

30<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary

Missouri City Chapter



THE  
Emerald Legacy  
OF  
Leadership Luncheon

Saturday, May 30, 2009

## Keynote Speaker



**THE HONORABLE VANESSA DIANE GILMORE** is United States District Judge, Southern District of Texas, an appointee of President William Clinton and, at that time, the youngest sitting judge in the nation. The first graduate of the University of Houston Law Center to be appointed to the federal bench, she began her law career as a member of the firm Vickery, Kilbride, Gilmore, and Vickery, specializing in civil litigation. In 1991, Governor Ann Richards appointed her to the Texas Department of Commerce Policy Board, the first African American so named, on which she served as chairman from 1992 to 1994. In 1993, she served as chairperson of Texans for NAFTA, working with diplomatic leaders to increase U.S. trade opportunities. A highly regarded jurist, Judge Gilmore has published noteworthy opinions on patients' rights, copyright and patent law, and the first amendment.

Judge Gilmore serves on a number of boards, including those of the Houston Zoo, Habitat for Humanity, San Jacinto Girl Scouts, Hampton University, and Spaulding for Children. She is a member of the Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc.

## Our Choice Honorees



**THE HONORABLE SHEILA JACKSON LEE** (18th Congressional District of Texas), a seven-term member of the United States House of Representatives, is the new chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection. Also a member of the House Committees on Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs. Her amendment to the current NASA reauthorization bill ensures equal access to NASA's educational programs for minority and economically disadvantaged students. Congresswoman Lee is a member of the Houston Chapter of The Links, Inc.



**JANIECE LONGORIA** a partner in the law firm of Ogden, Gibson, Brooks and Longoria, L.L.P., is among a select group of women lawyers across the United States serving with distinction as independent directors of public companies and, as such, advancing the value of diversity in board positions. Her many board responsibilities include those of CenterPoint Energy, The University of Texas System Board of Regents, The Greater Houston Partnership, The Heritage Society and the Port of Houston Authority. She is a recipient of the 2008 Sandra Day O'Connor Board of Excellence Award.



**CONSTANCE WHITE** is the executive director of Spindletop Charities International, Inc., which was created in 1966 to benefit youth charities, specifically those addressing children "in need" and "at risk." For the past 20 years she has been responsible for the raising and distribution of millions of dollars to local youth charities. Equally important, she has raised the level of awareness of the critical needs of youth in our community and the sensitivity toward those needs as reflected in increase volunteerism. In 2007–2008, Spindletop International donated approximately \$2.6 million to various youth charities in the Houston area.

The Missouri City Chapter  
of The Links, Incorporated  
*in partnership with*  
The Choice Foundation, Inc.  
cordially invite you to

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THE  
*Emerald Legacy*  
OF  
*Leadership Luncheon*

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celebrating a  
*30-Year Legacy*  
of Community Service and  
Honoring Exceptional Leadership

*Saturday, May 30, 2009*

**10:30 AM** Reception

**11:30 AM** Program & Lunch

**Hilton Americas - Houston**

1600 Lamar

Houston, Texas 77010

*Business Attire*

**30<sup>th</sup>**  
*Anniversary*  
 Missouri City Chapter

*Chapter Presidents*

<b>Eva Jackson Purnell</b>	1979-81
<b>JoAnn Brown</b>	1981-83
<b>Jerelyn Mathis Gooden</b>	1983-85
<b>Gayla Jones Gardner</b>	1985-87
<b>Pamela Moseley Jackson</b>	1987-88
<b>Faye Beverly Bryant</b>	1988-91
<b>Delores Tarver Smith</b>	1991-95
<b>Eva Jackson Purnell</b>	1995-96
<b>Ada Taylor Cooper</b>	1996-99
Lois Bullock	1999-01
Mable Ross Lewis	2001-03
Lillie Jones Fontenot	2003-05
Evelyn Wilson Thornton	2005-09

**Charter Member**

**The Missouri City Chapter of  
 The Links, Incorporated**

*Charter Members*  
**1979**

**Claudia Anderson\***

Priscilla Hill-Ardoin

Gwendolyn Boyd

JoAnn Brown

**Faye Bryant**

**Ada Cooper**

Rudyne Crawley

**Benaye Demby**

**Leola Edwards\***

**Gayla Gardner**

Pamela Gaskin

**Jerelyn Gooden**

**Pamela Jackson**

Catherine LaBohne Williams

Delores Lee

Dorothy Logans

**Patricia Odom**

JoAnn Palmer

Yvonne Peterson

Maggie Porter

**Eva Purnell**

Mary Jane Simpson

**Delores Smith – Organizer**

**Donna Smith**

Gloria Walker

Lois Walker

**Lodis Wycoff**

*\*Deceased*

**MCCL Current Member**

# 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Missouri City Chapter

*The Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc.*, a group of 60 civic-minded professional women committed to community service and leadership in the Greater Houston area, is an affiliate of The Links Incorporated, an international, not-for-profit organization established in 1946. Its membership consists of 12,000 professional women of color in 270 chapters across 42 states and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. The Links Incorporated is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women committed to enriching the quality of life through goods and services.

*The Choice Foundation, Inc.*, a 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 2008 for the purpose of enriching the lives of those living in the greater Houston area. Its programming thrusts focus on health and human services to support families, services that assist youth in their educational and career development as well as their cultural expansion through introduction to the visual and performing arts, and international initiatives that promote awareness of the world and its people.

## *Sponsors*

**EMERALD LEVEL – \$15,000**

CenterPoint Energy

**JEWEL LEVEL – \$10,000**

Gilbreath Communications, Inc.

Port of Houston Authority

True Blue Foundation, Inc.

**SPARKLER LEVEL – \$5,000**

JSG & Associates

Shell Oil Company

**NUGGET LEVEL – \$3,000**

Andrews Kurth LLP

H-E-B

Houston Pilots Association

Schlumberger

**TRINKET LEVEL – \$1,500**

BP America

CAMAC International Corporation

Energized for Excellence

Jerelyn Gooden

Leslie Mays

Wanda Mott, M.D. and Bill Russell

the Clifford Group inc.

Dr. Evelyn Thornton

## 30TH ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY INITIATIVES: “CIRCLE OF FRIENDS” BOOK DRIVE AND THE ULTIMATE EMERALD RAFFLE

The Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc. has embraced the E-STEM Academy, Inc. and Ryan Middle School libraries. Guests may extend their commitment to community service by purchasing books for these libraries. The name of the donor will be on a bookplate placed on the inside cover of the book. Also, proceeds from the purchase of tickets for the baskets on display during

The Ultimate Emerald Raffle will be used for book purchases.

# The Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc.

## 30th Anniversary Leadership



Evelyn E. Thornton  
*Missouri City Chapter President*

Delores Tarver Smith  
*Honorary Chairperson*

### Chapter Officers

Evelyn E. Thornton  
*President*

Clarice P. Lowe  
*Vice President of Program*

Fredricka F. Gant  
*Vice President of Membership*

Janice Character  
*Recording Secretary*

Mable Lewis  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Valra Johnson  
*Financial Secretary*

Melanie Wilson-Lawson  
*Assistant Secretary*

Helen Crawford  
*Treasurer*

Delores D. Smith  
*Parliamentarian*

Polly Turner  
*Chaplain*

Argentina M. James  
*Chair, Financial Resources*

Eva J. Purnell  
*Chief of Protocol*

Lillie Jones Fontenot  
*Immediate Past President*

Ada Cooper  
*Archivist*

### General Chairpersons

Jerelyn Matthis Gooden  
*Event Design and Production*

Argentina M. James  
& Audrey Gilbreath  
*Event Marketing*

Sharon Michael Owens  
& Benaye Demby  
*The Commemorative Publication*

### Program Chairs

Valerie S. Rosemond  
*Services To Youth*

Polly Turner  
*The Arts*

Donna D. Smith  
*National Trends & Services*

Wanda Mott-Russell  
*International Trends & Services*

Faye Bryant  
*Education Linkage*

Pamela Jackson  
*Health Linkage*

Sherea McKenzie Poston  
*Legislative Linkage*

### Members

Donya Gardner Barrett

Dawn Benjamin

Tanyel Harrison Bennett

Lois Bullock

Andrea Campbell

Anella Coleman

Iris Cross

Benaye Demby

Jacqueline Cooper-Edwards

Gina Gaston Elie

Mamie Hans Ewing

Monica Fontenot-Poindexter

### Event Directors

Anita Webber Smith  
*The 30th Anniversary  
Emerald Luncheon*

Gayla Jones Gardner  
*The "Circle of Friends"  
Book Drive*

Yava Williams Scott  
*The Ultimate Emerald Raffle*

Polly Sparks Turner  
*"Ties That Bind"*

Gayla J. Gardner

Janice Beal-Geyen

Audrey Gilbreath

Vanessa D. Gilmore

Jerelyn M. Gooden

Carol Guess

Carolyn Guess

Jene Guess-Cash

Lisa Crawford Haddad

Marian Harper

Tommye Harrison

Nancy Henry

Arleen Lawson

Leslie A. Mays

Ann Medrano

Jarmese R. Morris

Patricia D. Odom

Sharon M. Owens

Jonita Reynolds

Yava Scott

Anita W. Smith

Gayla Thomas

Tosha Thomas

Donna B. Ward

Carol Watson

Patricia Williams

Regina Hall Woolfolk

Lodis W. Wykoff

For more information about the Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc.,  
visit [www.missouricitylinks.org](http://www.missouricitylinks.org)

MISSOURI CITY CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED & THE CHOICE FOUNDATION

“EMERALD LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON: *CELEBRATING A 30-YEAR LEGACY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND HONORING EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP*”

HILTON AMERICAS-HOUSTON, 1600 LAMAR STREET, HOUSTON, TEXAS

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009, 10:30 A.M. RECEPTION AND 11:30 A.M. PROGRAM AND LUNCH



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

*As you would have it appear on promotional materials and in the event program*

CONTACT PERSON \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*Sponsorship checks are made payable to The Choice Foundation. Kindly mail your donation to the attention of Ms. Valra Johnson, P.O. Box 11111, Houston, Texas 77293-1111. The Choice Foundation TAX I.D. number is 80-0154677. Should you have questions, please contact Arleen Lawson at 281-556-5461 or arleenlawson@sbcglobal.net. For more information about the Missouri City Chapter of The Links, Inc., visit [www.missouricitylinks.org](http://www.missouricitylinks.org)*

**I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR THE EVENT IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:**

- |   |          |  |
|---|----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emerald Level  | \$15,000 | _____ Individual tickets are: \$300 (reserved seating), \$150 (preferred seating), and \$100 (General Seating) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewel Level    | \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> My check made payable to The Choice Foundation is enclosed.                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gem Level      | \$7,500  | <input type="checkbox"/> My pledge for \$_____ will follow. You can expect payment by May 15, 2009.            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sparkler Level | \$5,000  | <input type="checkbox"/> I cannot attend, but I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$_____.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nugget Level   | \$3,000  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trinket Level  | \$1,500  |  |

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Sponsorship Opportunities



## **\$15,000 — EMERALD LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table of ten (10), two (2) guests seated at the head table, company logo listed in weekend celebration invitation, company logo listed on Missouri City Chapter Web site and on promotional materials for Missouri City Chapter sponsored events during the year, a premier full page ad in the commemorative booklet and listed as major sponsor for chapter programs for the year.

## **\$10,000 — JEWEL LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table of ten (10), company name listed in weekend celebration invitation, company logo listed on Missouri City Chapter Web site and on promotional materials for Missouri City Chapter sponsored events during the year, a full page ad in the commemorative booklet and listed as major sponsor for chapter programs for the year.

## **\$7,500 — GEM LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table of ten (10), company name listed in weekend celebration invitation, company name listed on Missouri City Chapter Web site and on promotional materials for Missouri City Chapter sponsored events during the year, a full page ad in the commemorative booklet and listed as major sponsor for chapter programs for the year.

## **\$5,000 — SPARKLER LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table of ten (10), company name listed in weekend celebration invitation, company name listed on Missouri City Chapter Web site and on promotional materials for the year, a half (1/2) page ad in the commemorative booklet and listed as sponsor for chapter programs for the year.

## **\$3,000 — NUGGET LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table of ten (10), company name listed in weekend celebration invitation, company logo listed on Missouri City Chapter web site and on promotional materials for the year, a half page (1/2) ad in the commemorative booklet and listed as a sponsor for chapter programs for the year.

## **\$1,500 — TRINKET LEVEL**

Includes one (1) table for ten (10), listing in the program, one (1) year recognition on the Missouri City Chapter web site and a quarter page (1/4) ad in the commemorative booklet.