

LIGHTS

A Publication of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, Inc.



18th Designer's Show House A Success!

The Junior League of Pittsburgh's 18th Designers' Show House, "Elegance On Beechwood" enjoyed a huge success – raising tens-of-thousands of dollars for our Playground Build Initiative.

Each morning, lines of visitors waited outside 1265 Beechwood Boulevard, ready to tour. Close to 5500 people made their way through the home, taking pleasure in designers' room transformations. Twenty-five design firms worked on this project, changing twenty-two design spaces ranging from the dining room to the aviary. Major renovations took place in the kitchen and master bathroom, where

current homeowners Dr. Dan & Margie Boyle contracted with New Angle Design for the kitchen and Showcase Kitchen & Bath for master bathroom updates.

In addition to the Boyles, four former homeowners visited Show House. Four siblings who lived at 1265 in the 1960s traveled all the way from New York, New York to call on their childhood home. And former Pittsburgh Pirate All-Star Bob Friend and his wife Pat (homeowners from the late 60s to the mid-

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Fourth Community Grant Recipient Announced

The CADC is pleased to announce a fourth 2006-2007 community grant recipient, Lincoln Elementary Technology Academy (LETA).

At the present time, the students at LETA do not have a safe play space and are using an area of broken blacktop as their playground. This grant will be used by LETA to construct a playground for its students. LETA was re-

cently awarded a KaBoom! partnership and the KaBoom! contract required LETA to raise \$10,000 in funds. LETA had raised \$7,500 and needed an additional \$2,500 to meet its obligation under the KaBoom! contract. This grant will allow LETA to meet its obligation and realize its dream of building a playground for its students.

The JLP's community grants are an invaluable in improving our com-

munity. Next year (2007-2008), the JLP's community grants will be funded with money raised in the Annual Appeal, so please consider giving a donation to the Annual Appeal.

The playground build for LETA occurs in late June, at the East Liberty campus. Follow-up to this event will appear in the next issue

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Leaguers' Of The Year, Leading By Example

Congratulations from the Nominating Committee to the 2006-2007 Junior League Members of the Year:

- ▶ Nancy Dixon Davis, Treasurer
- ▶ Kimberly J Kisner, Show House Chair
- ▶ Lorraine Marks, Education and Events Director and Show House Gala Co-Chair.

Each of these women have exemplified the true meaning of volunteerism. They have represented themselves and the JLP in a respectful and honorable manner, both internally and externally. The JLP and our surrounding communities have benefited from each of their individual contributions. We are grateful for your dedication, passion, diligence and leadership!

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Office of the President

One Team, One Dream



Linda Hartman
President
2006-2007

What a year it has been. My goal for the Junior League of Pittsburgh this year has been Mission POSSIBLE through One Team and One Dream. I am proud to say WE have accomplished that goal.

Our mission says we will promote voluntarism. We participated in Done-in-a-Days. We staffed the Wear After Shop and Show House. We, along with friends, family, and community volunteers built a beautiful 2500 square foot playground at the Human Services Center Corporation in Tuttle Creek. All of this plus the time we spent with other organizations that we serve.

Our mission says we will improve our community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. We communicated through LIGHTS, the Website, TV, newspaper, billboards, and word-of-mouth what we were doing and how we were making Pittsburgh a better place to live, work, and play.

Our sustainers improve the community every day for other organizations and in their jobs. Many sustainers this year volunteered for Global Links at several sustainer done-in-a-days. Thank you for mentoring and supporting the actives and provisionals this year. It has been a joy working with you.

Our mission says we will develop the potential of women. We have had great trainings before our meetings and to help us get ready for Show House. The membership development committee has recruited and trained a wonderful group of women ready to take on the challenges of tomorrow.

The nominating and placement committees have helped us in our work as committee chairs and members; sharpening our skills of setting agendas and priorities, project management, relationship building, fund raising, budgeting, and strategic development.

We had great membership meetings and special events that gave us a chance to get to know each other (and maybe ourselves) a little bit better. We have helped other organizations meet their goals through our community grants.

We did all of this in our “free” time. Actually our time according to the Independent Sector is valued at \$18.77 per hour. That means we have given more than \$100,000 worth of time to the community through our projects, fundraisers, meetings, and trainings.

I want to thank you (and your families and friends) for a rewarding year. You all have made great contributions and positive changes in the Pittsburgh community. YOU have completed the mission.

It has been a pleasure working with the Executive Committee (Martha, Christie, Nancy, and Jen) as well as the Board of Directors (Karen, Gretchen, Lorraine, Beth, Traci, Susan and Kelly, Brooke, Michelle, Suzanne, and Suzy). Everyone worked so well together.

Thanks for a fantastic year. I am so proud to be a member of the Junior League of Pittsburgh!

Linda

— Linda Hartman, President, 2006-2007

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Congratulations, Leading By Example

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The Nominating Committee would like to recognize

- ▶ Gretchen Smathers, Communications Director
- ▶ Jenn Tribble, PR Chair, SH PR Chair and Gala Media

for their outstanding service as First Year Actives.

Thank you for positive attitudes, innovative thinking and enthusiasm. We anticipate great things from both of you in the years ahead!

Fourth CADC Community Grant Recipient Announced

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of Lights.

LETA is the result of a merger of Lemington Elementary and local charter schools. LETA is divided into two campuses. The primary campus is located in East Liberty and has a student body of 355 students in grades K-

4. The intermediate campus is located in Homewood and has a student body of 243 students in grades 5-8.

—Karen Rivetti, Director, Community Assessment and Development Committee

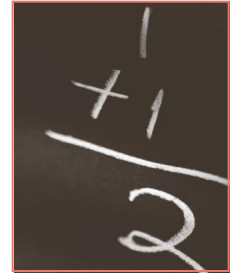


PHOTO GALLERY



Kelly Schraven, Jenn Tribble, Natalie Cale, Tiffany Nix and Heidi Ziegler attending Placement Fair.



The Show House became a 2nd home for many members who staffed and maintained the operations of the house, boutique and treasury. It was a real team effort. Shown here are Gretchen Smathers, Kim Kisner and Kathy Dax



The Show House committee met every other Tuesday at the Beechwood Boulevard Show House. During April, meetings were held in the spacious staff lounge in the basement. Melissa Polachek, Jean Thomas and Erin Wallace are shown here during the final meeting before opening weekend.



After dinner at the Gala "Glitz, Glamour and Grace," attendees toured the Show House, bid on more than 100 Silent Auction items, and enjoyed dessert on the large front porch of the 100-year old home. Shown here are Linda Hartman, Christie Smith, sustainer Julia Gleason, and Kathy Dax.

Committee News



PEOPLE'S CHOICE TOP TEN FAVORITE ROOMS

1. Kitchen - New Angle Design
2. Media Room - Drew Designs Ltd.
3. Center Field Bedroom - Associated Interiors
4. Master Bath - Showcase Kitchen & Bath
5. Master Bedroom and Veranda - Ethan Allen
6. Lounge and Dressing Room - Perlora
7. Guest Bedroom - Cynthia Rosky Designs
8. Dining Room - Today's Home
9. Mud Room - Wellie Interiors
10. Third Floor Hallway - The Ornamental Touch



Show House A

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70s) stopped by with their children and grandchildren, the Friends also took part in the Opening Night Gala, "Glitz, Glamour & Grace."

All the way from Hyannis, Massachusetts, came an email to us from a descendant of one of the original homeowners. She came upon Show House while researching her Pittsburgh family history. Her great-grandparents, the Jenkins family, were the first to own 1265 Beechwood and her grandmother grew up there before moving to California in the 1930s. She shared,

"What a treasure [it was] to find that the home has such a rich history and that its beauty has been lovingly restored and with such care."

And speaking of history, we got quite a surprise the first week of public tours. A retired pharmacist from Latrobe stopped over to share a booklet he'd bought years ago in Ligonier. It's titled, "On the Boulevard" and features homes along Beechwood Boulevard, specifically showcasing one home for sale. Turns out, the showcased home was the Junior League's Show House! What a treat it was to learn more details about the 6900 square foot dwelling – and to share those details with visitors. If you're interested in seeing a copy, one will be included in the Show House Scrapbook - now being compiled by Nneka Hawthorne.

SPECIAL EVENTS

April 27th's opening night saw close to 400 people walk the red carpet into the **JLP's Gala, "Glitz, Glamour & Grace."** WTAE's Michelle Wright served as Gala Honorary Committee Chair, and Celebrity Carpenter Andrew Dan-Jumbo (TLC's "While You Were Out" and "Trading Spaces") hosted the evening's festivities. A fantastic Silent Auction raked in the bucks, with prizes ranging from a vacation in Spain to spa treatments. Fox Chapel High School students did a wonderful job with the tent decor -- and delicious dinners by Aromas Ca-



City of Pittsburgh Councilman Bill Peduto cuts the ribbon to mark the opening of the Junior League of Pittsburgh's 18th Designers' Show House on Saturday, April 28, 2007. Sara Lowery, Chirstie Smith, Kim Kisner, Linda Hartman hold the ribbon as visitors await their opportunity to tour the house.

tering completed the evening. Many thanks to Gala Co-Chairs Kelly Morgans Schraven and Lorraine Marks and to the entire Gala Committee. Your hours of work were quite obvious!

The following Friday, Designers were feted at an "Evening With Designers." The 150 attendees had an extra-special treat. None other than Home Design Remodeling Resource's columnist the Design Diva showed up for an inaugural appearance. That first step out into the limelight was a big hit, as she dazzled the crowd with her flair and panache, recognizing Show House Designers for their hard work and efforts. Jazz singer Jessica Lee entertained the crowd, as guests noshed on nibbles from Savory Catering. Thanks go to Co-Chairs Adrienne English and Maggie Nicholson – and to all members of the EWD Committee.

Sustainers showed up Monday, May 7th for a two-seating event, coordinated perfectly by Sustainer Director and Show House Advisor Suzy Golitko. "Tapas & Tablescapes" featured a tour of Show House, then lunch catered by McGinnis Sisters and a short lecture on Tablescapes by Tapis Rouge Events, an event planning firm who helped to put on the Sustainer Luncheon. Lovely weather and great company combined for a fantastic event.

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Show House A Success!

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THE BOTTOM LINE

Final details of Show House funds raised are still being compiled and will be reported in the next issue of Lights! However, the Show House committee can report that a preliminary overview shows success for the 2007 Designers' Show House. Cash Sponsorships were over 30-thousand-dollars prior to the tours beginning – and SH Treasurers Jean Thomas and Erin Wallace did an amazing job of holding Leaguers to their budgets. Leaguers did their parts to get goods & services donated to the cause.

A TV donated by Goosebumps was a good income draw, raising more than \$900 of pure profit. And, Diva Design raffle tickets contributed positively to the bottom line as well.

In addition, the SH Boutique was a huge success – Co-chairs Ela Lewis and Missy Vail and advisor Stephanie Hoogendoorn had budgeted boutique revenue at \$10,000 with a net income of \$2,500...but it looks like the Boutique's actual revenue will be more than \$22-thousand, **with a net income of about \$7700!** Wow – this is triple the estimated net income!!! Ela, Missy, Stephanie & the entire Boutique Committee did a fabulous job choosing vendors and setting it all up!

And, finally, the results of a “People's Choice” poll for visitors' favorite room were tallied up. As in 2005, the kitchen was selected as the favorite design space. Our new concept rooms - a media room and a Pittsburgh Pirates-themed bedroom - finished strong in the balloting, with second and third place showings.

THANKS TO EVERYONE

Show House Chair Kim Kisner and Co-Chair Christie Smith would like to thank everyone who was involved in the project, from the SH Executive Board, to Committee Members and all League Members. It is impossible to detail every woman's contribution, but please know that each effort is appreciated. **We can all be proud of the end result of this endeavor – funding and building a safe place to play for children in Allegheny County.**

— Kim Kisner, Show House Chair and
Christie Smith, Co-Chair



2007 Scholarship Recipient Selected

The Community Assessment and Development Committee (CADC) recently selected Melissa McKinney to receive the 2007 scholarship. Melissa will graduate from Shaler Area High School in June of 2007 and plans to attend Grove City College in the fall.

Melissa has demonstrated academic excellence and an exceptional dedication to voluntarism throughout her high school years. Melissa volunteered more than 400 hours with Allison Park Church, Crosstown Kidz, Network of Hope and Junior Achievement. Her volunteer experience included a trip to Rwanda as part of Allison Park Church's mission team. As the youngest member of the team, she was actively involved in planning and preparing for the trip. While in Rwanda, she participated in teaching creative approaches to youth outreach and in

a non-medical program for children with AIDS. Much of her efforts in Rwanda were focused on children who have been orphaned by the genocide in Rwanda.

Melissa plans to continue her volunteer work after high school, including future projects in Africa. Melissa is an outstanding example of what it means to be a volunteer by sharing her time, talents and compassion to improve the lives of others. We wish Melissa continued academic success and commend her for her volunteer efforts.

— Community Assessment and Development Committee



Project News

Partner and Site Announced for Second JLP Playground Build

The Kaboom! Committee is pleased to announce the selection of The Pittsburgh Project and Fowler Park on the North Side as our new Community Partner and location for the JLP's second playground build. The Pittsburgh Project (TPP) is a 21-year-old urban, neighborhood-based, community development organization. The organization serves children and youth in grades K-12 by operating a series of educational, recreational, and relational after school programs and summer day camps. The Pittsburgh Project serves vulnerable homeowners by providing free home repair so that elderly, often disabled, homeowners may remain in their homes in a safe, healthy and comfortable environment.

The Pittsburgh Project and the surrounding neighbors have the goal of renovating and revitalizing Fowler Park. It is their desire to transform this "to be avoided" park into a "destination" park, complete with amenities for all age groups.

A new playground will have two significant impacts upon TPP and the local community. The first impact will be providing a safe play space for hundreds of children who presently do not have access to a playground near their homes. Rather than playing games in the street and vacant lots, or being driven to the nearest McDonald's with a playground, the local children will have equipment upon which to climb and run. The second significant impact is the sign of change, renewal, and hope it will bring to the community. A Build Day will give community members, both young and old, ownership over the park and increase the likelihood that they will use

The Junior League of Pittsburgh participated in the second annual *Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen*. The *Kids in the Kitchen* program addresses the growing issues of childhood obesity and poor nutrition. Today, more than 16% of young people ages 6-19 are overweight. Current increases in Type 2 diabetes may be one of the first consequences of an obesity epidemic among young people.

In its first year, over 225 Leagues, including the Junior League of Pittsburgh, held *Kids in the Kitchen* events, and media coverage reached over 80 million people with messages about the issues surrounding childhood obesity. By participating in *Kids in the Kitchen*, we have the oppor-

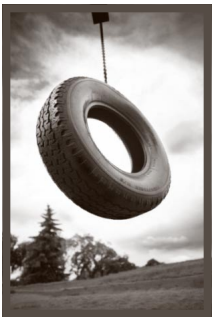
and protect the space. Additionally, it is a strong public statement that the park is being reclaimed, by the community for the community.

TPP is a neighborhood-based organization. Many of the 23 staff members live within walking distance of the program center and the park. Almost all of the program participants live in the surrounding neighborhood. Decisions made by the organization involve the broad community as often and to the greatest extent as possible.

Parents and families participate in TPP programs through a variety of ways. They may help coordinate special events, such as the End-of-the-Year Celebration Dinner, chaperone field trips, and lead workshops for youth in an area in which they have a special talent. Because children often attend TPP programs for multiple years, they develop relationships with whole families, which, in turn, often increase the families' involvement in activities with the organization. In addition to regular program activities, TPP coordinates and sponsors several annual events. The biggest event is their Summer Block Party, where approximately 500-600 local residents gather for an afternoon and evening of music, games, dinner and relaxed socializing. These activities are held at the program center and in Fowler Park.

The Kaboom committee is certain that our relationship and playground build with The Pittsburgh Project will be as successful and as rewarding an experience as was our first playground build with the Human Services Center Corporation in Turtle Creek; and will have a significant and lasting impact on the North Side community.

tunity to help combat potential health problems among today's children. This year, the JLP's *Kids in the Kitchen* event was at the Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC), the site of our first KaBoom! playground build. Approximately 50 children, grades K-8, attended along with 17 JLP volunteers. Guest speaker Julie Hundley, from Whole Family Nutrition, spoke to the children about the importance of healthy eating. Cooking items donated by Cartoon Network were also raffled off. Overall, the event was a great success, and the children enjoyed the event. HSCC even asked if we could do it again!



Sustainer News “Let’s Reconnect” Wrap-Up

Kudos to all the sustainers who supported the League this year. Whether it was paying your dues, attending a Show House tour or the Book & Author event, donating clothes to the Wear After Shop, contributing to the Annual Appeal, packing medical supplies at Global Links, helping to build the KaBOOM! playground, or staffing a Show House shift, your time and efforts were truly appreciated.

My thanks to the Board of Directors who valued my input and years of experience in the League and the many actives and provisionals who made me feel welcomed at all the events. This year, as Sustainer Director, was a great learning experience and a lot of fun.



Our Sustainer Director for the new League year will be

Mary Kate Coleman. Many of you had the opportunity to meet Mary Kate at the Show House luncheon. She and I have been brainstorming ideas for next year. If there is something you would like to see worked into the programs or events for next year, please contact Mary Kate at marykatecoleman@aol.com or phone her at 412- 242-7248.

Thank you all for a grand year.
—Suzy Golitko, Sustainer Director



Sustainers enjoying the day at Show House at the luncheon.

I was very impressed with our efforts at Show House this year. We had more than 25 sustainers staffing shifts and a large representation at both opening night pre-view party and Monday afternoon luncheon. It was a very successful Show House.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the sustainers for their efforts to “Let’s Reconnect” this year. I had the pleasure of meeting some new faces and finally being able to put a new face to a name that had been familiar to me for years. Millie Ryan and Linda Stengel did a wonderful job keeping the transfer sustainers in the loop, while Fredrica Cryan did a fantastic job organizing Global Links (GL) and Lunch. Fredrica and her group volunteered 104 hours this year at GL, quite an accomplishment.



Mary Kate Coleman, In-Coming Sustainer Director (left) and Linda Hartman, JLP President (right) at the Show House Sustainer Luncheon.

About the Junior League of Pittsburgh



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PITTSBURGH

Women building better communities

Women building better communities.

For more than 80 years, the Junior League of Pittsburgh has been the driving force behind the kinds of initiatives and institutions that make our community a healthier, more vital place to live.

Junior League members, reflecting a wide range of backgrounds, interests and professional pursuits work together to identify unmet needs, forge effective coalitions and work for change. Time and time again, the Junior League is among the first organizations to step up to the plate and tackle the community's biggest challenges.

Mission

We are an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. We reach out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.

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2006-2007 Leadership

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WOMEN leading
by **EXAMPLE**