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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.*

## *Fund Development* Celebrity Luncheon is Gearing Up!!

*Tracy Jelneck, Fund Development Vice President*



The Junior League of Lansing is hosting its third annual Celebrity Luncheon on Tuesday, May 6 at the Texas Roadhouse, 280 E. Edgewood Blvd. in Lansing. Lunch will be served between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

The purchase of a \$20 ticket gets you a delectable chicken or steak lunch served by your choice of local celebrities. Expected celebs include Becky Myers (current JLL President) and Chris Johnson (of MAC fame). We are actively seeking additional celebrities. If you know of anyone in the community who would be willing to act as a server and can sell at least 20 tickets, please call Tracy at 449-7233. We are also looking for individuals who would like to participate either at the event or with the planning.

There is even an opportunity for local businesses to support the event through sponsorship. Fifty dollars will provide a Table Sponsorship and \$250 will provide a Luncheon Sponsorship. Please call me for details.

*Bon Appetit!!*



## Did You Say Speed Skating? No, **Speed Dating**...Placement Style

Please join the Nominating/Placement Advisors and the Leadership Team at the March GMM for a placement night like no other. Don't miss out on the fun as we host our own version of Speed Dating in Placement Fair style during the GMM. This is a great opportunity for you to "check out your options" for your placement for the 2008-2009 League year. The Placement Information Guide (a.k.a. the PIG) will also be distributed that evening as well.

***Be there or be square.***

## 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

271 Woodland Pass Centre, Suite 115  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-324-3734  
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, Kate Powers.

**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** submission are due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday following each GMM. Email submissions should be sent to Focus@jllansing.org in Microsoft Word. 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...

Becky Myers, President



*Managers are people who do things right, while leaders are people who do the right thing*  
—Warren Bennis

As we look forward to the end of the snow, the return of the sun and the first blooms of spring, it seemed the opportune time to cover the topic of change. Some people, including myself, are a little intimidated by the concept of change. Sometimes it's good, sometimes it's bad and often it is unexpected. However it comes, it is inevitable and we can either get used to it, dare I say embrace it, or suffer through it.

This year has been one of significant change within JLL. We are in the midst of our third Board member replacement this year, a level not seen in recent history. A high level of turnover within leadership can lead to confusion, miscommunication and falling short of organizational goals. We are very fortunate to have such an amazing pool of ladies to select from. In each case we have had qualified members willing to step in, roll up their sleeves and do the work necessary to get up to speed quickly. With this being the case we have not experienced the kind of negative change that can damage an organization. In fact, it's just the opposite. When one is confronted with the challenge of unexpected changes and those hurdles are overcome, it tends to build confidence.

The Junior League model is one of constant change. No one settles into a "career" position. Each year we get a new challenge and an opportunity to shine anew. At least with anticipated change there is the opportunity to transition, which is what we do when we take our leadership team and on an annual basis shake it up. Often times we have in place a vice chair who moves into a chair position, or in the case of the Board, both the President Elect and Treasurer Elect have an opportunity to work closely with their predecessor for a year before assuming the role and moving from student to teacher. This change in role is an interesting shift, yet continues the process which allows our organization to work as effectively as it does. When you decide to step into a leadership role the training is in place to allow for a smooth transition. Along with the training, you should feel the encouragement of your peers who have shown confidence in you to handle that leadership role. Your natural gifts and emerging talents enable you to handle the challenges and yes, changes that will come with your new role. Our incoming Board has worked hard to put together next year's leadership team. The transitions are beginning and the changes occurring and, for me, it is a beautiful thing to watch. I thank each of you for your willingness to embrace the changes ahead.

We will be looking to you, our membership, to assist us with the direction our league will be heading. As we begin our winter interviews, you will have the opportunity to speak with your advisors and communicate your opinions of our league. I encourage you to be open with your insights. It is through your feedback and points of view that the incoming Board will set their goals for the coming year. This is your league, the organization to which you commit time and resources. Your opinion matters and we look forward to your comments.

Oh, and that Board change I mentioned earlier. Please help me in welcoming Alex Wiesner into the role of Treasurer. We are so very fortunate to have her. Alex has been working closely with Diana Mitchell over the last nine months as Treasurer Elect and is able to assume the role of Treasurer a few months early. Diana, who has served as Treasurer since May, has decided that some changes in her life were due and has elected to embrace those. We will miss Diana's contribution to the Board. Not only for her knowledge, wisdom and wit, but as I also mentioned earlier, change doesn't always come easy for me. I have grown attached and will dearly miss her. However, I know where to find her and she knows I'll be calling.

Fondly,  
Becky

# Sustaining Notes

Sustaining

Jane Bitsicas, Sustaining Advisor



The MSU School of Hospitality Auction and pre-party on February 9 was great fun. Thank you **GINNY BROOKS** and **SUZIE BREWSTER** for working with the students on the pre-party. The School of Hospitality students really outdid themselves this year with fabulous food and drink. Mango Mojitos may be a new favorite of mine! JLL members were active bidders at the auction. Ask **Sue Mills** about her wonderful package—go State!

We have more good times to come: The Kentucky Derby party on May 3 is hosted by **Kathy Colby** and **GINNY BROOKS**. Please contact Ginny or Kathy if you wish to help with the event. There will also be another Celebrity Luncheon at the Texas Roadhouse on May 6, from 11:30 to 1:30. For \$20 you get a great lunch and the opportunity to be served by local notable citizens. It is a wonderful excuse for a lunch date, and the JLL benefits!

### Upcoming events:

- May 3, 2008—Kentucky Derby Party
- May 6, 2008—Celebrity Luncheon at the Texas Roadhouse
- May 14, 2008—Celebration Dinner/Meeting
- May 2009—25th Anniversary of our Endowment Fund

## Dear Jill,

*There are so many good things that the Junior League does voluntarily through the DIAD, DIAM, and Community Service! With all the needs in the community how are organizations picked to receive help from the Junior League of Lansing?*

### Great question!

*There are so many needs in Michigan, especially right now! The organizations that are chosen must meet the JLL mission of helping women and children at risk! By having our mission in place this helps narrow down what organizations receive help from the JLL. Committee members from DIAD, DIAM, and Community Service have input as to what organizations are chosen for a given year, but DIAD projects are decided by a vote of the general membership.*

*The JLL is always looking for new organizations that the JLL can help! If you know of an organization that advances the JLL mission and would like assistance, our Community VP, Betsy Svanda, can be of great help! Contact her at [bsvanda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsvanda@sbcglobal.net) or at 517-647-2824.*

Sincerely,  
*Jill*

# Membership

## Winter Interviews with Your Advisor

Beth Latchana, N/P Committee Member



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! Specifically, these interviews are used as a tool to continually improve JLL and to ensure JLL is serving the needs of its members and the community.

In the recent past, Winter Interviews have taken place via a round table discussion during our GMM. This year, however, the interviews were more akin to the Fall Interviews in that they were conducted on an individual basis. The Winter Interview questions are set forth below.

The results/feedback from the questions are currently being compiled and will be publicized in a future Focus article. If you and your advisor have not yet completed your interview, please do so soon.

Thanks to everyone!

### Winter Interview Questions: 2008

1. How is your placement going?
2. Have you been satisfied this year with the communication between you and your chair and between you and your advisor?
3. How would you be willing to support our Signature Fundraiser next year? (For example, volunteer before, during or after the event or help with soliciting for sponsors/ vendors.)
4. Other than our Signature Fundraiser and Spring Fundraiser (Celebrity Luncheon), do you have any ideas regarding other means that JLL should pursue to raise funds?
5. Do you feel that we should invest time and money (\$10,000–\$30,000) over the next three years in building our website?
6. What about your experience with the Junior League of Lansing have you found most beneficial?
7. How could membership in the Junior League of Lansing better meet your needs?
8. What, if any, interest do you have in continuing our current Signature Project FEAST?
9. If available, would you be interested in purchasing JLL Logo-Wear?



# New Member Recruitment Update

Renee Knake, New Member Recruitment Chair



**W**e could not be more excited about our new member class. It is an amazing group of 37 women! As you saw in the February Focus article about the new members, these women bring amazing backgrounds and talents to our organization (information about a few more of our new members not included last month is featured).

New member training is well under way. In January the new member class heard an overview of JLL and AJLI from Katie Strong, met the JLL Board and learned about the GMM process. In February we heard from a panel of first year actives (Gabrielle Johnson, Julie Morgan, Colette Evangelista, Lisa Meny and Andrea Billups) and enjoyed the Red Book scavenger hunt with Becky Myers. Special thanks to Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith for providing a wonderful meeting location.

The new member class service project, Kids in the Kitchen, will be held Saturday, March 15 at Dream Dinners in Frandor Shopping Center. New members Lynn Garrett and Christina Williams are co-chairing the event. We are looking forward to this opportunity for teaching Lansing-area children about healthy eating.

It is not too early to start thinking about suggestions for next year's new member class. If you know someone who might be interested in membership, please contact Shelley Mielock at [membership@jllansing.org](mailto:membership@jllansing.org)

In addition to the women included in the February article, please welcome the following new members:

**Bambi Dorr**—Bambi works for Graff Chevrolet and she is a Finance Manager. She currently lives in Lansing. We are pleased to welcome her as part of this year's new member class.

**Diane Sloan**—Diane works as a Community Relations Representative for the American Corrective Counseling Services. Diane and her husband Matt live in East Lansing and they have three children, Nick (7), Katie (6) and Abby (4) and their pet dog, Drake and cat, Zito. Diane has a Bachelor degree in finance from MSU. She is originally from Maryland, but lived in Clarkston after graduating from State and only recently moved to the area in June 2007. She enjoys working out, playing tennis, skiing, playing with her children, and participating in their activities. Diane is joining League so she can make new friends, for the community involvement, and for the leadership opportunities.

**Whitney Ezis**—Whitney is an attorney. She earned a JD from Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and a BA in Journalism from Indiana University. She has lived in East Lansing for the last four years. She is originally from Birmingham, MI. She has a Golden Doodle named Gracie. She has joined JLL to become more involved in the community and to meet new people. Whitney also volunteers as Social Advisor for the MSU chapter of Chi Omega Sorority. Her hobbies include sewing, working out, biking, golfing, and hanging out with family and friends.



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# Presenting the 2008-2009 Leadership Team Membership

Amy Suhrheinrich, *President Elect*



It is my pleasure to introduce you to the Incoming Leadership Team.

**Communications Council** *Becky Paalman, Vice President*

- Public Relations/Marketing Chair, *Tiffany Dowling*
- Public Relations/Marketing Vice Chair, *Leslie Donaldson*
- Publications Editor, *Lori Noyer*
- Publications Editor Vice Chair, *Jodie Burditt*

**Community Council** *Dawn Kroeger, Vice President*

- Community Service Committee Chair, *Jaimie Hutchinson*
- Done In A Day Chair, *Daniela Cibelli*
- Done In A Day Vice Chair (DIAM), *Nicole Godby*
- Signature Project Chair, *Lisa Gnass*
- Signature Project Vice Chair, *Ann Vogelsang*

**Education Council** *Kate Quinn, Vice President*

- Arrangements Chair, *Jill Story*
- Training Chair, *Amanda Lake*
- Training Vice Chair/SPAC Chair, *Gabrielle Johnson*

**Finance Council** *Alex Wiesner*

- Dues/Bookkeeper Chair, *Jane Campbell*
- Endowment Treasurer, *Cheryl Bartholic*
- Treasurer Elect, *Nicki Proulx*

**Fund Development Council** *Veronica McNally, Vice President*

- Grant Writing Chair, *Pam Ruth*
- Signature Fundraiser Chair, *Traci Riehl*
- Signature Fundraiser Vice Chair, *Collette Evangelista*
- Spring Fundraiser Chair, *Michelle Thelen*
- Tracking Chair, *Stacy Carl*

**Membership Council** *Renee Knake, Vice President*

- New Member Recruitment Chair, *Shelley Mielock*
- New Member Recruitment Vice Chair, *Courtney Schnelker*
- Member Relations Chair, *Suzanne Johnson*
- Nominating Chair, *Beth Cook*
- Placement Chair, *Kim Watters*

**Planning Council** *Tracy Jelneck, President Elect*

- Bylaws/Policy/Parliamentarian Chair, *Gabrielle Johnson*
- Community Research/Project Development Chair, *Polly Synk*

**Secretary to the Board** *Molly Chan*

**Sustaining Advisor** *Lynn Fiedler*

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# Planning Board Meeting Highlights

January 8, 2008

- The Junior League of Lansing received The Ballentine Award from St. Vincent Catholic Charities for our contributions to the community. The Lansing State Journal wrote a nice article regarding the award.
- The Junior League of Lansing has 36 new members due to the hard work of the Membership Council. Thank you Ladies!
- We are currently looking for organizations eligible for our Community Impact Grant. If you know of an organization that has a need, please bring their name forward so an application could be sent to them.
- Member Relations has many member events planned over the next couple of months, so please pay attention to Broadcast e-mails and the 'Back Page' at upcoming meetings.
- The JLL will be donating a decorated table for the 'Tables of Note' fundraiser to be held on Friday, February 8th at Walnut Hills Country Club.
- The Board approved the following motions:
  - To switch Junior League's FOCUS publisher from Foresight to Keystone effective February 2008. The change was made to save money.
  - To donate \$500 for car seats at The Jump Start Outreach Program of the Ingham County Health Department and \$250 to the Toy Project at R. J. Scheffel for toys and memory boxes.
  - To add the Spring Fundraiser to the P.I.G.. There will be one chair and three committee member positions. This year, the tentative date for the Celebrity Luncheon is May 8th at the Texas Road House.
  - To approve an overage of \$400 to perform our annual financial review.

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# Planning General Membership Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2008 • 7:00 pm

NCG THEATER — "Fool's Gold"

- I. **Welcome**—Becky Myers, President, greeted members.
- II. **Call Meeting to Order**—Becky Myers, President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.
- III. **Approve minutes from January GMM Meeting**—Becky Myers, President, advised that not all members have received their FOCUS Newsletter to review the January Minutes, so the approval of January's Minutes will be done in March.
- IV. **Movie Trivia Contest**—Kimberly Garrison, Membership VP, provided the trivia answers and distributed prizes.
- V. **Community Service**—Susan Combs advised that we will host a book drive to benefit the Women's Center of Greater Lansing. If you have books you are willing to donate related to women's health, motivation, education, etc., please bring them to the March GMM.
- VI. **Day at the Capitol**—Nancy Nyquist advised the Day at the Capitol will be held on March 11th at 8:30am. Everyone is invited to join the legislature for issue and advocacy training. Breakfast and lunch will be provided, along with a tour of the Capitol. Please let Gabrielle Johnson know if you will be attending.
- VII. **Winter Interviews and Placement Fair**—Katie Strong, Placement Chair, advised that members will be receiving an email shortly with the Winter Interview Questions. Advisors will be following up with membership to go over these questions. In March, the placement fair will be held at the GMM
- VIII. **Volunteers Needed**—Kate Quinn advised that Expectant Parent Organization (EPO) is in need of volunteers on March 19th from 5:30-8:30 PM at the Country Club of Lansing. Any volunteer time you have available would be appreciated. Please contact Kate Quinn.
- IX. **Annual Dues Update**—Dawn Kroger, Dues Bookkeeper, reminded membership that our Annual Dues should be paid by February 28th. She distributed prizes to the first members that paid.
- X. **Member Relations Events and Kudos**—Upcoming member events are listed on The Back Page and Kudos were not distributed this evening.
- XI. **Adjourn the Meeting**—The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Membership enjoyed the movie *Fools Gold*.

Respectfully submitted,  
DeAnna Fenech, Secretary



# The Potential of Change—Winter Leadership Conference

Amy Suhrheinrich, President Elect



San Antonio, the city with the river, was the location for the President Elect and President Elect-Elect Conference. This was the first of its kind. AJLI has taken the step to provide training for Leagues who have already slated their President Elect-Elect. Of the 211 Leagues represented, almost half of the Leagues took advantage of sending both candidates to this training. Although I traveled alone, I brought back plenty of information for our newly slated President Elect-Elect, Tracy Jelneck.

I knew I was in for a “wild ride” when AJLI President Sandi Kemmish and AJLI Executive Director Susan Danish welcomed us in their cowboy hats and boots alongside an all women Flamenco Dance Group. AJLI jumped right in with the results of the Junior League Profile Data which is located on the AJLI website. I encourage you to check out the slide presentation. Did you know that 112 Leagues now offer dues payment on line and that 180 Leagues have received grants in the last 3 years? What we all do is to continue to initiate change to improve our Leagues and the impact that we have on our communities.

The agenda was packed and included training on Strategic

Leadership, Effective Communications, the Shift from Governance to Management, Servant Leadership and more. A great deal of time was spent on Controlling our Operations as we continue to progress in the world of technology and information. We were provided many opportunities to network and to share concerns and celebrations that our individual Leagues may have. Networking with the President Elects of the Michigan Leagues was invaluable and I thank you for that opportunity.

AJLI continues its work with Scenario Planning and will present its findings over the next year. They continue to gather our input and work to be a better Association. In response to many Leagues, they are expanding their services online and adjusting training schedules.

When San Antonio was founded, the residents wanted to pave over the river because of all of the problems that it might bring. This river is now a focus and has over three miles of walking terraces, businesses and restaurants below the city level. It is one of their jewels. As we face challenges in our economy, community projects and fundraising, I hope we can learn from the river of San Antonio. Again, I thank you for sending me to the Winter Leadership Conference.

# MI State Council of Junior Leagues’ Leadership Training

Veronica Valentine McNally, Training Chair



On Saturday, February 9, JL Lansing joined the Junior Leagues of Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Birmingham, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Saginaw Valley for the Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues’ Leadership Training. Nearly 100 women came together for a day devoted to learning about the most effective ways to build and lead an organization.

Leadership strategist, **Cynthia D’Amour**, and nonprofit consultant and veteran Junior League leader, **Jan Lutz**, led the programming for the training. The topics covered included strategic planning, risk tolerance, and networking.

The underlying theme presented was that we should reach out to our membership. In doing so, we can capitalize on individual strengths and needs and change our organization for the better. The technical term for this whole-system approach to change is Appreciative Inquiry. In using the Appreciative Inquiry method, the mission of the organization becomes the plan of the entire organization instead of the plan of a select group of people within the organization.

### A CALL TO ACTION:

Now, the challenge is to us to make the inquiry to our membership: How can we make your Junior League experience more enjoyable? We are asking for your stories. Tell us about a time when you felt most engaged in Junior League; a time you felt effective, alive, and motivated to be involved. Tell us about your strengths and how we can utilize your strengths for the betterment of our organization. And please, encourage your friends to tell their stories. We want to hear from every JL active member and sustainer. Email me: [veronica\\_valentine@hotmail.com](mailto:veronica_valentine@hotmail.com). You will not be sorry you did! We look forward to reading and sharing your stories!



MSC Training Event on February 9, 2008. Pictured Left to Right: Katie Strong, MSC President; Jan Lutz, Facilitator; Kate Quinn; Samantha Hughes; Lori Noyer; Susan Lupo; Renee Knake; Alex Wiesner; Dawn Kroeger; Amy Suhrheinrich; Cynthia D’Amour, Facilitator.

## Policy Change

Planning

Gabrielle Johnson, Bylaws/Policy/Parliamentarian



This month we have a policy change on Redbook pages 13-14, section 6.13. The change has to do with everyone's favorite enigma, computer technology.

This is the first year that the Public Relations and Computer Technology/Webmaster were combined into one committee (Public Relations/Marketing) and it has been a learning experience. For the past year there has been one chair responsible for all the activities on this committee and for the coming year the board has approved a policy change creating a vice chair to serve as Computer Technology/Webmaster expert.

As we all know or can infer, the rigors of maintaining a website, checking several email addresses and sending out broadcast emails are extensive. The vice chair of this committee will be responsible for updating our website, from renewing the domain name to keeping the membership database current; providing training and access to the AJLI Electronic Bulletin Board System; maintaining the public and member calendars on the JLL website and relaying broadcast emails to membership.

If you are an aficionado of information technology, keep this position in mind when you think about future placements. If you (like most of us) can barely figure out how to check your own email, just keep this new vice chair in mind while you surf over to the JLL website and register online for the Day at the Capital, which will be March 11 (I had to plug it, having a double placement does have its perks!)

Mini-tutorial on Robert's Rules of Order: when someone states "I call the question," or "I move the previous question," what it essentially means is "I move that we close debate on the issue at hand and vote immediately." Moving the previous question must be seconded and adopted by a two-thirds vote. If it is approved, the issue is voted on. If the motion for Previous Question does not pass, debate continues.

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## ODI Training

Fund Development

Tracy Jelneck, Fund Development VP



I was honored to attend ODI training in Anaheim, California where I participated in the fund development track and was able to network with many different leagues. The exchange of information is just phenomenal.

There are so many great ideas out there and so many friendships just waiting for the opportunity to grow. I learned numerous interesting things from both the presenters and the attendees that I hope to be able to share with membership and encourage our league to support.

There are many areas that make up our league. I am sure that as we become involved in those areas we believe those areas to be the most important whether it is the Signature Project, Signature Fundraiser, Arrangements, or Training, just to name a few. However, it takes all of our league activities to make us who we are. If we didn't have fundraising, we wouldn't be able to achieve our mission-related goals of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

I am proud to say that our league already incorporates several methods of fundraising that were discussed at the training. We have an endowment fund which gives back via interest earned to the league yearly. The endowment fund participates in an annual campaign in November. We obtain corporate sponsorships mostly through our Signature and Spring fundraisers. Areas where we could use some additional support is through the pursuit of corporate and foundation grants and creating plans for planned giving.

I came home with ideas that I hope to put into action. One of the biggest things that I learned was that for every solicited 'yes', there are about 19 'nos'. Be persistent and don't give up. Remember, good things come to those who wait or at least to those who ask (at least 20 times). Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and...Go, team, go!!

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# Clean Out Your Closet to Help Your Community

Jodie Burditt, Community Service



**F**orget what the Groundhog says...it's time for spring...well, Spring Cleaning anyway. Beginning next month the Community Service Committee will be conducting a clothes drive. So, not only will you clean out some drawers and make a little more room in your closet, you will be contributing to a great cause.



The Women's and Children's clothes collected will be distributed to various Organizations in the community including: The Rescue Mission, Hannah's House and Ballentine Stepping Stones.

We will be collecting everything from PJs to casual clothes, to business attire. We're not picky! As long as it is in good condition, we'll take it! Hannah's House is specifically in need of maternity and baby clothes.

Is it time to downsize on your shoes and accessories? Bring those as well. While they may not be a necessity, as the clothes are, there is something to be said for what a nice outfit does for a women's self confidence!




When you consider we have over 400 members (Actives and Sustainers), I think it's pretty reasonable we should be able to scrape together a few outfits! (Not to a mention we're a group of 400 WOMEN!)

We will be collecting the donations in a few different ways. First, you can bring the items to the April GMM. We will also set up a "Drop Off Your Donations" day at the JLL office (the date will be announced at a later time). If neither of these options will work, we can make other arrangements to collect your donations.



Thanks in advance for your participation and helping the women and children in your community. We are expecting it to be a great success and will provide more details at the March GMM.



**ROBERT HERRERA D.D.S.**  
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# FEAST Program Continues to Attract Attention

Marcia Gresens, Signature Project Chair



**J**LL's Signature Project, FEAST (Food Education and Story Time), continues to grab the attention of the local media. In December, WKAR highlighted our work to combat childhood obesity (keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming airing dates/times). Now FEAST will be featured in *Kid's World* magazine, a local publication distributed monthly throughout the Lansing area and at local elementary schools.

In each issue *Kid's World* highlights a few local elementary schools—along with other articles and kid-friendly experiments and games—giving staff the opportunity to share with the community the many great things that go on within their walls. When it was Lansing's Cavanaugh Elementary School's turn to be featured, teachers were excited to tell others about their involvement in FEAST.

The article, which appears in February's issue, tells the FEAST story and features JLL members and FEAST "teachers" Sheila Kelly and Lisa Gnass. Check it out!

**Wish your team at work would work  
as a team?**

**I can help you with that!**

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# Community Let's Grant Some Money!!

Betsy Svanda, Community Vice President



**W**hat fun it is to grant monies to worthy organizations that advance the Junior League mission of helping women and children at risk! The Junior League of Lansing has three ways an organization can receive monies.

Let's start with the big one, **The Impact Grant!** The Impact Grant provides for up to \$10,000 to be granted in a given year, if the balance of the Reserve Fund accrues to the amount of \$85,000 or more. The Impact Grant was designed to "provide community organizations with access to funds for larger projects than is appropriate for the Community Response Grant" (Redbook Policies, pg 31).

**The Community Response Grant**, is administered by the Community Grants Committee, which meets quarterly to review grant applicants. Each quarter an amount of \$1,100 is available for distribution to one or several non-profit organizations. If an applicant is not granted monies in one quarter, the applicant stays in the pool of applications and is eligible for grant monies the following quarter.

The third way in which an organization may receive funds is **Community Sponsorship**. Community Sponsorship has up to \$5,000 available for an organization(s) to request. What is unique about Community Sponsorship is that the recipient must not only advance the Junior League mission of helping women and children at risk, but must also provide Junior League with some publicity within the community. Also, Community Sponsorship requests are reviewed by the board and allocated at the board level.

If you know of an organization that would like to apply for one of these Grants, you can direct them to the League Website or have them contact **Betsy Svanda**, Community Vice President, at [bsvanda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsvanda@sbcglobal.net) or 517-647-2824.

## NEXT FOCUS DEADLINE

**Wednesday, March 12, 2008  
5 pm**

All articles must be sent in Microsoft Word with Times New Roman 12 pt font.  
Email all articles as attachments to  
[Focus@jllansing.org](mailto:Focus@jllansing.org)



It's our  
**24<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary

**JLL Endowment Fund . . . . .**

**A legacy for League . . . . .**

**A legacy for the future.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday                      \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary  
\_\_\_\_\_ New Baby                      \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial  
\_\_\_\_\_ Congratulations

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Notify:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift From:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the JLL Endowment  
217 Woodland Pass Centre, Suite 115, East Lansing, MI 48823

Dear Junior League Members:

On behalf of the **Haslett Food Bank** I would like to thank you for your food drive this month. Your organization donated approximately 400 items of nonperishable food, infant formula and personal need items. We deeply appreciate it.

Michigan's economy has left many struggling to make ends meet. We serve the working poor, elderly and disabled in Meridian Township and some surrounding areas. In November we served 69 families with food and 74 with personal need orders. Over 100 children were provided with food. This would not be possible without the support of community organizations like yours.

We look forward to partnering with you again in the future. Our Christmas Giving Project provided gifts and food to over 90 families this year and we always need help with this huge project. If that might be something your members would be interested in, please let us know.

Sincerely,

*Betsy McLemon*

Betsy McLemon  
Haslett Food Bank Coordinator

# Race for the Cure—Why Not?

Courtney Schnelker, DIAD Committee



**T**he Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is a fun, healthy and inspirational event and it benefits such an important cause, breast cancer research. With all that going for it, why wouldn't you join in? So mark your calendar to be at the Capitol in Lansing on Sunday April 27 to participate as a runner, a walker or a cheerleader. And if you will be out of town, participate in spirit by making a donation to Team Junior League. No matter how you choose to get involved, you will be making a difference in the lives of women across the community and across the world.

If you are new to 5K (about 3.1 mile) events, know that there is no pressure to perform. You can walk slowly, jog, speed walk, push a stroller, pull a wagon, skip, or sprint. Or you can do all of these through the course of the race! What matters is that you are there and you care. In addition to the race event, there will be music, food and camaraderie for all. Log on to [KomenGreaterLansing.org](http://KomenGreaterLansing.org) to join Team Junior League or to sponsor our team for the event. You'll be glad you did!

For anyone who is interested in challenging themselves to running at least part of the race but is not currently a runner, see the 5K beginner training schedule below.

## 5-Week 5k Training Schedule

- Week 1:** Monday—Run/Walk 15 minutes, Tuesday—Run/Walk 2 miles, Wednesday— Off, Thursday—Run/Walk 15 minutes, Friday—Off, Saturday—Run/Walk 25 minutes, Sunday—Off
- Week 2:** Monday—Run 20 minutes, Tuesday—Run/Walk 2 miles, Wednesday—Off, Thursday—Run/Walk 20 minutes, Friday—Off, Saturday—Run/Walk 35 minutes, Sunday—Off
- Week 3:** Monday—Run 25 minutes, Tuesday—Run/Walk 2 miles, Wednesday—Off, Thursday—Run/Walk 25 minutes, Friday—Off, Saturday—Run 30 minutes, Sunday—Off
- Week 4:** Monday—Run 25 minutes, Tuesday—Run 2 miles, Wednesday—Off, Thursday - Run 30 minutes, Friday—Off, Saturday—Run 45 minutes, Sunday—Off
- Week 5:** Monday—Run 20 minutes, Tuesday—Run 20 minutes, Wednesday—Off, Thursday—Run/Walk 15 minutes, Friday—Off, Saturday—Race Day, Sunday—Off

## Condolences...

The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to **Sustainer May Rose Siebolt** and her family on the passing of her husband Jack, age 86, on February 11, 2008.

The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Sustainer Emeritus Ruth Ann Runquist**. Her daughter is JLL Sustainer Judy Wilkinson. Ruth Ann was born in 1915 and passed away on February 6, 2008 at the age of 92. She was a life long member of the Junior League of Lansing where she served on a variety of committees. One of her favorites was Art to the Schools. Ruth Ann, who was very creative, loved making and performing with the puppets that were used. She was also involved in the Okemos Garden Club.

The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to the family and friends of past member **Sally Engle**. Sally passed away February 10, 2008 at the age of 75. She was a member of JLL for over 30 years before resigning in the mid 90's. Sally was a volunteer with JLL Arts to the Schools, Lansing Art Gallery and a life member of the Muskegon Yacht Club.

The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to the family and friends of **June Lischke**. June passed away recently. June was the manager of the Junior League of Lansing "Cedar Chest" resale shop for many, many years and worked closely with many of our Sustaining members. She was an energetic, hard worker and not only an excellent employee but a good friend to Junior Leaguers and the Cedar Chest customers.

## Birthdays March & April

### SUSTAINER


Hay, Donna	03/01
Swift, Anne	03/01
Barron, Marni	03/02
Glick, Melody	03/04
Grewal, Susan	03/05
Spagnuolo, Teresa	03/07
Stover, Marlene	03/08
Fuller, Lori	03/09
McKouen, Polly	03/10
Murray, Debbie	03/13
Shepard, Nancy	03/14
Wirth, Peggy	03/14
MacDonald, Caroline	03/15
Martyn, Cheryl	03/16
Morrison, Julie	03/18
Foster, Liz	03/22
VanWieren, Mary	03/22
Roe, Char	03/23
Kelly, Jamie	03/24
McLean, Barbara	03/24
Dudley, Carolyn	03/26
Tuck, Suzanne	03/27
Hicks, Cathy	03/30
Papesh, Maggie	03/31
Blanchet-Kessel, Susan	04/01
Hathaway, Irene	04/03
Rachman, Naomi	04/06
Buckberry, Julie	04/07
Rundquist, Ruth	04/08
Hopwood, Anne	04/09
Sproles, Charlene	04/10
Ault, Kathryn	04/12
Stevenson, Julie	04/12
Beekman, Karen	04/13
Guilford, Sue	04/13
Cochran, Susan	04/16
Ellis, Chin	04/16
Magee, Ruby	04/16
Seaman, Corrintha	04/17
Kennedy, Jan	04/22
Vlahakis, Betty	04/23
Rigel, Tunde	04/27
Grattan, Kristin	04/30

### ACTIVE & NEW MEMBERS

Terry, Margaret	03/02
Kobus, Kelly	03/04
Purdy, Amanda	03/04
Combs, Susan	03/05
Dowling, Tiffany	03/05
Mitchell, Diana	03/05
Regan, Courtney	03/07
Urbain, Julie	03/09
Gillespie, Sara	03/14
Rosenbaum, Rachel	03/16
Hicks, Kristin	03/17
Marinig, Ivana	03/18
Bellingar, Rosalie	03/19
Fink, Michelle	03/22
Branoff, Andrea	03/23
Quinn, Kate	03/25
Powers, Kate	03/31
Main, Jenifer	04/05
Smith, Sara	04/05
Whitener, Melanie	04/06
Soltis, Kirsten	04/09
Fishell, Barbara	04/15
Gresens, Marcia	04/17
Bredahl, Stephanie	04/21
Nyquist, Nancy	04/21
Black, Patty	04/23
Gallagher, Katie	04/23
Sabolvic, Elizabeth	04/23
Young, Stacey	04/25
Breslin, Jasmine	04/26
Day, Beth	04/26
Donaldson, Leslie	04/26
Strong, Katie	04/30

# Calendar of Events


## March

- March 11 GMM
- March 11 Day at the Capitol 
- March 15 Kids in the Kitchen, Dream Dinner, located in Frandor Shopping Center
- March 18 6:30-8:30 pm New Member Training at Foster, Swift office, downtown Lansing
- March 22 Member Relations Easter Egg Hunt

## April

- April 8 6:30-8:30 pm New Member End of Year Celebration, Beggar's Banquet, East Lansing 
- April 15 GMM
- April TBA Member Relations Progressive Party in Old Town

## May

- May 3 Kentucky Derby Party 
- May 6 Celebrity Luncheon
- May 14 GMM — Country Club of Lansing

# Membership Changes

- (NM) **Bredahl, Stephanie**  
585 Aquila Drive, East Lansing MI 48823-8318
- (S) **Costello, Betsy**  
5284 7 Mile Pointe Ridge Drive  
Harbor Springs MI 49740-8588  
231-526-1130
- (A) **Hatch, Holly**  
1027 Robins Road, Lansing 48917
- (A) **Mitchell, Diana**  
Resigned as Treasurer  
New Status is Leave of Absence
- (S) **Runquist, Ruth Ann**  
Deceased 02/06/2008
- (A) **Shumway, Nicole**  
1032 Runaway Bay Drive, Apt 2D  
Lansing, MI 48914-8722
- (S) **Smith, Linda**  
8321 Drake Lane, Williamsburg MI 49590-8505
- (A) **Thelen, Michelle**  
13667 Acadia Lane, DeWitt MI 48820-7880
- (A) **Whiting Dobson, Lisa**  
Changing to Sustainer membership



## **JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING**

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