

• president's message •

Spring has sprung! When I began serving JAV over 5 years ago, I was expecting my second child. Now, as I end my Active time in JAV, I am expecting my third (and last)! I think a couple of presidents before me set this precedence... As another successful year of Junior Auxiliary draws to a close, I reflect on this past year and proudly recall all of the great service our Chapter has performed in the community. From exciting and productive new projects, to productive and excited new members - we have certainly achieved our mission this year!

In October, we began INK - Inspirational Notes for Kids, which all Active members participated and even many of our Life members. This project helped fourth grade students with their writing skills at Sherman Avenue Elementary through a pen-pal relationship with our members. The children loved getting our letters. In fact, I'm not sure if we or the children were more excited to get the letters!

At Dana Road Elementary, we implemented another new project with emphasis on literacy. Members read to all seven 2nd grade classes four weeks out of each month, and each child received a book of their own every nine weeks. This project also worked with Robyn Lea to recruit JAV members to read to schools on Dr. Seuss' birthday and helped collect books for the Anita Tarnabine Literacy Foundation. In the words of Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Because Junior Auxiliary cares, we are making things better!

Our awesome Provisional class implemented their provisional project, called JAV CARES (Children's Activities, Resources, Education, and Support) in which all are provided to children during hospital stays at River Region Health System. With this project, they helped supply DVD players and DVDs for the 12 rooms in the pediatric unit. During holidays, they

decorated the pediatric unit with holiday and seasonal items. Not only have they implemented stock the "treasure chest" with goodies for children prior to having a procedure, but they have also given each child a welcome gift when they are admitted to the pediatric unit. Since this has been such a wonderful project, it was voted in as a new project for next year. I can't wait to see what good work these nine ladies have in store for JAV over the next five years.

On another note, nine of us will be ending our Active status. Our Class 5 ladies have all generously served and contributed many countless hours to Junior Auxiliary. I think I speak for all of us, when I say that we have cherished our time and made some wonderful new friends that may not have been possible without serving in this great organization. I hope we will all be able to help fill needs within the community either as Life members or through other service organizations. As Ruth Stafford Peale said, "Find a need and fill it." I think we can all continue to contribute in a small way that will make a big difference.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the annual Spring Party at the home of Ann Roberson, where our new members will honor our outgoing members. Thank you all for a great year and for all you do in our community!

*Warmest Regards,
Speler Montgomery*



JAV CARES
Providing children's Activities,
Resources, Education, and Support
during hospital stays at
River Region Health System
Junior Auxiliary of Vicksburg

snapshot: JAV CARES

JAV CARES, the 2011-2012 Provisional Project, provides children's activities, resources, education, and support during hospital stays at River Region Health Systems of Vicksburg. Established by the 2011-2012 JAV Provisional Members, JAV CARES was created to meet the needs of the hospital by aiding in the improvement of its pediatric unit and making it a more welcoming environment for patients. *(Story continued inside.)*

The 30th Anniversary of Vintage Vicksburg is fast approaching and the cookbook committee would like to commemorate the occasion by publishing a 30th Anniversary Edition. Please send us your feedback on this idea. We would like to involve the ladies that gave us the 1st edition and others if interested. At the 2012 Run Thru History the cookbook committee prepared and served samples from Ambrosia. The Pickled Black-Eyed Pea Dip was a hit with the racers and spectators. Dust off your Ambrosia and serve it at your next gathering!

Vintage Vicksburg turns 30!



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The 4th Annual Birdie, Boogie and Kids was held March 29-30 with a Calcutta on Thursday night and the tournament on Friday. We would like to thank all of our sponsors and volunteers for helping us make this event a great success! All proceeds from the tournament will fund the 2012-2013 JAV Service Projects.



Spring Party

Thursday, April 26th
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

At the beautiful home of
Mr. and Mrs. Marion Roberson
114 Golding Boulevard
Vicksburg

Meet our newest members
and say farewell to our
Class 5. Enjoy delicious food,
drinks and entertainment
by our provisional class.

JAV officers for 2012-13

President – Kristy Cole
1st Vice President – Alainna O'Bannon
2nd Vice President – Kara Brister
Projects Chair – Molly Procell
Co-Projects – Maggie Nasif
Treasurer – Gareth Lampkin
Co-Treasurer – Emily McHan
Recording Secretary – Allison Brewer
Co-Recording Secretary – Jennifer Lynne McMillin
Corresponding Secretary – Heather Kealhofer
Public Relations – Christin Matthews
Co-Public Relations – Mary Katherine Ellis
Publications – Karla McHan
Co-Publications – Alley Farrell
Continuing Education – Brooke Southerland
Fundraising – Ashley Smith
Co-Fundraising – Jennifer Grey
Catfish Row Playground Liaison – Katie Ferrell
Ex-Officio – Speler Montgomery



“Like” us on Facebook! Search for “Junior Auxiliary of Vicksburg” and “Cookbooks of Junior Auxiliary of Vicksburg.”

JAV CARES CONTINUED

JAV CARES has provided the 2011-2012 JAV Provisional Members with a rewarding and meaningful avenue to support local children in times of illness. The primary needs of JAV CARES are to supply children with a welcome gift when admitted to the hospital, stock a treasure chest to be used on special occasions, decorate the unit with holiday and seasonal items, and provide DVD players and DVDs for the pediatric unit's twelve hospital rooms.

JAV Active and Provisional Members voted in February to adopt JAV CARES as a new service project for 2012-2013. By adopting JAV CARES as a new service project, we feel as though we are not only brightening the day of a frightened and sick child, but also lending a caring hand to an anxious parent. As more time is spent with the nurses and staff at River Region, it is clear what joy and excitement JAV CARES has brought to the pediatric unit.



(From left) Provisionals Kara Parmegiani and Jessica Holly decorating the Pediatrics Unit at River Region

JAV Provisional Members have distributed letters to local physicians and businesses to request DVD players, DVDs, and monetary donations, but we also welcome Associate and Life Members to get involved with JAV CARES. Please contact projects@javicksburg.org if interested.

Welcome our new Class 1 members: Mary Katherine Ellis, Alley Farrell, Jessica Holly, Lacey Lee, Christin Matthews, Emily McHan, Laura Newman, Kara Parmegiani, Laurie Prescott

JAV reminders:

JA Week is April 1-7
Once again this year, JA members will read to all first graders in Warren County. All of our members enjoy reading to the children and promoting literacy in our community.

AEC Conference 2012
This year's Annual Education Conference will be held in Little Rock, AR, May 4 and 5 at the Peabody Hotel. All board members are required to attend and members are strongly encouraged.

Attention: Associate and Life Members
We encourage you to get involved with projects and other aspects of JAV. Please contact Life Member Liaison, Speler Montgomery, at speler@bellsouth.net or 601-618-6458.



Farewell to Class 5

Thank you and Farewell to Class 5 members. We appreciate your years of dedication and service. You truly made a difference in the lives of the children in Warren County. You will be missed.

Bess Averett - Officer Positions: Publications Chair; Projects: Catfish Row Playground Tools Coordinator, Family Development, Children's Shelter, and Literacy

Emily Custer - Projects: Camp Silvercloud Chair (1 year) and project member (3 years), Children's Shelter, and LEAP Chair

Kristy Ehrgott - Officer Positions: Continuing Education Chair; Projects: Safety Town (1 year) and Camp Silvercloud (4 years)

Ginny Jarratt - Projects: Community Outreach (all 5 years)

Chesley Lambiotte - Officer Positions: Co-Fundraising, Fundraising, First Vice President, President and Ex-Officio; Projects: Catfish Row Playground Volunteer Coordinator, LEAP

Rea Leist - Officer Positions: Co-Projects, Projects Chair; Projects: Children's Shelter Chair (one year) and project member (all 5 years)

Kristy Liggitt - Officer Positions: Co-Projects, Projects Chair, Projects: Children's Shelter Chair, Family Development Chair, LEAP, and Safety Town

Speler Montgomery - Officer Positions: Co-Treasurer, Treasurer, First Vice President, President, Ex-Officio; Projects: Catfish Row Playground, Community Outreach, and Dave Ramsey

Lisa Smith - Projects: Catfish Row Playground, Children's Shelter, Safety Town, and Helping Hands

visit us online at
www.javicksburg.org

JAV Service Projects 2012-13

Camp Silvercloud – members implement a camp in the summer for mentally and physically challenged children.

Children's Shelter – members provide activities, parties and babysitting for children living at the Warren County Children's Shelter.

Community Outreach – members help needy families, especially underprivileged children, in our community by providing shoes, clothing, and other basic items needed; assist the VWSD's School Social Workers by supplying items for the clothes closet and fulfilling special requests. A benevolence fund is included to assist with families in times of emergency/disaster.

Family Development – members provide young disadvantaged mothers and children with the knowledge, skills, and supplies necessary for quality child rearing.

Helping Hands – child welfare project where members adopt a family/families in need of basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and/or emotional support. An ongoing relationship of commitment and support is established until the family becomes self sustaining and is no longer in need of the basic necessities.

INK (Inspirational Notes for Kids) - members partner with 4th graders developing a pen-pal relationship. 4th graders are required to take a state-wide writing assessment. This project helps increase the student's writing and language skills as well as their self esteem giving them an outlet to exchange personal thoughts, stories, and experiences.

LEAP (Learning to Eat and Play) – members teach nutrition and fitness to school-aged children to promote healthy choices.

Service Hours Statistics: From May 2011 through January 2012, JAV has served our community through 959 hours worked (approximately 107 per month) and have reached 1927 kids (approximately 214 per month)

Literacy – members promote literacy and enhance a child's love of reading while helping increase test scores, self confidence, and their ability to read by adopting an elementary grade and reading to the classes. Books are also given to the children to keep.

JAV CARES– members provide Children's Activities, Resources, Education, and Support during hospital stays at River Region Health System. Project activities include decorating the pediatric unit with holiday and seasonal items, welcome gifts for each child admitted to the unit, and stock the treasure chest with goodies for children prior to having a procedure done. DVD players with movies as well as gaming systems and games are also provided for the rooms.



Fourth grade students at Sherman Avenue Elementary with their INK letters

Congrats to our JAV 2012 Graduating Senior Scholarship Winners

Robert Arledge, graduating from St. Aloysius, was awarded \$1000 to attend Millsaps College.

Mesha Blackshear, graduating from Warren Central High School, was awarded \$750 to attend Hinds Community College.

Cameron Cooksey, graduating from Vicksburg High School, was awarded \$1000 to attend East Mississippi Community College.

Dianna Kariuki, graduating from Vicksburg High School, was awarded \$500 (Service Award) to attend Mississippi State University.

Patrick Varnado, Jr., graduating from Warren Central High School, was awarded \$1000 to attend Mississippi State University.

Total Awarded: \$4,250