

**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING**

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Junior League of Lansing, Michigan is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.*

*Community*

## Random Acts of Kindness

JLL tried something new at the November GMM in Sustainer Homes. Instead of an ordinary Done in a Meeting, JLL Members were encouraged to share a Random Act of Kindness out in our community. We got ready with a DVD, got set by sharing stories of giving or receiving an act of kindness, and then go — we went out into the Lansing area ready to “pay it forward.” Members decided whether to go out that evening or organize something with a few Members on another day.

All of us can participate in brightening up the lives of people in our community by sharing a Random Act of Kindness. During the chilly months ahead do something simple but meaningful like helping a neighbor rake up a few leaves or shovel their sidewalk, buying a cup of coffee for the person in the car behind you in the morning drive-thru line, or calling up a friend you haven’t talked to in awhile.

What have we already done?

Junior League Members who met at Sustainer Barb Cleland’s home for the November GMM pooled \$150 and surprised shoppers in the checkout lane at the Lake Lansing Road Meijer with \$10 or \$20 to help buy their groceries.

Another group of Members left Sustainer Susan Allis’ house after the GMM with \$250 in their pockets. They went out and filled a cart full of supplies for Haven House which they delivered that evening.



## JLL Email Addresses

Just a reminder to use these emails:

### FOCUS

focus@jllansing.org

### New Member Recruitment

membership@jllansing.org

### Webmaster

webmaster@jllansing.org

### Public Relations

publicrelations@jllansing.org

### Signature Fundraiser

fundraiser@jllansing.org

### JLL Office (Nancy)

office@jllansing.org

**FOCUS** is the newsletter of the Junior League of Lansing, published 9 times each year for the use of its members. Any inquiries regarding **FOCUS** may be directed to the office staff or the following address:

#### Junior League of Lansing

1231 Michigan Ave., Suite 204  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-324-8716  
office@jllansing.org  
Focus@jllansing.org

Junior League of Lansing, Michigan reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism. The JLL strives in all endeavors to be sensitive to the special needs of our members and guests. If there is a special need, please notify the Education Vice President, Shelly Bugg.

**FOCUS** accepts advertisements to help offset the publication costs. For advertising rates or to place an advertisement, please contact the Junior League of Lansing office.

**FOCUS** submissions are due by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before each GMM. Email submissions should be sent to Focus@jllansing.org in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman 12 pt. font. Articles should include a title, author and author's placement. All photos should be digital and sent to the Focus email address with the word "photo" in the subject line. Photos must include a caption with the names of those pictured and the title of the accompanying article.

# President's Message...

Betsy Svanda, President



*"Give freely and spontaneously."*

*Deuteronomy 15:10*

This time of year people tend to think more about giving to others. For Junior League Members, giving is not just for a season, but is a year round way of life. The Junior League of Lansing has been giving to our community for over 60 years. Because of the generosity of our members and Community Partners we have played an integral role in bringing Impression 5 Science Museum, Otto Health Clinic, Ballentine Stepping Stones and Ele's Place to the Lansing community. The Junior League has also given the gift of developing the potential of over 400 women who are impacting the community through their effective action and leadership each and every day.

This year alone, our JLL will give back more than \$25,000 to the community, along with countless volunteer hours. Even more exciting, the commitment of \$10,000 this year to Care Free Dental actually is the equivalent of \$90,000 worth of dental care. Our volunteers can be seen in our community building homes, feeding the hungry, clothing the homeless, helping at races like Sparrow Working Wonders, stocking food banks and providing diapers and formula for infants.

At our Sustainer Home GMM meetings, members were challenged to perform a Random Act of Kindness. Our JLL ladies were all over town handing out money at Meijer's, buying cleaning supplies for Haven House and feeding the hungry. Our members were giving freely and spontaneously of their time and money. Thank you to my fellow Junior League members who took up the challenge; our community will be a better place because of you.

In the coming weeks, Junior League members also know that there will be over 300 happy faces on Christmas morning, as kids in Lansing open up their Christmas presents, purchased with the help of Junior League's volunteer shopping power. And, the giving for Junior League will not stop when the holidays end. We will continue to volunteer and give of ourselves to build a better community. I cannot think of a better gift to be a part of this year.

## Finance

### Membership Dues

Julie Morgan, Treasurer



We are approaching that time again to pay your annual Junior League of Lansing membership dues. **Kim Watters**, dues bookkeeper, will be mailing dues notices to Members very soon.

As a friendly reminder, Active Member dues are \$122, Senior Active dues are \$122 and Sustainer dues are \$84. All dues payments must be postmarked by February 28th. Please make checks payable to Junior League of Lansing. With all of the hard work **Traci Riehl** and her team have done on the website, we hope to be able to have an option to pay our dues online in the near future.

## Sustaining The Sustaining Line.....

Sue Mills, Sustaining Advisor



The "Shop 'til You Drop" bus trip is always a highlight as we approach the Christmas season. Thanks to **GINNY BROOKS** and **KATHY COLBY** for chairing it again this year. Lori Fuller and Suzanne Tuck assisted them and will be taking over the chairmanship in 2011.

Many thanks to first-year Sustainer **RENEE KNAKE** for opening her East Lansing home for the **HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**. Twenty sustainers volunteered to greet, serve, clean up, and make tasty hors d'oeuvres and sweets. New Members, Active Members and Sustainers all enjoy this annual event.

**Congratulations to Amy Crites** on being re-elected for another term on the Okemos School Board of Education.

In the past two issues of Focus in keeping with President **Betsy Svanda's** theme, "**Sharing the Junior League Story**," I have highlighted the 30s and the 40s. In the **Decade of the 50s**, the Arts were a major component of service. A Puppet Committee was organized and trooped to area schools. Creative Drama Classes were started for school children with two classes held at the Michigan School for the Blind. 1954 marked the beginning of the Arts and Crafts program with the patients at the Ingham County Rehabilitation Center. It was also the year of the League's first venture into the field of television with a program for teenagers, "Young Ideas." It is a small world, because as a high school student, I was a panelist on that show. The following year League entered into the field of radio with a series entitled "Books to Remember." Our Lansing League brought the National Children's Theater Conference here in 1955 and introduced the play, "Chatter," to our League. In 1957, because of expanding membership and services, League opened an office. A successful money-raising project, Dance Assemblies that began in 1955, helped fund the cost of the office and made possible the adoption of "The Project on Aging" with a \$24,000 grant. Once again the media of TV was used to focus upon the needs of the elderly with a series of programs on the constructive use of leisure entitled "What's with My Time." In addition, during the 50s the League opened the Volunteer Bureau in Lansing. Nearly 10,000 hours of volunteer service to community organizations demonstrated its success the very first year. And during this time the Thrift Shop moved twice. The decade closed with the 10th Anniversary Celebration of our membership in AJLA (now AJLI) with the AJLA treasurer as guest speaker.

### Membership Changes

**Carl, Stacy**

Home email: stacy916@gmail.com

**Martinez, Mercedes**

Home email: meche.martinez1@gmail.com

Work email: mercedes@kindsvatterassociates.com

(A)

**Teasley, Cherise**

6248 Rothburg Way, Apt. Y11

East Lansing, Michigan 48823-1631

(A)

**Terakedis, Amber**

Delete home phone; Use only cell: 517-420-0833

## Training Roadmap for the Future

Amy Suhrheinrich, MSC Training Co-Chair



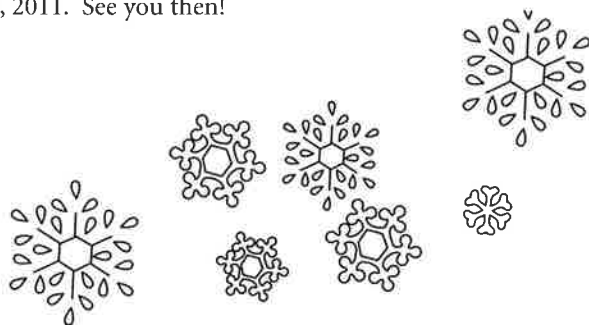
On October 23 more than 70 dynamic women traveled to Ann Arbor to hear from the Association's President, **Delly Beekman**, **Noah Smith** of Capitol Services, **Kim Whitmore** the incoming SPAC Chair and from many other leaders within our Leagues. It was not only an informative day,

but a day to network and connect with League members from around Michigan.

The impact of the information from the AJLI President in regards to the future of Junior League was astounding. Our surveys showed that our membership found her to be informative and inspiring. For those of you not familiar with the "roadmap," we encourage you to visit [www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org) and click on the members section where you will find the **Strategic Roadmap Center**. It hosts a plethora of resources, videos, downloads and more dedicated to the strategic planning process that is happening within the Association. Our new Vision Statement: *The Junior League: Women Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change* was adopted at the 87th AJLI Annual Conference. The strategic work continues and is building upon the Junior League's 108-year legacy.

We explored the topics of Political Action Committees, State Public Affairs Committees, what is happening around the state and how each of us fits into the whole picture. As Delly was and is still very instrumental in the New Jersey SPAC committee, she led a question and answer segment with us. Human Trafficking was a topic that continued to be revisited. League members were able to network and gain information from one another and how we can take that back to our Leagues and become advocates for change within our communities.

The MSC Executive Committee and Training Chairs have taken the information and comments gathered from this day and are planning the next training. Please consider attending the January Training and Michigan State Council Meeting on **Saturday, January 15, 2011** at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center. Check in will be at 9:00 a.m. and the training will adjourn at 11:30 a.m. All are then welcome to attend the MSC meeting to start at 11:45 a.m. with lunch until 1:30 p.m. These trainings are provided to you at no additional cost as the MSC dues are used for training our members. Please RSVP to **Amy Suhrheinrich** at [rsuhr@comcast.net](mailto:rsuhr@comcast.net) and indicate if you are staying for lunch. Also, mark your calendars for Day at the Capitol and the MSC Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2011. See you then!



## Education

### Breast Cancer Awareness "Bold" & "Beautiful" at Oct.GMM

Kirsten Soltis, Training Chair



**B**reast Cancer Awareness month, October, took center stage at the October GMM in a number of touching ways. There were few dry eyes in the group as Sustainers shared stories and Cancer Survivors were honored.

We would like to thank Sustainers **Barb Hagan** and **Debby Harrison** so very much for sharing their personal journeys with Cancer. Thanks also go out to **Christine Pearson**, Executive Director of Mid-Michigan Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure for sharing the story of Susan G. Komen for the Cure's rise in Mid Michigan.

Our training was wrapped up by a stunning presentation from **Terri Shaver**, Executive Director of the Oldham Project. Terri's photos of women in her "Be Bold, Feel Beautiful Project" were everything her project promised to be—bold and beautiful! Thank you, Terri for undertaking such a wonderful project and for sharing it with us.

## Membership

### Great Events in the New Year!

Michelle Lange, Member Relations Chair



**M**ember Relations has had a good start to the JLL year with some new events and we are looking forward to continuing on with that trend in the year 2011!

To kick off the New Year we'll be visiting the Grand Rapids Art Museum on January 22nd to view the Princess Diana exhibit and we're working to make this a joint event with the Junior League of Grand Rapids. The day will start with meeting for lunch at a local Grand Rapids restaurant and then we'll make our way over to the museum to take the tour. The price is \$15/ticket and the cost of your own lunch. If interested, please contact Michelle Lange at LangeM77@aol.com.

In February we'll be bringing back the popular Mani/Pedi event, as well as a flower arrangement class brought to us by **Dawn Hall** of Petal and Forrest.

March will bring a St. Patrick's Day Party and in April you can look forward to an Easter event geared towards your little ones.

We would also like to recognize **Jodie Burditt**, **Stacy Carl**, **Kristin Hicks**, **Samantha Hughes**, **Tracy Jelneck**, **Suzanne Johnson**, and **Dawn Kroeger** for all of their hard work conducting the fall member interviews—kudos to you!

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## Community Sponsorships

Ann Vogelsang, Community Vice President



Junior League of Lansing is delighted to be able to support two more wonderful organizations in our community.

JLL is pleased to announce its sponsorship of two events for the Ronald McDonald House Mid-Michigan. The JLL logo was at the end of a lane during the 5th Annual Bowl for the House on November 21 at the Royal Scot Golf & Bowl, and this spring look for our logo on the Run for the House 2011 volunteer t-shirts. In all JLL will be donating \$500 to Ronald McDonald House Mid-Michigan to help support its mission of providing a warm and caring home away from home for families with ill children receiving medical treatment in the area. To date the House has offered more than 2500 families over 18,000 nights of lodging.

JLL will also be supporting a new event on January 13, the Oldham Project Be Bold, Be Brave, Feel Beautiful Fundraising Gala. During the Be Bold, Feel Beautiful campaign more than 60 women ranging in age from 20 to 81 undergoing treatment for various forms of cancer were photographed without their wigs or scarves to show how beautiful women bravely battling this disease can be. The Project seeks to empower women throughout our community who are facing cancer treatment. JLL's Emerald Level Sponsorship of \$1000 will be used to give mounted 11x14 portraits from the Project to the courageous women being celebrated at the Gala.

## Training

## Fabulous Upcoming Training Opportunities!

Kirsten Soltis, Training Chair



Breast Cancer Awareness month, October, took center stage at the October GMM in a number of touching ways. There were few dry eyes in the group as Sustainers shared stories and Cancer Survivors were honored.

Ladies, we are about to enter the busy crunch of the holiday season followed by the seemingly endless Michigan Winter, leading to the inevitable winter blahs! Fear not—your Junior League of Lansing is here with wonderful solutions to fend off the winter blahs! Mark your calendars for these winter dates.

Coming up in January, we have our January GMM on January 11th at Walnut Hills Country Club. OPS training for the leadership group will be held before the GMM.

Our second MSC training of the year will be held on Saturday, January 15th—this is a great opportunity to spend the day with Junior League sisters from across the state and get some wonderful training. More details will follow by email and at the January GMM. Please contact Kirsten Soltis (kirsten.soltis@hantzgroup.com) to RSVP.

Finally, plan a girls night with pop-corn, good friends, and a movie on Tuesday, February 8th at the JLL's annual February GMM-Movie Night. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Strong Speech Consulting, Inc.

[www.strongspeech.com](http://www.strongspeech.com)

Katie A. Strong, M.A. CCC-SLP  
Speech Language Pathologist

517.410.2888

[katie@strongspeech.com](mailto:katie@strongspeech.com)

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# Proposed DIAD Projects 2011-2012

Thuy Pham, DIAD Chair

- 1. Habitat for Humanity (August 2011)**

JLL Volunteers would work on a house one half day (four hours) and would be able to work with any additional, regular open crews. Projects may include work pertaining to framing, interior finish work and/or landscaping. Precise job requirements would be determined by when in the building sequence JLL would participate. One low income family will purchase the home from the Habitat for Humanity Lansing organization with a no interest loan.

We may also be asked to volunteer for Build a Bike at the Ox Roast in Dewitt again to watch over the bikes as the bikers finish for lunch. (2-3hrs)

Dollars needed: \$1000  
Volunteers needed: 15  
Time: 4 hours
- 2. St. Vincent Catholic Charities: Operation Backpack (August 2011)**

Operation Backpack is a volunteer driven back-to-school effort benefiting the children served by St. Vincent Catholic Charities. JLL volunteers would help sort donated school supplies and pack book bags.

Dollars needed: \$0  
Volunteers needed: 8-10  
Time: 4-6 hours
- 3. Sparrow Foundation Women Working Wonders (September 2011)**

Volunteers would be assisting the race committee in any number of roles the day of the race. The funds raised will be used to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

Dollars needed: \$0  
Volunteers needed: 8-10  
Time: 3 hours
- 4. Women's Center of Greater Lansing: Girls to Women Conference (October 2011)**

Each fall, the Summit hosts the Special Olympics for an amazing group of athletes. JLL volunteers would provide and assist athletes with arts and crafts projects between their events.

Dollars needed: \$500  
Volunteers needed: 9-12  
Time: 2-3 hour time blocks
- 5. Caring About Kids (November 2011)**

JLL volunteers would shop for age appropriate gifts or the gift of the child's choice for Christmas. Each volunteer shops for gifts for up to 6 children. Wrapped gifts are dropped off to the JLL office (or a members' home) and then delivered to the Department of Human Services.

Dollars needed: \$0 (CAK, Inc. will reimburse JLL)  
Volunteers needed: 75  
Time: Flexible
- 6. Haven House Exit Baskets (Fall 2011 or Winter 2012)**

JLL volunteers would create exit baskets containing cleaning supplies and personal care items for families who are leaving Haven House in an effort to make their transition to housing easier. Approximately 8-10 bags would be needed to cover a month supply.

Dollars needed: \$500  
Volunteers: 5  
Time: 3 hours
- 7. Ronald McDonald House Dinners (Jan-Mar time slots 2012)**

JLL volunteers would be paired up to prepare a dinner for the overnight guests of Ronald McDonald House. Each pair would plan one meal, shop for the food, prepare dinner, serve the meal, and clean kitchen. Typically, 7-20 guests are served dinner.

Dollars needed: \$500  
Volunteers needed: 10  
Time: 3-4 hours in evening
- 8. Volunteers of America Soup Kitchen (Fall 2011 or Winter 2012)**

Volunteers of America provides meals to the homeless in the Lansing area. The JLL would volunteer two 3 hour shifts either dinner or breakfast and help prepare, serve and clean up after the meal.

Dollars needed: \$0  
Volunteers needed: 8  
Time: Two 3 hour time blocks
- 9. Eve's House, End Violent Encounters (2011-2012)**

Throughout the years EVE has been a place of safety and solace, a shelter from violence and abuse and a free and vital service to the community providing free services to victims of domestic violence and their children. JLL volunteers would assist with regular maintenance of the facility with responsibilities ranging from interior work to exterior landscaping.

Dollars needed: \$0  
Volunteers needed: 6  
Time: 4 hours
- 10. United Way Walk for Warmth (February 2012)**

JLL volunteers would join other volunteers from across the city to participate in an organized walk in an effort to increase awareness that there are people less fortunate who struggle to stay warm during the cold winter months and relay a message of the great need to support these people in any way possible.

Dollars needed: \$0  
Volunteers needed: 8-10  
Time: 3-4 hours

*continued on page 7*

**Absentee Ballots for the January 11, 2011 General Membership Meeting**

If you are unable to attend the January GMM, please use the Absentee Ballots  
*Refer to Redbook Bylaws, Article VII, Page 13, Section 4*

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Mark your Ballot         | 4. Write your name and the word "Ballot" on the envelope |
| 2. Place Ballot in envelope | 5. Put sealed envelope into larger envelope              |
| 3. Seal the envelope        | 6. Mail ballot   |

**Ballots MUST be received BEFORE the start of the January 11th GMM.**  
**Mail to: Courtney Schnelker, 6744 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE DIAD Ballot</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. Please vote for 3 proposed DIADs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Habitat for Humanity (August 2011)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> St. Vincent Catholic Charities: Operation Backpack (August 2011)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sparrow Foundation Women Working Wonders (September 2011)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Women's Center, Girls to Woman Conference (October 2011)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Caring About Kids (November 2011)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Haven House Exit Baskets (Fall 2011 or Winter 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ronald McDonald House Dinners (Jan–March Time slots 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers of America Soup Kitchen (Fall 2011 or Winter 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> EVE, Inc. Maintenance Day (2011–12)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> United Way Walk for Warmth (February 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> MSU Safe Place Race for the Place 5K (April 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Haven House Mother's Day Gift Bags (May 2012)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Boys and Girls Club (February 2011)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE DIAD Ballot</b></p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 20px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature</p>
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**DIAD Proposed Projects** *continued from page 6*

- 11. MSU Safe Place Race for the Place 5K (April 2012)**  
 MSU Safe Place provides assistance and advocacy to women and children who are victims of domestic violence on the MSU campus and in the East Lansing community. JLL volunteers would assist with various tasks during the day of the event, which includes a 5K run and children's 100-yard dash and 1 mile run.
- Dollars needed: \$0  
 Volunteers needed: 8–10  
 Time: 3 hours
- 12. Haven House Mother's Day Gift Bags (May 2012)**  
 Haven House is a shelter for women and children and has served the East Lansing community since 1989. JLL volunteers would purchase, fill and deliver approximately 7–10 gift bags to mothers staying at Haven House.
- Dollars needed: \$100  
 Volunteers needed: 5  
 Time: 2–3 hours

- 13. The Boys and Girls Club: To Write LOVE on a Cookie (February 2011)**  
 TWLOAC will involve decorating cookies with inspiring messages about beauty, hope and self-love. Additionally, this one day event will provide a space for women of the Junior League to share with the girl participants stories of hope and ways to deal with depression and other negative emotions.
- Thoughts of Hope—Each Junior League participant can prepare a "thought of hope" on a note card prior to the event and leave it with one girl participant they felt a close connection with.
- Dollars needed: \$500  
 Volunteers needed: 10  
 Time: 4 hours

## Absentee Ballots for the January 11, 2011 General Membership Meeting

*Refer to Redbook Bylaws, Article VII, Page 13, Section 4 & Redbook Policies, Section 16.1, #4, Page 39*

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Mark your Ballot.        | 4. Write your name and the word "Ballot" on the envelope |
| 2. Place Ballot in envelope | 5. Put sealed envelope into larger envelope              |
| 3. Seal the envelope        | 6. Mail ballot   |

**Ballots MUST be received BEFORE the start of the January 11th GMM.  
Mail to: Courtney Schnelker, 6744 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (1)</b></p> <p>A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for up to 8 candidates. For each candidate to be ratified, a majority vote of the total votes cast is required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2011-2012 BOARD</b> (single slate)</p> <p>_____ Becky Paalman, President Elect</p> <p>_____ Michelle Lange, Secretary</p> <p>_____ Traci Riehl, Communications Vice President</p> <p>_____ Jaimie Hutchison, Community Vice President</p> <p>_____ Kirsten Soltis, Education Vice President</p> <p>_____ Melissa Seifert, Fund Development Vice President</p> <p>_____ AmySue Melville, Membership Vice President</p> <p>_____ Bridget Seitz, Treasurer Elect</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (1)</b> <b>2011-12 BOARD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Signature</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (2)</b></p> <p>A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for no more than 4 candidates. The 4 candidates receiving the most votes will be elected.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nominating/Placement Advisor</b> <b>2011-2012</b> (double slate)</p> <p>_____ Tiana Hawver</p> <p>_____ Gabrielle Johnson</p> <p>_____ Katie Gallagher</p> <p>_____ Virginia Gibson</p> <p>_____ Thuy Pham</p> <p>_____ Beth Day</p> <p>_____ Ann Vogelsang</p> <p>_____ Leslie Donaldson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (2)</b> <b>2011-12 Nominating/Placement Advisor</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Signature</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (3)</b></p> <p>A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for up to 4 candidates. For each candidate to be ratified, a majority vote of the total votes cast is required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>New Member Recruitment Advisor</b> <b>2011-2012</b> (single slate)</p> <p>_____ Meghan Sifuentes</p> <p>_____ Tobi Lyon</p> <p>_____ Torye Santucci</p> <p>_____ Tiffany Dowling</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABSENTEE BALLOT (3)</b> <b>2011-12 New Member Recruitment Advisor</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Signature</p>
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# 2011-2012 Board and Advisors

## BOARD



### **President Elect Becky Paalman**

Becky has been a member of League since 2006. She has served in a variety of leadership positions including Signature Fundraiser Vice Chair and Chair, Communications VP and Fund Development VP. She is currently the Tracking Chair. Becky lives in Dimondale with her husband Chad and children CJ and Sydney. She works as a nurse at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. Becky is looking forward to applying the leadership skills she had gain through JLL to this position.



### **Communications Vice President Traci Riehl**

Traci joined League in 2006 and she is currently the PR and Marketing Chair. She lives in Lansing with her husband Chad and her two children, Anna (5 yrs) and Garrett (6 yrs). Traci is the President of Collaborative Resource Group. She is very active with her children's school. She enjoys playing tennis and spends her summers sailing with her family. Traci is very excited about this opportunity to serve League.



### **Community Vice President Jaimie Hutchison**

Jaimie is a fifth year active year in League. She lives in Haslett with her husband Wayne and daughter Haiden (4 yrs). She has two chocolate labs, Kobe and Klondike. Jaimie works as a Career Consultant for the James Madison College at MSU. She enjoys volunteering, photography and supporting MSU basketball. Jaimie is looking forward to supporting the community and inspiring members to get involved.



### **Education Vice President Kirsten Soltis**

Kirsten resides in Haslett with her husband John and her children Thomas (4 yrs) and Anna (16 mos). She has been a member of JLL since 2007. Kirsten is a Financial Advisor with Hantz Financial. She enjoys reading and hanging out with her kids and girlfriends. Kirsten is excited to be a part of the Board and continue the commitment to excellence in training.



### **Fund Development Vice President Melissa Seifert**

Melissa joined Junior League in 2009 and currently serves as the Signature Fundraiser chair. Melissa lives in Haslett with her husband Paul and her dog Berry. She works for AARP as the Associate Director for Economic Security and Work. She is looking forward to creating longevity for fundraising for years to come.



### **Membership Vice President AmySue Melville**

AmySue joined league in 2003. She lives in Haslett with her husband Grant and son Ethan (4 yrs). AmySue has served in a variety of roles in the Membership Council including New Member Advisor, New Member Chair, Member Relations, N/P Advisor and Nominating Chair. Amy Sue is an independent recreational therapist. She enjoys card making, photography and gardening. She is looking forward to further growth personally in her leadership skills



### **Secretary Michelle Lange**

Michelle currently serves as the Member Relations Chair and is in her second active year. She works as the State Relations Director for Oakland University. Michelle enjoys reading books she would never pick on her own for her book club, testing out her cooking skills for supper club, watching MSU sports roll over the competition, seeing any concert she can convince her friends to go to and spending as much time as she can on Higgins Lake in the summer. She is enthusiastic about JLL and thinks being a fairly new member to League, she can bring a fresh perspective to the board about what the new members are looking for and how they would like to see Junior League evolve.



### **Treasurer Elect Bridget Seitz**

Bridget resides in East Lansing with her husband Ted and three children, Mitchell (8 yrs), Natalie (6 yrs), and Cameron (2 yrs). She has been a member of League since 2008. Bridget is a scientist at Michigan State University. She has served on Arrangements and as the Grand Development Chair (2yrs) in League. She is looking forward to serving League in this role on the Board. Bridget enjoys spending time with family and friends.

### NOMINATING PLACEMENT ADVISORS:



**Tiana Hawver** Tiana has been a Member of JLL since 2007. She was the vocal director for Lansing Catholic Central's fall play 'Oliver'. In her spare time she likes to read, play cards, bowl and volunteer in the community. She is looking forward to getting to know other members and be able to help them find the right fit in JLL.



**Gabrielle Johnson** Gabe has been a Member of JLL since 2006. She is currently a law student at Thomas Cooley Law School and lives in Lansing. She enjoys yoga, wine, cooking and writing. She has had various experiences in league including SPAC, Fund Development and Parliamentarian. She is looking forward to getting to know the different placements in League.



**Katie Gallagher** Katie Gallagher transferred into the JLL in 2006. She lives in East Lansing with her husband Sean and her sons Connor and Doyle. Her hobbies include spending time with family and friends, working out and volunteering. She is interested in this placement because she wants to help members understand Junior League better through her own experiences.



**Virginia Gibson** Ginnie lives in Mason and works for the Michigan State Medical Society. She has been a member of League for three years. Ginnie enjoys volunteering with her church, the First Presbyterian of Mason. She likes to spend time with friends. She has served on Signature Project, DIAD and Arrangements. In the N/P advisor role, she is looking forward to serving membership through her many experiences in League and the community.



**Thuy Pham** Thuy is in her third active year in League. She lives in Holt with her husband Tony and three sons. She works with St Vincent Charities and in her spare time enjoys interior design, scrapbooking, reading, shopping and cooking. Thuy has served on the Signature Fundraiser Committee and Vice Chair and Chair of DIAD/DIAM. She is excited to get to know individual members and serve in an advising role.



**Beth Day** Beth has been a member of League since 2006. Beth lives in Haslett with her husband Mike and four children, Kate (12 yrs), Colin (10 yrs), Dylan (9), and Adam (7 yrs). Beth is very active with her volunteer work through the community and St. Thomas Aquinas. Her hobbies include photography, traveling, reading and spending time with family and friends. She plans to bring patience and her ability to

multi-task to the committee in addition to her strong leadership and people skills.



**Ann Vogelsang** Ann joined Junior League in 2006. She lives in Haslett with her husband Tim and their two daughters Hannah and Sophie. Ann's experiences in League involve Signature Project Committee, Vice-Chair and Chair and Community VP. She is excited to be on the Nominating Placement Committee because she enjoys meeting new people and friends.



**Leslie Donaldson** Leslie resides in Lansing with her husband Will Jurkiewicz. She is the Director of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. Leslie loves painting, artwork and being involved in the community. Through her community connections and her various skills she is looking forward to engaging members in the organization.

### NEW MEMBER ADVISORS:



**Meghan Sifuentes** Meghan joined League in 2009. She is a graduate of Western Michigan University. She works for the State of Michigan, Department of Community Health as a Policy Analyst. Meghan recently completed the Capital City Half-Marathon. She is currently on the Grant Development Committee.



**Tobi Lyon** Tobi is in her first active year in League and serves on the DIAD committee. Tobi lives in Lansing and works for Adams Outdoor. Tobi has a lot of past volunteer experience with involvement in Rotary, Zonta, AFP, and MHAP. Tobi graduated in Healthcare Administration from Mount Mercy College.

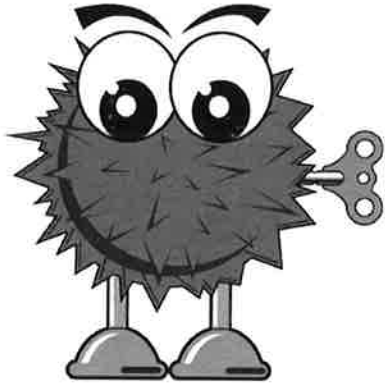


**Torye Santucci** Torye is a third year Active Member of League. She lives and grew up in East Lansing with her husband Ben and her son Jonathan (2 yrs). Torye works for Auto-Owners as an Actuary. She enjoys cooking and traveling. She has served on the SPAC/Training Committee and as the Publications Vice-Chair and Chair.



**Tiffany Dowling** Tiffany has been an Active Member since 2007. Tiffany lives in Lansing with her husband and two sons. She owns Motion Marketing and Media and is the publisher of Capital Area Women's Lifestyle Magazine. She is currently on the DIAD committee and has served on PR and Marketing Committee/Chair and as the Education VP.

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## Sustaining Thank You Sustainers

A big thank you to **Susan Allis, Barb Cleland, Mary Beth Pirich, and Barb Sukenik** for opening their homes and hosting the November 9 GMM and **Sue Mills** for all her endless phone calls and coordination. The turnout was great this year and we look forward to next. Thanks so much! See you all January 11, 2011.

*I want to extend my thanks to my fellow JLL members who contributed to my Strides Against Breast Cancer on October 23. Thanks in part to your support, I was able to raise \$1300. Sharon Regan and I stepped proudly already marking our calendars for the Susan G. Komen event in April of 2011. So bless ou all and please rememer to get that annual mammogram!*

*Debby Harrison*



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## Membership New Member Recruitment

*Jennifer Charette, New Member Recruitment Advisor*



**W**e are excited to announce that 37 women have committed to become New Members of Junior League of Lansing.

This fall we had the opportunity to hold several New Member recruitment gatherings and we appreciate that so many of the Active Members were able to attend.

On Saturday, November 13th we enjoyed a wonderful day together at the New Member retreat. The retreat was held at the Country Club of Lansing, where a delicious lunch was provided for us. Also, we'd like to extend a great appreciation to Dean Transportation as the bus was very comfortable and accommodating. Thank you to President **Betsy Svanda** for serving as tour guide during our bus trip to visit Ele's Place, St. Vincent's Home for Children and Ronald McDonald House. The Active Members that spoke at the retreat were **Courtney Schnelker, Brianna Garrett and Kate Powers.**

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### December & January Birthdays

<b>ACTIVES</b>							
Kroeger, Dawn	12/03	Pham, Thuy	01/14	Cotter, Martha	12/14	Allis, Susan	01/08
Burditt, Jodie	12/06	Carr, Suzanne	01/15	Forsyth, Gretchen	12/14	Campbell, Paula	01/08
Clark, Kristin	12/07	Watters, Kim	01/15	Kildea, Kris	12/14	Atkinson, Deb	01/11
Clute, Ryonn	12/08	Tuley, Jill	01/20	Matter, Lorri	12/14	Cleland, Barb	01/13
Seitz, Bridget	12/09	Wiesner, Alex	01/24	Coy, DeDe	12/17	Shaheen Denise	01/14
Millbrook, Lydia	12/10	Smith, Jolene	01/28	Marshall, Beverly	12/21	Maison, Nicole	01/15
Synk, Polly	12/10			Balesky, Bridget	12/23	Broviac, Carol	01/16
Morgan, Julie	12/20	<b>SUSTAINERS</b>		Grua, Linda	12/23	Olson, Karen	01/17
Hull, Kellyan	12/21	Oetzel, Bev	12/02	Berger, Nancy	12/28	Fedewa, Paula	01/19
Hutchison, Jaimie	12/22	Moore, Betty	12/03	Hartman, Kim	12/29	Weiss, Sue	01/19
Lyon, tobi	12/23	Seaman, Martha	12/04	Ruth, Pam	12/29	Bauer, Joan	01/21
Michols, Christina	12/23	Edwards, Caryn	12/06	Brogan, Carol	12/30	Brogan, Pat	01/24
Lynwood, Katie	12/24	Claypool, Cathy	12/07	West, Mary	12/30	Booth, Jane	01/28
Dwyer, Rosie	12/31	Foster, Trish	12/09	Rhodes, Caryn	12/31	Shanker, Melissa	01/28
Lemon, Christie	01/03	Archipley, Joan	12/10	Bassos, Zoe	01/02	Robinson, Deborah	01/29
Evangelista, Colette	01/04	Maner, Phyl	12/10	Chick, Ann	01/02	Moore, Jean	01/30
Mielock, Shelley	01/12	Donahue, Kay	12/12	Stow, Shorty	01/03	Riegel, Kay	01/30
		Anderson, Doris	12/14	Lawton-Essa, Julie	01/06	Olson, Shelley	01/31

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## November Community Response Grants

Ann Vogelsang, Community Vice President



The Community Grants Committee is delighted to announce two more Community Response Grant recipients for 2010–2011. Hannah's House will be receiving \$500 to purchase a freezer for their shelter to replace their freezer which is no longer working. Hannah's House provides women in crisis pregnancies with housing, food, clothing, baby items, and referrals to medical care and education, including parenting and life skills. Any woman age 18 years or older is accepted provided she is drug-free, pregnant and has no place to live. Residents may stay through their pregnancy and up to nine months after the birth of their baby at no cost. The freezer will be used to store food purchased in bulk and to store breast milk for the mothers who choose to breast feed their babies.

JLL will also be supporting MSU Community Music School with a \$250 Community Response Grant for financial aid to support low-income students seeking extracurricular music education or music therapy. The number of students receiving financial aid at MSU CMS grew 35% in the past year from 102 students to 138 students. Research shows that participation in the arts can help students rise out of poverty by acquiring skills that lead to success in school and later work.

In addition to these Community Response Grants, the Community Service Committee has awarded \$250 to the MSU School of Social Work Foster Youth Alumni Services Program for its Care Package Program. This program provides care packages to students at MSU from the foster care system. The program aims to empower students to keep going and lets them know that MSU is invested in their academic success. Foster care youth often lack the informal support network that other students may take for granted. Many of these youth do not enroll in college and of those that do, many do not graduate. The Foster Youth Alumni Program seeks to help these students meet their educational goals.

If you know an organization doing work consistent with our mission which could benefit from our Community Response Grant, please encourage them to apply. 2011 deadlines are February 1 and April 1. Applications can be found on our website.



## Community Service Events

Bethe Day, Community Service Chair



The Community Service Committee has had the opportunity to participate in a number of projects this year.

Our involvement with Huggies Every Little Bottom is coming to a close and with great thanks to membership we can say that we helped contribute 4,763 diapers to women in need in our community. Hannah's House and Shared Pregnancy were the recipients of the much needed diapers.

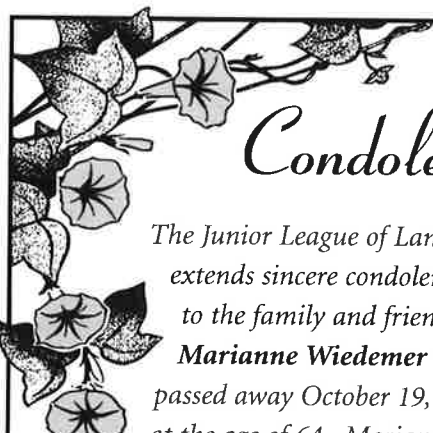
We are also in the midst of a mitten drive that will benefit St. Vincent Catholic Charities. In hopes of having a greater impact and in our efforts to outreach into the community, we are placing collection boxes for the mittens in local businesses. For a list of locations, please email **Ellen Bode** at ejdertien@hotmail.com.

Another upcoming event is the annual Housing Assistance Fund greenery sale in early December. Volunteers are still needed for shifts on December 4th & 5th. If you are available, please email **Ivana Marinig** (ivana.marinig@jackson.com).

Our Can Drive competition with our sister league in Ann Arbor kicks off in December at the Holiday Open House.



Be sure to mark your calendars for April when we support the Susan G. Komen Foundation with registration and decorating of ribbons for the Race for the Cure.

Our final project is slated for May in which we hope to help children sustain literacy during the summer months. Thanks to all Sustainers, Members, and New Members for your continued support of Community Service projects.



### Condolences

*The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Marianne Wiedemer** who passed away October 19, 2011 at the age of 64. Marianne was a Sustaining Member for many years prior to her resignation in 1996. She was very active in the Greater Lansing Community supporting numerous organizations.*

# THANK YOU

The Junior League of Lansing could not fulfill its mission without the help of our community partners. Thank you for your support.



**Becky Beauchine Kulka**  
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The Junior League of Lansing's current signature project is providing support to Carefree Dental. To learn more about this important service, visit [carefreemedical.com](http://carefreemedical.com).

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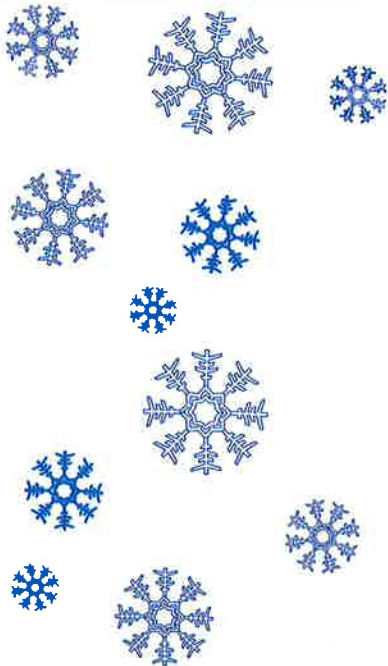
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