

# LIGHTS

A Publication of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, Inc.

## Mission At Work: Second Playground Build in Allegheny County

**T**he work of hundreds of volunteers helped create a safe place for North Side kids to play.

The Junior League of Pittsburgh teamed up with KaBoom! to build a second playground in Allegheny County. This year's playground was built at Fowler Park in conjunction with The Pittsburgh Project.

"The most rewarding part of the day was when a staff member from The Pittsburgh Project told me 'we would not have been able to do this without you guys.'" said Gretchen Smathers, KaBoom! Chair.

Approximately 250 volunteers helped in the playground's construction on Build Day, Saturday, September 29.

The day began with a warm-up from the University of Pittsburgh baseball team before volunteers broke up into their build teams. Several teams built playground components while others installed posts and foundations. The biggest task, though, was hauling mulch from two large piles to the playground area. Children from The Pittsburgh Project helped encourage volunteers throughout the day with cheers and handmade signs.

The playground is part of The Pittsburgh Project's on-going mission to restore Fowler Park. Over the years,

it has become neglected and shows signs of vandalism and gang activity.

"Most of the equipment is old and unsafe," said Derrick Weston, Mission Advancement Manager for The Pittsburgh Project. "We've had a playground here before and we wanted to make sure we had something better and safer for our kids."



JLP members Julie Katz and Alicia Andrews are all smiles after delivering mulch to the playground build site at Fowler Park on the North Side.

The Junior League provided \$60,000 in funding for the playground and other improvements to the park. The playground equipment included a slide, swings and monkey bars. Volunteers also built benches, picnic tables and shade shelters for the park. Another volunteer team painted a mural showing kids at play.

During Design Day in July, children from The Pittsburgh Project drew their dream playgrounds. Those drawings were combined and integrated to create a playground that fulfilled their wishes and fit the needs of the neighborhood.

On Build Day, the kids created a paper chain so that each one could take part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "The kids must have been pretty thrilled. It was

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Prior to building, adults and children warm-up during the opening ceremony. The warm-up exercises were led by a Pitt baseball player.

# Office of the President

## The Value Of Parliamentary Procedure



**Martha A. Wiegand**  
President  
2007-2008

Parliamentary procedure is an organized system of conducting business that allows a group to come together to make a decision.

**A**s the General Membership meetings are well underway for the 2007-08 Junior League year, I thought it would be timely to give a bit of explanation about why we follow parliamentary procedure.

Parliamentary procedure is an organized system of conducting business that allows a group to come together to make a decision. This system is comprised of basic rules and principles that determine how a group will act in its decision-making process.

Some call parliamentary procedure the “rules of the road” for meetings, as it provides the following basic concepts (among others):

**One person at a time.**

Only one person may speak at a time. This protects the rights of each individual member to express her views free from interruption, etc. and also provides that each individual is treated equally.

**One item at a time.**

Only one motion may be considered at a time (there are a few specified exceptions for urgent matters). This promotes efficiency in the meeting and ensures that the group properly addresses each motion before it moves on to the next item of business.

**Enough group members must be present to decide.**

The group determines the quorum, or minimum number of people that must be present at a meeting to

make a decision for the entire group. For a meeting of the Junior League of Pittsburgh Board, a quorum is 2/3 of the Board members as established in the JLP’s by-laws. For a meeting of the JLP’s General Membership, a quorum is 15% of the voting members (again, as established in the JLP’s bylaws). If there is no quorum at a meeting, the group may not vote and have the vote be binding for the whole group.

By using these time proven principles, a group can conduct meetings more efficiently and ensure that the rights of individual group members are protected while the will of the group is achieved.

By using these time-proven principles, a group can conduct meetings more efficiently and ensure that the rights of individual group members are protected while the will of the group is achieved. The Junior League of Pittsburgh uses both its Bylaws and

Standing Rules as well as *Robert’s Rules of Order* (first published in 1876) for Board and General Membership meetings in order to most efficiently and fairly conduct business at its meetings.

If you should have any questions regarding parliamentary procedure used by the JLP, please see the previously-mentioned sources. See you at the next meeting!

*Martha*

—Martha A Wiegand  
JLP President, 2007-2008

## Second Playground Build A Success

*(Continued from page 1)*

hard to keep them off the equipment for the 72 hours needed for the concrete to set,” said Smathers. “They were extremely eager to begin their new adventure on the new equipment.”

The Pittsburgh Project had another dedication and prayer service at the playground the following Friday.

Build Day volunteers included representatives from the League, The Pittsburgh Project, the University of Pittsburgh baseball team, Katz Graduate School for Business and members of the surrounding community.

At the end of the day, they were all pleased to see the results of their hard work.



The Playground Committee celebrates the completion of the build.



Linda Wright and Allison Grotjan register volunteers as the build activities get underway.

“This was the most fun I’ve had at a volunteer event,” said Heidi Ziegler, League member.

The League plans to build a third playground next fall at a location that will be chosen in the coming months. Its first KaBoom! playground was built in October 2006 in Turtle Creek with the help of the Human Services Center Corporation.

—By Allison Grotjan, KaBoom! committee member



Volunteers complete installation of the swing set.



Julie Katz, Emily Ulrick, Nneka Hawthorne and Sara Lowery listen for team names during the introduction of the build captains.



Mary Elizabeth, artist, works on a mural for the playground.

*The Junior League of Pittsburgh teamed up with KaBoom! to build a second playground in Allegheny County. This year’s playground was built at Fowler Park in conjunction with The Pittsburgh Project.*

# Signature Project

## Second Playground Build A Success: In Their Own Words

Excited about the new playground, children share their answer to the question “What do you think about the new playground?”

—Collected by Susan Zavage Grivnow, KaBoom! committee member

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and other improvements to the park. The playground equipment included a slide, swings and monkey bars.



**Kyrstin**  
Age: 6  
Grade: 1  
“Playing on the monkey bars. I like the monkey bars that go in a circle.”



**Lamier**  
Age: 6  
Grade: 1  
“I’m excited that we’re getting a new park!”



**Deja**  
Age: 6  
Grade: 1  
“The swings!”



**Chris**  
Age: 7  
Grade: 2  
“I like to climb.”



**Joseph**  
Age: 5  
Grade: Kindergarten  
“The slides.”



**Corinne**  
Age: 7  
Grade: 2  
“The whole thing. I think the [kids] will be very happy.”



**Samantha**  
Age: 7  
Grade: 2  
“Everything. I like big slides and swings.”



**Anna**  
Age: Almost 8 (in November)  
Grade: 2  
“I saw the pictures, and I said, ‘Wow, that looks really fun.’”

## Sustainers: Let's Stay Connected

### Global Links

The schedule includes one more date this fall: November 8<sup>th</sup>. Time: 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM (lunch to follow). Location: Global Links, 4809 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh. Contacts: Fredrica Cryan, phone: 412-784-9069 or e-mail at [cryanfejk@aol.com](mailto:cryanfejk@aol.com) and Peggy Mooney, phone: 412-967-9251 or e-mail at [mooney-peg@aol.com](mailto:mooney-peg@aol.com)

### New Volunteer Opportunity

The Pittsburgh Symphony Association, in collaboration with the PSO's Department of Education and Community Engagement, is about to launch the Classroom Docent Program for 2007-2008. Classroom Docents are an invaluable resource not only to the Symphony but also to the students they serve. The docents' visits to preschools and second grades are essential and are highly anticipated by students and teachers. As a docent, you help young children, in your own informed and creative ways, to appreciate and become excited about the music they will experience when they visit Heinz Hall.

This season, the PSO's Department of Education and Community Engagement will offer docent volunteers two orientation sessions. The first was on Tuesday, October 9, 2007 and the second is on Monday, March 31, 2008. The Tiny Tots I Concert, conducted by Resident Conductor Larry Loh on November 19, 2007, will be centered on the book, "Let's Go for a Ride!" by Maxwell Newhouse. The Tiny Tots II Concert, conducted by Resident Conductor Dan Meyer on March 28, 2008, will be centered on the book, "Curious George" by H.A. Rey.

There is plenty of time for docents to arrange their visits to the preschools of their choice and sign-up sheets will be available for the docents to make their selections.

For more information, please contact Millie Ryan at [milliearyan@gmail.com](mailto:milliearyan@gmail.com).

### Sustainer Outings

Please join the JLP Sustainers on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> for a visit to Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens to view Chihuly at Phipps: Gardens & Glass. This is an incredible exhibit and the glass absolutely glows in the evening! We will take a self-guided tour at 7:00 PM. If you wish to catch a bite to eat before we tour, please join us in the dining room at 6:00 PM. Tickets for the tour are \$15 per person. Please make your check payable to Mary Kate Coleman and send it to Mary Kate at 1007 Mifflin Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15221 by October 22.

Save the date – Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – for a sustainer get-together at the Duquesne Club for the Pittsburgh Symphony Association luncheon, *Heralding in the Holidays!* Boutique shopping begins at 10:30 AM and lunch is served at noon. Entertainment by the PSO Horn Section will follow lunch. This year it's class and brassy! Proceeds from the boutiques benefit the Fine Instrument Fund, which buys instruments for the orchestra.

### League Discount

The following offer comes to us courtesy of Sustainer Liza Goldberg's husband's family who owns Schiller's Pharmacy: 20% Discount at Schiller's Pharmacy & Cosmetique for JLP Members in October (excluding pharmacy and prescription products). You can obtain the flyer from the JLP blasts or by contacting Elaine at the JLP office. Use the flyer as often as you wish in October! Note: you will need to give the flyer to Schiller's when you make a purchase, so if you plan to visit more than once, please print multiple copies of the flyer.

### JLPSDISO

The JLP Sustainer Director is In Search Of news about sustainer members. If you received a promotion, celebrated an anniversary, won an award, welcomed a new child or grandchild into your family, etc. and want to share your good news, please let me know and I will publish it!

—By Mary Kate Coleman, JLP Sustainer Director



## Committee News

### AJLI: An Introduction, Part II

**The** Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. exists to add value to the Junior Leagues and to aid in their fulfillment of the Mission. One important tool for achieving this is AJLI's website: [www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org).

The AJLI website is a key tool for promoting The Junior League brand to a wide international audience. Via the public section of the website, people are able to learn what the Association is, what it does do and how it does it. Additionally, prospective members can learn the value of joining a Junior League and how to contact the League in their area.

The Members Area contains a wide variety of regularly updated information, services and resources for Junior League members. Some of these items include:

- AJLI Online Boutique
- JL Shopping Mall, which returns money to your League
- Member Benefits, such as preferred rates on hotels, insurance plans, car rentals, flowers and other special offers
- AJLI Governance pages, including Awards Program information, the current AJLI Budget and Service Plan and more
- JL Profile Data with information on Leagues' programs and practices
- Access to online registration materials for AJLI meetings
- Training materials, including handouts from the various Leadership meetings and Organizational Development Institutes (ODIs)
- Contact information for leaders in various Leagues
- AJLI Forums/message boards
- Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen program materials and information

The Members Area of the AJLI website is an essential

element for communication between AJLI and member Leagues as well as for League-to-League communication.

In 2006, AJLI launched a website enrollment project to encourage members to enroll for access to the Members Area. Enrollment requires that you create your unique username and password. This protects the confidentiality of members-only information and allows us to provide more online member services and networking opportunities.

Enrollment takes only a few minutes of your time. First, you will need your AJLI Member ID number. Next, go to [www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org) and click on Member login. There you will find a link for the enrollment page and information on how to locate your Member ID. If you need additional assistance, email [info@ajli.org](mailto:info@ajli.org) or call the AJLI help desk at 800.955.3248.

The website is one of many ways that AJLI is working to serve Junior Leagues and help further our shared Mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Log on today to check out the many services available as part of AJLI's online community!

*An Introduction to AJLI Part II is a reprint provided by AJLI.*

*The first part of the series, Introduction Part I, appeared in the September issue of Lights. Past issues of Lights are available online at the JLP website, [www.jlpgh.org](http://www.jlpgh.org).*

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## Placement: Requirements Review

**As** we begin another JLP Year, the Placement Committee's goal is to have 100% of our Active & Gold Active members complete 100% of their requirements. It's ambitious, but we have confidence in your abilities. In the interest of informational ease, here's a quick requirements checklist.

### Membership Meetings:

Active members must attend four GMMs including the Placement Fair and the Annual Meeting

### Wear After Shop Shift:

Active members are required to work one three-hour shift.

### Wear After Quota:

Active & Gold Active members must donate \$100 worth of clothing or make a donation of \$100.

### Dues:

All Active & Gold Active members are required to pay dues. In addition, all Active & Gold Active members must support and meet all financial obligations approved by the membership. Currently, the only financial obligation is dues, but others may be voted in as the year progresses.

### Training:

Active members must complete one training session.

### Done In A Day:

Active members must complete one Done In A Day.

### KaBoom!:

Active members must participate in the KaBoom! build or do an approved KaBoom! make-up.

### Committee Meetings:

Active & Gold Active members are expected to fulfill their committee obligations.

### Community Placement:

Those Active & Gold Active members with community placements must fulfill financial obligations and all other obligations listed above.

If you can't complete your WAS shift, turn in your quota or make a DIAD, there are buyouts available. A buyout is unavailable for KaBoom! because membership voted that JLP members must work on the project. If you're an active and you missed the KaBoom! playground build, your first make-up opportunity is around the corner. Volunteers are needed to help prepare The Pittsburgh Project's Holiday Party invitations. The make-up project is Saturday, October 20 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at The Pittsburgh Project.

If there is a change in your membership status, e.g., you would like to take Maternity Leave, please contact Placement Director Christie Smith @ [Christiesmith412@hotmail.com](mailto:Christiesmith412@hotmail.com) and your advisor as soon as possible. Please keep in mind that even if a leave is granted, certain requirements still must be completed. They can be reviewed with you at the time of your requested leave.

—By Christie Smith, Placement Director



# Insight & Perspectives

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## Get To Know



**Ana Miller:** Ana recently moved to Pittsburgh after a 12-month stint in Shenandoah, Iowa.

**Current Placement:** To be determined. Anyone out there need help?

**League Member Since 2001**

**Placements with the Junior League of Durham and Orange County:**

Starting with most recent:

- Assistant Vice President of the Membership Council
- At-Large Board Member
- Training and Education Committee Chairman
- Training and Education Committee Member
- Provisional Advisor

**Hometown:** Winter Park, FL

**Transferred from:** Durham, NC

**Family:** Husband, David

**Work:** Leadership Development of Collegiate Women. I am a full-time volunteer and travel to various college campuses along the Eastern seaboard to participate in and deliver seminars regarding a wide array of development topics and issues facing collegiate women today.

**Play:** Travel, reading and shopping, although I miss Nordstrom!

**Favorite Vacation:** 3-week trip to Italy to tour wine country and Sardinia

**If I could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be:** It would change week-to-week. Today it would be Dale Chihuly since I just saw his exhibit at the Phipps.

**Why Join Junior League:** I was new to Carolina region and was seeking a social outlet.

**If you could change one thing about the JLP, what would it be:** Make the wine free at meetings! Seriously, changing the perception of the League in the broader public would have a serious impact on how we are viewed and eliminate the negative connotation that is out there.

**My favorite thing about the JLP:** The Junior League helped me discover my love for philanthropy and promoting volunteerism.



## About the Junior League of Pittsburgh

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### 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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#### **2007-2008 Leadership**

##### **Executive Committee**

###### **President**

Martha Wiegand  
**President-Elect**

Kim Jackson  
**Secretary**

Kelly Enders  
**Treasurer**

Jennifer Daurora  
**Treasurer-Elect**

Stephanie Hoogendoorn

##### **Board of Directors**

###### **CADC Director**

Karen Rivetti  
**Communications Director**

Jenn Tribble  
**Education and Events Director**

Kim Kisner  
**Fund Development Director**

Karen Rollins-Fitch  
**Membership Development Director**

Alma Lucas  
**Nominating Director**

Katie Heinritz  
**Placement Director**

Christie Smith  
**Projects Director**

Sara Lowery  
**Strategic Development Director**

Susanne Wagner  
**Sustainer Director**

Mary Kate Coleman

**WOMEN** leading  
by **EXAMPLE**