

Celebrating Success: Inaugural Little Black Dress Initiative

By Virginia Ellis and Lindsay Hodgson



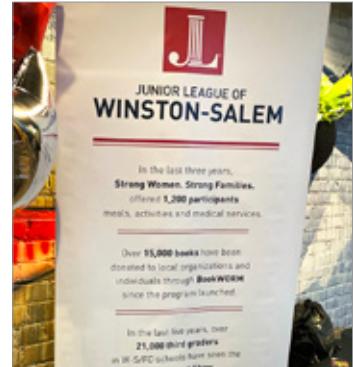
February 24 – 28, 2020 | Little Black Dress Initiative (#LBDI) was a week-long awareness and fundraising campaign that harnessed the power of social media and doing something “a little different” in order to educate people about local issues that Leagues work on in their communities.

The launch of our inaugural **Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI)** was a big success thanks to our entire membership. Fifty-six members, including new members, actives, and sustainers, wore the same black dress for five days to spark conversations and raise awareness about poverty and how it restricts choices and opportunities. Each social media post, email, and conversation made a difference. We are proud of our membership for executing the campaign thoughtfully and respectfully.

The fifty-six advocates raised \$25,668 from over 440 donors. These funds will support our community programs and help us to further our mission.



Pedal Out Poverty at CYCLE BAR
February 15, 2020

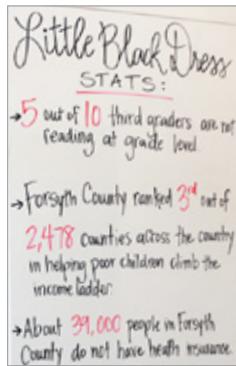


Music & Brews for LBDI at FIDDLIN' FISH

February 20, 2020

The campaign was well received by the community. We saw comments on social media from the community such as, “*I love this. It’s my favorite thing I’ve heard about Junior League yet!*” Seven community partners joined us for our **Music and Brews** for LBDI event to share about their partnership with JLWS. Each community partner reiterated how valuable the campaign was to raise awareness and expressed their gratitude for our continued partnership with their program.

The LBDI campaign also offered our community two opportunities to socialize. Forty-eight riders joined us for our **Pedal Out Poverty** cycle ride at **CycleBar**. The energy was fantastic! Additionally, over 100 members, community partners, friends, and family joined us for our **Music and Brews** for LBDI event at **Fiddlin’ Fish**. Thank you to everyone who joined us!



Together we were able to increase awareness of issues facing the community of Winston-Salem and share how the mission of the Junior League is impacting women and children. When we emerge from the current COVID-19 restrictions, we recognize that more than ever, support of programs like JLWS will be needed in our community.

Did You Know?

- A 16.9% poverty rate in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County = 64,000-67,000 residents living in poverty. [Source: UnitedWay]
- A new census report shows that **more than one-third of the children** in Winston-Salem live in poverty, with higher numbers than places like Chicago, Pittsburgh and Dallas. [Source: Triad Business Journal]
- Winston-Salem ranks **20th in the nation** for highest child poverty rates in the newest census numbers. [Source: Triad Business Journal]

The Junior League of Winston-Salem is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

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Letter from the President



Dear Junior League of Winston-Salem Members,

I have to admit, when I agreed to be President of the League, I never anticipated the year ending in a pandemic. I would never have believed it if you told me we would have a year without the BookWorm spring drive, a year without Tour, canceled community placements across the board and a shutdown of the majority of the League's charitable and social functions. I could never imagine a year ending where we ask our members to avoid headquarters and to hold meetings virtually.

I know that a tremendous amount of work and planning has gone into canceled functions and that everyone is disappointed that this is the way we ended our 2019-2020 Junior League experience. However, I am so grateful and impressed by the way that our League has transitioned, pivoted, planned and, in many cases, replanned events. This amazing group of women has moved forward, changed dates, changed entire events and changed the way that we interact as well as function as a League while keeping spirits high. Thank you all for everything you have done to keep the League on track and continuing to impact our community.

Speaking of changes, our May General Membership Meeting was a virtual one. The Board worked hard making videos and pulling together information to make our first virtual meeting a huge success. It was a voting meeting and we achieved a quorum to pass all motions. We also announced all the amazing winners of our end of year awards like Active of the Year, Sustainer of the Year, Friend of the League and more.

It was with great sadness that I announced the ending of Boutique. The tenth year served as the last year of Boutique for the JLWS. We want to thank everyone who worked tirelessly on Boutique for many years to bring in much needed revenue to the JLWS. The Boutique Committee is introducing the new Boutique Shopping Card that offers discounts and special offers at local retailers. The shopping card will serve as half of your fundraiser package for the 2020-2021 League year.

It has been an honor to serve as the 2019-2020 JLWS President. Thank you all for your support, kindness and hard work this year. I hope that you are all staying safe, healthy and sane.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth Myers
2019-2020 President

Sustainer Happenings

By Alyson Bailey

Thanks to Sustainer Council Membership Chair **Deborah Malmo** and her fantastic committee for planning all social events, and to Community Chair **Megan Lawson** for planning volunteer opportunities.

Sustainer and New Member Social at Schiffman's Jewelers

Nearly 50 League members enjoyed a fantastic event at **Schiffman's Jewelers** in March. Thanks to Sustainer and Past President **Aimee Rowe** for inviting **DeeDee Dalrymple** to share tips from her *Effortless Entertaining* guide. In addition, **Clarence Hargraves** of Bo-Ty Walker Florist created beautiful floral arrangements to give us inspiration just in time for spring.

(Continued on page 4)

An advertisement for Summit School. It features two young boys, one in a green shirt and grey shorts, and another in a blue and white striped polo shirt, playing tug-of-war with a thick rope. They are positioned in front of a large, colorful background with various words written in different fonts and colors, such as "Inspiring Learning", "Collaborators", and "from age three to 9th Grade". The text "SummitSchool" is prominently displayed at the top. At the bottom, it says "2100 REYNOLDA ROAD • 336.722.2777" and "SUMMITSCHOOL.COM".

SummitSchool • A Progressive, independent school inspiring a community of learners from age three to 9th Grade.

2100 REYNOLDA ROAD • 336.722.2777
SUMMITSCHOOL.COM

An advertisement for First Citizens Bank. It features a close-up photograph of a smiling woman and a young girl. The woman is looking down at the girl. The text "firstcitizens.com" is in the top left corner. Below the photo, the slogan "Right home? Right mortgage. Forever First." is written in large, bold, white letters. The First Citizens Bank logo, which consists of three red and blue vertical bars, is located to the left of the bank's name. At the bottom, the text "Account openings and credit are subject to Bank approval. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender." is visible.

firstcitizens.com

Right home?
Right mortgage.
Forever First.®

First Citizens Bank

Account openings and credit are subject to Bank approval.
Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

Sustainer Happenings (cont'd)

(Continued from page 3)

Broad Branch Distillery Tour

Sustainers have been busy this year, and there are additional opportunities to join in the fun. We appreciate the years of dedication Sustainers have given to the League, and the **Sustainer Council** provides a variety of ways to remain connected.



Is there something you'd like us to consider for an event, or would you like to get more involved? Email sustainersconnect@jlhs.org and let us know.



Sustainers visited **Broad Branch Distillery** on Trade Street in February for a fun and informative tour and tasting.



If you're looking for an educational experience for your child that values social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development, check out Forsyth Country Day School.

Schedule your tour today at FCDS.org or 336.945.3151.



Forsyth
For What's Ahead



CONGRATULATIONS to the 2019 Boutique Committee for an incredible 10th year! The December shopping event was an affair to remember.

THANK YOU to our celebrity guest readers, vendors and committee members.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to all of the JLWS members who have volunteered countless hours over the last decade to make Boutique a success.

THANK YOU!



The JLWS is proud to announce the inaugural



SPECIAL OFFERS and **20% DISCOUNTS** at local retailers.

Shopping days and participating retailers to be announced at the September GMM.

An advertisement for Little Richard's Smokehouse Bar-B-Que. It features a large image of barbecue ribs. The text includes the restaurant's name in a stylized font, "SMOKEHOUSE BAR-B-QUE", its address "109 S Stratford Road Winston-Salem, NC 27104", phone number "(336) 999-8037", website "www.littlerichardsbarbeque.com", and services "Delivery - Catering - Private Rooms Available".

An advertisement for Novant Health Meadowlark Pediatrics. It features two young boys dressed as superheroes (one in a red mask, one in a green mask). The text includes the Novant Health logo, the text "Your little superhero is worth remarkable care", and the contact information "Call today at 336-277-7030".

Novant Health Meadowlark Pediatrics

When you're busy saving the world, you need to stay healthy. The team at Novant Health Meadowlark Pediatrics is here to partner with you for your child's health. We're just a hop, skip and jump away from Meadowlark Elementary School, and we're welcoming new patients. Capes not required!

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; walk-in sick clinic 8 to 9 a.m.

Sunday sick clinic opens at 1 p.m. by appointment.

Call today at 336-277-7030.

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Community Project Spotlight: Kids in the Kitchen

By Meagan Forbes

The Junior League of Winston-Salem's version of the AJLI national project is helping kids learn about nutrition and gain access to healthy food.

For one in four residents of Forsyth County, access to fresh, healthy food is a challenge. But the JLWS **Kids in the Kitchen** initiative is working hard to help the community combat childhood obesity and educate children about food.



Forsyth County is one of the nation's highest-ranked counties for food insecurity. The Junior League of Winston-Salem partners with **H.O.P.E.**, a nonprofit organization that prepares healthy meals and distributes them every weekend to people living in food deserts in Winston-Salem. H.O.P.E. delivers food via their food truck and maintains a workspace near downtown Winston-Salem.

Once a month, Kids in the Kitchen committee volunteers show kids how to make a fun, healthy snack, while teaching them about nutrition. Volunteers keep kids engaged by making snacks with themes, like nature and Valentine's Day. Fun shapes and



characters are also incorporated. During one lesson, kids turned a piece of whole wheat toast into a teddy bear by adding banana slices, peanut butter, and raisins. During these lessons, children learn about food groups, nutrition, and how to pick out healthy foods while learning basic food prep skills.

"...this committee is a great way for members to take initiative and lead."

— SARA MASLONKA

Kids in the Kitchen's committee chair, **Sara Maslonka**, along with her co-chair, **Gennie Tedder**, have put a lot of thought and energy into keeping things fresh. Last summer, they overhauled the lessons and digitized them, so members could access them anywhere. Maslonka and Tedder also made up kits with supplies like plates, cutting boards, cutlery, and other kitchen prep materials so members are always prepared to teach a lesson.



And it's not just the kids who benefit from the experience. Sara and Gennie empower Kids in the Kitchen volunteers to lead lessons with the kids. "We offer help and support, but this committee is a great way for members to take initiative and lead," says Sara. "We're definitely a very active committee."

Although they primarily focus on work with H.O.P.E., Kids in the Kitchen works with other projects both in and outside the League. You can see them at the JLWS **Strong Women Strong Families** health fairs, and in collaboration with other JLWS community projects. The Kids in the Kitchen team also participates in the health fair at **Family Services of Forsyth County's Wake Up and Walk 5K** every year as their kickoff event, talking about nutrition and representing the league.

"We're really proud of our volunteers and what we've accomplished this year," said committee chair, Sara Maslonka.



Creole Enchiladas

From the kitchens of the
Junior League of Monroe, LA

INGREDIENTS

1/2 cup (1 stick)	Butter
1 cup	Chopped onion
1/2 cup	Chopped green bell pepper
3 pounds	Crawfish tails
2 cups (1 pint)	Heavy cream
3 (10 ounce)	Cans cream of shrimp soup
8 ounces	Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
8 ounces	Colby cheese, shredded
1 tablespoon	Chili powder
1 tablespoon	Ground cumin
1 (8 - 10 count)	Package flour tortillas
8 ounces	Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
1 cup	Chopped green onions for garnish

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Melt the butter in a skillet. Add the onion and bell pepper and sauté until soft. Add the crawfish and bring to a simmer. Add the cream, soup, 8 ounces of Monterey Jack cheese, the Colby cheese, chili powder and cumin and mix well. Simmer for 10 minutes. Do not boil. Remove from the heat to cool. Fill the tortillas with the crawfish filling and roll up. Place seam side down in a 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Spoon the remaining crawfish filling over the top. Sprinkle with 8 ounces Monterey Jack cheese. Bake for 30 – 40 minutes or until bubbly. Garnish with the green onions.

Pecan Bars

From the kitchens of the Junior League of Dallas, TX

INGREDIENTS

1 cup	Margarine	1 teaspoon	Cinnamon
1 cup	Sugar	1 tablespoon	Milk
1	Egg, separated	1 cup	Pecans, chopped
2 cups	Flour		

DIRECTIONS

Cream margarine and sugar; add egg yolk; add flour, cinnamon, and milk. Mix well. Pat dough out in a greased 13 x 9 x 2-inch pan. Beat egg white slightly, brush over top. Sprinkle with pecans and press lightly into dough. Bake at 350° for 35 – 45 minutes. Cut into bars while hot. Makes 30 cookies.

Savory Chicken Roll-Ups

INGREDIENTS

1/3 cup	Herb-seasoned croutons or seasoned bread stuff crushed
1/4 cup	Walnuts or pecan, crushed
1 pkg. (3 oz)	Cream cheese, softened
2 tablespoons	Butter, softened
1 tablespoon	Dried onion
1/2 teaspoon	Worcestershire sauce
1 cup	Chicken, cooked and cubed
1 can (8 oz)	Refrigerated crescent rolls
1 tablespoon	Butter, melted

From the kitchens of
the Junior League of
Kalamazoo, MI



DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl, combine crushed croutons and nuts. Set aside. In another bowl, combine cream cheese, 2 tablespoons butter, onion and Worcestershire sauce. Mix well. Add chicken; set aside. Separate crescent dough into 8 triangles. Spread each with a scant 1/4 cup chicken mixture. Roll up, starting at shortest side of triangle and rolling opposite point. Tuck sides and point under to seal completely. Gently roll back and forth to lengthen into uniform shape. Dip rolls in melted butter. Coat with crumb-nut mixture. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 375° for 15 – 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve with your favorite gravy.



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