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December 2013

Volume 36, Issue 6

## December Calendar



No General Membership Meeting this Month!

Join us for the Holiday Party hosted by the Sustainers!





# Junior League Holiday Party

Thursday, December 12, 2013 6:00-8:00 PM

Barb Vidmar's Home 4428 Portafina Drive Please join us for food, fun and fellowship. Sustainers will provide refreshments, appetizers and desserts! Watch for your invitation in the mail!

\*\*\*Salvation Army has requested that we donate holiday wrapping paper, tape and bows along with large black trash bags. Bring supplies to the Holiday Party and help over 6000 Pueblo kids enjoy a Christmas they might otherwise go without \*\*\*



JL Sustainers Barb Vidmar and Maggie Divelbliss; Provisional Lacy Desmond; Actives Sommer Street and Jessica Weckx; and Sustainer Sandy Stein

#### **Raise Your Voices!**

The Women's Foundation of Colorado held their 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Denver Luncheon "Raise Your Voices" on October 24, 2013 at the Colorado Convention Center.

Our very own JL sustainer Sandy Stein was a Luncheon Co-Chair for the event.

A wonderful time was had by all that attended. Keynote Speaker America Ferrera was amazing and inspiring!

The Women's Foundation of Colorado' mission is to build resources and lead change so that every woman and girl in Colorado achieves her full potential.





"The fastest way to change society is to mobilize the women of the world." — Charles Malik

## Good as Gold Award



Congratulations Brooke Williams, Rebecca Diaz and Stephanie Morales for their hard work chairing the Barkman § Rawlings Literacy Events! We appreciate all they do for JL of Pueblo!

## Letter from the President

## Nicole Stout

#### Junior League Blessings

As we wrap up the first half of our league year we find ourselves full of passion and blessings. We have realized the passion that each and every one of us have for our community, and that passion creates successful programs like Kids Health Challenge creating their own event come January 11<sup>th</sup>, our first mentor program with District 60 Columbian Elementary girls that have brought us joy and hope. These two particular events have proven what new ideas can be built on and given back to the community.

New event ventures can sometimes be reminiscent of the past for the league and help celebrate where we have come today like the Southern Hospitality luncheon. The funds committee deserves huge kudos for creating a different fall fundraiser event this year than we are used to hosting. A lovely group of 80 ladies joined for elegant southern cuisine surrounded by teapots, beautiful flowers and inspiring memorabilia. Our very own Lindsay Pechek provided an educational and light hearted etiquette training that I'm sure even the most proper could have learned from. The legendary sustainer Maggie Divelbliss graced us with her presence sharing stories of the leagues past and her appreciation of what the league stands for and continues to achieve today. Lastly myself I shared the insight of what our visions are for the children and leaders of today, our project goals and how every aspect of our league intertwines into the big picture of our mission for our community. The day was shared with PCC Culinary department, Pueblo Library District, Centennial girls cabinet, friends and family. Thank you for all your support and sharing your day with us. It's not always about the funds but the commitment and support we give to each other, our partners and community.

This month as we take a little break from our busy year, we reflect on all the good we have done and hearts we continue to touch with our Salvation Army/Posada Christmas giving program. This program reaches out to many families in our community that need a little extra hope and blessings. This event truly will warm your heart. This year's event we will assist in gathering and distributing to these families. Please mark your calendars for Dec 21<sup>st</sup> to spread a little cheer in helping assist in giving to these families. More details will follow in our SYOH. And what's a little hard work without some celebration right ladies?! We annually celebrate with our sensational sustainers for an evening of cheer, delectables, and cocktails. This year's event is hosted by Barb Vidmar, Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm. Please bring gift bags, wrapping accessories and large garage bags to help donate towards the Salvation Army event. Thank you to Barb in advance for opening up her home to us all and to continue to support JLP and our efforts.

Last I wish to congratulate this month's Good as Gold winners Rebecca Diaz, Stephanie Morales and Brooke Williams for their dedication to our last literacy events of the year, also a job well done to the provisional class once again, and our funds committee for their passion and dedication to the league. I also would like to express my appreciation to my board of directors for their support, wisdom and friendship. I truly wouldn't be here thus far without you. You all make me proud so let's look forward to our 2014 events and projects such as 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Kids in the Kitchen, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kids Health Challenge Fit4Fun, mentor program and our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Girls Night Out.

"The Best and most Beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart." And remember "Love the Giver more than the Gift". May you all have a Blessed and Merry Holiday shared with your family and friends.

Joy and Love, Nicole Stout JLP President



## **Funds Committee Report**

### Chair, Lyndsey Leffler

This league continues to amaze me. Thank you to everyone who helped make the fall fundraiser such a beautiful event. I am so proud of my committee that came up with new ideas that made it such a well attended event! Our partners, The Library and PCC, were very happy with the event as well and that was quite a compliment.

It is now time to focus efforts on the 10th annual Girls Night Out event! Our first meeting will be at Mr. Tandori's Grill on Victoria Street at 6:00pm on Monday December 2nd. If you are interested in helping in anyway, we would love to have you join us! We are currently looking for a decorations chair, a silent auction chair, and two fashion show chairs. This is our biggest event of the year and it is sure to be the best GNO yet! Have a great month all!

- Perseverance is failing 19 times and succeeding the 20th. - Julie Andrews

## **Communications** Committee Report

Chair, Sommer Street

Mark your calendars for the Latino Chamber Business After Hours to be held Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> on the first floor of our building. We will be partnering with other businesses in the building to host the happy hour! It is a great time filled with excellent networking opportunities. Watch your email to sign up to help with this fun event. You will earn an event point and also have time to socialize!

Please remember to check out the JLP website and "like" us on Facebook!

Also check out all the new photos and information on Dropbox – https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gsam9t997pw85kk/ZCKDH vXxD

Hope you and your families have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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## December Birthdays



12/5	Mona Askwig
12/10	Neta DeRose
	Mary Macklem
12/11	Sue Mastro
12/21	Megan Murillo
12/29	Melissa Santistev

## Membership Committee Report

#### Chair, Mande Mathews

It is hard to believe we are approaching the holidays, already! The first part of our League year has gone wonderful with many successful events! I want to thank all of you that came out to our Fall Social. It was a beautiful afternoon with our families gathered around watching the children play games and hunt for their perfect pumpkin.

We couldn't of asked for a better way to celebrate and relax after the Provisional Class ROCKED their project, The Monster Dash 5k run! With over 200 participants and \$4,900 raised I would say these girls did a phenomenal job and our League is blessed to have such remarkable ladies joining us.

I couldn't be more proud of these ladies and am so thankful for the chance to work with them so closely. The Provisional class will be using some of their funds raised to support our mission within our community, but that will be decided after they enjoy a small break and celebration of the holidays.

I want to wish you and your families a wonderful and blessed Holiday Season and we will see you back next year!



#### Dates to Remember



Holiday Party Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

Latino Chamber Business After Hours Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>

Fit 4 Kids Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> Pueblo Mall

Kids in the Kitchen Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> PCC





JLP has a new Community Impact program! Pueblo Kids Health Challenge (PKHC) is committed to the children of Pueblo County by encouraging all to move more, volunteer often, and live well. We provide families an incentive for their children to eat healthy, exercise, and volunteer. Families log their healthy lifestyle choices for the month, and at the end of the month PKHC awards one child a prize in the form of outdoor play toys or a gift card to a sports store.

Visit our website: www.pueblohealthchallenge.org

#### Junior League of Pueblo

#### Board of Directors 2013 – 2014

PresidentNicole StoutPresident-ElectSandra ProudSecretaryJennifer WelteTreasurerAmandaMcPhersonSustainerKris HartmanRepresentative

#### **Committee Chairs**

Communications Sommer Street Community Impact Amber Latella Funds Development Lyndsey Leffler Membership Mande Mathews

#### **OUR MISSION:**

The Junior League of Pueblo 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.

#### OUR VISION:

The Junior League of Pueblo is a recognized leader in the community, committed to fulfilling the need of the child. Volunteers nurture the individual, advocate for the rights of the child and strive to empower the children of Pueblo to reach their full potential.

#### Active Spotlight by Melissa Santistevan

#### **Lindsay Pechek**

December's spotlight is Lindsay Pechek. Lindsay was born in Biloxi, Mississippi but moved around to San Francisco, Cincinnati and then the place she calls home, Kansas City. In 2004, while standing in the concession stand line at a Kansas City Royals baseball game she met her husband, Ty and they were married in 2007! They moved to Ty's hometown, Pueblo, in 2007. Their daughter Tori, is two and they are expecting number 2 in June 2014!

Lindsay graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in 2003 with a degree in Public Relations. She developed a love for event planning and taught classes in the subject in college. Once she settled in Pueblo, she became a certified event/wedding planner and now owns Panache Events, which allows her to stay at home with her growing family and enjoy her



other love of event planning. Lindsay worked at CSU-Pueblo for 6 years as an Academic Advisor in the Hasan School of Business, but decided to leave after having Tori, although she has continued to work at CSU-Pueblo on a contractual basis planning the President's Gala for two years and the Commencement Ceremony.

She began Junior League in 2007 and this is her 7th year! At her very first meeting her and Doreen Martinez, who was also a provisional, signed up to run the year's Book Swaps. They jumped in with both feet, and haven't looked back! They ran Book Swaps for 2 years and then she became chair of Community Programs followed by President Elect, President and Past President. Her Presidency year was extra enjoyable because it is the same year she had Tori!

She joined JL to broaden her female friendships, she found Junior League to be the answer, after hanging out with her hubby's high school buddy's for about a year. She says that the added benefit is helping our community! She loves that Junior League can be a lot of different things for different women. It can be the link to friendships you are craving, link to the community or it can even give you the excuse you need to get out of the house. Junior League is ever changing as new members join and season members move to sustainers. Every year Junior League has something new, fun and exciting.

Lindsay was more involved in other organizations before her daughter, but she is currently on the Newborn Hope committee. Newborn Hope raises funds and supports programs for the advancement of maternal, fetal and neonatal healthcare and well being. She witnessed their benefit to our community first hand when Tori was born premature and needed extra care.





#### Sustainer Spotlight by Donna Souder Louise Keach

Louise was born in Kansas City, but her parents moved to Colorado when she was nine, so according to Louise, "I'm almost a native!" Louise has been married for 29 years to Tom Keach (almost everyone's favorite teacher or principal --or else he hired their favorite teacher or principal). Louise has two children and three grandchildren. Her daughter's son is 28, and her son's youngest is 5. Tom, however had 4 daughters and 2 grandchildren, so now the couple boasts 6 great-grandchildren. Louise had several secretarial jobs and a couple of stints as a Realtor, but in 1983, she started a temporary help company called "At Your Service." Shortly thereafter, she added an answering service. In 1994, Louise sold the temporary help portion, moved to the 500 block of Main Street, and renamed the company "Executive Services." It's still located there and flourishing under new ownership. In fact, Louise proudly states, "...it's become a far better company from when I sold it in 2005!"

Louise began her provisional year "...waaay back in 1972, and my community service commitment has continued to this day, since I currently serve on the Board of Pueblo County Historical Society and volunteer in its library once a week. I'm also on the Board of Spanish Peaks Behavioral Health Centers." Like so many members of JLP, Louise didn't join Junior League for any altruistic reasons. She explains, "I joined because my friends invited me, and I had no idea then, that in the end, I would get so much out of it. My greatest learning experiences were serving as chairman of the "Legs and Legacies Follies", as President in 1981-82, and as Area VI Representative to JLI for two years. During those years I published the Area VI Newsletter, and helped with President's training and came up the name, "Pueblication," for this newsletter." The Area Representatives continued through the 1990s, and, in fact, only two people from Pueblo ever had the privilege to represent the Western US, Canada and Mexico.

Throughout the years, Louise has been involved in various activities, including the start up and naming the "Stomp-On" with several friends -- the same group that started the Rosemount Museum Auxiliary. Again, with good friends, Louise started and named "Zoopalz" to help the Pueblo Zoo. Louise has served on too many Boards to mention, but she was most honored to be selected "Citizen of the Year" by the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce in 1983 and then, in 1994, as "Small Business of the Year."

Tom and Louise are both big tennis fans and have travelled to all four of the Grand Slams and even followed the Davis Cup team around for one year all the way to Sweden. She plays doubles one evening a week, and she would love to find some people who want to play during the day. Louise lives by the saying "This, too, shall pass." She says, "Originally, these words helped me through some bad times, but now I think of them in good times to remind me to enjoy the heck out of everything, because I know they won't last forever."

## Community Impact Committee Report Chair, Amber Latella



As we are gearing up for the holidays, I am thankful for being a part of such a wonderful group of women who have dedicated their time and effort to make this fall's community impact events such a success! We have been actively planning our largest event community impact event this year. Kid's in the Kitchen is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm. We are very excited about this event. If you have any vendors you would like us to contact for this free event, email us at <u>kitk.jlp@gmail.com</u>. Also if you or your business can donate giveaways for the goodie bags also let us know.

The Pueblo Kid's Health challenge is growing leaps and bounds this year! I love that the league has adopted this program and so many women are involved. On November 15<sup>th</sup> PKHC joined forces with the Boy's and Girl's Club of Pueblo in planting a community garden at PSAS. We are so thankful to PSAS for donating the plot of land for us to start this community garden. The PKHC is also planning their first event at the Pueblo Mall on January 11<sup>th</sup>. The event is called Fit 4 Kids. This will be a free event to the public and promises to be a fun event! There will be a hula hoop contest, zumba for kids, a nutrition booth, a grand prize give-away, and much more!

Our Mentor Program is in full swing and we have been planning the year with our little mentors. The week before thanksgiving we helped those at Columbian Elementary count and collect canned goods for the community. The school collected over 1200 cans for those in need! I am thankful for all the ladies that helped us in counting cans or collecting them! Thanks so much!

We are planning a Done in A Day with the Salvation Army/Posada/Angel Giving tree. This event will be during the weekend of December 21<sup>st</sup>. Look for more information (date and times) to come in coming weeks in our stay on your heels newsletter!

Happy Holidays!!

#### Thank you to our advertisers for their continued support of Junior League of Pueblo. Please patron our biggest supporters!





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Editor: Sommer Street Cell: (719) 671-0443 Email: streets269@hotmail.com	1 stick butter, melted 1 cup light Karo syrup 1 cup sugar 3 tablespoons flour	Dash of salt 1 cup whole or chopped pecans 3 eggs, beaten
Find us on Facebook	Combine all ingredients and pour into a chilled, unbaked 9-inch pie crus Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour to 1 hour, 15 minutes.	
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