

Uptown News Beat

President's Letter

Calendar

**Aug 10, 2016
Program Meeting**—Petroleum Club 11:45—1 PM

**Aug 24, 2016
Business Meeting** Wagner & Brown 5th Floor Conference Room—11:45, BYOL

August 26, 2016
Women's Equality Day!

Sept 14, 2016 Program Meeting—Petroleum Club 11:45—1 PM

I cannot believe how fast this summer is flying by! Soon school will be starting, cooler temperatures, football, and of course National Business Women's Week will be here before we know it. As most of you know, planning has already started on this year's event and our dinner will be held on Monday, October 10th. I look forward to working with our NBWW committee to make this year's event a great success!

This year's theme is based on a quote from Maya Angelou, which reads, "I would like to be known as an intelligent woman, a courageous woman, a loving woman, a woman who teaches by being". The last phrase really stood out to me. As professional women in our community and members of BPW we all strive to help others and I know that many of us volunteer at different organizations outside of BPW. Everything we do is a representation of who we are and we are constantly teaching others by our actions. This year I hope that BPW members continue being active in our community and know that by working with these organizations that our actions can greatly impact others. We need to remember that our mission is women helping women, to lead by example whether that is at work or at home and strive to be **"a woman who teaches by being"**.

I am honored to be serving as president for our 2016-2017 year and I am excited to see what lies ahead this year. I look forward to increasing our community projects, expanding our membership, and of course honoring the 2016 Woman of Achievement during NBWW. This is going to be a great year!

Best Personal Wishes

Katie Presley
Uptown BPW
President 2016-2017



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".....A woman who teaches by being."

AFLAC.....Amanda McCann-Potter



AFLAC REGIONAL OFFICE has moved! We are so excited to have a brand new look and more space. Many of you made it by the new office when we did Stephanie's moving-away send off. But, the office has continued to take shape and I welcome any of you to stop by if you are out and about. If it's close enough to 5 (and rarely is it not, lol) you can relax with a tour and a glass of your favorite beverage too!



We are now at 911 N Midkiff - the brown brick building at the SW corner of the Cuthbert intersection. Thanks also to everyone that made it by during our Open House a couple of weeks ago.



MEMBER HAPPENINGS!!

CHRISTMAS IN ACTION.....Jonna Smoot

West Texas National Bank was pleased to present \$2,500 to Christmas in Action a 501 (c) (3) agency whose mission is to preserve and revitalize houses and communities assuring that low-income elderly and disabled homeowners live in warmth, safety and independence. Funds were directed to be used in the Midland area.

Christmas In Action's President, Bobby Trimble indicated that with the extremely high temperatures Midland County has been experiencing, that providing adequate air conditioning for our elderly has been a challenge. Funds such as these provide an immediate help.

Photo Left to Right: Tracye Vaughan, Executive Director - Christmas In Action; Jonna Smoot, Marketing Director - WTNB; Bobby Trimble, President - Christmas In Action



71st Anniversary.....Evie Gandy

FELIX AND LIDIA NERI

*Celebrating
71 Years of
Marriage*

We give GOD
all honor and glory for
health, life and breath.
From all there kids and grandkids,
we love you more than you know!

My parents celebrated their 71st anniversary on February 12, 2016. The weather was crazy so we opted to wait until it was warmer for dad to be out. This past weekend we celebrated their special ANNIVERSARY at their home in Odessa Texas.

Dad is 92 years old, he is a descendant of Italian and Spaniard parents. Mom is 91 years old and is a descendant of Spaniard and Indian parents. We were raised in California, but consider Texas our home after living here for 28 years.

Mom and Dad had a total of 19 kids, but only 13 of

us survived. They have over 50 grandkids, which we have stopped counting because there is so many of them and live in different states. The youngest ones are great grandkids that fall in the 5th generation. We placed an ad in the Odessa American and the first picture will be displayed in this Sunday's newspaper. All I can say is that GOD is awesome and so faithful, for HIS word says in [Psalm 127:3](#) "Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward."



52 Faces.....Lori Wesley

“LORI WESLEY EMBODIES THE IDEAL CHARACTERISTICS OF A VOLUNTEER LEADER” The Board of Trustees of Midland Memorial Hospital has been blessed by the leadership of Lori Wesley for more than five years. Her health care experience gives her a perspective that is not often shared by her fellow community boards members, and her outgoing personality and style have helped make her a particularly effective trustee.

Lori chairs the Quality Improvement Committee of the board. The committee’s work of monitoring quality initiatives and oversight of the medical staff can easily become nothing but tedious review of countless charts and reports. Lori has been instrumental in transforming the focus of the quality program into a true strategic advantage for the hospital, setting clear expectations and ambitious goals, while building an atmosphere of encouragement and fun for those involved in the hospital’s performance improvement efforts. Under her leadership, we focus on what matters, and the community has been the beneficiary of significant, tangible quality improvement at the hospital.



Lori is a tireless worker on behalf of those in our community who can benefit from her help, and her work at the Aphasia Center and Senior Link both inform and strengthen her contributions to Midland Memorial Hospital.

Smart, dedicated, persistent, insightful, positive, serious, and fun— Lori Wesley embodies the ideal characteristics of a volunteer leader. Midland Memorial Hospital has benefited tremendously from her contributions, and I am blessed to call her my friend and colleague.

Russell Meyers, Midland Health president and chief executive officer

“SHE BECAME A TREMENDOUS ADVOCATE FOR PEOPLE UNNECESSARILY MARGINALIZED” No one can ever say Lori Wesley is a shy volunteer. Serving in multiple roles at the Aphasia Center of West Texas, Lori has an unabashed “hands-on” approach. Perhaps the biggest way Lori’s approach shined was in the way she teamed up with Aphasia Center member, Gary, to explain the center’s need for a more functional, ADA-compliant kitchen as one part of its 2009 capital campaign. Gary is smart and capable, yet his aphasia makes his words almost nonexistent. Because of his right-side paralysis, he used a wheelchair. Lori, undaunted, jumped right in to learn adaptive strategies that would enable Gary to be an empowered, equal presenter with her. Because of her willingness to do what many people find initially uncomfortable, Lori not only became a skilled communication partner, she became a tremendous advocate for people unnecessarily marginalized by communication and physical challenges.

Lori has been a committed volunteer for the past eight years because of that same can-do spirit. We were both early participants in the Nonprofit Management Center’s Generations program, an intensive training that teaches people how to be informed and dependable leaders on nonprofit boards. Lori stood out as a passionate person who would inevitable be a vocal advocate for any cause that claimed her heart. She joined the Aphasia Center Board of Directors in 2008, quickly rising to president-elect in 2010, and president in 2011 while also chairing several committees for the Aphasia Center’s largest fundraiser, Chocolate Decadence. Behind the scenes, Lori could also be found picking up trash, planting the front flower pots or decorating restrooms for fundraisers — all with that “hands-on” approach to the myriad tasks that make a nonprofit shine.

When it comes to a volunteer who energetically gives of herself to make our region a better place, Lori Wesley is a stand-out ambassador making a significant difference.

Kathryn Shelly, Aphasia Center West Texas co-founder, marketing and development director

Continued next page

Professional and community involvement: Currently I serve on the Midland Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees and I chair the Quality Improvement Committee. I am the board president for Senior Link Midland, the organization that handles Meals on Wheels and nine other programs that help seniors who are homebound remain in their homes. I am a member of the board of trustee for the Museum of the Southwest. I am a 2007 Generations graduate. I am a past board president of Aphasia Center of West. Texas. I have volunteered with the beacon Awards, an event put on by the Nonprofit Management Center that honors excellence in this sector. As the Community Development officer for Frost, my job allows me to reinvest in our community.

What talents and skills do you share with the community as a nonprofit board member and volunteer? I enjoy board service, as it provides the perfect opportunity to put the culmination of my skill set, interests, experience and connections to use all for a good cause...

- I am a banker so I know how to properly evaluate financials.
- I have a degree in clinical laboratory science and I spent years in a hospital setting. The nuns at St. Mary's Hospital taught me a lot about quality control. Their crisp white polyester habits dragged the floor and dirt would show up quickly so we had to make sure there wasn't any.
- I enjoy fun themed parties for the fundraising aspect appeals to my creative side. I've worked alongside Cece Brune, the mastermind behind the Aphasia Center's extravagant Chocolate Decadence event. She takes these to a new level.
- I like interesting objects and I love a bargain. Scoping out the antiques, furniture and fashion accessories at Senior Link Midland's Texas Size Garage Sales is a riot. I look forward to it every year. My house and my closet are full of these treasures. My sweet husband, Dale Wesley, and his truck are always on call during this event.
- I am a golfer so I enjoy organizing and playing in many local charity tournaments.
- Best of all, volunteering is social. I meet people and develop friendships. Rachael Reinert with Content Forward Marketing reminds me it's very expensive and time consuming to be my friend. I've been known to put my peeps to work. I call in lots of favors and I'm thankful they continually agree to show up, participate, serve, give, help, support the community and me personally in my philanthropic endeavors. It is truly a team effort. And Extra kudos goes to my husband, Dale. It's a big deal to always be up for everything I get us roped into.

When did volunteerism become a regular part of your life, and how does it fulfil you? I come from a family of volunteers. I developed great sense of community as a result of watching them. My mother, at 75, still spends hours each week helping Senior Link Midland prepare for its annual garage sale. My grandparents took children in their home who were waiting to be assigned to permanent foster families. At a young age I learned to make special considerations for those with special needs and about helping others and keeping them safe during a vulnerable time. That sticks with me. It helped me assume the responsibility of doing my part. It gave me the desire to fulfill the need I have to help others I love to see parents lead by example. In the summer months it's fun to watch parents take their kids to deliver meals on wheels. One-time routes are available.

What unexpected lesson have you learned while serving as a volunteer? Volunteering gives you a chance to see how great the need is in our community. Seeing another perspective is the ultimate eye-opener. I may never encounter an obstacle that may become debilitating for someone else. It's important to remember in a community setting one person's problem is everyone's problem. Also, better understanding the challenges people are faced with helps me operate with more patience and grace on a daily basis.

MRT 7/25/16

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Photo Left to Right: Jonna Smoot, Marketing Director – WTNB; Alynda Best, Executive



West Texas National Bank was pleased to present \$5,000 to Habitat to Humanity International, a non-profit, ecumenical Christian 501 (c) (3) agency, dedicated to eliminating poverty housing worldwide. Habitat works in partnership with people in need building simple decent shelter that is sold to them at no profit, through no-interest loans. To date this organization has built over 175,000 homes worldwide, providing adequate housing for more than 100,000,000 people. These funds were directed to be used in the Odessa area towards low to moderate income family homes.

Habitat does business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law (The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988). West Texas National Bank is Member FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

What is Women's Equality Day?

At the behest of Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY), in 1971 the U.S. Congress designated August 26 as "Women's Equality Day."

The date was selected to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote. This was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that had its formal beginnings in 1848 at the world's first women's rights convention, in Seneca Falls, New York. The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations, and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings, or other activities.

Joint Resolution of Congress, 1971 Designating August 26 of each year as Women's Equality Day

WHEREAS, the women of the United States have been treated as second-class citizens and have not been entitled the full rights and privileges, public or private, legal or institutional, which are available to male citizens of the United States; and WHEREAS, the women of the United States have united to assure that these rights and privileges are available to all citizens equally regardless of sex; and

WHEREAS, the women of the United States have designated August 26, the anniversary date of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, as symbol of the continued fight for equal rights: and

WHEREAS, the women of United States are to be commended and supported in their organizations and activities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that August 26th of each year is designated as Women's Equality Day, and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation annually in commemoration of that day in 1920, on which the women of America were first given the right to vote, and that day in 1970, on which a nationwide demonstration for women's rights took place.

Happy Birthday

8/3 Stephanie Murphree

8/8 Marquita Potter

8/15 Lori Wesley



Women in History

8/3 Maggie Kuhn 1905-1995
Elderly rights activist, author,
Founded Gray Panthers

8/8 Marjorie Rawlings 1896-1953
Author, won Pulitzer Prize for
The Yearling, 1938

8/15 Gerty Cori 1896-1957
Biochemist, Pulitzer Prize in medi-
cine and physiology, 1947



Our Mission

The mission of this organization is to equip all women for success in the workplace through education and information, and to recognize and honor the accomplishments of working women.

WOMEN'S
Equality
Day

August 26

Celebrating
Women's
Right To
Vote



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