Project 12, an alternative learning environment in the Tulsa Public Schools.

Community Schools - Global Gardens

Chair: Elizabeth Edwards

JLT works with Community Schools to provide financial assistance and volunteers to expand the Global Gardens after-school program to establish garden spaces for high-risk students and their families at Rosa Parks Elementary School. Global Gardens also serves about 30 third-grade through fifth-grade students at Eugene Field Elementary School and with JLT's assistance, the project has expanded to Rosa Parks.



President-elect Cassie Barkett revealed the 2010 – 2011 JLI Board members to each other at a “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” party in December.

Back Left to Right: Leslie Frazier, Kim Smith, Neil Dieterle, Jennifer Roberson

Front Left to Right: Jennie Wolek, Liz Brolick, Mary Anne Thoman, Ronda Lau, Meg Watkins, Cassie Barkett, Sarah Dougherty, Kathleen Jones

Not Pictured: Heather Duncan



Photo taken at the etiquette training sponsored by the Training & Education Committee at JLI headquarters on Wednesday, October 21.

Left to Right: Tina Holden, Jenny Belford, Jana Christian, The Etiquette School of Oklahoma, Jill Corey, and Sarah Franzen.

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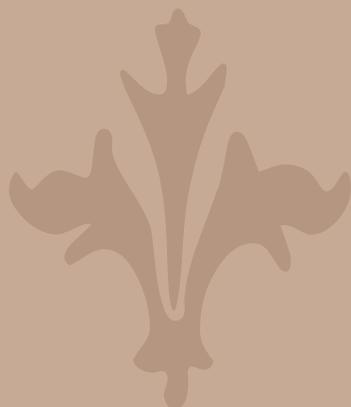
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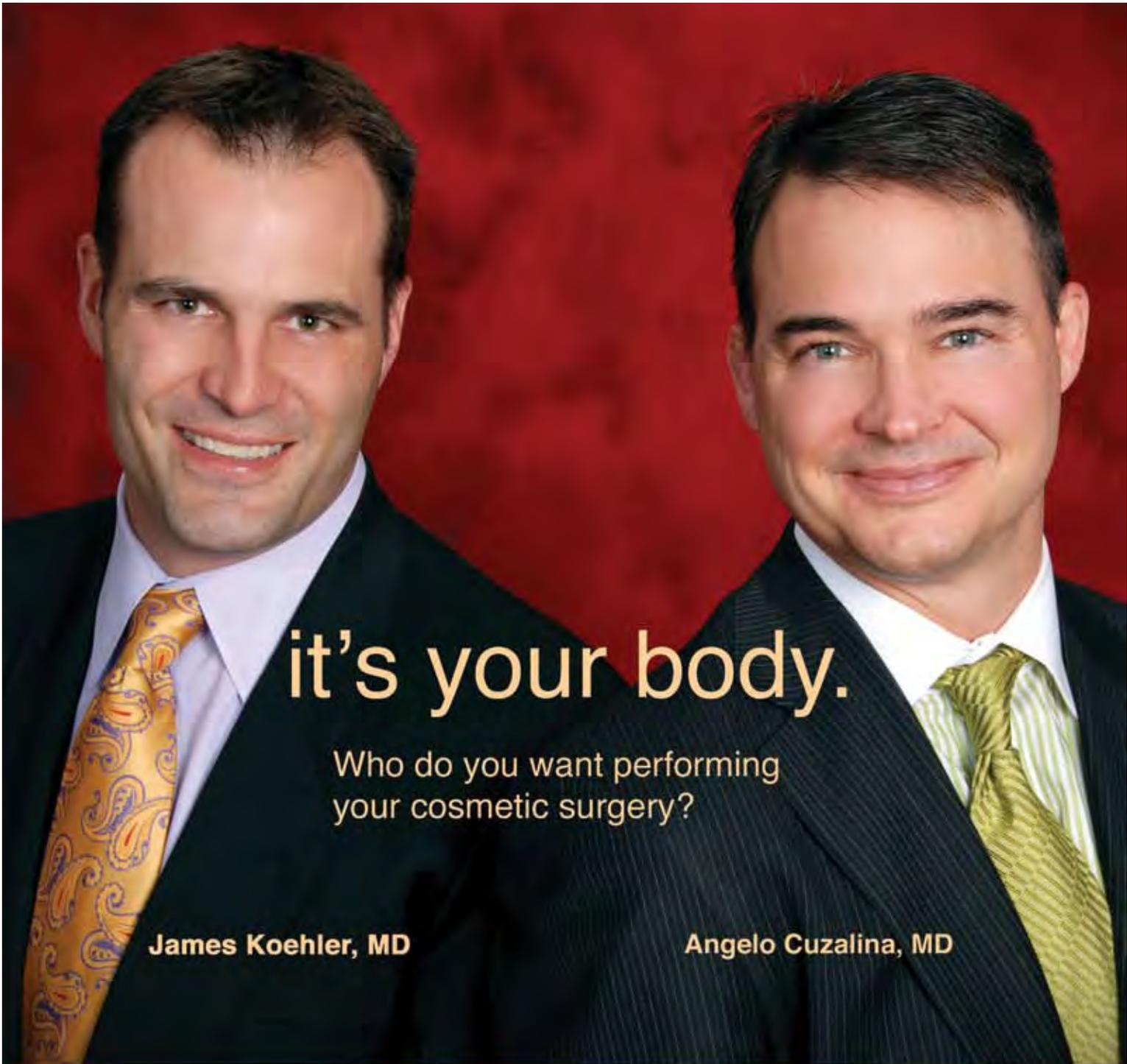
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