Scholarship Fund Applications Available

Kimberly Garrison, Assistant to the President

The search has begun to identify three special women in the Greater Lansing area who share the League’s dedication to community service. Recently, approximately 70 scholarship applications were mailed to local high schools, colleges and community service organizations to aid with the search.

The Junior League of Lansing Scholarship Fund awards three $500.00 scholarships to eligible students. Two traditional scholarships will be given to female high school seniors with plans to attend a post-secondary school during the 2010-2011 academic year. A third non-traditional scholarship will be awarded to a female student who is currently enrolled in a post-secondary school, who plans to continue her education during the upcoming year. The scholarship criteria are designed for women who are committed to academic excellence and are also involved in community service and voluntarism.

If you would like to nominate someone for this scholarship, the application can be found on the JLL website. If you need additional information please feel free to contact me at (517) 347-5636 or at KJGarrison@comcast.net. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2010. We will be announcing the scholarship recipients at our May General Membership Meeting, and the winners will join us as our guests at our celebration dinner. Thank you in advance for any nominations that you may have!

New Member Training Continues

Kate Marchyok, New Member Advisor

The 30+ members of the New Member class have quickly taken on the task of organizing this year’s Kids in the Kitchen event. On Tuesday, February 16, 2010, the third New Member Training Meeting was held at the Leona Group in East Lansing (special thanks to New Member Committee Chair Courtney Schnelker’s husband, Adam, for the use of his company’s conference room at the Leona Group.) We would also like to thank Sustainers Kim Hartman and Janet Freund for speaking about Strategic Planning and Parliamentarian Procedures and President Elect Betsy Svanda for leading the New Members in a rousing Red Book Scavenger Hunt at the February 16th Training Meeting.

Preparation for Kids in the Kitchen commenced at the January Training Meeting, and since then, New Members have diligently been meeting in their subcommittees, in addition to their regularly scheduled Training Meetings. Kids in the Kitchen will take place on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the Otto Middle School in Lansing. The day’s activities include sessions on exercise, nutrition, and healthy cooking, and will be attended by middle school students from Otto Middle School.
President’s Message...
Tracy Jelneck, President

Past, Present, and Future

After battling the elements to attend movie night in February (seems to be that we can start predicting a snow storm for the GMM in February based on the past few years), I decided to look forward to spring. So getting into the spirit of the holiday, I googled St. Patrick’s Day. I learned a little more about the holiday and its origins, whether it was fact or fiction, I don’t know. But what interested me the most was the history of the shamrock or the three leafed clover. There were many ideas of what the three leaves stand for, but the one that resonated with me the most was the representation to the past, the present, and the future.

The Junior League of Lansing is like a shamrock in that we have a lot to celebrate in our past and opportunities to prepare and grow in the present which result in activities that will allow us to establish the legacy for the future of our League. Numerous dynamic women have worked hard to create the reputation of the Junior League of Lansing and make the Junior League what it is today. As current Members of the Junior League, we are charged with the responsibility of sustaining Junior League in the present to ensure its existence in the future. We have such wonderful role models in which to emulate and many opportunities in which to shine.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone—Actives, Sustainers, New Members, and the members within the community who continue to believe in our organization and support us in meeting our Mission. We are an organization of dynamic women making an impact in our community. I am proud to say that I am a Member of the Junior League of Lansing. Keep up the good work!!

Tracy

Member Relations Corner

Angela Emlet-Dardas, Member Relations Chair

What a great start to 2010! Member Relations Committee has already hosted several events this year, with even more coming up!

On January 14, we held our Dream Dinners Repeat Performance, where a number of Members enjoyed socializing while preparing tasty meals and sipping wine. On January 28, Michelle Lange and Katie Lynwood hosted Member Relations’ first Girls’ Night Out Happy Hour at Beggar’s Banquet in East Lansing. About 10 Members attended, and all suggested this as a regular, monthly event. We are in the process of planning the next Girls’ Night Out, so stay tuned! Finally, on Saturday, February 27, Member Relations is hosting a Manicure/Pedicure party at Douglas J Institute in East Lansing. Members will pay for their own services, but we will provide drinks and snacks. Spaces have filled, but if you are interested, please email your name to Katie Lynwood at klynwood@gmail.com. She will put your name on a waiting list in case of any cancellations. Finally, remember to nominate members who go above and beyond for special recognition at each GMM! You may send your nominations to Angela at jiaphobe@aol.com or to Pattie at pattiemcniel@gmail.com
2009–2010 New Members

Carol Ayotte
H: 517-626-6047 • Cell: 517-449-5552
cayotte1@verizon.net

Through a friend and JLL Member, Carol decided to join Junior League of Lansing as a way to give back to the community. She has spent much time volunteering for her church for a Christian camp. Carol has an Associates Degree in Nursing from Lansing Community College and is an RN with Lansing Genesis Surgery Centers. She, her husband Steve and their son Nathan live in Eagle along with their 3 cats – Herbie, Taz and Callie! In her spare time she enjoys gardening, decorating, baking, card making and scrap booking.

Ellen Bode
H and Cell: 616-560-4331 • ejdertien@hotmail.com

Ellen is originally from the Grand Rapids area and now resides in Portland with her husband Brent, a Civil Engineer. She is an Actuary at Jackson National Life Insurance Company. Ellen is a graduate of Central College in Pella, Iowa. She enjoys traveling and shopping. Ellen is happy to have joined JLL because she wants to improve the community and meet other Lansing area women.

Kristin Clark
H: 517-580-3878 • Cell: 231-838-1428
kclark@petoskeyplastics.com

Kristin recently moved to East Lansing from Petoskey, Michigan with her husband, Sam, who is in Construction Management. They have one son Charlie, age four. She is Director of Organization Developments for Petoskey Plastics. Kristin is a graduate of Wells College and Cornell University. She enjoys skiing, golf, running, cards, and cooking. Kristin is looking forward to becoming involved with a large group of women and giving back to the community.

Ryonn Clute
H: and Cell: 410-207-9490 • rdlute@gmail.com

Ryonn is originally from Alpena, Michigan. Ryonn spent 7 years in Baltimore before coming back to East Lansing. She graduated from the University of Michigan but had previously been in East Lansing attending MSU. Now, she is the Marketing Manager for the fabulous Wharton Center for Performing Arts at Michigan State University. There she is able to take in one of her hobbies — performing arts. Ryonn’s other hobbies include reading, cooking and running. Her interest in joining Junior League lies in community involvement and meeting this great group of women.

Christine Ferrini
H: 517-256-0766 • christineferrini@gmail.com

Christine is an Actuarial Tech at Auto-Owners Insurance. She joined JLL to meet people and help the community. She enjoys movies, math and learning to cook! Christine attended the University of Michigan and majored in mathematics. Christine has lived in Lansing for twenty-two years and is originally from here, too.

Yvonne Fleener
H: 517-627-6970 • Cell: 517-898-9420
yfleener@gmail.com

Yvonne was born in Wurzburg, Germany and lived there as a child until moving to Fairgrove, Michigan, an area in the thumb. She is the owner/photographer of Image Projections in Grand Ledge and Executive Director for the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan, and resides in Grand Ledge with her husband William Fleener, Jr. and two children, Eryn (10), and Trey (9). In addition to her current volunteer actions, Yvonne wanted to join League to become a part of a group of women that focuses on community service and works together to make significant changes in communities. She attended Michigan State University and some of Yvonne’s many interests include photography, reading, writing (or working on a children’s book), dog rescue and adoption, and of course being with her family.

Brianna Garrett
Cell: 517-930-7457 • bri5420@hotmail.com

Brianna was born in Lansing and has resided here for most of her life. She lives with her son, Kaden, who turned three in January. She wanted to join JLL to form connections with the amazing women known to belong to this organization and to give back to the community. Brianna is a Sales Manager at the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau. A few of the things Brianna loves are music, the outdoors, and traveling.

Tobi Lyon
H and Cell: 517-290-9697 • Tobi.lyon@sparrow.org

Tobi has a lot of past volunteer experience. She has been involved with the following: Rotary, Zonta, AFP, and MHAP. As the Director of Major Gifts for the Sparrow Foundation, Tobi has met many people in the area and is starting to feel established here. But joining the Junior League of Lansing will give this South Dakota native an opportunity to join and befriend our group of women while making a difference in the community. Tobi graduated in Healthcare Administration from Mount Mercy College. (continued on page 4)
New Members continued from page 3

Nichole Martin  
H: 517-574-4789 • Nragsla21@yahoo.com  
Nichole is originally from Okemos and returned to the area from Massachusetts in 2008 with her husband, Scott, who is employed in retail, and their daughter, Taylor, age 22 months. She is an Autism and Behavioral Consultant. Nichole is a graduate of Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She coaches 6th grade girls’ basketball and enjoys playing with her daughter, reading, scrapbooking, and watching college basketball. Nichole and her husband are also big Red Sox fans! She is happy to have joined JLL because she wants to meet with other women who associate themselves with opportunities to volunteer around the community in order to better serve others.

Christina Medawar  
H: 517-775-5229 • Luxe.tira@gmail.com  
Christina is the PR Executive and Manager/Owner of Medawar Jewelers. She has a cat named Gabbyana. Christina joined League to help her community and make friends. Christina is involved with Kiwanis Club and Ele’s Place. Her hobbies include learning how to make clothes, exercise, volleyball, cooking and reading. Christina has her BA in Communications from Michigan State University. Christina is originally from Lansing and has always lived here.

Christina Michols  
H: 517-694-7263 • Cell: 262-894-0171  
christinahiggins@gmail.com  
Christina is originally from Oconomowoc, Wisconsin (the Milwaukee area) and now resides in Holt since last June with her husband, Nic, an Athletic Trainer and MSU Medical Student. Christina also has a three-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named Bella and a cat named Missy. When Christina decided to join League, she had just moved to Michigan from Wisconsin, was interested in volunteering, and at the same time wanted to learn all about the Greater Lansing area. Another reason she joined was to gain new friendships. Christina is a Field Sales Consultant in Dental Sales. She received her degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a major in Business-Marketing and a minor in Art. Some of Christina’s many interests include running, traveling, scrapbooking, shopping, wine, and of course, volunteering!

Liza Moore  
Cell: 773-505-3261 • lizacmoore@gmail.com  
Liza recently moved to Michigan from Indiana. She is an Associate Attorney at Foster, Swift, Collins and Smith, P.C. Liza is a graduate of the University of Chicago and Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington. She enjoys exploring the Mid-Michigan area and loves going up north for outdoor activities and enjoying local restaurants and bookstores. Liza is looking forward to helping others in need in the community.

Maureen Neugent  
Cell: 517-331-2611 • mneugent11@gmail.com  
Maureen (Mo) is a resident of Lansing, and originally from Wisconsin. She is a Commercial Underwriter for Farm Bureau Insurance Company. Mo is a graduate of Aquinas College. She enjoys volleyball, exercising, coaching, line dancing, traveling and socializing with friends. Mo is also involved with the March of Dimes, Lansing Community College volleyball, and the Aging/Alzheimer’s Association. She joined JLL to be a part of a dedicated group of women serving the community and is looking forward to meeting new people.

Tameko Richard  
H and Cell: 517-348-4850  
trichard01@gmail.com  
Tameko is originally from Birmingham, Michigan and moved to East Lansing almost a year and a half ago with her husband, Vernon and Taylor, their nine-year-old daughter, to open a business in Lansing. Tameko and her husband are co-owners of Edens Juice located in downtown Lansing. She joined Junior League to meet new people and work with different charities in the community. At the present time, she also volunteers at her daughter’s school when she can. Tameko received her BA in Business and Marketing from the University of Detroit Mercy and will soon complete a Masters from Florist Metropolitan University. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, traveling, shopping and has a desire to work with various charities in the community.

Courtney Riggins  
H and Cell: 517-281-1680  
Riggins_courtney@yahoo.com  
Courtney is originally from Okemos and recently moved back to the area from Indianapolis with her husband Matthew and their children Hunter, age three, and Parker, age one. She is a graduate of Michigan State University. Courtney enjoys shopping and attending playgroups with her sons. She is looking forward to giving back to the community and meeting other women.

Rochelle Rizzi  
H: 517-641-4529 • Cell: 517-898-0026  
rz Ellis designs.com  
Rochelle cites her reasons for joining JLL to be “continuing to give back to the community of Lansing, which has given me a town to call home” and “Junior League will assist me in leaving a legacy for my children.” Those children are Garrett (4) and Benjamin (2). Rochelle and her family live in Bath. She is President and CEO or Rizzi Designs, a full-service Marketing firm and Event Management Company.

Destiny Saucedo  
H and Cell: 810-908-2526  
destinyamor1@gmail.com  
Destiny is originally from Flint, Michigan and now resides in East Lansing. She has been in the area for about ten years. She is very excited to volunteer and make a difference in her community as a member of Junior League. Destiny’s enthusiasm for volunteerism began with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Flint, and continued on with the Flint Club Pen Pal Mentors Program which she currently is still involved with. She is a School Psychologist with Okemos Public Schools. She received her B.A. in Psychology from Michigan State University and her M.A. in School and Community Psychology from Wayne State University. Destiny loves to spend time with her friends and family, especially her boyfriend, Sami and Old English sheepdog, Henry. Some of her many interests include travel, camping, volleyball, softball and running.

Jolene Smith  
H: 810-531-9413 • Cell: 517-449-6713  
Jolene is engaged to Brian Archipley and he works for Centurion Medical Supplies. They have a cat named Bailey. Jolene enjoys spending time at the gym and planning her wedding to Brian. Jolene is a graduate of Michigan State University, has been in the area for five years, and is originally from Port Huron.

(continued on page 5)
New Members continued from page 4

Elizabeth Stieber
H and Cell: 248-417-3589
lizstieber@gmail.com

Liz is an Environmental Engineer at DLZ Michigan. Liz was involved in community activities in high school and college and this is the first time she's joined an organization since college. She's excited about meeting new people and getting involved in the community again. In college she was a tutor and also helped out at the Refugee Development Center. Liz enjoys reading, watching college basketball, and spending time with friends. Liz went to Michigan State University for Civil Engineering. Liz is from Farmington Hills and has lived in Lansing for five years.

Jordan Sutton
H: 517-862-1352
jordan@sonnadowisors.com

Jordan has a degree from Centre College in Dansville, Kentucky in Economics and an MBA from the University of Kentucky. She is a Life Strategist with Sutton Advisors, PLC and lives in Lansing with her two dogs, Khodie and Graham. Jordan has already been busy volunteering in our community at the Kresge Art Museum, the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing and Kappa Kappa Gamma. She came to us wanting to help with our volunteer efforts in the community and meet new people.

Cherise Teasley
H: 407-864-3417 • teasleycj@gmail.com

Cherise is an attorney for IBM. She is excited to get involved in the community and she is looking forward to meeting other women with similar interests. Cherise enjoys college football, reading and cooking. She earned her BA in Finance from the University of Florida and her JD from University College of Law. She is originally from Florida and has lived in Lansing for three years.

Amber Terakedis
H: 517-668-6266 • Cell: 517-420-0833
amberterakedis@hotmail.com

Amber is a Financial Planner at Plante Moran. She is married to Dave Terakedis who is the Materials Manager at International Automotive Components. They have a Sheltie named Miller. Amber joined League to become more actively involved in volunteering in the community and to meet new people. She enjoys reading, spending time with her husband, friends and family and she also enjoys traveling. She is also a runner. Amber is a graduate of Western Michigan University. There she studied Finance and Economics. Amber has lived in the area for a year and a half and is originally from Arizona and Kalamazoo.

Paula Wilcox
H: 517-381-3260 • Cell: 517-230-0181
Pwilcox186@comcast.net

Paula is originally from St. Johns, Michigan and now resides in Okemos with her husband, Matthew, a Cardiologist, and their children Nathan (age 8) and Morgan (age 4). She is involved in Direct Sales for Matilda Jane Clothing. Paula is a graduate of Western Michigan University. She enjoys interior decorating, sports, crafts, and reading. Paula is happy to have joined JLL because she is interested in an organization devoted to improving the community and is looking forward to working with other women.

Value—Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues

Amy Suhrheinrich, MSC President

I am hoping by this point in your League year all of you are starting to celebrate the accomplishments and assess your remaining goals that you have made within your community, your membership and your Junior League. It seems that after we cross the finish line of a year and enter the next, we begin to focus on where we have been and where we are headed. The same is true for the Executive Council of the MSC. One of our goals this year was to send out a set of mini articles to educate membership about MSC and the role it plays within your Junior League. We have found that everyone operates on a different time schedule and there is not a lot of commonality with our “print” or “non-print” deadlines. With that being said, we are working on another approach for the next League year for communications. However, we will continue to do our best this year and continue with our current timeline. Each member League has a contact person (your President or appointed by your President) that should be sharing information from MSC with all of you. They also have copies of the MSC and SPAC Bylaws.

I would like to thank the nearly 100 of you that took the initiative to attend the MSC Training and Networking event on January 16 in Lansing. Keynote speaker Kristina Terry, a Sustainer from Kalamazoo, supported our membership by exploring the topic of “Living a Balanced Life: how do we fit it all in?” Very positive feedback was received from the training as well as a few suggestions for the next. A special thank you goes out to our Training Co-Chairs Jennifer Goodwill from Kalamazoo and Amy Leonard of Grand Rapids who coordinated this event.

The Executive Committee also met on January 16 to continue working behind the scenes. The budget, Day at the Capitol, and future training were some of the topics on the agenda. During a budget discussion the question “What is the Value of MSC?” arose and I have been investigating this….In a time of financial scrutiny and when our time is so valuable, this is a fair and important question. We have taken this to heart and hope to make a better connection between the member Leagues, the State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) and the MSC. Value is the worth, importance, or usefulness of something to somebody. In our Bylaws we describe value as what we hold dear to us- MSC prizes the strength of association. At the annual meeting we will propose the budget and slate for 2010-2011, review our bylaws and share the tentative agenda for the Fall Training and gather input. We believe the Fall Training will provide the connection and participation among the stakeholders and increase awareness for all of us to see value of MSC. It is our goal to lay the groundwork to move us forward this decade and strengthen our impact as an organization.

We hope to see you at the Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, March 10. Please RSVP to your SPAC delegate who shall provide you with the details pertinent to your League. This is a great way to get involved on a state level and connect with your representatives.
Meet your 2010-11 Sustaining Advisor—Sue Mills

I am really excited for President Elect Betsy Svanda and her board. Incoming Sustaining Advisor Sue Mills will be a wonderful addition with a lot of history and experience to share with them. Thank you Sue for your continued support of the Junior League of Lansing.

—Kris Kildea

I have lived in the greater Lansing area my entire life. I graduated from Lansing Eastern High School and Michigan State. I met my husband Dave between my junior and senior year of college while we were competing in a tennis tournament. We married a year later, one week after my graduation from MSU. Dave had just started his dental practice in Okemos so we never moved. I taught at Pattengill Junior High for three years but did find time to join the Dental Auxiliary. It was there that I met Sally Nolen who sponsored me for Junior League.

I joined League in 1964 and have loved every minute of it. I was adept at public speaking and a “pretty well-organized person” and League gave me an opportunity to use these skills both within League and out in the community. Plus, this is where I met most of my dearest lifelong friends. My first Active year in League I had two full placements! I worked my weekly one-half day per week shift at the Cedar Chest (the League’s clothing resale shop) and I portrayed the role of the Big Bad Wolf in the League’s touring musical version of “Little Red Riding Hood” which went to all the elementary schools in the area (we used to do a lot of programming in the arts for the schools). It was such fun.

With 16 Active years in League (we in those days couldn’t go sustaining until we turned 40) I had the opportunity to hold almost every chairmanship in League and to work on many different projects in the community. Probably my favorite and most rewarding was serving as JLL President in 1974–75. It was during this year that the League voted to give $33,000 to help start the Center for the Arts in Lansing. In those days, if we gave a large sum of money to a project, the League requested that we have a seat on the Board of Directors of that organization. Pat Linnell, the President who followed me, asked if I would serve on the Board representing League. I took on this responsibility and this actually turned into my second career. I served as a volunteer on the Board for 8 years and in 1982 the Director left and the Board asked me if I would step into the Director position on an interim basis for 3 months. I loved it. And they loved what I was doing so they asked me to stay on permanently. So after 18 years as a stay-at-home mom and a professional community volunteer, I became a paid professional again.

This love of the arts as Director of the Center for the Arts and the Arts Council lasted for 23 years until I retired in 2005. I have had many wonderful happenings in my life but I feel one of my greatest accomplishments was the growth and development of Silver Bells in the City, the largest single event that takes place in downtown Lansing each year. My two greatest honors have been receiving the JC Penny Carnation Award for Outstanding Volunteerism in 1979 and the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Athena Award given for the Mentoring of Women in the Workplace and for Community Service which I received in 2000. After 40 wonderful years of marriage, my husband passed away too soon in 2001. We have two married children and four wonderful grandchildren who live too far away…in Arizona and Virginia. My term is ending as Chair of the JLL Endowment Board of Trustees in June of this year so I am delighted to be continuing my relationship with League by serving as Sustaining Advisor to the League during this coming year.

Respectfully,

Sue Mills

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(A) Burditt, Jodie Cell: 517-410-8958
(S) Campbell, Paula 228 Lexington Ave., East Lansing 48823-4652
(A) McNeil, Pattie CEO First Impressions Training
(A) Mitchell, Diana 16655 Sundew Circle, East Lansing 48823-9647
(A) Pricco, Kristen Cell: 517-485-1475
(NM) Richard, Tameko Delete 248-885-3995; Use New Cell: 517-348-4850
(A) Thompson, Michelle To Non Resident Active Status 7910 Roswell Dr., Falls Church VA 22043-3401
(NRS) Stover, Betsy Delete winter address in Boca Grande, FL. Year round address is: P.O. Box 69, Walloon Lake, MI 49796
Endowment

JLL Endowment Fund Contributors 1/1/09–12/31/09

Alexandra Wiesner, Endowment Treasurer

The Endowment Board would like to thank those who have supported the Mission of the Junior League of Lansing by contributing generously to the Endowment Fund from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. This contributor list does not include those who have contributed to the Every Member Drive in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Endowment Fund. Those contributions were listed separately in the December edition of FOCUS.

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(gifts of $1,000 or more)
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Joan Legg
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Nanette Martin
Ellen McKay
Sue Mills
Candy Parker
Rex and Betsy Sessions
Katie Strong
Alexandra Wiesner

**March & April Birthdays**

**NEw Member Birthdays are in Bold**

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**Membership**

**Winter Interview Survey!**

Nicole Godby, Nominating Placement

It is that time of year when Membership shares its thoughts about how the JLL year is progressing and shares its ideas for the future through Winter Interviews! These interviews are an important tool to help continually improve JLL and to ensure JLL is serving the needs of its members as well as the community. Your Advisor will be contacting you soon for your interview.

This year’s interview will be conducted as a survey. Your Advisor will e-mail you a link to complete the survey. As always if you would like to meet with your Advisor she would be happy to do so. Your cooperation during this process will be greatly appreciated. The results/feedback from the questions will be compiled and published in a future FOCUS article.

Host a CAbi show in the privacy of your home
Contact Independent Sales Consultant
Amy Crites
517-904-2550/amycrites@aol.com
Please mark your calendars everyone; Day at the Capitol is fast approaching. Day at the Capitol will be held on Wednesday, March 10th this year. The day’s activities will be held at the Anderson House Office Building, 124 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933. Check in will start at 8:00 am and activities will conclude at approximately 3:00 pm.

Day at the Capitol is a wonderful opportunity to gather with League members from all over the Michigan. Meet some of our legislators and see the influence Junior League first hand. No prior knowledge of legislature is needed. It will be a very fun day, and we would love to see the League of Lansing well represented.

Please RSVP for the day by March 1 to either Kirsten Soltis or Gabrielle Johnson.