



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
PITTSBURGH**

Women building better communities®

LIGHTS

January 2011

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A Day For Moms

Celebrating mothers, children and their health

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Christie Smith

2010 -2011 Executive Board
President: Christie Smith
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Treasurer: Jennifer Hart
Treasurer -Elect: Angel Mazack
Secretary: Christina Kepplinger
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Community Director: Gretchen Smathers
Marketing Director: Erin Kienzle Gigis
Fund Development Director: Jennifer Danquist
Membership Director: Karen Rollins-Fitch
Sustainer Director: Brooke McMorrow

Happy New Year to Everyone! I want to wish all of you a healthy and fulfilling 2011. The Junior League of Pittsburgh is in the middle of another busy year packed with activity. Our members have helped to establish a Diaper Bank at the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, educate kids about nutrition and support the mentoring of young girls. All of this work helps to establish a strong foundation in the lives of so many in our community.

We were all reminded of the JLP's legacy during our November GMM. Jane Werner, Director of the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, came to update the membership on the state of the museum and its history. She praised Sustainers who began the project, saying her position is a profession - but she couldn't imagine beginning an undertaking like a Children's Museum from scratch. She made all of us proud to be Members.

In our most recent fundraiser, a small but mighty American Girl committee put on a weekend of entertaining fashion shows in late November. Close to one-thousand people came to the shows which raised tens-of-thousands of dollars for children's charities! I had the pleasure of sitting with families of models and other attendees, and can report that a wonder-ful time was had by all. Over and over people expressed high praise for the event and the JLP's Healthy Kids' Initiative.

Our 50-woman strong Provisional Class is proving itself a force. They are planning Diaper Drives and working on a project with plenty of opportunity to engage all membership - a "Play Day" on April 16th at Robert E. Williams Park in the Hill District. This will entail clean-ing the park and hosting a community picnic. We especially encourage Sustainers to con-sider joining us for a hands-on day volunteering while renewing friendships or meeting some-one new. Look for more information on our website and in the blasts.

The League is also rolling along the planning road for Touch-A-Truck – which gets bigger and better every year! Please check out their article and think about helping out. As we've all experienced at some time, volunteering has medicinal purposes – the act of giving back can heal weary minds and hearts (in addition to helping our community)!

We want the JLP to be a place that celebrates each member and helps her achieve her goals. Learning is life long and passion must be renewed. As women, I know that life pulls us in many directions. I want to thank each one of you who have put the JLP and better-ing our community as priorities in your lives. I also want to thank this year's Board of Direc-tors and Chairs who are working hard to help chart the League's course.

I look forward to working with all of you as we carry out our mission!

MEET OUR NEW PROVISIONALS!

Lilly Adamovic
 Mackenzie Baird
 Meghan Bollens
 Keisha Champagne
 Erica Franko
 Ann Graff
 Kelly Miser
 Kia-Jacquelyn Omotalade
 Jessica Papadopoulos
 Jennifer Sherry
 Mahogany Thaxton
 Amy Vanderveen
 Tomilyn Ward

Elise Wolff
 Megan Worbs
 Alexis Miller
 Erin Baker
 Melissa Blackford
 Emily Chiappazzi
 Julie Frieko
 Nikki Hudak-Fink
 Tamara Johnson
 Gillen Nowak
 Meghan Roe
 Melissa Schultz
 Nancy Youell

Alexandra Boucher
 Katherine Garrabrant
 Elizabeth Gingrich
 Sheena Monnin
 Amber Nisbet
 Jennifer DePoli
 Scott Crum
 Caroline Fasulo
 Meagan Glenney
 Jessica Gregg
 Kimberly Jenkins
 Lisa Knerr
 Linda Kosinski

Katelyn Lamm
 Courtney Macurak
 Heather Tomko
 Amanda Wolsey
 Tricina Cash
 Carlee Hallo
 Amy Kelly
 Carleen Lachman
 Meghan Losee
 Debbie Lynch
 Maria Muzzie
 samantha Smith
 Jennifer Riley

DIAPER DUTY: CREATION OF A DIAPER BANK

By Gretchen Smathers

In September, the Junior League of Pittsburgh donated \$10,000 to the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank to establish a diaper bank for our community. A recent study commissioned by Kimberly-Clarke's Huggies diaper brand surprisingly found that one in three American mothers struggles to provide clean diapers for their babies. This lack of clean diapers can cause physical and emotional suffering. Federal and state assistant programs such as food stamps and WIC exclude personal hygiene items like diapers. Thus our diaper bank fills a crucial need in our community.

To celebrate the donation, we hosted an event geared towards mothers and mothers-to-be in our community – “A Day For Moms.” This event for mothers and families in need included free health screenings, distribution of gently used baby items, and crafts and games for kids.

Everyone – new members, actives, gold actives and sustainers – are encouraged to host a diaper drive. Amy Giammatteo can help you with the process; she can be reached at mamatomia@hotmail.com.



“A Day for Moms”

By the Numbers

150 parents, grandparents, children

300 packages of diapers

12 gently used items - strollers, pack-n-plays

300 balloon animals!



Virtual Diaper Drive

You can participate in this League community project from the comfort of your chair. Visit our virtual diaper drive to shop for diapers and the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank will get your diapers to the babies who need them.

Visit: pittsburghfoodbank.org/diaperdrive



AMERICAN GIRL FASHION SHOW

Tickets to the five sold-out American Girl Fashion Show were the hottest in town for the Junior League of Pittsburgh's (JLP) annual event, held the weekend of November 20-21 at the Club At Nevillewood. The JLP welcomed 982 attendees while celebrating girls of yesterday and today through a colorful representation of historical and contemporary fashions at the 2010 show.

The show featured 98 local girls selected at model search events in August and September. The models spent the weeks leading up to the show being fitted for costumes and rehearsing their parts.

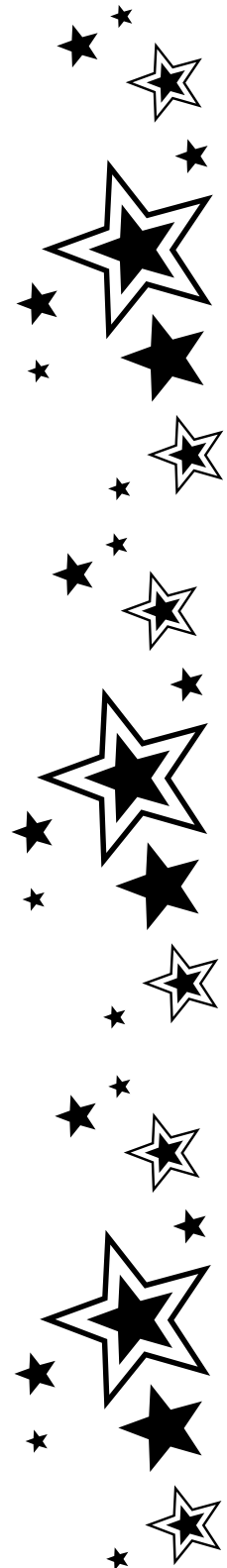
While dining on delicious fare, excited audience members learned how clothing has changed over the years to reflect history, cul-ture and girls' individual styles as models paraded down the run-way with American Girl dolls. The show detailed the styles of Addy, Felicity, Elizabeth, Josefina, Julie, Ivy, Kay, Kit, Ruthie, Molly, Emily and Rebecca showing their everyday wear as well as special occasion and sleepwear outfits. This year, the show introduced Lanie, the 2010 Girl of the Year. The fashion-line up also included contemporary fashions from the My American Girl collection. Younger girls showcased the Bitty Twins and Bitty Baby apparel.



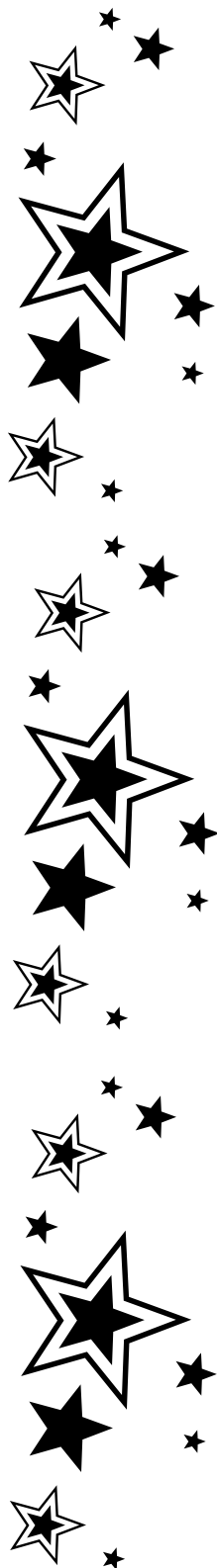
The shows kicked off with greetings from celebrity guest emcees from WTAE-TV, Miss Pennsylvania Teen USA 2010 and Miss Pennsylvania USA 2010. The emcees welcomed guests and introduced teen commentators, who graciously volunteered their time to rehearse and narrate the shows. The emcees and teenage commentators also drew the winners of the door prizes during each show. Door prizes included Mini Molly Doll, Rebecca Paper Doll Scenes and American Girl Magazine Subscription.

Before the show, girls had an opportunity to get a new hairdo for their dolls at the Doll Hair Salon sponsored by SUPERCUTS. The stylists used American Girl –Adorable Accents? hair accessories to style dolls' hair and girls were able to take home whatever accessories were not used.

Guests were able to purchase additional merchandise from several businesses that donated a portion of their proceeds to the JLP's Healthy Kids Initiative. Audience members had an opportunity to remember their fun-filled day with portraits by Furnace Hill Photography. Cookie Lee sold jewelry that daughters, mothers and grandmothers loved and the Botanical Emporium offered fresh cut flowers for adults to give to their loved ones.



American Girl Fashion Show 2010 by the Numbers
Guests: 982 Guest Models: 45 Celebrity Emcees: 4
Models: 98 Teenage Commentators: 9



The JLP offered exclusive American Girl Fashion Show souvenirs, including youth-sized shirts, doll outfits, girl and doll totes and fashionable pink doll sneakers.

The Botanical Emporium also provided the bright Gerber Daisy centerpieces for the grand ballroom and Wenning Entertainment provided the musical soundtrack for the show.

Guest models took their turn on the runway during intermission. Forty-five models showed off their own outfits and dolls while emcees narrated their age, interests and favorite American Girl characters.

We distributed over 17 raffle prizes that created a lot of buzz, such as, American Girl dolls and accessories, an American Girl Doll camper and gear, and a trip to the American Girl store in New York City. Guests also had a chance to win exciting prizes provided by American Eagle, big Burrito Restaurant Group, Dick's Sporting Goods, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and more.

The money raised from the American Girl Fashion Show supports the JLP's Healthy Kids Initiative, which aims to improve the physical health of kids in our region. Proceeds from the show will benefit Kids in the Kitchen, a program designed to address childhood obesity by partnering with local chefs, nutritionists, and community

organizations to teach kids about healthy eating and lifestyles; Strong Women Strong Girls, which pairs college under-graduate women with at-risk girls in grades 3-5 to build self-esteem, leadership and other skills for lifelong success; and Done In A Day (DIAD) projects, in which the JLP offers volunteer help to organizations at events that have an impact on children and children's health.

One guest said, —My favorite part was seeing my daughter walk down the runway and watching all the little girls enjoy themselves. Learning about the styles of different times was so interesting!?

Another commented, —My daughter loved the Doll Hair Salon and getting a new look for her doll. I thought the entire show was wonderful and everyone was so pleasant!?

The American Girl Fashion Show committee and JLP volunteers were invaluable to the success of the show. We thank everyone that volunteered their time at meetings, model fittings, rehearsals and during the show to ensure our models and guests had a fan-tastic time. We greatly appreciate your hard work and look forward to next year's show!



SHOP THE WEAR AFTER SHOP THIS YEAR

Vintage is the new black!

Just like that perfect little black dress, every girl should have something vintage – a set of perfect pearls from the 1950s, a pair of cool, colorful flared pants from the 1970s or maybe a designer dress from the upscale boutique, The Vendome, on the eleventh floor of Kaufmann's Department Store which was stocked with fashions from Paris to New York. Vintage has become one of the hottest fashion trends as celebrities, socialites, and everyday women clamor to resale shops to take part of this trend. Why is it so popular? Because vintage means value. You can get great, unique clothing, often at bargain-basement prices. All you have to do is act fast and keep your eyes open. So express your individuality this year and shop at the Wear After Shop! Visit this month as we are offering 50% off all clothing.

The Wear After Shop has undergone a number of exciting changes so far this year. We welcomed two new employees, Linda Wills and Melissa Osburn, to create window displays, improve merchandising and standardize pricing within the store. Both women bring experience and excellent customer service. Linda hails from The Art Institute of Pittsburgh pursuing a degree in fashion design. Her window displays are worth seeing – you will want to purchase one of her looks for 2011.

The Wear After Shop also gained two new co-chairs this year, Alicia Fiorentino and Kimberly Toland along with a superb Fund Development Chair, Jenny Danquist and a new WAS Committee. We would like to extend special thanks to a very special committee member, Laura Dardenger, for all of her hard work and creativity!

In order to improve our image and the quality of our merchandise, we have new donation guidelines and forms. To view the complete new donation form and guidelines go to the "Members Only" section under "Shift Sign-Ups" or on our public page under "Support the JLP - Wear After Shop".





We are accepting the following items:

- Clothing for adults and children (preferred brands are listed on our website)
- Shoes
- Jewelry
- Handbags
- Accessories - belts, ties, hats, pins, scarves, headbands, barrettes
- House wares - artwork, mirrors, vases, matching glasses/serving sets, bowls, serving platters and vintage kitchen items
- Small furniture - dressers, chairs, end tables and jewelry stands

Clothing donations must be:

- *in excellent, "like new" condition
- *in season
- *current, fashionable or vintage (early 70's or earlier)
- *without stains, holes, tears, pilling
- *without obvious signs of wear, pet hair, extreme wrinkles, or odors
- *We working zippers and no missing buttons
- *in original shape and size - no shrinking or alterations
- *prefer clothing to have the size marked and on hangers



In addition, we are requesting that members donate their items on hangers and allow the WAS staff to price their merchandise. This helps us to maintain the integrity of the items and place articles on the floor that will help to improve sales. And improve our sales, it has! The past five months has yielded an almost 15% increase when compared to last year and has raised \$33,212.65 to support our community projects. So, please help us to keep up the momentum and donate your treasures from your closet.

We are still in need of:

- Jewelry
- Hats
- Accessories like belts and scarves
- Women's dresses
- Menswear
- Unique house wears

We are also looking for interior design items to update the store's look, like mirrors, long curtains, mannequins, racks, benches, and a new steam cleaner, so please contact us if you have any personal or professional connections that may be able to provide these to us as a donation or at a discounted price. And now that the cold weather has finally arrived, so have the furs from Carl Hermann.

FUR SHOPPING EVENT

Join us January 30th

12:00pm—6:00pm

- More than 75 Carl Herrmann Furs
- Enter to Win \$300 in Merchandise!

TOUCH - A - TRUCK



It's that time of year again, and we're not talking about the holidays— it's Touch-a-Truck planning time! Touch-a-Truck 2011, scheduled to be held in the Strip District on May 21, 2011, will give children of all ages the opportunity to explore trucks from all walks and works of life. Imaginations will come to life as kids get up close to all kinds of working trucks. Sitting in the driver's seat, you can honk the horn, run the sirens or even maneuver a crane. There will be plenty of activities and yummy treats.

The 2011 Touch-a-Truck committee will begin meeting in December. As a member of the committee, Junior League members will have the opportunity to solicit everything from trucks to participate, donations, sponsorship, publicity, and advertising. As we gear up for the event, we will be meeting once or twice a month, adding more meetings as we approach the day of the event. We need your time, treasures and talents to make this year as much of a success as years past. If you are not on the committee and you'd like to be, no worries, you can join us anytime! If you don't want to join the committee but still want to participate, there will be plenty of volunteer opportunities leading up to the day of the event as well as on the day of the event. It's a lot of hard work but tons of fun!

As the new chairs of Touch-a-Truck, we know we have some big shoes to fill. Past chairs, Marie Elash and Meghan Booth and also Kristen Fawcett, the first Touch-a-Truck chair in Pittsburgh, have all worked very hard to make this event, not only a huge success, but a blast for kids, parents and committee members.

With your help, we are revving up our engines to make Touch-a-Truck 2011 a fantastic day!

Thanks,
Amy Giammatteo and
Heidi Gillespie, 2011 TAT Co-Chairs

SAVE THE DATE!

**Touch-a-Truck
May 21, 2011
Same place,
more Trucks!**

PROVISIONAL DIAPER DRIVE

Robert Morris Basketball Game

COME ONE, COME ALL! DIAPER DRIVE AT RMU BASKETBALL GAMES! In conjunction with Robert Morris University's Men's and Women's Basketball Teams, the South and West Provisional Group will host a diaper drive on January 15, 2011. The women's game is at 4 PM, and the men's game is at 7 PM at RMU in Moon Township; both teams will be facing Monmouth in conference matchups. Tickets cost \$7 for admission to the games, and we will be accepting diapers and monetary donations. We will also be raffling off various items throughout the night. Come out and enjoy one or both of the games while supporting the South and West Provisional's Diaper Drive!

Amy Kelly amymfkelly@gmail.com
or Meghan Losee mclosee@gmail.com



30 Members of the Provisional Class on their 2010 Bus Tour

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AT THE DUQUESNE CLUB



MEMBER NEWS



Provisional Kia-Jacquelyn Omotalade was honored in Pittsburgh's 40 under 40!

Active, Collyn Evans and her husband, Derek Fink, announce the birth of their daughter, Roxie Stoudemire, on August 19, 2010. Roxie weighed 5 lbs 15 oz and was 19 inches long.



Congrats to Active Kristen Laster! She's engaged to be married to Bennett Smith. They are planning an April wedding in Charleston, South Carolina.

Fund Development Director Jennifer Danquist and Todd Kilgore were engaged on Thanksgiving Eve and celebrated their engagement with both their families over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. As for wedding plans, well they have not been set...but they do know it will be a destination wedding to somewhere tropical!



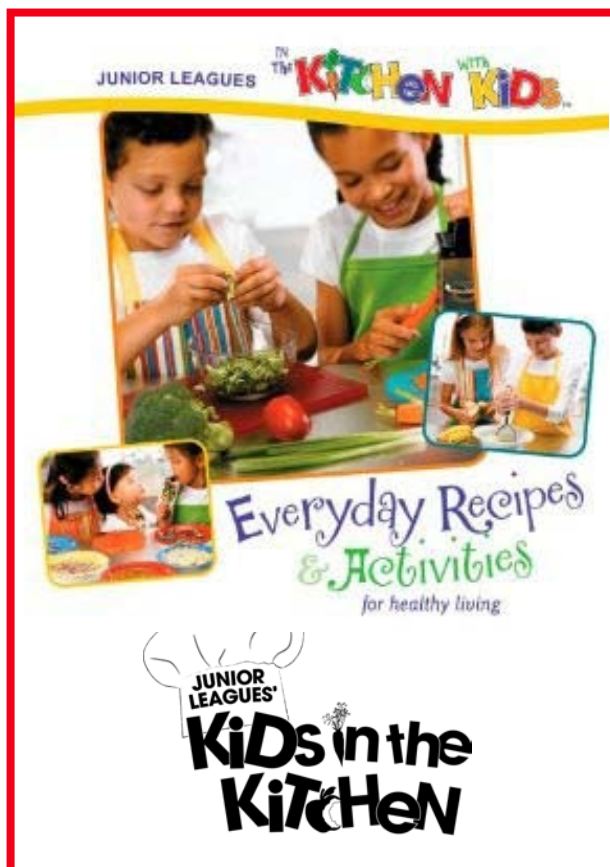
NEED A GIFT IDEA?

To further the initiative of the Junior Leagues' KIDS IN THE KITCHEN program, the AJLI has partnered with Favorite Recipes Press to create this activity-filled cookbook.

Simple recipe instructions accompanied by hand-shots for demonstrating cooking techniques and lists of necessary cooking utensils, make this a kid-friendly and mother-approved cookbook. Healthy eating tips throughout the book reinforce the program's healthy eating and lifestyle messages. Plenty of activity suggestions for parents and children to create and enjoy together.

George Stella, author of 3 cookbooks, is the official spokesperson for the Junior Leagues' KIDS IN THE KITCHEN program and cookbook.

**Junior Leagues In the Kitchen with Kids:
Everyday Recipes & Activities for Healthy Living
AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.COM**





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www.jlpgh.org

LIGHTS is now bi-annual.

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Look for the next
edition in early June.

Please send any news,
announcements and
photos to
communications@jlpgh.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 13 GMM

February 8-12 Speak-Ups

March 10 GMM

April 14 GMM

May 26 Annual Meeting



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