

LIGHTS

A Publication of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, Inc.

JLP's First KaBOOM! Playground



Save The Date Coffee, Tea and Read

Brewed with a local flavor!
Sunday, October 1
2pm, Carnegie Lecture Hall
Details, Page 4

It's time to get excited about play! Be sure to mark your calendar for the Junior League of Pittsburgh's first annual KaBOOM! Build Day. With a community partner selected, a playground design is in the works and a build date of Saturday, October 28th scheduled, it's time for all of our members to commit to constructing the JLP's first KaBOOM! playground.

The Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC) of Turtle Creek will be partnering with the league

in the first year of this signature project. According to Alicia Andrews, associate director of HSCC, "The playground will have a tremendously positive impact on the HSCC and the youth we serve. For years, the HSCC's courtyard has been heavily utilized by area youth but has never been configured properly. We have installed amenities like basketball hoops, but the playground will be the biggest and most substantial addition we have ever made."

Alicia added, "The playground will

enhance the physical fitness aspects of our youth programs and provide a constructive means for channeling their energy. As a small nonprofit agency, we have not had the resources for a project of this magnitude. With the assistance provided by KaBOOM! and the Junior League of Pittsburgh, our long-time dream of a playground will become a reality."

The JLP, the HSCC and organizers from KaBOOM!, hosted a Design

(Continued on page 3)



Another Serving of Coffee, Tea and Read

This year's Book & Author event will take place on Sunday, October 1, 2006, at the Carnegie Lecture Hall in Oakland. The authors' presentations will begin at 2 p.m. followed by book signing and coffee and tea sampling in the Carnegie Library.

This event will have a local flavor with authors from Pittsburgh or originally from Pittsburgh. Survey the highlights of each author and you're sure to the promise of a wonderful event.

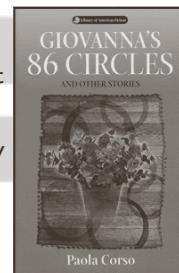
Outrageous Optimism, by Jack Roseman and Steve Czetli, offers a unique view of a life in entre-



preneurship, with valuable tips and advice on dozens of topics that can save you time and help your company grow. Drawing on Jack's experience as negotiator, entrepreneur, professor at Carnegie Mellon University and President of a publicly held company, the book is a quick-read with a tangible payoff. www.rosemaninstitute.com

Paola Corso is an award-winning

fiction writer, poet and essayist living in Brooklyn, and originally from the Pittsburgh area. Her honors include a New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship in



poetry, the Sherwood Anderson Fiction Award and The Jerome Lowell DeJur Award for Creative Writing; as well as The Alice and Irwin Stark Short Fiction Prize from The City College of New York where she earned her master's degree in creative writing. She is the author of the short story collection *Giovanna's 86 Circles*, named Best Short Stories of 2005 by The Montserrat Review and a John Gardner Fiction Book Award Finalist. www.paolacorso.com

Abby is back and he has updated his book *The Pittsburgh Steelers: The Official Team History, 3rd Ed.* We made certain that the Book & Author event did

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

- President's 2
- Training Tip 2
- Signature Project 3
- Nominating 5
- Sustainer Events! 6

Office of the President

Improving the Community



Linda Hartman
President
2006-2007

Remember the greater our profit, the greater our ability to further our mission of improving the community through grants, projects and training of our members.

Last month I spoke about the JLP Mission. This month I would like to talk about one aspect of it, *Improving the Community*. It is very exciting to be working with our KaBOOM! partner, the Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC). The first line of their mission statement reads: "The Human Services Center Corporation **improves** the quality of life for children, adults and families in the Mon Valley area." As we are learning from our involvement with KaBOOM! and HSCC play is very important for children. It gives them self-confidence, improves their self-esteem and coordination, and provides a chance to work off some excess energy so when it is time to learn they are able to focus.

Our KaBOOM! committee has been busy laying the groundwork and helping to design the new playground at the HSCC. It was very exciting to meet some of the parents and children who will be using the new playground at the design day activities. **Mark your calendars now!** October 28th will be the day we change the lives of many children in the Turtle Creek area. As was stated when we voted to make it a requirement for everyone to participate, there will be many different levels of duties. If you can't do heavy lifting and pounding of nails, don't worry there will be a job for you! (Someone has to keep the workers fed and plied with coffee.)

Team JLP has been busy in other ways: planning general membership meetings and trainings to improve

our volunteer skills; holding some and planning more DIADs; and communicating our efforts to the members and community through LIGHTS and press releases. Converting the Wear After Shop's inventory to fall merchandise allows us to provide quality items to the community and to raise more funds to continue our mission.

The sustainers have also been busy helping with the Wear After Shop conversion, planning for the Kick Off Party and a DIAD of their own at Global Links.

To help generate more funds, Fund Development has been busy planning the Annual Appeal Kick-Off on September 17th, the Book and Author Event on October 1st, and Show House, date to be announced. (Get those calendars out again!) Plan to be there and bring your friends and family. Remember the greater our profit, the greater our ability to further our mission of improving the community through grants, projects and training of our members.

We can't do any of the above activities without dedicated volunteers. The placement committee has been busy talking to their advisees, nominating has been rounding out the board and chair positions, and membership development has held four great recruiting events. Remember to welcome our new members and share your stories and enthusiasm with them at the September general membership meeting. Go Team JLP!

— Linda Hartman, President, 2006-2007

Training Tip

Organizations, such as the JLP, use rules of order for the group to make decisions. To begin the process of making any decision, a member offers a proposal by *making a motion*. A motion is a formal proposal by a member, in a meeting, that the group take certain action. A main motion is one whose introduction brings business before an assembly. Strictly speaking, there should be no debate on a matter before a motion regarding it has been made. Only one main motion may be before the assembly for action at a time.

Tip from "Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief 2004"

Look for next month's training tip in the October edition of *Lights*!

JLP's First KaBOOM! Playground

(Continued from page 1)

Day on Tuesday, August 22nd. The children of the community showed their creativity in drawing pictures of their ideal playgrounds while families offered input as to which equipment would be most used at the facility. All ideas will now be taken in to consideration as final plans are made for Pittsburgh's first KaBOOM! playground.

"Play is vital to healthy development in children and

playgrounds are an integral part of the fabric of our communities," said Darell Hammond, CEO and co-founder, KaBOOM!. "The Junior League of Pittsburgh is setting a great example by making a commitment to give the children in Allegheny County a new, safe playground. In this case, the process—working together to plan and build the new playground—is as important as the product—the playground itself."

— Adrienne Monaghan



"The Junior League of Pittsburgh is setting a great example by making a commitment to give the children in Allegheny County a new, safe playground."

KaBoom! Swings and Slides Overwhelming Favorites

Tuesday, August 22, was a great day to plan a playground and that's exactly what happened when members of the JLP met for the first time with our community build partner Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC) in Turtle Creek.

The afternoon began by measuring the court yard that, on October 28, will become the playground. Heather Garrett, KaBOOM! project manager, even measured from the ground to the lowest branch of a tree to ensure a design that was safe and maximized available space.



Alicia Andrews (HSCC) and Heather Garrett (KaBOOM) measure playground site.

Heather explained the safety hazards each obstacle presented. In the end, it was determined an

unused gazebo and the tree would have to go. We don't want kids swinging into the tree to be caught like Charlie Brown's kite.

After the site was measured and site prep to-dos established, the **playground experts** arrived; 18 children between the ages of 6 and 15 came to teach the adults what the perfect play space looked like. *Swings. Slides. Seesaws. Merry-go-rounds. Monkey Bars.* Each child drafted in vivid Crayola crayon the play elements needed. Bobby, age 12, wanted a red dragon slide and

fire pole. While 5 year old Kennedy thought swings and a bouncing green turtle are needed. Parents, HSCC Staff and JLP members paid close attention as each child made their presentation.

The experts left to enjoy pizza and play while the adults divided into three working groups. We looked at pictures of the latest and greatest pieces of play equipment. The merits of the 360 Slide compared to the Triple Racer Slide were debated. Some wanted pieces the most number of children could play on while others recognized the lessons of sharing and cooperation the equipment only one child could use at a time could teach. After a long night, Heather took the measurements and the equipment wish list and phoned it in to the designers at Play-world Systems, our equipment provider.

So, what will the playground look like? Will there be slides? A climbing wall or swings? You'll have to wait until October 28 to see when you help us on build day!

— Sara Lowery



Linda Hartman, Maria Lauro, Jen Feeney, Sara Lowery, Kristen Fawcett, Robyn Race-Loughren, and Missy Houser (Mandy Miller not pictured) attend Design Day.



Future playground site, Turtle Creek area.

Committee News

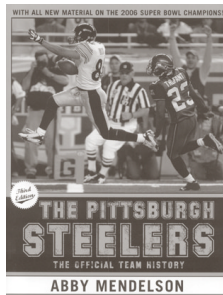
Another serving of Coffee, Tea and Read



It is crucial that the members of the Junior League of Pittsburgh support this event not simply by purchasing a ticket, but also by attending the event.

(Continued from page 1)

not conflict with a Steeler's game so that Abby could talk about the latest on the Steelers.



It is crucial that the members of the Junior League of Pittsburgh support this event not simply by purchasing a ticket, but

also by attending the event. PLEASE mark your calendar for Sunday, October 1 and bring a friend or two or more! Please check future email blasts to learn more about this event; we may have some surprises in store for those attending!

—Beth McCall, Fund Development Director and
Karen Rollins-Fitch, Book & Author Chair

Learn Why Play Matters!

from Hedda Sharapan of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

Attend the fall training immediately following the GMM on September 13 to learn why Pittsburgh children need playgrounds (and fulfill your training requirement for the year).

Too many kids are missing out on one of the most important childhood experiences. It is an experience chocked full of creativity, exploration, imagination, physical activity, friendship and adventure. Experts say it's an experience that can help kids grow up healthy, happy and successful. This experience is play! Hedda, who served as associate director of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood for three decades, will share with us lessons learned about the importance of play during her years working with Fred Rogers. Video clips and interactive activities will help participants get to the root of why play matters!

Hedda combines her background in child development with 40 years on Fred Rogers' staff. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Carnegie Mellon University in 1965. Her interest in children's television led her to WQED and to Fred Rogers. At his suggestion, she pursued graduate studies in child development at the University of

Pittsburgh School of Medicine graduating in 1967 with a master's degree.

In 1966 when Fred Rogers began producing Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Hedda joined his staff as assistant director for the 1967 season, then as assistant

producer from 1968 to 1970; and in 1970 she assumed the role of associate producer. Hedda currently is the director of early childhood initiatives at Family Communications Inc., a nonprofit organization founded in 1971 by Fred Rogers.

Her expertise has been enhanced, she says, "Because I'm a mother. Both professions help me to express Fred Rogers' philosophy, and I enjoy nothing more than seeing audiences become excited by his understanding of childhood and families."

Hedda spoke this summer at the KaBOOM! University of Play in Chicago attended by KaBOOM! Co-Chairs Sara Lowery and Robyn Race-Loughren. "Hedda's presentation was so inspiring and was a favorite amongst the U Play attendees," comments Robyn. "She has a wealth of knowledge about child development and really helped us to understand why play is so important for children. The experiences and video clips that she shared from Mister Rogers' Neighborhood not only took me back to my childhood but also made me feel proud of the long legacy Pittsburgh has of being dedicated to children. I am so thrilled that she has offered to be a part of helping the League as it furthers its mission of improving the lives of children in this region."



Research shows that play is a vital part of childhood that helps kids grow up healthy, happy, and successful. Play inspires creativity, exploration, imagination, physical activity, friendship, and adventure!

The Power of a Great Nomination

The Nominating Committee has the annual challenge of slating certain positions within the Junior League, such as the Executive Committee, Directors and Committee

Chairs. We strive to seek out the most qualified candidates, and make objective recommendations and decisions for the future of our members and our League. We look for leaders and potential leaders who will be able to help direct the League according to our mission. Serving on the Nominating Committee is an exciting job, offering the opportunity to meet lots of women in the League and working with them on their path of volunteerism.

The Committee relies heavily on League members to nominate and recommend peers that they have worked with or have recognized their talent. The word of our members has great merit. Perhaps someone came up with a great idea and worked with that idea to create a new policy or fundraiser. Or perhaps someone just went above and beyond the call of duty because...that is just the type of person she is. GREAT! Has either of these women ever thought of being on the Board of Directors? Do they need to be educated on the positions available and what the responsibilities are? Nominating is here to help make that transition.

This year's committee has made a commitment to work diligently on creating paths for future leaders and to encourage those already on their way. We hope to instill a strong mentoring system that recognizes and taps members' talents from year to year, so that we will be able to slate leadership positions based on members' skills and experience, rather than solely because of their willingness and interest. This will provide a more fulfilling experience for both new and seasoned members.

One of the tools we have developed is a brief, but helpful Nominating Form that we will encourage candidates or members recommending candidates to complete. The more complete the form, the more equal the playing field will be for each candidate. The Nominating Committee doesn't have much to work with if a nomination consists only of a simple email stating, "I recommend Mollie for the XYZ Director position because I think she will do a great job. Please call with any ques-

tions." While a name and suggestion is still appreciated, we want to solicit more substantive nominations, without making it a cumbersome process. The new form has eight questions that will allow the Nominating Committee to understand the individual's commitment, interest and experience.

The Form is available as a download from the Nominating/Placement Committee section of www.jlpg.org. Once completed, you may e-mail the completed Form to Susan Indrisano at scupler@msn.com or to any other member of the Nominating Committee. Alternatively, you can give a completed hardcopy of the Form to any Committee member or mail it to Anathan, marked Confidential and directed to the attention of the Nominating Committee.

Throughout the fall, the Committee will be taking nominations for all Board positions. We will consider the nominations in groups, beginning with the Executive Committee positions (President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer Elect). Reminders will be sent and deadlines for particular positions will be announced in advance through e-mail blasts.

We truly appreciate all efforts members make to encourage leadership and involvement. Please let yourself be heard and use the Form to light the way for the future of our League. Imagine how you could not only change the life of a member, but also the quality of life of the community we continue to support.

If you have questions about the nominating process or preparing for and holding leadership roles in the League, feel free to contact any member of the Nominating Committee. The members of the 2006-2007 Nominating Committee are Susan Book Campbell, Lynne Chadwick, Kelly Enders, Katie Heinritz, Susan Indrisano, Monica Lamar, Brooke McMorrow and Kelly Schraven.

"This year's committee has a made a commitment to work diligently on creating paths for future leaders and to encourage those already on their way."

Committee News

Sustainers Reconnect, Mingle, Enjoy



Let's reconnect with members of the JLP during afternoon tea. Sustainers will meet and mingle with each other and this year's JLP Board, actives and provisionals.

Many thanks for the positive notes regarding the first sustainer newsletter and e-mail updates. I have had a lot of encouragement from sustainers to keep the news on all League activities and events coming. Remember, sustainers can attend any of the League's activities, such as Book and Author on October 1 or participate in Done in a Days (DIAD). You are not limited to the activities and events planned by the sustainer committee.

Our social and volunteer calendar is shaping up nicely. It was great seeing many of you reconnecting at the tea and social in August. The next few months are filled with a number of things sure to wet your appetite and reconnect our group.

On the volunteer front, Global Links and Lunch is off to a great start -- so consider spending a Thursday morning with Fredrica Cryan and lunch with the ladies afterwards. I have a request from some sustainers to plan a Done in the Night for those who are still working full time and can not participate in Global Links. I will be researching options for this activity and keep everyone posted. I would also like the sustainers to support the new League signature project KaBOOM on build day on October 28. I am working with co-chair, Sara Lowery, to find a niche we might be able to fill that day.

On the social front, bunko game night is planned for mid-October at my house so come enjoy a fun evening rolling dice, no skill required, and mingle with fellow sustainers. Early November will feature our first lunch and lecture of the year at the Twentieth Century Club and plans for December functions are still in the works.

I hope to reconnect with many more of you at our other events this year.

Fondly, Suzy Golitko, Sustainer Director

► THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

10 aM – 12:00 PM

GLOBAL LINKS & LUNCH

Fredrica had a wonderful response to our first volunteer day at Global Links and Lunch. It is never too late to sign up for one of the months or all the months. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to make a difference by sorting

and packing medical supplies for needy areas throughout the world. GL relies heavily on first-class volunteers like the JLP.

GL is located at 4809 Penn Avenue, just two blocks behind West Penn Hospital. Please call or e-mail Sustainer Fredrica Cryan at (412-784-9069) or cryanfejk@aol.com to sign up.

► WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

7:00 pM – 9:00 PM, BUNKO GAME NIGHT

Bunko Game Night at Sustainer Suzy Golitko's House. Come join me for the first ever sustainer game night. Never played Bunko? Not to worry! It is a no-skills-needed, just be lucky, dice game that has players changing tables at every round. We'll play just one round and it is going to be a fun way to reconnect with a lot of League friends.

RSVP: If you can come, please call or e-mail, Suzy Golitko 412-330-6057 or sgolitko@wpahs.org

Where: 220 Tech Road, Thornburg 15205

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Cost: \$5 at the door per player. Covers finger food, dessert, wine and soda. Remaining funds will feed the kitty to pay the player with the most Bunkos, the most wins and the most losses.

► SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED

KaBOOM PLAYGROUND BUILD DAY

I would like for our group to support the League's new signature project KaBOOM on build day. I am working with KaBOOM co-chair, Sara Lowery, to see where we might best fit. Look for updates in the next sustainer newsletter and sustainer e-mail blast.

► SAVE THESE DATES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6 – Lunch & Lecture at the 20th Century Club. Featuring art historian, David Wilkins.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 – Global Links & Lunch with sustainer Fredrica Cryan.

— Suzy Golitko, Sustainer Director

Training: A Preview of 2006-2007 Programs

► Training Content Focus

Trainings for the upcoming year, as mandated by our Strategic Plan, will be mission-focused— meaning that trainings will address leadership development, community issues and professional skills specifically relevant to the JLP.

► Requirement

The JLP training requirement is that each member attends one training program. The committee plans to offer three opportunities for members to complete their requirement.

The fall required training will address Play Advocacy (to complement the KaBOOM! Project) and is scheduled to begin immediately after the September GMM. The spring required training program is tentatively scheduled to precede the March GMM at 6 p.m. The third required training program hopefully will occur on a Satur-

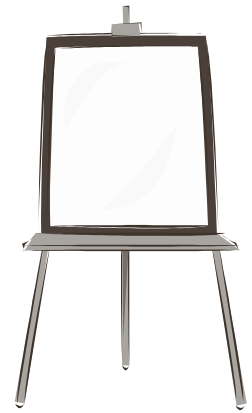
day morning at a location intended to bring out the masses.

► Additional Trainings

The committee will also offer optional trainings commonly referred to as “minis” which last 15 minutes and address specific topics/questions. Look for these optional trainings both before and after GMMs to be announced in future email blasts and Lights issues. The first mini training will be held before the October 11 GMM and will address planning your placement. Future mini trainings will include techniques to make a sale and a history of the JLP profitability.

Note the training schedule reflects members’ responses to a training survey completed during the 2005-2006 Annual Meeting. Please contact Stephanie at shoogendoorn@gmail.com for more information about trainings.

— Stephanie Hoogendoorn, Training Chair



“This year’s committee has made a commitment to work diligently on creating paths for future leaders and to encourage those already on their way.”

LIGHTS Production Schedule 2006-2007

Issue	Submission Deadline
October 2006	September 22
November 2006	October 27
February 2007	January 26, 2007
March 2007	February 23
April 2007	March 23
June 2007	May 18

Submission Requirements

Submit all articles electronically to Chère Tiller, Chair & Editor at: ctiller@forum.com. It is helpful if you add the topic of your submission in the “RE:” of your e-mail message.

Articles

Please submit as a plain Word document (avoid adding special fonts, tabs or other formatting, such as tables -- they will be deleted, regardless, to comply with Lights standards.) You may also submit content within an e-mail.

Photos “...worth a thousands words!”

Submission of photos is encouraged! Please, supply as a JPEG file, and please compress/zip-up before sending if there is more than one. Limit is 5 meg per email.

Add photo caption information along with your submission.

* The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for content, length and style.

Make a Note:

GMM Dates

9.13.2006

10.11.2006

Week of 11..2006**

**placement coffees rather than GMM

1.10.2007* additional meeting

2.13.2007

3.14.2007

4.18.2007

5.30.2007 Annual Meeting

About the Junior League of Pittsburgh

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.

The Junior League of Pittsburgh
1620 Murray Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412.422.8580

info@jlpgh.org
www.jlpgh.org



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PITTSBURGH

Women building better communities

2006-2007 Leadership

Executive Committee

President

Linda Hartman

President-Elect

Martha Wiegand

Secretary

Christie Smith

Treasurer

Nancy Davis

Treasurer-Elect

Jennifer Daurora

Board of Directors

CADC Director

(open)

Communications Director

Gretchen Smathers

Education and Events Director

Lorraine Marks

Fund Development Director

Beth McCall

Membership Development Director

Traci Nelson

Nominating Director

Susan Indrisano

Placement Director

Brooke McMorrow

Projects Director

Michelle Smith

Strategic Development Director

Karen Rivetti

Sustainer Director

Suzy Golitko

W O M E N leading
by **E X A M P L E**