Inn Transition South provides training, job opportunities

By Anita Uppaluri

This year one of the Inn Transition South Committee’s primary goals was to provide the ITS women and teenagers with an opportunity and a forum to advance professionally and to improve their education. Over the past few months, the committee has held various events focusing on interviewing, dressing for success, resume writing and professionalism. One of our provisional groups collected more than 800 articles of business attire, all of which were distributed to the residents!

The mini Job Fair that we held on the ITS property March 8th enabled us to fully realize our goal. It was the first time an event such as this had been held for the ITS residents. Several major companies, educational institutions and staffing agencies were present. Some organizations provided counseling, career planning and help in filling out applications. Some, such as Starbucks, actually interviewed residents and teenagers on site. Many follow-up appointments and formal interviews

“ITS” continued on pg. 8

Get Inside In Style

Event Benefits JLM

By Teresa Thornburg

Get ready to experience from the inside out what goes into the pages of In Style Magazine, all while supporting the League! The Junior League of Miami is honored to have been selected by In Style Magazine as the primary beneficiary of this stylish weekend soiree for the fourth consecutive year.

The eagerly anticipated Inside In Style Miami event has been set for Saturday and Sunday, April 19th and 20th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Ocean Drive and 11th Street, Miami Beach (look for the gorgeous Inside In Style white tents). Festivities will include fashion shows, beauty services, giveaways, ideas for the home, bridal trends, gift bags, and more. All ticket holders and volunteers will receive a gift bag that is sure to delight! Please tell your friends and family to visit www.instyleinsider.com to purchase tickets ($15 in advance/$25 on-site).
The Junior League of Miami is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Our Vision is to empower Miami’s women, children, and families to conquer tomorrow’s challenges and to build a united community.

The Junior League of Miami is located at 713 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL 33134. Sondra Space, Office Manager.

By Phone: (305) 443-0160
By Fax: (305) 443-3849
By Email: HQ@jlmiami.org
On the Web: www.jlmiami.org
After reviewing the numerous Straw Ballots submitted this Fall, observing many Board, Council and Committee meetings in action, and reviewing the leadership skills required for each position, our 2007/2008 Nominating Committee, capably led by Betty Lopez-Castro, was tasked with the very tough job of selecting JLM's next Board of Directors.

Following AJLI's operational guidelines for best practices in the 293 Junior Leagues operating throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and the UK, Betty worked with her Committee to make the Nominating process more transparent for the benefit of our membership. After careful consideration, the slate of officers was announced at our January General Membership Meeting and voted on by our membership at the February General Membership Meeting.

Congratulations to each of these remarkable women! You have earned the confidence and respect of your peers, and have distinguished yourselves in your prior service to JLM. On behalf of all Sustaining, Provisional and Active members of the League, we commend you and celebrate your commitment to JLM!

Thank you to this year's dedicated Nominating Committee members: Betty Lopez-Castro, Jennifer Buttrick, JJ Hansen, Andria Hanley, Jana Hertz, Carrie Shelfer, Kim Sarkisian, Lucy Ulmer, Veronica Ramirez and Lorrie Martin for a job well done!

Leaders indicated with an asterisk (*) above were selected by the 2007-08 Nominating Committee.

See Nominating Committee for 2008-09 next page.
Phase IV renovation work on our historic headquarters at 713 Biltmore Way is beginning. This work will include replacing all existing windows in the building, with the exception of the glass windows at the front of the building, with impact-resistant, glass aluminum-clad windows. Weight bearing issues preclude the replacement of the windows in the front of the building, so in the event of a hurricane we will continue to place existing shutters in these areas. The exterior of the building will have all cracks, fissures and holes repaired, then the building will be sealed and repainted.

About 713 Biltmore Way
Known in Coral Gables archives as the “Bennett Building,” 713 Biltmore Way is a two-story miniature “Venetian Palace” built for Patrick Bennett in 1925 by George Merrick’s Coral Gables Construction and Supply Company. Designed by George Fink and constructed at a cost of $30,000, it was the first commercial building erected in Coral Gables and is the only remaining example of this type of commercial building west of City Hall.

The Junior League Champions Historic Preservation
The Junior League of Miami purchased 713 Biltmore Way on December 28, 1995, to serve as its permanent headquarters. Its purchase is a testament to the vision of leaders in previous generations who had long-ago established a fund for the purpose of purchasing an historic building to use as our Headquarters.

In 1996 the Junior League embarked upon an ambitious four-phase plan to purchase and renovate the building. We have successfully completed the first three phases and today, we are embarking upon Phase IV which will ensure the building’s integrity for many years to come. Phases I, II and III involved extensive renovation which was required to bring the building in compliance with current building code and fire safety requirements. During these phases, we were fortunate to locate and preserve some key historic features of the building. The front door is historic and was found on site during demolition. In addition, we discovered Dade County pine flooring which was painstakingly restored and now covers the entire reception area. On the second floor facing Biltmore Way, we reclaimed the original porch area which had been enclosed during one of the building’s many “updates.” The historic iron railing around the stairway has been preserved and slightly modified to comply with safety code requirements.

The first and second floors of the building were been completely reconfigured to maximize space. On the first floor, we constructed two offices, a fax/copy/mail room, a kitchenette, a handicap-accessible bathroom, a board room and an elevator. The rear glass “atrium” area has been removed and reconfigured as a garden and handicap-accessible entrance. Handicap parking is available in the back of the building. The second floor now has a full kitchen and lounge area, a large storage area, a handicap-accessible bathroom, and a community meeting room.

The League’s historic furniture has been refinished and the upholstered pieces have been recovered using donated fabrics. The end result is that our Headquarters is both functional and beautifully decorated.

As with any historic structure building, time and weather take their toll. Our building is no different but our plan is in motion!
JLM Leadership

2008-09 Nominating Selected
By Lauren Harrison Genovese

In addition to voting on our new slate of officers for next year, we also voted at the February General Membership meeting on the 2008-09 Nominating Committee Members. This Committee will be charged with the extremely important responsibility of selecting the nominees to the 2009-10 JLM Board of Directors to serve along with Erin Knight, our esteemed President Elect Elect.

The 15 nominees to the 2008-09 Nominating Committee were selected by the 2007-08 Nominating Committee members in three categories, each relating to number of years of service. A total of five nominees was selected in each category, and the three nominees receiving the most votes by category, in accordance with our governing bylaws, will constitute next year’s Nominating Committee of 12 members in total. Also per our governing documents, the overall candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve as the Nominating Chair Elect.

Congratulations, Ladies, and thank you for your commitment to the future of JLM!
This provisional class is amazing!! In order to get a good idea of how great they are, you should know what they have been working on this year! In January, the ladies attended their training on Domestic Violence where they were treated to a discussion by Migna Sanchez-Llorens, Assistant Public Defender (and League member); Ernestine Davis, Director of ITS; and Judge Deborah White-Labora. These ladies had the provisionals totally fascinated as they discussed the latest information and details about domestic violence in our community. In February, the provisionals attended the Community Project presentations where they heard about the amazing projects that the league is considering for next year. They asked many questions and left with a great idea of the variety of projects they could be working on next year.

In February, a large group of provisionals volunteered at ITS to continue a mentor project that began in the Fall. They distributed a tremendous volume of donated business clothing to the women and helped the ITS Committee prepare for the ITS Career Fair held March 8th.

March arrived and these ladies were not done! They worked at the Lotus House and helped ladies move out as they transitioned to new homes. They worked at Headquarters where they cleaned up, organized, and did some landscaping. At Lighthouse for the Blind, they completed a day’s worth of programming for the teens (including making lunch!). Another mentor group also assisted at the ITS Career Fair March 8th. On March 29th, a group of provisionals went to the Hurwitt Crisis Center where they worked on arts and crafts with the residents, cooked a meal together and landscaped the grounds. All in all, a very exciting month of volunteering!

In addition to all of these volunteer opportunities, these awesome provisionals also attended their last provisional training on the topic of Child Abuse. They listened as Judge Cindy Lederman and Maria Clara Rodriguez from Kristi House talked about the status of child welfare in our community.

It has definitely been an amazing year for these outstanding new League members! On April 16th, they will be celebrating their Commencement and their many wonderful accomplishments this year. It has truly been a pleasure to work with each of them and the Provisional Committee has had a rewarding experience as their mentors. We look forward to welcoming them as Active members for 2008-09!
LM Sustainers are having a fantastic year, and we want to see even more of you at our events!

The Sustainer Holiday Party was a great success, even with the rain! Many Sustainers attended the party, which was held at the lovely home of Betty and Bud Park. The festive holiday decorations were enjoyed by all, and Sara Sharpe Catering did a fabulous job, as usual! Many thanks to Betty and Bud for opening their home.

Many Sustainers attended the Nordstrom Grand Opening event, which was a ball for everyone! The fashion show was spectacular, and the menus at each of the stations around the store were delicious!

Next there was the Sustainer Spring Fling, which was held at the beautiful home of Amy and Ken Sussman. Pomegranate martinis were the choice drink of the evening, complete with a twist! The floral arrangements at Amy and Ken's home were divine. Thank you so much for opening your home to our Sustainers!

And there is much more to come! Through Done-In-A-Day (DIAD) activities and our community project opportunities, you have many chances to jump back into your volunteer days and get involved again—even if only for an hour or two. Please read the monthly emailed newsletter for these opportunities, or check the JLM website. We would LOVE to see Sustainers at as many events—not just social ones—as possible!

Speaking of social events, listed below are just a few of the upcoming events for you to attend.

- Wine Tasting: Girls Wine Out! Thursday, April 10, 2008, at the home of Allison Holly
- Women Who Make a Difference Awards Luncheon: Sunday, April 13, 2008 at the Ritz Carlton Coconut Grove
- Inside InStyle Miami, Saturday and Sunday, April 19 – 20, 2008, on Miami Beach
- Cooking Class, Thursday, May 1, at the home of Kristen Munroe
- Many volunteer opportunities to choose from...
- And, of course, Sustainer Book and Book Club!

We look forward to seeing you at many events and activities as possible. Please feel free to call or email us if you would like any further information!

Morgan Park Smith  
Sustainer Co-Chair  
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Sondra Christiansen Space  
Sustainer Co-Chair  
Sspace23@bellsouth.net

Sustainer Spring Fling  
March 7, 2008

Sustainer Update  
By Morgan Park Smith & Sondra Christiansen Space, Sustainer Co-Chairs

Spring 2008 7
were scheduled. Participating organizations included:

- Baptist Health Systems
- ITT Technical Institute
- City of Miami Fire Department
- Miami-Dade College
- South Dade Realty
- Starbucks
- WorkSquare Corp.
- Plus, Southland Mall and Macy’s were unable to attend but sent applications and information.

On behalf of JLM, we extend a big “thank you” to the organizations who took time from their busy schedules to come to our Job Fair and support our fabulous ITS residents. Each of these organizations offered to come back if we hold the event again next year. Many even offered to contact associates and peers in other organizations to encourage them to participate as well. We hope that this event will become a regular part of ITS life.

The turnout of residents was larger than our usual monthly events and residents from a nearby sister shelter joined us. It was exciting to see them arrive wearing the clothes that had been collected for them, with accessories and makeup to match! As each resident was checked in, she was given a portfolio, a pen and a package containing tips to help prepare them for their job search, along with resume envelopes and paper clips. Breakfast and a healthy lunch were provided to all the residents and the participating organizations. There was even entertainment and babysitting for the kids so that the moms could focus on their job searches.

Members of the ITS Committee – Stephanie O’Day, Kristen Landis, Yolanda Arcay and Claudia Rudkin and provisional Vivian Rodriguez – did an amazing job putting the event together.

Editor’s note: News has just came through that Starbucks has hired two ITS residents and is following up with a third resident! Congratulations to both Starbucks and its new employees!

**ITS Job Fair con’t. from page 1**

**DIAD Career Day for Honey Shine**

The Junior League of Miami is again working in conjunction with Honey Shine, an Alonzo Mourning Charities mentoring program, to organize a career day for the “Honey Bugs,” approximately 60 girls ranging in age from 13 to 18.

The event will be held this year at the Miami-Dade College North campus on **April 26, 2008**, from 8am to 3pm. Our mission is to expose these young students to a wide array of future career options and to provide useful information about how to achieve their goals.

The event will encompass a series of modules with various career trades and “hands on” interactive activities along with Q&As. At the conclusion of the presentations, we will close with a “graduation” ceremony and the students will exit to a career fair.

Contacts: Adriana Farelo 305-256-1490 adriana@farelogroup.com Beatriz Llorente 705-970-2129 bllorente@llorentelawfirm.com
Countless hours of selfless sacrifice and service, dedication to their community, a passion for volunteering, and involvement in more community organizations than will fit on this paper...this is what this year’s four Women Who Make a Difference honorees have in common.

Since 2002, the Junior League of Miami has recognized women who have given outstanding community service on behalf of women, children and families at risk. Proudly, we salute the 2008 Honorees: Trish Bell, Philanthropist and Activist, Yolanda Berkowitz, Realtor and Philanthropist, Thelma Gibson, Health, Education and Community Advocate, and Peggy Sapp, President and CEO of Informed Families.

These women have collectively dedicated more than 100 years and countless hours of service to organizations such as Community Partnership for the Homeless, National Family Partnership, Voices for Children, South Florida Urban Ministries, Kristi House, Miami Science Museum, the University of Miami Board of Trustees, the Coconut Grove Cares Mental Health Association and many more.

On Sunday, April 13, 2008, during an Awards Presentation at the Ritz Carlton in Coconut Grove, we will recognize the dedication and accomplishments of these women. The event, emceed by NBC 6’s Kelly Craig, starts with a VIP and Honoree Reception at 1 pm, and a Champagne Afternoon Tea at 2 pm.

Champagne and beverages for the 2008 Women Who Make a Difference event are graciously sponsored by Republic National Beverages.

The enticing raffle features a seven-night Royal Caribbean cruise for two, a two-day weekend rental of a Jaguar XJ from THE COLLECTION and a beautiful 14k white gold diamond flower pendant necklace from Dasani Jewels. Guests will also enjoy a fashion show by Victoria Lopez Castro. Fabulous silent auction prizes include vacations across the country and abroad, gorgeous jewelry, wonderful gift certificates and more. VIP guests will receive a special gift bag including a VIP pass to Blue Martini, tea from the Mighty Leaf Tea Company, and more.

The important funds raised at the Women Who Make a Difference event go to support the many Junior League of Miami community projects and programs.
At the JLM February General Membership Meeting, we were very pleased to host as our Keynote Speaker Gillian Thomas, the President and CEO of the new Museum Science Museum, “MiaSci”. Ms Thomas relocated to Miami from her native England in 2003 to assist the Museum in establishing a new, state-of-the-art facility to be located in Museum Park on the banks of Biscayne Bay. The 200,000-square-foot science and technology museum will be uniquely designed to reflect the character of South Florida and to showcase its potential. Together with the Arsht Center for the Performing Arts and the American Airlines Arena, the Museum will firmly anchor a cultural corridor and provide further revitalization of downtown Miami.

In recognition of the Junior League of Miami’s pivotal role in establishing the Museum in the late 1940’s, our organization has recently been asked to serve as the Charter Member of a newly established MiaSci Community Advisory Board. In this capacity, we will be able to renew our special partnership with the Museum by providing support and guidance for the future.

At our February GMM we announced that the JLM Board of Directors had recently appointed JLM 2004-05 President Amy Sussman to officially represent our organization as JLM’s Liaison to the newly established MiaSci Board. Congratulations and thank you, Amy!

Gillian Thomas

Amy Sussman

Tara Ana Finley
President

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As you probably know, “FORE!” in golf jargon means “watch out!” And it’s the perfect word to use to get your attention about our JLM Golf Committee and the 2007 JLM Golf Tournament, because this is surely a committee to watch out for!

On October 12, JLM held its 4th annual golf tournament and not only did we meet our goal, we exceeded it! The JLM raised $40,000, surpassing our goal by $10,000. Golf co-chairs Kim Sarkisian and Maria Maloof and their committee of 19 secured $31,000 in underwriting which helped ensure a financially lucrative event.

Thankfully, Mother Nature was on our side. The sunny clear skies made for a perfect day to hit the links. Eighty-eight golfers turned out at Crandon Golf Course in Key Biscayne to play. The players (and committee members) enjoyed the Bloody Mary Station and competition kicked into gear once they heard of the first, second and third prizes the committee secured from Tiffany’s.

While golf may not be a pastime for a lot of our Leaguers, the tournament plays an important part of our League presence in the corporate community. Corporations and other companies have money that they set aside for non-profit and charitable use. The golf tournament allows us to let the business community know what we do and give them a chance to help support the efforts of the JLM.

The 2007 tournament was certainly a big hit, but our 2008 committee headed up by Loretta Nido and Lauren Hunt is already hard at work to reach new highs. They have raised the bar to a goal of $50,000. There are two simple ways you can help. Ask yourself: Who do I know that might want to play? Who do I know that might be interested in sponsoring a corporate event? Think friends... family... neighbors... church or synagogue.

Let’s all do our best to ensure the 5th Annual Golf Tournament is the best yet!

Golf Committee Birdies 2007 Tourney – And Tees Up for Success in ’08

By Maria Maloof

Junior League of Miami
GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Let’s all do our best to ensure the 5th Annual Golf Tournament is the best yet!

By Maria Maloof
Calling all volunteers!

We are in need of your help! Please keep in mind that this is the last official fundraiser of the JLM year and one of the last opportunities to fulfill annual fundraiser volunteer shift requirements. There are four shifts you can choose from:

- Sat., Apr. 19, 10:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
- Sat., Apr. 19, 12:30–4:00 p.m.
- Sun., Apr. 20, 10:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
- Sun., Apr. 20, 12:30–4:00 p.m.

You are more than welcome to work more than one shift—one shift each day or two shifts on one day (basically a full day) and experience hands-on the latest beauty trends and secrets. All we need from you is your cell phone number and your shift preference(s) which you can email to Teresa@SouthBeachTies.com.

IN STYLE, a celebrity, lifestyle and fashion magazine, was launched in June 1994 by Time Inc. and within 10 years has emerged as one of the most successful magazines on newsstands today. IN STYLE takes a uniquely fun and inviting attitude towards style in all its forms which include special issues, international editions, television programming, books, and Instyle.com which receives over 15 million monthly page views. On every page, IN STYLE presents a vibrant, exciting visual feast of fashion, beauty and lifestyle that bridges the gap between fantasy and reality. The magazine inspires readers to express their individual style and shows the personal side of celebrity! 😍

Wow! In the Community...

Read about the fabulous work our All Aboard volunteers are doing!

Ladies, you make JLM proud!
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Jennifer Wilson
Cell: (305) 606-3033
jennifer@orchidsbyjamie.com
Children’s Bereavement Center Honors JLM

Our volunteers make a difference and change lives!

By Alicia Maria Robles

Children’s Bereavement Center (CBC) held a fundraiser in March at Ransom Everglades School entitled Rockin’ on the Green. Before an audience of 500 attendees, the CBC honored survivors and graduates of CBC’s programs and recognized the Junior League of Miami, its community partner, with an award for its volunteer efforts for the past three years. Lauren Harrison Genovese, JLM president, and Jennifer Press-Kravetz, CBC member volunteer and sponsor, accepted the award on stage. Each of our JLM volunteers who have worked with CBC was also presented with an individual gift.

In the program, the CBC and survivors told their heart-breaking stories of loss. A father and daughter shared their story of surviving a horrific car accident that took the lives of their mother, grandmother and recently born baby brother.

Event Co-Chair Ann Leibowitz explained that the purpose of the CBC is to “help children and families to acknowledge change and integrate loss with grief and mourning.” She stated that CBC offers education and peer support groups to parents and any adult who plays a significant role in the child’s life. CBC’s website states “[t]hese groups enable adults to better understand the bereavement process through the eyes of their children.”

David Goldweitz, a CBC Board of Director, helped kick off the evening by thanking the sponsors, and especially the companies who graciously donated items for the silent and live auctions. Following the thoughtful comments of Mr. Goldwietz CBC Directors Carol Berns, Psy. D., F.T., Mindy Cassel, Ph. D., C.T., and Peter Willig, L.M.F.T., F.T. took the reins as the masters of

continued on next page
cereonies. But not to be outdone, the live auction was led by a very spirited Lonnie Quinn, as chief auctioneer, ably assisted by Pam Giganti. Mrs. Giganti and Mr. Quinn are former NBC6 reporter and meteorologist, respectively.

JLM is honored to have played a part in CBC’s amazing success, outreach and growth over the past few years. We are grateful to our dedicated volunteers for bringing our entire organization into the spotlight. There is no higher compliment that can be paid to JLM than to say that our “volunteers truly make a difference!”

All the latest news...
www.jlmiami.org

Since 1992 JoAnna’s Marketplace has been providing great food, excellent service and unique gourmet foods to Miami.

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Shoppers and Leaguers have no fear...
Nordstrom Aventura is at last here!

On February 13th Junior League members mixed and mingled with local philanthropists and glitterati at the fabulous and long awaited Grand Opening Gala of Nordstrom Aventura. Junior League of Miami teamed up with The Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis and University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center to raise upwards of $200,000 for charity. This gala affair was graciously and entirely underwritten by Nordstrom, so all ticket proceeds are to be donated to the three beneficiaries.

The first rate affair featured not one but two high end fashion shows presenting designs from the collections of Jean Paul Gaultier, Versace, Dolce & Gabbana, Missoni, Michael Kors and Cavalli. The runway was set up on the far southwest end of the store under a spectacular tent and gave shoppers-to-be a sneak peek at the latest flashy and tropical trends. Throughout the night, guests could also purchase their favorite runway looks.

In other parts of the store, guests enjoyed live music by Miguel Cruz and Tropical Dreams and feasted on a mouth watering variety of casual yet succulent culinary delights and drank from an open bar. Later on in the evening dinner magically morphed into desert and guests were tempted by towers of cupcakes and a rainbow of gourmet jelly beans. A small army of wait staff and retail clerks were at the ready and catered to everyone’s needs. No expense was spared!

The store is now open for business and is located at the west end of the mall where Lord & Taylor once lived.

Nordstrom is famous for including hundreds of pairs of designer shoes and tantalizing accessories. The make up department was in full bloom and many vendors offered gifts with purchase and other promotional incentives, including the highly popular Bare Essentials with their very own brand new full service department which sent many of their cult like followers swooning.

The new corridor adjacent to the store features several new specialty boutiques and is definitely worth checking out. This store features in house tailoring, live piano music and a great café located on the second level along with their famous coffee bar which is located downstairs.

Congratulations to JLM’s Nordstrom Event Chair Erin Knight on an incredible evening! JLM is deeply appreciative to our many Host Committee members who worked hard to help sell tickets to the event and to ensure its success. The Junior League of Miami will be receiving more than $70,000 from Nordstrom to benefit our community projects.
A Pictorial Review of JLM Activities

Done In A Day Projects

Kids in the Kitchen
March 8, 2008
SLESNICK PRESENTS...

4424 Granada Blvd.  $2,700,000
Spacious new listing on the Granada waterway. Enjoy the view from this 5 bdrm/4 bath home with pool. Carved out dock space for your boat and lots of patio and lawn upon which to entertain your friends and neighbors. Huge covered terrace. 2-car garage. Contact Ginger Jochem at 305-494-6422.

226 Cadima Avenue  $545,000

641 North Greenway Drive  $1,275,000
Best priced home on Granada Golf Course. 2-story 1926 home with 5 bdrms/4 baths, library, Formal DR, updated kitchen and separate maid’s qtrs over garage. Open pool with brick patio.

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For photos of Junior League events, check out www.jlmiami.org/gallery