

# LIGHTS

A Publication of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, Inc.



## Happy Birthday JLP! Eighty-Five And Counting.

**The** Junior League of Pittsburgh is celebrating its 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Churchill Valley Country Club. Join us for a stylish luncheon from 1-4 pm where we will commemorate 85 years of tradition, voluntarism and community involvement.

In honor of our distinctive event, JLP will proudly recognize 25 outstanding women, 20 Sustainers and 5 emerging community leaders, who exemplify the Junior League mission through their continued charitable efforts. Honorees include superstars whose accomplishments shine publicly and the quiet storms

known only by a specific organization for their unwavering loyalty and dedication.

We are proud to welcome a rare appearance by AJLI President Sandi Kemmish as keynote speaker. Sandi's career within the Junior League spans three states and two countries where she has contributed to developing community programs such as Super Shots and Seeds for Tomorrow within her home state of Indiana, as well as holding numerous leadership roles before becoming AJLI President in 2006.

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## Signature Project: Moving Forward With A KaBOOM!



**T**he Junior League is teaming up with KaBOOM! to build another playground in the Pittsburgh area. The League's community partner this year is The Pittsburgh Project on the North Side.

The Pittsburgh Project campus is nestled in a residential neighborhood on Pittsburgh's North Side, across from Fowler Park and Pool which they operate. The Fowler Park and Pool is a centrally-

located, magnificent neighborhood resource that has fallen into disrepair. The park, which includes basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, and a swimming pool, provides The Pittsburgh Project staff with great space to initiate relational work with young people. Building a new playground is part of an ongoing project to renovate the park.

On a special Design Day in July, children were invited to draw

their dream playgrounds. These drawings were used to pick a design suitable for the space and for the neighborhood's needs.

The build day takes place on Saturday, September 29, 2007. Opening ceremonies begin at 8:30 AM and the day culminates with a ribbon cutting at 3:00 PM.

We look forward to sharing a follow-up in a future issue of Lights.

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## Recruitment Season A Success

Another successful Recruitment Season has concluded as we welcome a class of dedicated women to the Junior League of Pittsburgh for the 2007-2008 Year. Thank you to those actives and sustainers who referred us potential new members and who assisted MDC with our recruitment efforts over the last few months.

The season began in February, with Membership Development Committee's participation at Dis-

cover Pittsburgh, a non-profit fair where we met many interested women. The 18th Designers' Show House provided a wonderful opportunity to recruit new members and the pool provided a backdrop for our second recruitment event in May. The intimate event was well attended. As summer moved into full swing, so did this year's MDC, hosting an event in June at the Encore on Seventh, in July at the Penn

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# Office of the President

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## What's New?



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

*The JLP is celebrating our 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year by honoring the JLP and our members' accomplishments. Current AJLI President, Sandi Kemmish, will attend and speak in our honor. Please plan to join us at Churchill Valley Country Club as we celebrate our tradition on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.*

### WHAT'S NEW WITH THE JLP?

It might be easier to announce what isn't new, but not nearly as fun or interesting, so here goes...

#### NEW DIGS

First and foremost, the JLP is thrilled to announce that we have a new headquarters located on the South Side in Riverwalk Corporate Centre at 333 Carson Street, Suite 531 (Fifth Floor), Pittsburgh, PA 15219. An Open House, is planned in the near future; announcements to follow soon.

#### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Kudos to our members for their recent accomplishments: Tonya B. Johnson was honored for her pro bono commitment to the Manchester Citizens Corporation by the Pittsburgh City Council, which issued a proclamation recognizing her work (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, August 8, 2007). Also, Shannon Voll was named one of Pittsburgh's 50 Finest this year; the honorees of the 50 Finest raised a record \$234,000 this year for Cystic Fibrosis (Whirl, August 2007). Please remember to send any member news to the JLP Phantom at [jlpphantom@yahoo.com](mailto:jlpphantom@yahoo.com)

#### SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

The JLP is celebrating our 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year by honoring the JLP and our members' accomplishments. Current AJLI President, Sandi Kemmish, will attend and speak in our honor. Please plan to join us at Churchill Valley Country Club as we celebrate our tradition on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### NEW PLAYGROUND

Another year. Another new playground. Join the JLP as we build our second playground in two years. Saturday, September 29, 2007, 8:30 a.m. at The Pittsburgh Project, located on Pittsburgh's North Side, in the Perry South neighborhood. If you'd like to use mapping software, the address is 2801 North Charles Street,

Pittsburgh, PA 15214.

#### NEW MEMBERS

The JLP Membership Development Committee has been hard at work this summer recruiting new members. Plan to meet the JLP's new provisional class at the first General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Spring Hill Suites at 6:30pm.

#### SOMETHING ELSE OLD, NEW

The Wear After Shop will be accepting your donations for the Shop at each General Membership Meeting, beginning in September. So please bring your donations of gently used or new clothing to the GMMs if convenient.

#### NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Plenty of great new opportunities are available for JLP members this year both within and without the League. From the potential new American Girl fundraiser to the Ad Hoc Long Term Fund Development Planning Committee to the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, there appears to be something for everyone. Check out the JLP Website at [www.jlpgh.org](http://www.jlpgh.org) or talk to a Board member for suggestions and details.

Looking forward to hearing what's NEW with each of you,

*Martha*

—Martha A. Wiegand, JLP President, 2007-2008

## Happy Birthday JLP

*(Continued from page 1)*

Tickets for the Le Mont catered luncheon, available starting in September, will include appetizers, lunch, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar is also available. Look for your invitation in the mail and further information in upcoming blasts and on the JLP website. We look forward to seeing all Junior League members as well as friends and family for an exceptional afternoon of our 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

—By Natalie Cale



## Recruitment Season A Success

*(Continued from page 1)*

Garrison, and finally in August at the Terminal Building.

As we approach fall, preparations for our incoming Provisional Class are being made. The first training event, Red Book Training, occurred on Saturday, September 8. This kick-off training will be followed by a

tour of past projects in Pittsburgh aboard a yellow school bus on the annual Bus Tour on October 8. Training sessions in communication and diversity are also being planned.

The MDC looks forward to another successful year and an active Provisional Class.

—Membership Development Committee

## CADC: Lincoln Elementary Technical Academy

Last February, while attending a KaBOOM! conference in New Orleans, I met Jen and Nicole, two college students finishing their student teaching in preparation for graduation. We were introduced to each other by Hedda Sharapan, who presented the September 2006 League training.

Lincoln Elementary Technical Academy (LETA), where Jen and Nicole were completing their student teaching, needed a playground. The students utilized a large black top area that wasn't conducive to play; with nothing to do the older students were resorting to fighting among themselves. Jen and Nicole were committed to creating a safe play space for the LETA students.

As Jen and Nicole explained the obstacles of building a playground for LETA, I began to appreciate the League much more. The LETA project was struggling to organize itself, keep people active and clearly identify their needs. The League provides us with an organizational structure that teaches us how to do each of

these things while accomplishing objectives and goals that are an asset to our community.

After the conference I kept in touch with Jen and Nicole; I was impressed with their dedication to the children and their understanding of how small steps can make an impact. Before long, these two powerhouse college students had confirmed a funding partner through KaBOOM!, had secured the approval of the School Board and had engaged teachers and parents in their project.

Only one obstacle remained – funding. Through bake sales and car washes, LETA had raised \$7,500 of the \$10,000 needed to be a KaBOOM! community partner. In a panicked email, Jen explained to me that they had one week to raise \$2,500 or KaBOOM! would reassign their funding partner to another organization.

I suggested to Jen that she apply for one of the League's community grants. Again, I was struck by the League's ability to adeptly meet the needs of the Pitts-

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# Committee News

## CADC: Lincoln Elementary Technical Academy

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*(Continued from page 3)*

burgh community. Thanks to our grant the LETA playground project came to fruition and students will start

the new school year with a safe play space that will help them to grow and mature into healthy adults.

—By Gretchen Smathers

The League provides us with an organizational structure that teaches us how to do each of these things while accomplishing objectives and goals that are an asset to our community.

## CADC: Gwendolyn June Elliott Family Activity Center

**Two** years ago CADC awarded a \$500 grant to the Elliot Family Activity Center and it has been well used. The Center is finally open and again looking for volunteers!

and just be a reassuring presence to those around them.

More than 7,000 children have an incarcerated parent or guardian. The Center allows children and their caregivers the opportunity to pass the time before visiting in a calming area of the Jail lobby. Volunteers read to children, conduct art projects, build with play blocks, direct caregivers to the paid employees to answer questions

The Center is open on Saturdays from 10am until 4pm; Sundays from 1pm until 5pm; and Mondays and Fridays from 4pm until 7pm. All volunteers must pass the Jail's security clearance as well as passing Act 33/34 clearances. For more information, please contact MaryAdele Krolikowski at 412-478-9465 or maryadelekrolikowski@yahoo.com.

—By Mary Adele Kkrolikowski, past JLP President

## AJLI: An Introduction

The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. exists to add value to the Junior Leagues and to aid in the fulfillment of their Mission. But where did it all begin? And how does AJLI work to enhance the Junior Leagues?

the Mission and that the Junior League flourishes. The Board accomplishes this by guiding the strategy of the Association, linking with Leagues to ensure they reflect the needs and interests of the Leagues, and monitoring and providing oversight of AJLI headquarters through Executive Director, Susan Danish.

In 1901 Mary Harriman founded the first Junior League, the Junior League of the City of New York. The Junior League movement spread and in 1921, the Association of Junior Leagues of America “consolidated the little group of local societies into a national organization that doubled its size, power and potentiality in ten years.” Today, over 165,000 women in 293 Junior Leagues in Canada, Mexico, the United States and the United Kingdom share the Mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Susan and the AJLI staff in New York provide services and resources to Junior Leagues by phone, through the AJLI website and through League visits.

The 20 members of AJLI's Board of Directors are all Active or Sustaining members of the Junior Leagues in their communities and serve 3-year terms. They govern on behalf of the whole organization, no matter which geographic area they represent, assuring the viability of the Junior League movement. The Board's overarching goals are to ensure that Junior Leagues effectively fulfill

AJLI's Nominating Committee members, who serve 2-year terms, nominate candidates for the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. Positions are open to any Active or Sustaining member in good standing in her League.

For more information on AJLI and the work of your Board of Directors and Nominating Committee, please visit the AJLI website at [www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org). In addition, you will find member benefits, award-winning Junior League programs, forums to correspond with other League members and many other valuable resources.

## Sustainers: Let's Stay Connected

Dear Sustainers:

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! September is now here and the JLP is in full swing.

We have many exciting events planned for the 2007-08 year. I am fortunate to have TEAM SUSTAINER helping me with sustainer events this year. Millie Ryan continues in her role as Sustainer Daytime Events Coordinator, Linda Stengel is in charge of sustainer transfer events and Fredrica Cryan continues to oversee our Global Links volunteer efforts. We also are pleased to have Peggy Mooney join us in organizing our Global Links volunteer work.

Please read this issue of Lights and the articles below for more information about sustainer events, the playground build and the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Hope to see you soon at one of these events. Let's stay connected!

—Best regards, Mary Kate Coleman

### Welcome!

Please welcome the following former actives who became sustainers at the May General Membership Meeting: Lynne Chadwick, Adrienne English, Elizabeth (Beth) McCall, Liza Goldberg, Kristin Groninger, Susan Book-Campbell, Jean Thomas, Cecile Usner, Pamela Rende, and Dana Railsback.

Please also extend a warm welcome to Sustainer Jill Briercheck, who transferred from the Junior League of York.

### Congratulations!

Sustainer Kudos to Julia Gleason who was presented with a lifetime achievement award signed by President Bush at the May General Membership Meeting. The award honored Julia's 4,000 hours of volunteer service.

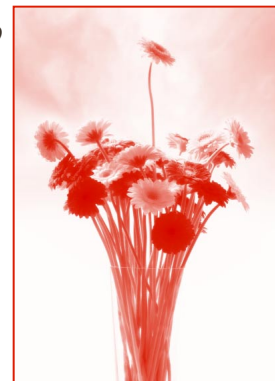
Congratulations to Carol Heppner who received the ARCS Light Award from the ARCS Foundation (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) in June for her outstanding contributions to ARCS.

### Global Links

The schedule for this fall is as follows: Sept. 13, Oct. 11, and Nov. 8. Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (lunch to follow). Location: Global Links, 4809 Penn Ave., Pgh. 15224. 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

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Please consider being a Classroom Docent for the Pittsburgh Symphony Association. The docents help make possible the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's Education and Community Engagement Programs. Docents visit schools before Tiny Tots and Schooltime concerts, talk to students, lead them through listening lessons, develop their appreciation for music, instruments, musicians and conductor, emphasize the importance of etiquette, and heighten the students' expectations by introducing them to the music that will be performed for them. Training will be provided. For more information, contact Millie Ryan at [milliearyan@gmail.com](mailto:milliearyan@gmail.com) or 412-344-4624.



### Sustainer Outing

Please join the JLP Sustainers at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Decorative Arts Symposium on October 8<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Women's Committee of the Carnegie Museum. The symposium runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and features speakers Letitia Roberts and Christopher Monkhouse. There is a luncheon at noon in the Music Hall Foyer of the Carnegie Museum of Art. Program and luncheon costs \$40 per person for groups of four or more. The cost for attending the program, only, is \$25. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mary Kate Coleman at [marykatecoleman@aol.com](mailto:marykatecoleman@aol.com) or 412-242-7248 and you will be provided with more details. Please contact Mary Kate by September 20th.

## Insight & Perspectives

### In The Spotlight: Jenna Neal



**Current Placement:** Membership Development

**League Member Since 2006**

**Hometown:** Binghamton, NY

**Family Element:** Husband, Everett and Sophie the cat

**Work?:** Institutional and Cultural Architect for churches and country clubs

**Play?:** Knitting – currently working on a series of hand-puppets (zebras, tigers, etc) for the ever growing baby population of her friends.

**Favorite Vacation:** Backpacked through Alaska

**If I could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be:** A weeknight dinner with my husband – he travels every week for work!

**Why Join JLP?:** I was seeking a volunteer outlet and I liked the JLP because it is a focused group of women that is organized around big goals. I like the DIAD concept and enjoyed the opportunity to network and socialize.

**If you could change one thing about the JLP, what would it be?:** More integration between Provisionals and General Membership.

**My favorite thing about the JLP:** The reputation and history of accomplishment.



## Special Bulletin: Past JLP President Passes



ALEXANDER BLANCHE GALEY "BE GE" 93, of Ligonier, formerly of Somerset and Pittsburgh, passed from this life on Saturday, September 1, 2007 at her home in the arms of her loving husband. She was born April 28, 1914 in Orlando, FL, the daughter of the late Davis Erwin and Lillian Sophia Wilmott Fishback.

While living in Pittsburgh she was active in cultural and civic affairs. She established the Art Caravan for Pittsburgh schools for the original Pittsburgh Plan for the Arts, and the first volunteer program in a mental hospital, Mayview, for the Volunteer Bureau of Allegheny County. **She was a former president of the Pittsburgh Junior League (1951-54)**, the Volunteer Bureau, the Volunteer and Information Center of the Community Chest, an original member of the Women's Committee of the Carnegie Museum of Art where she was president of the Central Board, associate campaign chairman of the United Way, chair of the Women's Committee for Eisenhower in Allegheny County, co-chair Citizens for Eisenhower in Allegheny County, and a Pennsylvania Elector. Former Secre-

tary of Defense Charles Wilson named her to the Defense Advisory Committee of Women in the Service. She was a former trustee of the Southern Allegheny Museum of Art. She was a member of the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Water Color Society, Women's Committee of the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Garden Club of Allegheny County, St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church in Rector, and the Rolling Rock Club. For her contributions to the arts community and community service she received the Pittsburgh Triangle Association Award, Town & Country Magazine's Pacesetter Award, and Rollins College Achievement Award, and was named a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania by Governor Raymond Shaffer in 1967.

The family suggests memorial contributions in her memory to the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, Powdermill Nature Reserve, or to the St. Michael's Church. The J. Paul McCracken Funeral Chapel, Inc., Ligonier is assisting the family.

## Editorial: Stand And Be Heard

*The opinions expressed herein are alone those of the author and do not reflect the opinions of the JLP, the Board or any committee thereof.*

As members of a civic organization that strives to better our community we have a responsibility to be aware of our financial situation. We utilize volunteer projects and activities to reach our goals, and an important factor towards reaching those goals is our funding ability. Therefore, the Treasury advocates fiscal responsibility. We strive to help every member understand the management of our resources.

The membership approved to allocate the profits of the 2007 Show House to fund a third play space scheduled to be built in 2008-2009. Further, any excess profits are slated to fund the next major project after we build three play spaces.

Each playground build costs \$55K. In the near future the Show House committee will announce the profit earned by this fund raising event. It may be the fortunate case the profit will be greater than \$55K.

If indeed there are profits exceeding \$55K, then I propose that the membership discuss a new motion that would, instead, allocate all excess monies to go towards funding the second play space that JLP will build this September. I offer two reasons why JLP should consider changing this allocation.

Our first consideration is to our sponsors and patrons of the fund raising event. JLP declared that all proceeds raised from the 2007 Show House would pay for building a third play space. In the event that JLP has funds in access of \$55K we are obligated to spend the remaining funds on a similar project since this is what we told our sponsors.

Secondly, let's consider the sources of revenue used to fund the first and second play spaces. Both the 2006 and 2007 play spaces have been financed from our investment principal. In other words, we have withdrawn \$110K to pay for these two projects.

Additionally, we have withdrawn funds to cover operating expenses. Over the past four fiscal years from 2002-2006, the JLP investments have a net loss of nearly \$100K. We are waiting to close and audit the fiscal year 2006-2007, but JLP has again operated at a deficit and

used investment principal to balance our budget. If we continue in this manner, we will whittle away the considerable funds that our sustainers have earned. The JLP must practice fiscal responsibility and end this practice of balancing our budget with investment funds.

The ethical allocation of any remaining Show House funds is towards the second play space. This would entail depositing excess earnings into our investment principal to replenish as much as possible of the \$55K withdrawn. Further, we should announce to our major donors that their efforts resulted in the financing of not just one but two play space builds.

This proposal honors our commitments to our sponsors by allocating funds to similar beneficiaries and is the most fiscally responsible decision JLP could make. Some members might argue that we should save these funds for a future project, as we originally had planned to do. I would reply that using 2007 Show House profits for a major project would mean that this project would have to address community development for children. The more important issue, however, is that JLP would miss this opportunity to invest in our future by replenishing our diminishing investment principal.

Of course, JLP has several other courses of action that we should pursue to improve our financial responsibility. Besides cutting expenses, we need to increase our fund raising efforts beyond Show House. We have dedicated women working towards this goal. The WAS is working hard to meet and exceed increased quarterly sales goals. The membership will also have the opportunity to approve a new annual fund raising event. So while JLP has some difficult choices to make about its spending habits, we also have new fund raising opportunities to look forward to supporting.

I look forward to discussing this issue at the upcoming November coffees and with any other interested member.

*Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Hoogendoorn  
Treasurer-Elect, Ad-hoc Committee for Long Term Fund Development member*



*To continue the dialog and story telling of the November Coffees, members are encouraged to submit an editorial that initiates discussion about the development of the League.*

## 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.

Riverwalk Corporate Centre  
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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

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**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**

