GEORGE EASTMAN ON DEVELOPING MARKETS.

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Editor: Lynn Liddell
Assistant Editor: Amy Walker
Production Editor: Michele Zaytoun
Advertising Manager: Lynn Liddell
Business Manager: Nancy Lamson

Writers:
Cynthia Andros
Vivian Blount
Elizabeth Caldwell
Chris Campbell
Anne O'Shea Cosic
Laurinda Fort
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Graphic Artist: Mary Jones Mills
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SUMMER 1989
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI, INC.

THE YEAR OF THE MEMBER

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:
The cover was designed by Mary Jones Mills, Graphic Artist for Tropical Topics.

"The purpose for which this corporation is formed is exclusively educational and charitable and is to promote volunteerism, to develop the potential of its members for voluntary participation in community affairs, and to demonstrate the effectiveness of trained volunteers."

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A very special year in my life has just come to an end. It has been challenging, exciting and gratifying and I have loved (almost) every minute of it! When people ask if I’m relieved the year is over, I have to admit there is a sense of relief and anticipation of rest and a not-so- hectastic schedule. On the other hand, when all the memories of the avalanche of paper which overtook me and all the interminable meetings and rules and regulations have faded from my mind, it will be memories of YOU, the wonderful women of the Junior League of Miami, that will remain always with me.

This year I was President but YOU, the membership, did the work. I have done little, other than show up with the gavel, the Board notebook and our numerous handouts! Because each of YOU fully did your part, this has been a banner year!

You have orchestrated and supported Miami Magic raising $114,000.00 for our community. You have faithfully brought in your quota and diligently worked your shifts at the Encore Shop once again making this successful fund raiser contribute $50,000.00 towards our community projects. You have researched our community and provided the League with six wonderful projects for next year. You have hosted a Legislative breakfast, published five issues of Tropical Topics, produced a new Public Relations Campaign and honored all volunteers during National Volunteer Week. YOU are incredible!

YOU have served the women in our community through the numerous hours YOU spent in establishing our newly purchased 12 unit Transitional Home and through a very successful public service campaign on women and alcohol. YOU have recognized twenty-six outstanding high school women volunteers who received the Katherine Menke Miller award. YOU helped women in need through the Community Enabling Fund. YOU are dedicated!

YOU worked to improve the quality of life of Miami’s children by coordinating the entire volunteer program at the McLamore Center and producing its quality newsletter. YOU gave 5,000 children the opportunity to learn all about ballet and YOU enriched the Miami City Ballet’s repertoire by commissioning two new ballets. YOU provided leadership on numerous community boards and continuously advocated for better child care on the state, local and federal level. YOU gave children at Modello a brand new playground and because of YOU, 2,000 children in Miami enjoyed the unique Kaleidoscope art experience. YOU are committed!

YOU have educated 64 talented new provisionals. YOU have made our meetings festive and fun, recognized our members in many different ways, spent time completely revamping the role of our placement advisors and taken great leaps in the operations of our headquar-

ters. YOU have provided outstanding and informative programs, wonderful training opportunities and another historic brochure. YOU are remarkable!

YOU have paid our bills, developed a comprehensive set of guidelines and policies and planned for the future. YOU shared our holiday celebration with the important ladies in your families, hosted the Area III Presidents elect and travelled back in time for a fantastic 60’s party. YOU are caring and fun!

YOU have touched lives throughout this community, but no life has been greater touched than my own. Being president of the Junior League of Miami has indeed been an honor and a privilege. Please know you have given so much more than I could possibly give back to you. Thank you, each and every special one of you, for making this one of the best years of my life! I will treasure the memories and friendships always.

I’d like to end with a quotation from the movie “Dirty Dancing” which truly sums up this year for me:

“I’ve had the time of my life
No, I’ve never felt this way before
Yes, I swear it’s the truth and I owe it all to you.
‘Cause I’ve had the time of my life
and I owe it all to you.

Love and thanks,
Cris
Ronni Bermont
President
1989 - 1990

Shared Leadership

The Junior League offers many opportunities for leadership. One of these is President, and I am honored to have been elected to this position. However, I ask all of the membership to share in the leadership of the Junior League of Miami.

It is our League and it takes all of us to make a successful year. Each one of us is part of the circle. The circle represents our community efforts and projects, fundraising, and supportive and administrative needs. The circle is not complete unless we all work together to strive for our mutual goal of bettering our community.

Shared leadership to me means supporting one another, team building, reaching consensus and commitment, while developing and maintaining camaraderie.

All leaders face their share of challenges, rewards, difficulties, and successes. Part of being a leader is the realization that coping with unexpected challenges is included in the job description. We can never have an exact job description, because we can not anticipate every circumstance which may arise. Especially with the elimination of the credit system, and the establishment of “job descriptions,” it is imperative that we all do our fair share in the coming year.

I want to share with you a quote that truly sums up this year’s theme:

Tell me — and I’ll forget.
Show me — and I’ll remember.
Involve me — and I’ll understand.

Fondly,
Ronni
SUSTAINER LEADERSHIP

Garlin Lewis  
Sustainer President  
1988 - 1989

Whoever said that life begins at 40 must have had the Junior League Sustainers in mind. This past year, we renewed old friendships, made new ones, and challenged ourselves with a variety of interesting and stimulating activities.

Responding to the Sustainers’ Questionnaire, the committee planned a number of different programs to meet the needs and interests of our growing and diverse group. Recognizing the fact that many Sustainers are now employed, several evening functions were scheduled. Two lovely cocktail parties were held at the Paynes’ and Greenfields’ homes. We spent an evening at the Coconut Grove Theatre enjoying the controversial off-Broadway opening of Fame. Another evening event was held at The Biltmore Hotel Spa, where we sampled spa cuisine and had the opportunity to ask questions of a well-known plastic surgeon. Our newly established Book of the Month Club, facilitated by Aubrey Lunsford, Lamar Noriega, and Sylvia Leslie, met in the evening as well as the daytime.

Daytime activities included coffees that were held at the homes of Joan Capen, Arva Parks, and Pat Sullivan, and, a fascinating tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit at the Center for the Fine Arts followed by a gourmet luncheon with a panoramic view of Miami from the Executive Dining Room at Barnett Bank. Our thanks to Hugh Gentry for making the luncheon possible.

Not only did the Sustainers enjoy the conviviality of social gatherings, but we broadened our horizons through stimulating presentations by Bill Cullom, Executive Director of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce; Arva Parks, renowned historian and community activist; and Nancy Husted, the brilliant and witty book reviewer.

I cannot end the year without expressing my sincere appreciation to all of the Sustainers who made the year such fun for all of us. I could not have done it without the able assistance of Pat Bowker, Lynda Killingsworth, Betty Hartnett, Clarice Luhm, and Sonya Ryskamp. And now, with Priscilla Greenfield as the incoming chairman, we can all look forward to an eventful and stimulating year to come.

Garlin Lewis

Priscilla Moss Greenfield  
Sustainer President  
1989 - 1990
Year End Review

Cris Mendoza hands gavel to 1989-1990 President Ronni Bermont.

Donna Underwood presents plaque to Miami Magic Co-Chairman Linda Hoppe.

Cris Mendoza presents plaque to Mary Cagle as Chairman for Modello Project which was selected as Model Project at Annual Conference.

Victor and Cris Mendoza with Victor, Jr., Andy and Nicole.

Sara Herald, winner of Rebecca Herndon Bush Award, with Cris Mendoza and Lucy Batchelor.

Cris Mendoza congratulates PR Chairman Lauretta Fogg on PR Brochure which was recognized at Annual Conference.

Frances Duhe, Encore Shop Chairman, presents check to League.

Linda Hoppe, Miami Magic Co-Chairman, presents check to League.
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Ownership.
At Publix, almost every employee is a stockholder in the company. You can see a difference, every time you shop. The difference is the owners. Publix. Where shopping is a pleasure.
Community Advisory Board

League Selects New Advisory Board

The Junior League of Miami is pleased to announce its new Board of Community Advisors whose expertise and knowledge will be valuable resources in informing us of community needs, in communicating our purpose and programs to the community, and in advising us, when needed, in their particular area of expertise. The Community Board will meet twice a year and serve a term of two years. They will be kept up-to-date on League activities and are to make themselves or their designees available for information and advice.

The Junior League is very proud to introduce the outstanding civic, cultural, and business leaders who have agreed to serve on our Board of Community Advisors.

Barbara Carey
William Gladstone
Ruth Kassewitz
Michael Krop

Carrie Meek
Leslie Pantin, Jr.
Janet Reno

For this issue, Tropical Topics writer, Cynthia Andros, interviewed Leslie Pantin, Jr., Janet Reno, and William Gladstone and asked them what major change they would like to see in Miami? The following is Cynthia’s report.

by Cynthia Andros

In keeping with the major purpose of the Junior League of Miami, namely, to produce positive change in Miami and to help communities or individuals who need help, and in order to facilitate its effectiveness in its pursuit, we posed the following questions to three concerned movers and shakers, who make up the newly formed Community Advisory Board, to get an idea of what they thought are the issues that need attention. They were asked what major change they would like to see in Miami and how might the JLM involve itself in this change.

We first spoke with Leslie Pantin, Jr., a local businessman with extensive experience in insurance, banking, and retail who has become an expert in creating, managing, promoting, and producing world class special events such as Calle Ocho and Carnival Miami here in Miami’s Little Havana district. In addition, Mr. Pantin is the founder of the Kiwanis Club of Little Havana, now one of the most important civic clubs in Miami, and has been active in numerous special events such as the Miami Grand Prix, the Orange Bowl, the Miss Universe/USA Pageants, the 1987 Papal Visit, and Super Bowl XXIII. When asked what change he would like to see in Miami, Mr. Pantin said he would like different groups of all respects — cultural, ethnic, social, and business to work together to improve Miami. Furthermore, he feels that the Junior League is already working toward this goal and to keep up the good work.

Our next interview was with Janet Reno, a State Attorney in the Eleventh Judicial Court of Florida. Ms. Reno, quite ready for the question and vehement about her opinion, said she would like to see the organization of an intense, effective, continuous program to attend to the needs of the child at risk. She defined the child at risk as the child who has a handicap due to poverty, neglect, family dislocation or dysfunction, or educational disadvantage. Ms. Reno is very pleased with the present League projects such as Modello and Charlie, which deal with this problem, and would like to see continued effort in these areas. In addition she added that the JLM has done a great job to date in light of its resources and hopes it continues with its noteworthy contributions.

Finally, we spoke with Judge William E. Gladstone of the Eleventh Judicial Court of Florida. Judge Gladstone, adamanty concerned with the problems of today’s youth, said he would like to see an increased community interest in and special funding for kids who are neglected or abused and don’t have a chance, due to their family lives or neighborhood, and, to reach these kids before they become delinquent at the junior high-school early adolescent age.

He feels there has been a great deal of talk on this subject and not much action, with the exception of programs such as Charlie, Guardian Ad Litem, and the Governor’s Constituency for Children which have offered invaluable aid. He went on to say that, unfortunately, it
is difficult to change public attitudes and to solve the problem with a simple donation of money. There is a need for education in these issues for people to see the crisis that is building. Additionally, the Judge would like to see education in cocaine and AIDS which, in his opinion, are the two greatest problems in our system today. The Judge is very excited at the marriage of the JLM and the National Council of Jewish Women and feels that this union could be very effective in tackling these issues.

After speaking with these three concerned people it becomes obvious that much work has to be done concerning the problems of children and the JLM is the perfect group to get things started.

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The Kathryn Menke Miller Service Award
In Memory of a Committed Volunteer

by Vivian Blount

The Kathryn Menke Miller Service Award is presented to a graduating senior woman from each of the area’s 26 public high schools in recognition of their volunteer service. Schools are contacted by the League’s Service Award Chairman, (this year’s chairman was Madelin Menacho) and asked to nominate girls who have served either the community or their school on a regular basis. In addition, they must maintain a 2.0 academic and a 3.0 conduct average.

The award, a lucite plaque and a book entitled Gift from the Sea, is presented by a League member either at graduation or at the school’s awards ceremony. The League hopes by acknowledging volunteer services at this age, the recipients will be encouraged to continue volunteering in the future.

The Award was established and first presented in 1985-86 in memory of Kathryn Miller, a JLM member whose commitment and dedication to volunteerism served as an inspiration to all who knew her.

Who was Kathryn Menke Miller? Kathy, as she was called, attended the University of Alabama where she earned a Bachelor’s degree in child development. She went on to teach culturally deprived children in Miramar and then retarded children in Jacksonville while doing graduate work in education. Here lay her major interest — working with and for children, specifically those handicapped in some way. She tried to help them develop positive attitudes and perceptions.

When she came to Miami, she offered to tutor children with learning disabilities at the Easter Seal Demonstration School, as a volunteer, where she stayed for two years. The next year was spent as a first grade teacher for normal children, again as a volunteer, at Leewood Elementary. Because of her desire to help children with problems, she switched to volunteering at the After School House in South Miami which was established to help underprivileged black children from the Lee Park area in South Miami.

An active member, Kathy served on the Public Education Task Force for the Junior League helping to monitor school board meetings in preparation for a study on what makes a good school system and why. As a member of the League’s Child Advocacy Committee, she represented the League on the “Children’s Action Network”, a private organization active in matters involving Florida education during legislative sessions. She also represented the League at SPAC (State Public Affairs Committee) in 1981.

Somehow there was also time to serve as assistant leader in the Boy Scouts and participate in her neighborhood’s civic association.

Her commitment to volunteerism exemplified all that the Junior League stands for. It is in her memory that the Kathryn Menke Miller Service Award is presented.

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THE ENABLING FUND
Special Funds, Special Needs

by Vivian Blount

The Enabling Fund was created to provide financial help to community agencies which have an immediate need for cash but not necessarily for volunteers. The Enabling Fund allows the League to respond to these needs when there is not enough time to go through normal funding procedures.

Applicants are evaluated in accordance with certain guidelines. Only nonprofit entities may receive funds and must submit a written request for a specific project or purpose. The League requests a financial statement, current budget, and budget for the expenditure of the requested funds. Community need for the project or request, as well as the viability of the organization, is also considered.

Money for the Enabling Fund is allocated annually by the Finance Council and a ceiling amount per request is also determined. $10,000 was set aside for the Enabling Fund this year and a ceiling of $1,000 per request was set. This year the Enabling Fund Committee approved four grants totaling $4,000.

The printing of educational packets for school children attending the “Miss Piggy” exhibit at the Miami Youth Museum were paid for with money from the Enabling Fund. Approximately 8,000 students attended the exhibit and received the packet. The contents included games, word searches, and puzzles designed to increase and stimulate children’s awareness of art.

The Health Crisis Network used their funds to assist in providing a holiday celebration for clients and their children. Money was also given to the Liberty Mart to help in reconstruction.

The Gathering, a family shelter for the homeless, also received funds which were used to assist them in their project.

Through the Fund, the Junior League of Miami is able to provide assistance to some of our community’s much needed and important projects and organizations.
The name sounds like something out of the Hi-Tech era — you can just see a character in the movie 2001-A Space Odyssey saying, “Oh yes, that Modello Project . . .” But it’s not something from Hollywood, rather a league project right here in our own back yard.

It is a HUD housing program of 120 units with only 70 of those occupied. (Unfortunately the remainder are uninhabitable.) The makeup of the residents is a sad reminder of this day and age — welfare mothers with small children, the average age of the resident being 11. Crack cocaine is a problem in approximately 80 percent of the households.

The Junior League’s involvement came through at the request of Tom Peterson, who is involved in the Schools and Neighborhood Consortium. He was also a Chief Assistant State Attorney in the employ of Janet Reno when he took a leave of absence to work with the Consortium. (The Consortium consists of The Dade County Schools, Government, and The Dade County State Attorney’s Office.) It was Tom who approached the League for support and Modello was budgeted for $7,800 in 1987-88.

For 1989, the Junior League was again a big supporter of the project with an $8,000 contribution and a committee of 10 — $3,000 went for an on-site grocery store and $5,000 for a children’s playground. The league supporters have also become involved, donating almost $1,000 to construct a bike path around the new playground. The children will now all have an area to ride their big wheels and tricycles.

The networking involved in the Modello Project is overwhelming. During this past year the League has worked with a wide variety of organizations — HUD, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the YWCA, States Attorney Office, HRS, various Optimist Clubs, and the Dade County Schools.

The Junior League has already pledged its support for the coming year with involvement in the Day Care Center. The League is contributing $5,200 towards YWCA on site day care for Modello Children. The remainder will be raised through an “Adopt-A-Child” program.

The Modello Project is a vibrant and exciting Junior League undertaking. With the goal of improving the quality of life for the children, it is one league project in which the rewards are both visible and gratifying.

Modello Committee
Mary Acosta
Mary Cagle (Chairman)
Betsy Knoblock
Rickie McCoy
Mary Beth Merrill
Lyn Panone
Kristi Swartz

Optimist members Mike McCoy and Bob Smith building the Big Wheels Track
Why Didn’t Dade County Vote Yes for Children?

by Sara Herald

As Chairperson of last year’s Family Focus Committee and as an active member of the steering committee for the “Vote Yes for Children” campaign, many people have asked why I think Dade County failed to vote yes for children. The steering committee did everything in its power, with the limited resources that were available, to try and let the voters of Dade County know that in Dade County:

1. While drug abuse threatens the life of virtually every child, we only have facilities to treat 109 youngsters at a time;
2. Over 11,000 reports of child abuse were made last year and approximately 75 abused children went untreated daily because of lack of space in crisis shelters;
3. 12 percent of the babies born at Jackson Memorial Hospital were born with cocaine in their bodies; and
4. Over 3,000 babies are born to teenagers each year.

Despite these facts, and the likelihood that all of these statistics have become increasingly grim, the voters of Dade County soundly defeated the issue.

While overwhelmingly indicating their support for the Establishment of a Juvenile Welfare Board by passing the county charter amendment in September, (this was required in order for the County to establish a Juvenile Welfare Board) voters defeated by almost an equal margin the funding of such a board.

The issue on the ballot in November asked for the authority for the Juvenile Welfare Board to assess up to a maximum of one half mill of ad valorem taxes. If the full half mill were levied, a homeowner with a home valued at $100,000 would pay an additional $37.50 per year. While this seemed to be a small price to pay for children to have a dedicated source of funding, the voters of Dade County simply were not willing to pay any additional money.

I do not believe that any one single reason caused the defeat but rather, the combined effect of these reasons.

1. Lack of funding for the campaign. Corporate donors did not see an economic return in investing in children’s issues. The lack of funding resulted in limited visibility for the campaign which was entirely dependent upon a volunteer effort.
2. The tax issue was on the November ballot instead of the September ballot.

During a presidential election year, there is higher voter turnout. Based upon information from consultants, it appears that high voter turnout results in a greater number of voters approaching the polls with little or no understanding of the issues. (Most people vote against taxes if they don’t understand specifically what the tax is for.)

3. Lack of credibility for the County government. The people, who we did reach and who responded negatively, were overwhelmingly negative. Not because they were against children or necessarily unwilling to pay for children, but because they thought that the County Commissioners (many of whom were up for re-election at the same time in heavily contested battles) were not spending our County tax dollars wisely, were wasting money, and should be held responsible for providing these children’s services out of our existing tax base.

4. Many people were concerned with the fact that live of the nine people on the Board would be gubernatorial appointees. People were concerned regarding the actual interest that these people might have in really understanding the issue.

5. The ballot question itself confused some people because of the references to “juvenile welfare.”

What can we do?

The effort to have a Juvenile Welfare Board established in Dade County is not dead.

The Governor’s Constituency for Children here in Dade County is actively pursuing the possibility of having this issue placed on the ballot during another election when a smaller voter turnout would be anticipated.

We must all do our best to increase the understanding of members of our community, particularly of our business community, so that they understand the long term benefits to be derived from a board whose sole focus and interest would be the children of our community. Anyone interested in working on these efforts should contact the Governor’s Constituency for Children through Paul Hunt at 374-7866.

FCCY Legislative Conference

by Lynn Buscaglia

On April 30th and May 1st, I attended the 13th Florida Center for Children and Youth Legislative Conference in Tallahassee. FCCY is a children’s advocacy organization whose purpose is to lobby to our state legislature on behalf of children.

In his “State of the Child” address, Jack Levine, Executive Director of FCCY, said:

- In the United States, Florida is the 17th wealthiest state per person and children’s services are 10th from the bottom . . . this is the widest gap in America.
- If the children on our waiting list for subsidized child care were laid head to toe in a line they would stretch out for 20 miles . . . at 60 MPH it would take 20 minutes to travel from end to end.

Richard Edmond, Business Editor of Florida Trend magazine, said that businesses are beginning to realize the significant role they must play in supporting children. Since the baby boom is ending and fewer people are entering the work force, finding well rounded literate high school graduates is more and more difficult.

My favorite part of the trip was lobbying to our legislators. I have not had that kind of fun since I was a “Logan Lass,” back in Kansas in 19??, campaigning for James Logan as he ran against Robert Dole in his very first bid for U.S. Senate! Thanks for sending me.
In a small tent on the edge of the
Everglades lives a family of four. Barbara
and their two small children cook
food given to them by a church on a
small charcoal fire. Everyday Joe drives
to work in the labor pool where he
makes $25 a day. The campground fee
($12 a night) and gasoline for travel con-
sume more than half of Joe's daily
income.

Because of park regulations, the fam-
ily must leave the campground for one
night each two weeks. When this night
comes the homeless families pack up
their possessions and sleep inside their
cars in a shopping center parking lot
across the highway. The next morning
they return to the campground for an-oth-
er two-week stay.

In order to move into an apartment,
Barbara and Joe need at least $1,000 to
cover costs including a utilities deposit
and two months' rent. Given their cur-
current work situation, they don't expect to
be moving into an apartment any time
soon.

Barbara and Joe never imagined they
would be homeless. Barbara worries
about her children missing school. She
would qualify for public assistance (Aid
to Families with Dependent Children) if
Joe left the family. But Barbara adamantly
insists, "I'm not going to split up my
family just so I can be on welfare. It's just
not worth it. At least we're all together.
That's the main thing — keeping us
together."

The conservative estimate of homeless
persons in Florida is 20,000 on any given
night, with half of this number in the
families who make up the fastest grow-
ing segment of Florida's transient popu-
lation. Across the state the picture is the
same — men, women and children
sleeping in cars, on park benches, in
abandoned buildings, on bare floors and
in crowded shelters.

Last year Florida IMPACT, a non-profit
organization for which I work, inter-
viewed and videotaped homeless fami-
lies across Florida. We found that they
share a number of common characteris-
tics:
1. All said they never expected to be
homeless.
2. Most had jobs but "bad luck" — lay-
off, family crises, or illness forced them
from their homes.
3. Most had worked at low-paying jobs
when disaster struck and lacked the re-
erves to carry them through even short
periods of unemployment or family
emergencies.
4. Mothers and fathers expressed deep
concern about the welfare of their chil-
dren and were eager to support their
families themselves.
5. Despite their plight, the homeless
persons we met were reaching out to
help others.

As we travelled throughout Florida, we
found that the Salvation Army, the Red
Cross, churches, and other community
organizations were making noble at-
ttempts to help meet the myriad needs of
Florida's steadily growing homeless pop-
ulation. But resources were non-existent
in many areas and stretched to the limit
elsewhere. Families with children had
special needs that were (and are) going
unmet.

The reality is that private efforts alone
cannot solve the problem of homeless-
ness in Florida. Although many factors
contribute to the human tragedy of
homelessness, the crisis has been created
largely by the failure of state and federal
government to provide affordable hous-
 ing for low income persons and to en-
sure a liveable wage. State and federal
initiatives must complement the work of
the private sector if homelessness is to
be prevented and our families are to
have the opportunity to live with digni-
ty and independence.

That is the long-term solution, what ac-
tions can we take in Florida in the short-
term?

To begin with, we can support the 22
public/private community homeless coa-
litions operating throughout the state.
They need the active involvement of
local citizens.

Floridians concerned about homeless
can also support three measures under
consideration by the state legislature:

• a creation of a $15 million fund to pro-
vide emergency care for the homeless
during the upcoming fiscal year. The
Florida Coalition for the Homeless
notes that the $5.1 million appro-
priated for this purpose in the last
session lasted only one third of the
year.

• an appropriation of $15.6 million in
the Governor's budget for affordable
rental and home ownership units for
low income persons.

• a proposal to raise the minimum wage
in stages until it reaches $5 an hour

Many homeless mothers and fathers
expressed to us the hope that "things will
get better." However, this will not hap-
pen until we become part of that hope.
The future of these families and these
children depends upon our response.

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Jim Hardison, an Episcopal priest, is the homeless coordinator for Florida IMPACT, a non-profit organization. He worked for 15 years as a housing specialist with the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.
A Look Back at the Provisional Year
A Year of Education, Fun and Pride
by Natalie Brown

To call the provisional year a success only begins to describe the community awareness and enthusiasm for volunteers the class developed over the last nine months. Provisionals agree that membership now has a meaning far greater than they anticipated when they began their Junior League experience in September.

While the new initiatives knew well the fine reputation of the Junior League, the "serious business" of the League far exceeded their expectations.

As provisional Renee Beal describes it, "It's one thing to hear about the fine work and commitment of the League and then another to see it in action."

The provisionals laughingly proclaim, "It's not just a grown-up sorority!" remembering their initial vague expectations.

Provisional Lynn Buscaglia tells of involvement with another community project that she just couldn't seem to get rolling until she mentioned it to another Junior League member. Quite to her surprise, all at once she acquired assistance from other Junior League members as well as the backing of some very influential community members, among them State Attorney Janet Reno.

"The doors blow wide open when you mention affiliation with the Junior League of Miami," said Lynn.

A look at the array of educational and community programs organized by this year's Provisional Committee makes it obvious how the year became such an educational success. A sampling of events:

- "Justice for All," a presentation by Janet Reno on taking a hard look at how our justice system addresses current social problems.
- "Miami Vice," a presentation by Coral Gables Police at their station with tips on how to keep ourselves and our families safe now and for the future.
- "Meet the Press," a dinner, open forum and tour at the Miami Herald with its top executives.
- "Health," a Saturday session with leading doctors and researchers at Jackson Memorial Hospital.
- "A Good Education," an evening with leading community educators.
- "Miami, See it Like a Native," a walking tour of historic Coral Gables led by Florida Historical Society President Dr. Paul George.
- "To the Magic City," a presentation by Peter Andolina of the Downtown Development Authority on the direction and plans for Miami's downtown area.

When asked which session was their favorite, the answers vary just as much as the program topics themselves.

Provisional Della Nelson describes "being on the edge of my seat" during the information packed session at Jackson Hospital. Fellow provisional Kristine Ross agrees that the speakers were fascinating and could have gone two days listening to the remarkable medical research underway at the hospital.

Provisional Kim Eversole particularly enjoyed the Coral Gables walking tour which gave members a sense of community pride and history.

Provisional Julie Mancini, who assisted with organizing the staffing of the Kaleidoscope Project, particularly enjoyed her assignment which involved telephoning many members, Provisionals, Actives, and Sustainers alike. Finding volunteers for the traveling, creative children's art studio was the ideal opportunity to meet a lot of new people. The challenge would then be to put the faces with the names during the busy Kaleidoscope days!

Kim Barnes, Cathy Lorie, Pam Poulos and Nina Hopkins

 Provisional Laura Hicks also enjoyed volunteering for the Kaleidoscope Project which provided an opportunity to get to know small groups of other members in a hands-on working setting.

 Provisional Betty Beck, who spends much of her time out-of-town as a flight attendant, felt that the opportunity to get to know others has been invaluable to her during this year . . . as well as a lot of fun.

 Provisional Amy Brigham grew up in Miami but said that in her 20-some years here, she never knew as much about the community as she learned over the last several months.

 Unexpected special treatment from League members stands out in provisional Lynda Lane's recollection of the year. Lynda tells of a dinner party invitation when she was new in town. Active member Donna Cullen went out of her way to make the newcomers feel welcome to Miami and to the Junior League through a small party at her home.

 Provisional Maria Velez notes that the genuine concern for people and community is evident across the board in Junior League members who take time out of their busy schedules to help others . . . what Provisionals have learned the Junior League is all about.

 The success of the entire year is largely attributable to the efforts of Provisional Chairman Pamela Poulos and her committee. Simply put, "Pam made each of us feel special."

 A Special Note: The Provisional Class extends a special thanks to Pamela Poulos and her committee for their efforts all year long. The Committee includes Cathy Lorie, Vance Crystal, Kim Barnes, Karen Boyd and Nina Hopkins.
Sustainers

Cheryl Armstrong
Donna Cullen
Valerie Douberley
Pinky Laffoon
Elizabeth Lane

Pam Bustamante
Maureen Gragg
Tracy Lees-Grant

Gina Craig
Carolyn Dorn
Daru Lane
Niña Hopkins
Marie Lavender

Mary Lynch
Karen McCammon
Salute You!

Rickie McCoy
Isabel Merritt
Pat Pankow
Barbara Tkac
Joyce Stevens
Nancy Wilson
Candace McDonald
Karen Shepherd
Nardis Weldon
Linda McKenzie
Luisa Murai
Kristi Swartz
Sandra Steenrod
Debbie White

Thank you!
League Training Prepares Sustainers for Their Future Roles

“I owe it all to the Junior League,” says Peggy Sapp. As Executive Director of Informed families, that comes as quite a compliment. Since 1982, Peggy has headed this vital organization which began meeting in her kitchen. As a community volunteer for the league, she was called to help with Miami’s tremendous drug problems. In just seven years, Informed Families has gone from volunteers in a kitchen to a full time staff of seven and a budget of $750,000 a year. Their community projects stress substance abuse, prevention, and parent education and training. Informed Families Project YES (Youth Esteem System) teaches inner city parents and children self esteem. In coalition with the Metro-Dade Police and Dade County Public Schools, the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program is another of their projects.

“The League offered the perfect opportunity to try big and exciting things that can be instrumental in future jobs,” said Peggy. While active in the League, she headed the Volunteer Training Program and brought in such nationally renowned speakers, as Ren Fortier and Alina Davis to teach Management by Objectives and Volunteer Career Development. Peggy says the League is a “golden opportunity for training.” The opportunity to “train by participation” is one that we should all take advantage of.

A message delivered by Junior League guest speaker, Alina Moris, inspired sustainer Sallie Quillian to pursue her career in counseling. At a time in her life when she was trying to decide which avenue to take as far as counseling was concerned, the words of our career development speaker hit home. “Alina told us that we all need to do something worthwhile with our lives, even if we aren’t being paid for it,” said Sallie.

After 15 years as a league active, Sallie went back to work volunteering her time counseling students. She also got her Master’s degree (MS&D) in Marriage and Family Therapy and has just taken her licensing exam to be a full marriage and family counselor. Very committed in the community section of the League, Sallie also served as Provisional Chairman while active. She feels very fulfilled with her new career. A mother of four grown children, Sallie should serve as an inspiration to us all to pursue new careers no matter where we are in our lives.

“It’s exciting when you finally find what you really want to do,” she said.

Sustaining member Evalyn Milledge feels that her League training gave her some very essential skills for her current job in domestic violence intervention. She began working with the Dade County Court System in the early 70’s and now works as a consultant in the administrative offices of the downtown Miami courthouse. Over the years, Evelyn has played vital roles in the court system, from family mediation in 1982 (in answer to the shared parenting law) to her current position. She now has the crucial job of helping prevent repeated assaults and sexual battery.

In 1984, when the Battery Law was passed, Evalyn put a program together to initiate restraining orders to protect victims. As the law expanded to protect more and more people, caseloads also increased. “Our first year we had 500 cases. Now we have about 200 a month,” said Evalyn.

During her active years with the League, she worked at the admissions and information desks at Jackson, which helped her learn to deal with people. “League committee meetings taught me how to sit down with staff and organize. I also learned practical skills, such as dissemination of information,” said Evalyn.

Her job with the court system is very demanding and surely at times, very trying. Her reward however is the way she is able to touch so many people’s lives in such a positive way.
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Help Your Child Say No to Drugs

Parents of pre-teenagers can help their children say “NO” to alcohol and other drugs by practicing these 10 steps. You may want to place this Quick list in an area where you can review it often.

Talk with Your Child about Alcohol
Parents can intervene to help change mistaken ideas their children may have obtained from peers and the media, such as “everyday drinks.”

Learn to Really Listen to Your Child
Children are more likely to communicate when they receive positive verbal and nonverbal cues that show their parents are listening.

Help Your Child Feel Good about Himself or Herself
Self-regard is enhanced when parents praise efforts, as well as accomplishments, and when they correct by criticizing the action rather than the child.

Help Your Child Develop Strong Values
A strong value system can give children the courage to make decisions based on facts rather than pressure from friends.

Be a Good Role Model or Example
Parents’ drinking habits and attitudes may strongly influence their children’s perceptions about alcohol.

Help Your Pre-Teen Deal with Peer Pressure
Children who have been taught to be gentle and loving may need parental “permission” to assertively say “no” to negative peer pressure.

Make Family Policies that Help Your Child Say “No”
It’s helpful when parents verbalize specific family rules against alcohol use by minors and the consequences of breaking those rules.

Encourage Healthy, Creative Activities
Hobbies, school events, and other activities may prevent children from experimenting with alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs out of boredom.

Team Up with Other Parents
When parents join together in support groups, they can take steps that will reinforce the guidance they provide at home.

Know What to do if You Suspect a Problem
Parents can learn to recognize the tell-tale signs of alcohol abuse and even experimentation.

Borrowed from NIAAA National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information.
Historic Preservation and the Junior League

In 1940 the Historical Association of Southern Florida was formed. This was the first attempt in Dade County to preserve the past for the future inhabitants of Dade. At the time, the only form of preservation was that of preserving documents and oral histories of the area. The Historical Association has maintained its focus on this form of preservation, leaving the main thrust of architectural preservation to other groups while always providing support to them.

Approximately 23 years ago interest in preserving important architectural structures surfaced in Miami. In 1966 the Villagers was founded. Its purpose is to further community interest in the preservation, restoration, and appreciation of historical landmarks. This group saved the Douglas Entrance in Coral Gables; it promoted support of the Biltmore as a historical landmark; and it raised money for the restoration of parts of Vizcaya — to name just a few of its projects. In 1972 the Villagers sponsored a new organization, The Dade Heritage Trust.

Now the largest historic preservation organization in Dade County, Dade Heritage Trust serves to educate the public about preservation, restoration and the use of historic properties. It sponsors the annual six-week-long Dade Heritage Days' celebration each spring (which the Junior League participates in), has an active speaker's bureau, publishes Preservation Today magazine and a quarterly newsletter, conducts historic tours, puts on lectures and conferences, and advocates for preservation locally and statewide.

Dade Heritage Trust is headquartered in Dr. Jackson's Office and Surgery (1905), a National Register Site. Its current president is Junior Leaguer Becky Matkov.

In 1976 the Miami Design Preservation League was formed. Its main concern has been the salvation of Art Deco buildings of the 1920's and 30's on Miami Beach.

The Junior League of Miami moved into the realm of historic preservation in the late 60's when it saved, moved, and restored the Princeton-Florida Railroad Station. In 1970 the Metropolitan Dade County Historical Board commended the League for its efforts in this area. In 1971 the League was instrumental in an effort to restore the Miami River Area. Over the next two years the League committed $8,000 to cleaning up and landscaping five sites on the Miami River.

The League also educated the community on the history of the River.

During 1972-73, the League was busy producing "Ours is a Tropic Land," a film depicting the history of this area. At the same time it also participated in Pioneer Voices, an effort to record the oral history of Dade from living knowledgeable sources. This was expanded to include Cuban oral history. In 1972, $20,000 was committed to furnish, equip, and man the research library of the Historical Association. In 1975 and 1976, the Junior League committed $23,000 for interior capital equipment of the Coral Gables House. It proceeded with the restoration of furniture for the House and also compiled a written history and slide show of the House. Between 1977 and 1980, $20,000 was committed for the film sequel to "Ours is a Tropic Land" — the sequel, "Miami — the Magic City," was the product of many hours of work by League members and was enthusiastically received by the community. The Junior League's movement of its headquarters into the old Coral Gables Fire Station, once again, publicly identified the Junior League of Miami with the history and preservation of this city.

Currently, the League has been involved in the publication of self-guided historic tour brochures of various areas in our County. With funding from the League and the State of Florida, the League has produced brochures of Downtown Miami, Coral Gables, Coconut Grove, and South Dade. Plans are underway for next year to produce a brochure on the Northeast corridor of our city, which will include Morningside and Miami Shores.

TRANSFERS

by Liz Caldwell

Lori Beth Reed transferred from London, England. She is originally from Coral Gables, where she joined the League in 1985. Lori is an attorney with the firm Wampler, Buchanan and Breen. Her concentration is in health care and family law. Lori's placements have included the Royal Academy of Arts and Living in London Guidelines. While Lori was in the Miami League, she was very active with children's issues, the McLamore Project, Children's Home Society pro bono council, and Program Development.

Lori enjoys snow skiing, biking, jogging, tennis, swimming, skeet shooting, and scuba diving. She is also in the process of refurbishing her home in the Gables.

Brenda Batten transferred from the Boston League. She is originally from Wilmington, Delaware, where she completed her provisional year.

Brenda is single and is a Senior Accountant X-Ray Representative for DuPont. While in the League in Boston, Brenda's favorite placement was their "Showhouse" fund raiser. In her spare time, Brenda likes to play tennis, jet ski, travel, and go snorkeling.
At Zip Mailer on Eight Street, Rick and Barbara Uhle can always be found with an extremely hectic schedule. Often mistaken for husband and wife, this brother and sister team run their now retired father's business. They both grew up working in the mail house at night and in the summers. "We vowed we would never go into the business, but here we are, hook, line and sinker," says Barbara. This family has been at it for 25 years and has a fantastic reputation for getting mail out on time. Zip Mailer specializes in sorting, inserting, labeling and posting and does all of the League's mailing.

Husband and wife, Bill and Sherry Bannan, have owned and run Copy Express in the Gables since 1977. They both work full time in the shop and do all forms of typesetting and printing. "It's a very taxing business, but we try to give it that personal family touch," says Sherry. Copy Express printed our yearbook.

Our Tropicram printer, Sykes Printing, has been in the business since 1959 in Coral Gables. For the last eight years, it has been owned and run by the Harmon family. Day to day operations are handled by Barbara Harmon, her son John and daughter Debbie. "We didn't think we'd get along all working together, but we do. Forty hours a week with my parents turned out not to be too much," says Debbie.

Located on Valencia, Sykes Printing specializes in blue printing for architects and offset copying. "We are proud to do the Junior League newsletter. It is well prepared and the most professional that we see come through here," says John.

"The league is terrific and does some wonderful things," says Craig Swanson. He and wife Sheri are the dynamic duo behind Swanson Printing. Craig's father had been general manager since 1946 and bought the company in 1973. When his father bought the company, Craig packed up and moved back to Miami from up north. Sheri and Craig work at least 10 or 12 hours a day specializing in publications. They have worked with the League over the past five years printing Tropical Topics.

Junior League Office Manager Sondra Space has her hands full keeping us all in order. Born in Argentina, she is now an American citizen and graduated from American University in Washington, D.C. She speaks five languages and is a happily married mother of one. Her son, ten year old Derek, goes to the International School at Sunset Elementary. Sondra is very active with the PTA there and has just implemented the school's first newsletter. Husband Les is very supportive of her active life.

When asked what she does in the league office, she responds, "Omagosh! Want to see a list?" Depending on the time of year, Sondra is busy with different projects. "Membership, the board retreat, Miami Magic — it just depends what's going on at the time," says Sondra. She works on the computer, answers the phone all day, and updates names (which, by the way have to be put in five different places). She will have been with us two years in August. Sondra knows many of our members socially and enjoys meeting those that come into the office.

"We couldn't survive without her," says Ronni Bermont.
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FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA.
To say that Sylvia Leslie is an active woman would be the understatement of the year. Not only does she work hard for a good cause, but she is completely dedicated to it; that cause being education.

Mother of three and Administrative Assistant to Holmes Braddock, Vice Chairman of the Dade County School Board, Sylvia Leslie has, to say the least, and exciting and incredibly varied job. Her duties extend beyond work for the School Board, which in itself is most interesting. As a full-time Assistant to Mr. Braddock, she finds herself busy dealing with publicity and the press, conducting research, writing extensively, and public speaking.

Her involvement in School Board projects means big business as Dade County's is the 4th largest school board in the nation with a $1.5 billion budget. Common issues include, but are not limited to, class size, curriculums, special projects, special education for the disabled, magnet schools, and the building of the new schools.

When asked if she felt her league work had prepared her for such a demanding job she responded, "No question about it. Volunteerism and professionalism go hand in hand." Her education related projects in the league dealt with the 1970 desegregation issue and the Head Start program. Aside from the issues though, Sylvia feels the League's success in its projects and its profound effect in the community are due to the League's professional approach to volunteerism. She is very happy with the leagues present projects such as Art Path and Ballet Projects which serve to enhance the public school system. Sylvia went on to say that she would like to see more effort directed towards literacy, a big problem today that affects people of all ages and she would like to see the League get involved with the issue.

Sylvia Leslie believes that if a person is healthy and reasonably intelligent, that they should make some effort to put something back into their community which, like ours, has so much to offer. This is one reason why she enjoys what she does so much. With axioms such as this, the League should be proud to have a person like Sylvia Leslie as a part of it's team.

One final note as the author of this article, it was very exhilarating and a pleasure to interview Sylvia and I hope that we can all remember her motto and keep up the good work.

Tips to Reduce Stress

1. Procrastination is stressful. Whatever you want to do tomorrow, do today; whatever you want to do today, do it now.
2. Plan ahead. Don't let the gas tank get below one quart full. Keep a well stocked "emergency shelf" of home staples. Don't wait until you're down to your last dollar to go to the bank.
3. Don't rely on your memory; write down appointment times. Like an old Chinese Proverb says, "The palest ink is better than the most retentive memory."
4. Turn "needs" into preferences. Our basis physical needs translate into food, water, and keeping warm. Everything else is a preference.
5. Simplify, simplify, simplify.
6. If an especially unpleasant task faces you, do it early in the day and get it over with. Then the rest of your day will be free of anxiety.
7. Do one thing at a time. When you are with someone, be with that person and with no one else or nothing else. When you are busy with a project, concentrate on doing that project and forget about everything else you have to do.
8. Focus on understanding rather than on being understood, on loving rather than being loved.
9. Learn to live one day at a time.

AND TO END
10. Take a hot bath or shower and this will help you relieve your tensions.

Setting the Record Straight

The Spring Issue of Tropical Topics should have stated that Sandra Steenrod has been a broker for 10 years.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

Tracy Bermont — Ransom Everglades High School; Duke University this fall; daughter of Ronni and Peter Bermont.

Caroline Huck — Phillips Academy; Hobart/William Smith this fall; daughter of Betty Huck.

Gale Lewis — Episcopal High School; Rollins College this fall; daughter of Garlin Lewis.

Morgan Lynch — Ransom Everglades High School; Southern Methodist University this fall; son of Mary and Stephen Lynch.

Robert Meador — Nova University Law School; husband of Dotti Meador.
Hello Miami Junior League!

Here we are in Ft. Pierce, Florida. I never would have known last year at this time that we would be living here on the banks of the Indian River but life is full of changes and surprises.

After both my husband Charles and I were born and raised in Miami this was quite a big move for us and also our family. Our business has moved up to this area and so we followed.

We bought an old farm house built in 1892 that overlooks the Indian River. It used to be a part of a pineapple plantation at the turn of the century. It’s just beautiful, the view that is . . . the house is also coming along slowly! Over the summer we sanded and varnished wood floors, scraped and painted the inside and renovated a bath and the kitchen. It is all worth it because I have always dreamed of living in a farm house and Charles has always wanted to live on the water. It’s a dream come true!

With so much work on the house and our businesses we have not socialized too much, but through our children’s schools and our neighbors we are beginning to develop friendships.

I still receive the Junior League Newsletter and I enjoy reading about what’s going on in the big city. Although the pace up in this area of Florida has picked up and developments are springing up everywhere. Growth anywhere in Florida is inevitable, I guess.

Unfortunately there is not a Junior League in this area. I am a little glad about that right now due to my lack of spare time. It seems we are working on something all of the time.

I miss everyone in Miami and I look forward to seeing a few of you at your Getaway Weekend on Hutchinson Island. I’m only 10 minutes away and I’ll stop by to say hello!

Fondly,

Patti Hancock
Toni Gary

Toni Gary served as the Executive Director of Greater Miami United (GMU) from July 1985 to September 1988. GMU was formed after the 1980 disturbances. Its purpose is to respond to any issue or friction between the diverse tri-ethnic groups and to have a forum to address these issues.

Under Toni’s leadership, another element to the program was established, community economic development. A Technical Resource Center was formed to provide technical assistance to community based organizations. The Production of TV talk shows on cable and public television addressed issues which affected the diversity in Dade County.

Also, in partnership with Centrust, the Antidefamation League, and Channel 10, the World of Difference Campaign was created.

Toni resigned from GMU in April to become the Executive Director and Associate Dean for the Entrepreneurial and Education Center at Liberty City, which is part of the Miami Dade Community College System.

Toni will oversee the designing and creation of programs for small minority businesses in Liberty City. The Center will also offer credit and non-credit courses. Toni sees this as quite a challenge.

On the personal side, Toni has been married for 21 years to Howard V. Gary. They have two sons, Kito 12 and Issa 7.

Diane Van Ness

Diane is an attorney-partner with Mishan, Sloto, Hoffman & Greenberg. She specializes in commercial trials where there is any dispute over money. Diane is also an adjunct professor at the University of Miami Law School. She lectures on trial practices and was recently asked by the Florida Bar to be one of ten instructors at the trial advocacy seminars in Tampa for a week long mock trial.

Diane’s major efforts have been with The Association for Women Lawyers, which she helped organize. The Association has grown tremendously and also admits men and judges. The purpose of the organization is to promote the equality of women lawyers as well as equality for women in the court system. To this extent the association tries to make sure people are treated fairly in regard to gender and that women in every area of law get paid the same as men.

Diane also serves on the Judicial Nominating Commission for the 11th Judicial Circuit Court.

After all this, Diane still finds time to be active in the community with the Junior League and time for herself by diving, water-skiing, and swimming.

Support your magazine. Buy advertising.

Annual Conference

Cristina Mendoza, Ronni Bermont, and Claudia Kitchens attended the 67th Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California, May 3-7, 1989. The theme of this very successful conference was “Advancing a Children’s Agenda,” highlighted by the opening luncheon keynote speaker, Marian Wright Edelman, founder of The Children’s Defense Fund. Edelman dramatized the continued need for trained child advocates and applauded the Junior League for our efforts.

Our Modello Project was one of the “Model Projects” at the conference and chairman Mary Cagle made three presentations on how and why our project has made such an impact in the Modello Community.

At the Awards Dinner, the Junior League of Miami received an “Honorable Mention” for our Public Relations Brochure, which was created this year by our Public Relations Committee, headed by Lauretta Fogg.

During the forum, we heard the thoughtful discussion on the potential resolutions to be submitted for the annual meeting. The topics were broad and the discussion was lively.

At the Annual Meeting, dues were increased to $27 annually and we added two Sustaining Director positions to the Board. Eleven resolutions were passed including resolutions asking leagues to address issues including child care, middle-grade youth, alcohol as a women’s health issue, and environmental issues.

Ronni Bermont, Judie Greenman (AJL 2nd V.P.), and Cris Mendoza
WORKING WITH DAD

by Laurinda Fort

Working with a close family member has its advantages. Two Junior League members, Julie Stroh and Bonita Drake, both work with their fathers and have interesting insights into balancing the roles of daughter and professional colleague.

Julie Stroh started working for her father when she moved to Miami with her family 5 years ago. A graduate of the University of Michigan, with a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology and an M.B.A. candidate, Julie was a Junior League Provisional in 1980 in Grosse Point, Michigan. She has a five year old daughter and lives across the street from her parents. Before her move to Miami, Julie was a commercial lender for the National Bank of Detroit. Her husband worked for the same bank. His decision to switch to Northern Trust in Miami brought the family to their new home in Florida. Julie is now working with her younger sister in the financial department of her father's company, Guardian Fire Equipment in Northwest Miami.

Julie's father, Richard Childress, started his business 12 years ago. It was the offshoot of another business he had in Detroit and Toledo called Seco Manufacturing. He manufactures fire stand pipe equipment for commercial and industrial projects. He sells an entire package of equipment that provides water to a building. He is also involved in coordinating the aesthetic appearance of the equipment. One of his company's most recent projects was the Miracle Center on Coral Way in Miami.

Overall, Julie is happy working with her family. She particularly enjoys the flexible hours, but says it can be stressful at times. Working in a family business, remarks Julie, "Brings out all the best and worst of personal relationships." Julie feels that she can be more candid with her father. She is not hindered with the usual corporate communication channels. A problem she finds with this more relaxed environment is that she often finds herself engaged in conversations and activities that are not appropriate for the work place. She sometimes finds it difficult to separate her professional role from that of being her father's little girl. She offers the example of her father asking her to bring him coffee. Under normal corporate standards she would feel this too secretarial, but, of course, she is happy to accommodate her father. Lastly, Julie enjoys a special trust, based on a lifetime of experiences together, that most can not hope to find in the business world.

Bonita Drake is 27 years old and works for her father, Dr. Howard Norman, a plastic surgeon and President of the Dade County Medical Association. Bonita has a degree from the University of Miami in Marketing and Advertising. She has been married for three months to Cary Drake, an electrical engineer and has been in the League since 1985. Bonita is a make-up consultant who helps her father's patients cope with the stressful period after plastic surgery. Specifically, it is her job to use camouflage make-up to help patients through their convalescence.

Her father was one of the first plastic surgeons to recognize the need for make-up. Bonita says that this added service not only helps the patients to get back to work quickly, but aids them psychologically through the healing process. All of Dr. Norman's patients are offered Bonita's talents, though some choose to go without make-up and are limited to their homes for longer periods during healing.

Driven by an interest in make-up and acting, Bonita started working for her father in high school by filling in for his make-up consultant. Six years ago her father sent her to study in Hollywood, California, with Marvin Westmore, a well-known make-up consultant for the film industry.

For Bonita, cosmetics are a family business. She and her younger brother started a cosmetic company called Norskin. Her father developed the products they sell, such as a skin bleach for hyperpigmentation—age spots, pregnancy masks, etc. Her brother handles the marketing for the company. The business has been successful. They are in the process of getting the rights from a Swiss chemist for their latest product, a water with health benefits. Bonita's younger sister is also studying to be a make-up consultant.

Bonita says her real interest is in working with people with congenital defects or trauma victims who really need camouflage. Those who, because of their physical appearance, have a problem functioning in society. She believes that the ultimate cosmetic challenge is to take into account that people are viewed from all angles at all hours of the day.

Bonita likes working with her father. One of the more practical advantages is the flexibility. Her father knows she will work hard for him, so he can extend to her freedoms that he could not afford with an unrelated employee. Bonita believes the main advantage of working with her father is that she cares more about her job and her patients.
Dear Anne,

This year I have found myself in a most unusual state - cursed with the 4 F's: Fat, Tangled, Inflamed, Tired. I have been told by several doctors to make myself more worth while, acceptable to others. I have decided to correct myself - that is, order my life. To correct myself, I try to read more - but in order to correct this I F word, I need to fix this book and read more of it. Yet, as for this, I find the books I need to be granted permission to go on speeding, I will slowly make up all my heart activities and the love I have for the books and the love I have for reading.

I hope to be kinder to the casual acts in the literature genre, it will make my friends, but I will try to be a kinder person.

Yours,

David J. Lane

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Dear President:

The President XXIII Host Committee is grateful to your organization's participation in Miami's For Me's effort to recruit volunteers.

The Super Bowl volunteer program provided a positive impact during Super Bowl Week, not only in our community but across the country as well.

Again, thank you for your group's dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

Fannie Morgan
Volunteer Coordinator

Ellen Eljase
Asst. Volunteer Coordinator

---

Dear Chris,

Please extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Junior League members who so generously gave their time at Kaleidoscope. Each day ran smoothly and every child enjoyed their visit because the volunteers were committed and enthusiastic.

I would also like to thank you for your personal commitment. Your leadership and presence at the exhibit showed us all that the Junior League was 100% behind its project and its efforts to succeed. And succeed it did!

I'd also like to recognize Betsy Tighman for her commitment as our program chairman. She was always available - warm, friendly and caring. I cannot imagine it without her. Not to forget Jane and Linda, who also worked hard and were a joy to work with.

Thank you all - thank you Junior League for making Kaleidoscope in Miami a SUCCESS!

Sincerely,

Charleen
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ACTIVES

Susan Lee (Susie) Admire
Amy L. Anderson
Jennifer Drechsel Bailey
Becky Barkett
Rene Deborah Beal
Betty Beck
Lynne Becton
Lina Blumberg
Nancy Blume
Kathryn Bohlmann
Amy P. Brigham
Natalie Ann Brown
Lynn C. Buscaglia
Jacqueline Cohn
Kathy Coury
Nikki Esserman
Deborah Leigh Eubanks
Anne Joffre-Evans
Kim Mara Eversole
Leslie Anne Ewing
Laurie Fain
Vivianne M. Feder
Mary K. Flynn
Mary Elizabeth Garner (Meg)
Pamela Elizabeth Gibson
Janet L. Gilstrap
Deborah Hasty
Elizabeth (Liz) Henriques
Laura Mayes Hicks
Lesley Parker Holcomb
Teresa (Terri) Horrow
Mega B. Hostetler
Mary Joffre
Elizabeth (Beth) Johnson
Susan Jude
Joanne Kacin
Catherine Kennedy
Laura Kessel
Paula King
Rosa Maria King
Carol Ann Lafferty
Lynda M. Lane
Maria E. Llorca
Julie Mancini
Valerie McNaughton
Anne L. Munroe
Della Julia Nelson
Cynthia Delong Ormond
Martha S. Pantin
Randi Reiseman
Elizabeth Risi
Ana Maria Escagedo Rosen
Kristine Marie Ross
Kathleen (Kitty) Rotella
Jennifer Schofield
Isela Sotolongo
Margaret (Marty) Steinberger
Jo Ellen Rooks Strump
Robin Taylor Symons
Kimberly Janice Tomeo
Maria C. Velez
Karen Lynn Watson
Lori Kay Welbon
Barbara Witte

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Ann Ziegler Williams
The Family Vacation
by Elizabeth Whalen

This article is supposed to be an all in depth discourse on Transitional Housing, the Modello Project, Woman To Woman, and the McLamore Center. But since we have been hearing about these projects for months (and I did mention them once already in passing), I figured (without the editor’s knowledge of course) that our readership was ready for bigger and better things. With the advent of summer vacation only a couple of bake sales away, and since we recently returned from a family “trip”, I thought— who better to give advice on vacation time. Besides that, everyone else is writing these “How To” books and making a fortune. Now my time has come!

Our vacation into H.E.L.L. started out innocent as such. My husband Michael came home one night and said, “Conference in Orlando coming up, Disney World, all those attractions—lets take the boys.” Translated, that sentence reads more like, “I’ll be in meetings almost every day. Why don’t you take the boys to see everything—family bonding in every push of the strollers.” The boys, by the way, were then 3-1/2 years and 9-1/2 months old. After lengthy discussion, we decided to risk it all and go—on the condition that the nurse maid could also get away at the same time and join our group.

Advice #1 — The amount of luggage explodes as it hits outside air. For a four day jaunt up state, our car looked like something ready for a 4 month trip. The 3-1/2 year old sat on the cooler. Advice #2 — Never take those cheese sticks. Everything within a 2 mile radius ends up smelling like rotten thins that are better off left alone. The 9-1/2 month old was squashed in the middle with the maid—luckily she’s a petite person.

After four hours, umpteen boxed drinks, two sets of dirty diapers, crackers by the dozen, and 44 repeats of Bruce Springsteen singing Sesame Street, we arrived. Advice #3 — Never tell the three year old where you’re going. The entire first night was spent explaining why we weren’t getting ready to jump in the car again and see Mickey.

Day number one — trumpets blast, drums thunder... Disney World. Advice #4 — Unless you like endless lines, mobs of faces, and rides that look innocent enough but send children into realms from The Twilight Zone—turn around now. I gave up counting the number of times we stood waiting for the shuttle, waiting for the monorail, waiting to go through the gates, to buy tickets, to buy popcorn, to see Mickey Mouse!

We headed on through and in a day and a half did enough walking, carrying kids, pushing strollers, folding strollers, and wiping faces to last the next year easily! Advice #5 — Take your own stroller—the kind you get at K-Mart for $17.99. Your husband will thank me when he doesn’t have to cart around the 20 lb. baby and 25 lb. carriage because you were afraid to leave the Aprica deluxe edition.

When all was said and done though, we did have a nice — I wouldn’t say wonderful—time, especially as the weeks pass and everything takes on a rosier glow. So for those of you with small children and the urge for family bonding—do it. Just remember, I told you so!
The Last Word

Commitment is . . .
What transforms a promise into reality.
Words that speak boldly of your intentions.
Actions that speak louder than words.
Making time when there is none.
Coming through time after time, year after year.
The stuff character is made of.
The power to change the face of things.
The daily triumph of integrity over skepticism.
— Author unknown

A committed committee. How fortunate I was to have such a fine group of women helping me make my job as editor of Tropical Topics such a rewarding and fun placement. Since this is our last issue of the year, I’d like to take this opportunity to personally thank my committed Tropical Topics staff for the wonderful job they have done.

To Amy Walker . . . Thanks for your willingness to help and for finding time between your frequent business trips to attend council meetings and report back leads for stories.

To Michele Zaytoun . . . Thanks for always being so cheerful and easy to work with. Your lay-outs were terrific. Best wishes as you go forth to work on your Master’s Degree in Interior Design.

To Molly Moylan and Chris Campbell . . . Thanks for the many hours of ad selling during the dog days of summer.

To Nancy Lamson . . . Thanks for keeping our finances in order, for being the bill collector, and for attending Finance Council meetings.

To Cynthia Andros, Vivian Blount, Liz Caldwell, Chris Campbell, Anne Cosec, Laurinda Fort, and Elizabeth Whalen . . . Thanks for your untold hours of producing the written word.

To Mary Mills . . . Thanks for our beautiful covers, wonderful illustrations, and great ideas that graced our pages.

To Karen Shepherd . . . Thanks for the wonderful pictures you’ve taken all over Dade County and for always being so willing to take the last minute ones when they were needed.

To Jenny Lou Reid, my advisor . . . Thanks for letting me know that you would always be there for me.

To my fellow Leaguers . . . Thanks for your moral support, kind words, and willingness to contribute articles, photos, and ideas.

To our wonderful advertisers . . . Thanks for making Tropical Topics possible.

To Liz Caldwell . . . Thanks for taking over my job for next year. You’ll be great.
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