



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
CANTON, OHIO, INC.

WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

et cetera

Major Project Update: Moving Forward

Life Is A Highway” February Life Skills Class

The February 19th Life skills Class entitled “Life is a Highway” was a big success! The class was taught by Jason Bass and Jerry Cugino at Park Acura on Arlington Road.

Despite a frigid blizzard, 21 foster care children were in attendance which is the largest class to date! This could have been due to the fact that Stark County Children’s Services, along with Cheryl Stewart, provided transportation from the Renkert Building downtown to Park Acura in Green. The foster parents of those in the class were then included in a raffle to win a \$25.00 gas card!

After perusing various new cars in the showroom, the children ate pizza, salads, cookies and cake while being taught car buying basics. Some of the class objectives included how to calculate the costs of car ownership, registration, maintenance, and insurance; how to develop a good credit rating; how to get the best insurance rate; the necessary steps for getting a driver’s license; financing; and the basic ins and outs of making a first car purchase.

The kids asked various questions concerning credit including how to get it and the importance of a credit score. They also inquired about car insurance, car maintenance and what signs to look for in a reliable vehicle.

The class wrapped up at 8:00 pm with the children receiving gift bags containing candy and Wal-Mart gift cards. They also took home a syllabus of the class topics and an official book of Ohio driving rules and regulations. Those in attendance participated enthusiastically and thanked the instructors afterwards, some even with hand shakes!



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Headquarters Reminders

The office will be closed on the following dates:

May 25





Julie Worstell, President

President's Perspective

At the March GMM, Major Project chair-elect, Meredith Bailey, introduced us to four possible projects for the 2009/2010 League year to be voted on by membership. The votes were counted and we are excited to announce the Food Distribution Program was chosen as our new major project. This project will be a collaboration with The Stark County Hunger Task Force for the purpose of providing food and essential items to those in need all throughout Stark County. The statistics on poverty in our county is alarming and growing. Over 41,000 people live at or below the poverty line and due to the economy the number is on the rise. Our League focus area for the past three years has been Healthy Families and since hunger is the most extreme form of poverty and undernourishment negatively affects health, productivity, and overall well-being, this issue is having an extremely negative effect on families right here in our area. League members overwhelmingly felt that we can be of the most assistance in these difficult times by filling basic human needs, and dealing with the issue of hunger is a more than worthy cause.

There will be many opportunities for League members to get involved. We will be distributing food in a variety of ways. The Mobile Food Distribution program will allow us to distribute food items such as fresh produce and other perishable food items directly to local community sites. In addition we will be given the opportunity to be involved with the Hot Meal Food Distribution Program, which will allow members to prepare and serve meals directly to those in need. We will also be involved with the Back Pack for Kids project, which will allow members to prepare food bags for children to take home after school.

This project not only fills a great need in Stark County, it also goes along well with our most recent decision to change our name to the Junior League of Stark County. There could not be a better project than one where we will be servicing all of Stark County while trying to spread the word that we serve more than Canton, and our members come from all over Stark. We are hoping that this name change will help us to grow in membership which in turn will allow us to grow in resources in order to make even a bigger difference in the lives of others in need in our community. We are looking forward to another great year in Junior League!

Mission Statement

The Junior League of Canton, Ohio, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Vision Statement

Through the power of our association, Junior Leagues strengthen communities by embracing diverse perspectives, building partnerships and inspiring shared solutions.

Junior League of Canton's Board of Directors 2008-2009

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| President | *Julie Worstell | Finance Council: | |
| Sustainer Elect | *JoAnn Ovnicek | Finance Council VP | *Rosanna Fierro |
| Secretary | *Candy Kunz | Major Fundraiser Chair | Lara Kimbell |
| | | Major Fundraiser Chair Elect | Tonja Marshall |
| Community Council: | | Fund Development Chair | Cara Beisert |
| Community Council VP | *Natalie Bass | Treasurer | *Lauren Maxwell |
| Community Project Chair | Cheryl Stewart | Treasurer Elect | *Leslie Letner |
| Community Project Chair Elect | Meredith Bailey | | |
| Public Relations Chair | Holly Renninger | Training and Development Council: | |
| Publications | Renee Rojas | Training and Development Council VP | *Megan Pellegrino |
| Website Chair | Julie Baxter | Admission / Provisional Chair | Lora Kilkenny |
| | | Admission / Provisional Chair Elect | Wendy Menegay |
| Sustainer Council: | | Leadership Placement Chair | Tricia Dever |
| Sustainer Council VP | *Joni Morrow (s) | Membership Development & | |
| Women of the Year Chair | Michelle Griffin (s) | Training Chair | Kari Willoughby |
| Women of the Year Chair Elect | Lucia Pileggi (s) | Strategic Planning Chair | Katie Miller |
| | | | |
| * Executive Board Member | | JLC Administrative Assistant | Trinette Cotsmire |

Hats Off to the 2009 Women of the Year !

The Award Recipients have been selected. The invitations have been mailed. Now it is time to reserve your seat for the 2009 Women of the Year Luncheon. This year we are honoring **Vicki Haines** and **Doris Hershey**, who are two outstanding volunteers! The luncheon information is as follows:

Date: Saturday, May 9th
Time: 10:30 am Gathering Time, 11:00 Luncheon
Location: McKinley Grand Hotel
Cost: \$35 per person



In addition to honoring these 2 accomplished volunteers, we will also have an informal style show by Ms. E's Place, The Everything Boutique. You will recognize the models as they are our own active members. It will be a wonderful event so ask your family and friends to attend as well. Please reserve your spot today!!

Awards and League News

- ◆ Congratulations to **Lydia Strauss** for being recognized as the **Goodwill Ambassador of the Year** for her work on behalf of SPEAK and also being recognized as one of 20 under 40 making a difference in Stark County. We are proud to have you in League!
- ◆ Congratulations to **Amy Thiel** on the birth of her baby girl on March 30. Her name is Brooke Madison and she weighed in at 7 pounds, 7 ounces.
- ◆ **February's Shining Star** recipient has been a shining star from the beginning of her Junior League career. She was co-president of her provisional class, took on a leadership role her first year active and has been a chairperson for more than one committee. She has remained active as her family has grown (2 babies since joining Junior League). But more than all of that, she is always singing the praises of Junior League (she has even been known to sing at a GMM to entice members to attend Gala!). She has recruited many new members throughout the years. She encourages others to join by letting them know the wonderful things we do and the wonderful friends she has made in the League. So a big thank you to February's Shining Star, **Katie Miller**.



Happy Birthday to You!



| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 4/1 Michele Griffin (s) | 4/9 Donna Jakmides (s) | 4/23 Kari Willoughby (a) |
| 4/2 Christine Peterson (s) | 4/10 Linda DeHoff (s) | 4/25 Jan Hess (s) |
| 4/3 Kay Schumacher (s) | 4/11 Linda Psomiades (s) | 4/26 Lynne Grosenbaugh (s) |
| 4/4 Denise Franz (s) | 4/18 Rae Ellen Smedley (s) | 4/27 Ginny Bolender (s) |
| 4/5 Barb Paulus (s) | 4/20 Barb Wells (a) | 4/28 Nancy Gartner (s) |
| 4/8 Jackie Pousoulides (s) | 4/22 Susie Cook (s) | Angi Rosa (a) |

March Meeting Highlights

On March 10th the General Membership Meeting was held at Malone University. League members enjoyed an ice cream sundae bar, while getting the "scoop" on 4 potential major projects for next year. Guest speakers from The Stark County Hunger Task Force, Children's Services, Safe Kids Coalition and Canton City Schools Family Wellness Program offered compelling proposals on prospective major projects. At the conclusion of the meeting, questions were asked and project selection took place. Committee preference sheets were distributed to members. All active and provisional members were encouraged to list choices for 2009-2010 committee involvement. Personalized membership requirement folders were also distributed. Members were asked to update volunteer hours served thus far this year. If you missed this meeting, we hope to catch up with you at the next GMM on Tuesday, April 14 at the 2nd April Galerie and Studio. See you there!

C.O.D.E. DAY (Connect Ohio Develop Educate)

Junior Leagues from Ohio met on March 14, 2009 for a one-day training with two workshops. The first workshop was presented by Jeffrey S. Vengrow, Director of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence on financial resource development. Attendees were instructed on the important components each non-profit should have in their fundraising plans, basic rules of fundraising, and the four main sources of revenue. We were able to gather many great ideas and are beginning the process of creating a fund-development plan for our League that is current, comprehensive, and contains the core principals of non-profit fundraising.

The second workshop centered on advocacy and effective public action and was presented because of Ohio's interest in reorganizing its Junior League State Public Affairs committee which disbanded several years ago. This workshop was facilitated by Aileen Meyer, Director of Development and Institutional Advancement at Lourdes College.

Junior Leagues from throughout the country are currently focusing on the issue of childhood obesity through a program called *Kids in the Kitchen*. You may have seen the *Kids in the Kitchen* commercials that are currently airing on *Cartoon Network*. At the workshop, Ohio Leagues discussed the possibility of taking on the issue of some of the unhealthy foods that Ohio schools are allowing in their vending machines and cafeterias.

A big thank you to the following delegates from JLC that attended the training: Leslie Letner, JoAnn Ovnich, Megan Pellegrino, Jodie Ricks and Julie Worstell. We appreciate you spending your time on a Saturday on behalf of our League!



Volunteers Needed

Only 5 opportunities remain to volunteer with the foster youth this League year and the Major Project Committee needs our help. If you sign up, you will come to the class to interact and sit with the youth during the training to help the youth to stay on task and be respectful to the instructor during the workshop. The more adults we have there to supervise the youth, the more smoothly the classes run. If you have not participated yet this year please sign up for one of the classes below to help you to fulfill your League requirements and also lessen the workload for others. If you can participate please contact Cheryl Stewart.

Thanks so much and we appreciate the support! -- *Julie*

April 23, 6-9 p.m. - Malone College the Stewart Room "Career Night"

May 9 - Community Service "Flower Planting in McKinley Park"

May 30, 11-2p.m. - Sluggers and Putters. "Its a wrap" send off for those who have attended Life Skills Classes.

Congratulations to the 2009-2010 Board of Directors!

President – JoAnn Ovnich*
President Elect – Megan Pellegrino*
Secretary – Julie Baxter*

Community Council:

Community Council Vice President Kari Willoughby*
Community Project Chair..... Meredith Bailey
Community Project Chair Elect.....Stephanie Jackson
Communications Chair Cheryl Stewart

Sustainer Council:

Sustainer Council Vice PresidentEileen Ziegler (sustainer)*
Women of the Year Chair Lucia Pileggi (sustainer)
Women of the Year Chair Elect..... Nancy Bond-Bundy (sustainer)

Finance Council:

Finance Council Vice President..... Lara Kimbell*
Major Fundraiser Chair..... Torie Utterback
Major Fundraiser Chair Elect..... Andrea Ziarko
Fund Development Chair..... Susan Shearer
Treasurer Leslie Letner*
Treasurer Elect Jodie Ricks*

Training and Development Council:

Training and Development Council Vice President.....Natalie Bendure-Bass*
Admission/Provisional Chair..... Wendy Menegay
Admission/Provisional Chair Elect.....Alison Jensen
Leadership Placement Chair Julie Worstell
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2008 -2009 *Etcetera* Advertising Rates

| Width x Height | Description | Price per Issue |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 3 1/4 inch x 2 inch | Business card | \$20.00 |
| 3 1/4 inch x 4-1/4 inch | Quarter page | \$40.00 |
| 7 inch x 4-1/4 inch | Half page | \$80.00 |
| 7 x 9 inch | Full page | \$160.00 |

Refer to our website or contact headquarters for more information



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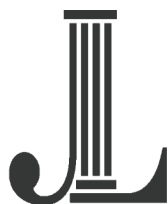
We need your referrals for the Admissions/Provisional 2010 Class.

As the 2008-2009 Junior League Year nears its end, the Admissions/ Provisional Committee is beginning to plan for next year's class. If you know any exceptional women who enjoy community volunteerism and may be interested in joining the Junior League of Canton, Ohio, Inc., please submit her name. The Admissions/Provisional Committee will contact her to invite her to an informational meeting.

Our 1st Informational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 3 from 2-4 pm at Hot Pots-The Pottery Place on South Main Street in North Canton (next to El Rincon). All potential provisionals will be making their own Glass Fusion piece...at NO COST!!!

***Please RSVP NO LATER THAN APRIL 26 to Wendy Menegay @ 330.704.5696
or JLC Headquarters @ 330.491.4552***

***Don't forget your neighbors, co-workers, friends, daughters,
daughter-in-laws, sisters, cousins, etc!***



etcetera

**The Junior League of Canton, Ohio, Inc.
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