



League Link

News from the Junior League of DeKalb County, Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 4

May 2015

President's Greeting

A Final Message from JLD President Angela Turk

As we come to the end of the 2014-2015 league year, I want to thank you for your readership of the Junior League of DeKalb County, Inc.'s League Link. A lot has been accomplished, and we were happy that we were able to share our successes with you through this publication. I would especially like to thank the members of the Communications Committee – Deirdre Holloway, Emily Simmons, Charlotte Combre, Jocelyn Mills, Atira Rochester and Dawn Montgomery-Greene – for their exceptional work publicizing our activities this year.

This year, we celebrated our 80th Anniversary with the theme of growing our mission. Some of the key pride points from this year include:

- The rental of our headquarters, the Mary Gay House, did extremely well this year. We booked almost \$53,000 in rentals, clearly exceeding our \$45,000 budget.
- We welcomed our new and revamped Community Advisory Board, who has provided direction and guidance in identifying and prioritizing community needs and potential partnerships.

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80th Anniversary Community Day

In celebration of its 80th Anniversary, JLD hosted a Community Day in partnership with Partners in Action for Healthy Living (PAHL) on May 16. The purpose of the community day was to beautify the Belvedere neighborhood in South DeKalb County by planting flowers and blueberry bushes, eliminating trash on the streets and signs in the garden, and building a grape trellis. Participants also had the opportunity to take part in a healthy food demonstration, coordinated by Michelle

Giang, a graduate nutrition and dietetic student from Georgia State University. A special thanks to Lili Crymes of PAHL for helping us coordinate a successful day.



2015 Tour of Kitchens

A Successful Showing of Three DeKalb Homes

JLD's 3rd Annual Tour of Kitchens was held Saturday, April 25th and proved to be a fun and exciting weekend outing. Despite a 100% chance of rain, the Tour welcomed 200 visitors. This year's Tour of Kitchens featured three newly redesigned kitchens from Design Galleria, CSI Kitchen and Bath Studio, and Splice Design. Cooking demonstrations from No. 246, Parker's on Ponce, Sarah Dodge (Community Farmers Market), and Clarkston High School, as well as an olive oil tasting by Strippaggio, was made available to guests.

The Tour also incorporated our current initiative of promoting nutrition and combating obesity. Our community partner Partners in Action for Healthy Living (PAHL), Inc. was onsite to provide guests with seedlings to inspire their own gardens, the Community Farmers Market offered \$5.00 coupons to the Decatur Farmers Market, and Preserving Place donated two tickets to a cooking class for our door prize winner.

This year's event would not have been possible without the support of the DeKalb community and our dedicated sponsors. Special thanks to our Platinum Sponsors, DeKalb Medical and the Champion Newspaper, as well as our featured builders, chefs, and our event photographers; Joni Heart Photography, Kee Images, and FansFavoriteFan. Additional thanks to Maudlin & Jenkins, Pam Hughes of Harry Norman Realtors, Helen Durrence of Remax and our various individual sponsors.



- We again, for the third year in a row, held a successful Poinsettia Sale and Tour of Kitchens event. In celebration of our 80th Anniversary this year, we donated 81 poinsettias to organizations, businesses and groups in DeKalb County, to say thank you for your service to the community.
- We offered a full-day of leadership and community training to all of our members this year, keeping to our promise to plant seeds of developing the potential of women.
- The publicity of our organization grew tremendously, with increased coverage that has been great visibility and is the beginnings of increased recruitment for our league.

Last May, I reminded our membership that, although we would see some growth this year, it would take time and patience for seeds to grow. Specifically, seeds take time to grow and they must change to grow. It is my hope that through our relationship building this year, we have begun to plant seeds that we will reap the harvest in years to come.

Again, thank you for your support, and best wishes on a successful 2015-2016 league year.

Sincerely,



Angela Turk
President, 2014-2015



Thank you to this year's Board of Directors!

2014 – 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Angela Turk, President

Mindy Kaplan, President-Elect

Shara Sanders, Vice President Finance

Michele NeSmith, Vice President Membership

Renee Bazemore, Vice President Community

Sidnee Young, Secretary

Cartrina Scipio, Nominating Chair

Stacey Keegan, Sustainer Advisor

80th Anniversary Quote

A Member Reflects on Why She Joined JLD

“I could’ve learned to play bridge, joined a bowling team, or taken up gardening. In any of those pursuits, I would’ve had fun and met nice people. But JLD offers more. I have more than fun – I spend my time building relationships and learning leadership skills as we work together to address real community needs. And I meet people who are not just nice – they’re a compelling, diverse group of generous, smart, civic-minded women that I’m proud to know.”

-Betsy Turner

An Update on our Issues Based Community Impact Model (IBCI)

The IBCI Task Force would like to thank JLD members for participating in the survey to rank the proposed narrowed Focus Areas. Forty six members, just about 65% of Actives and Provisionals, ranked the issues in order of where they believe JLD would be able to make the largest impact in DeKalb County with 1 being the largest impact.

The results are as follows:

- Promote the development of early reading and language skills in low income and at-risk children in DeKalb County. (Issue – Early Childhood Education/Literacy) Score – 4.28
- Develop the potential and improve the lives of at-risk girls in DeKalb County. (Issue – Girls Self Esteem, Health & Nutrition and Early Childhood Education/Literacy) Score – 3.96
- Support and encourage educational achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) programs for girls in the DeKalb County community. (Issue – Girls Self Esteem and Early Childhood Education/Literacy) Score – 3.72
- Combat food deserts and improve access to healthy food for the food insecure in DeKalb County. (Issue – Health & Nutrition) Score – 3.35
- Improve access to and quality of early childhood education in DeKalb County. (Issue – Early Childhood Education/Literacy and Health and Nutrition) Score – 3.20
- Improve access to preventative healthcare for low income families. (Issue – Health & Nutrition) Score – 2.50

Over the summer the task force, with the help of the Research and Development Committee, will begin the process of identifying partnerships and possible programs that will allow JLD to continue to grow its mission of improving the DeKalb County Community. Stay tuned!

JLD at the State Capitol

Connecting with DeKalb County Representatives

JLD participated in the Junior Leagues of Georgia State Public Affairs Committee (GA-SPAC) Capitol Day on March 19. JLD had the opportunity to meet and thank our DeKalb County representatives. GA-SPAC followed legislation that affects the lives of women and children. For example, HB1 would allow a low cannabis oil to be used to treat certain conditions. It will also allow children with seizure disorders to participate in a clinical trial of cannabis oil at Georgia Regents University. The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 48-6. On April 16, 2015, Governor Deal signed HB1 into law to be effective immediately.

Provisional Member Spotlight

Name: Yolanda D. Broome, J.D., CPPO

Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama

Fun Fact: Former Marine who loves all things Zombie Apocalypse

Committee Placement: Fund Development

Why did you join JLD?: I love my community and want to do all that I can to improve the lives of my neighbors. The Junior League has always been an organization that serves others and I believe in its mission.



Interested in joining JLD? The Summer Prospective Member Open House is Sunday, July 26 at 2pm.

Sustainer Service Award

Lucia Sizemore Earns Agnes Scott Superlative



Lucia Howard Sizemore '65 has been an active community volunteer wherever she has lived since graduating from Agnes Scott. Her many interests have led to projects addressing the well-being of children and youth, the care of those unable to care for themselves, and to enriching the lives of others through teaching and learning about the broader world in which they

live. Knowing that her Agnes Scott education taught her to “think deeply, live honorably and to engage the social and intellectual challenges of [her] times,” she has endeavored to do so. Lucia received her Service Award from Agnes Scott on April 17.

Provisional Class Project

Making a Difference at International Women’s House



The 2014-2015 Provisional Class members completed their class project in April - creating a warm, homey, and functional living space for women and children in crisis and residing

temporarily at the International Women’s House. The 18 members dedicated over 100 volunteer hours to cleaning, painting and decorating the main living areas (kitchen, dining room, living room, play room and outdoor patio).

At the IWH Annual Dinner, Anna Z. Blau, Executive Director for IWH, thanked the Provisional Class and recognized them “For Outstanding Volunteerism to Victims of Domestic Violence.” The Provisional Class members also had the opportunity to meet the IWH Board of Directors, including Kathy Tomajko, Chair of IWH Task Force in the mid 90's and JLD President 1998-1999.

The mission of IWH is “To provide a safe haven and supportive services for immigrant and refugee women and children who are victims of domestic violence and abuse with a focus on cultural sensitivity and self-sufficiency.” For more information on IWH, please visit <http://internationalwomenshouse.org/>.

Culinary Extravaganza

JLD Sponsors DeKalb County Event

JLD was a sponsor for the 10th Annual Culinary Extravaganza & Competition hosted by the DeKalb County Council of PTAs, the DeKalb County School District and the Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts Atlanta. Seven of the school culinary programs competed on March 28 at Le Cordon Bleu. This health and wellness initiative is geared toward promoting healthy lifestyles, enhancement of the student’s culinary skills, promoting culinary as a possible career choice as well as how culinary style meals can be easy and healthy. The teams were professionally judged on safety, appearance, taste, sanitation, team work, creativity, verbal delivery of menu and nutritional information.

The top two teams received a financial grant to benefit the schools’ culinary program. The first place team performed a cooking demonstration during Tour of Kitchens. The third place team received a scholarship to take summer masterchef classes at Le Cordon Bleu.

1st Place: Clarkston High School
2nd Place: Tucker High School
3rd Place: Columbia High School