



# Junior Women's League of Smithfield

March 2018  
Issue No. 21

# Talk of the League

Founded in Smithfield ~ Dedicated to Johnston County ~ [www.jwlsmithfield.com](http://www.jwlsmithfield.com)

## Member Spotlight

### Jill Bragg

**Occupation:**  
Technical Support Engineer

**JWL Involvement:**  
Chair of Community Outreach and Engagement Committee, Public Relations Committee



### Favorite thing about JWL:

I've really enjoyed seeing how our work is directly impacting the people in our community. We get to see how it's affecting people we know, and I think that's one of the most rewarding parts of what we do!



### Adele Rosati

**Occupation:**  
Realtor

**JWL Involvement:**  
Membership Development Committee

### Favorite thing about JWL:

Volunteering at great events and meeting new friends.

## 2017-2018 Provisional Members Complete Smart Girls Project

For the second year in a row, the Provisional Members of JWL completed their required project of facilitating the Smart Girls Program for the Boys and Girls Club of Johnston County. Smart Girls is a nationally standardized program designed for The Boys and Girls Club addressing issues faced by girls today in different age groups. Our 2017-2018 provisional members worked with an amazing group of 17 girls ages 8-10 for their project. The project aligns with our mission of empowering women and supporting children and education in Johnston County.



Content addressed included influences of media and entertainment, bullying, self esteem and self-worth, healthy living and understanding how to take care of our bodies, and mentors and family figures — all designed to promote healthy discussions for young elementary aged girls. The program is intended to foster open communication and healthy dialog in a safe environment. The Smart Girls had the opportunity to collaborate with their friends, share their feelings honestly, journal privately, and even ask questions anonymously. Every lesson was designed with elements of fun, creativity, and challenges.

Our Provisional Members were broken into small groups along with a mentor from the Provisional Committee. Groups were tasked with facilitating one to two lessons or one lesson plus planning the closing ceremony—a graduation of sorts to celebrate the Smart Girls completion of the program. The members spent their free time planning together and often had to leave work a bit early or find sitters or friends in order to facilitate their lessons, which took place from 5:30-7 over the course of 10 Mondays from mid-November through February. It was truly a labor of love and represented the spirit of giving and the idea that it really does take a village to raise our children. And let's not forget that for all of those lessons, we were able to provide meals for the girls thanks to the generosity of local restaurants and markets and the Provisional Members themselves.

On Monday, March 5, we celebrated the program completion with a ceremony at The Selma Women's Club, a venue we were offered to use thanks to Mamie Moore, the Director of our Selma Chapter of The Boys and Girls Club.

Submit Announcements  
for JWL Newsletter Here



[www.jwlsmithfield.com](http://www.jwlsmithfield.com)  
member login: [jwlVolunteer@jwlsmithfield.com](mailto:jwlVolunteer@jwlsmithfield.com)

## Smart Girls Project, continued

We had the opportunity to thank the families for their support and for sharing their sweet children with us, and we were blessed with a beautiful banner the girls made for us adorned with their own art work as a gift of their appreciation. The ceremony was attended by the girls and their families, Provisional Members, several general members and board members of JWJL, and very engaged members of the Board of The Boys and Girls Club.



As a parent, the most poignant moment of the evening came after the ceremony, when several parents approached me and thanked our league very sincerely for the opportunity to begin those difficult conversations about the challenges their children face today. Two specifically said 'it really does take a village to raise our kids.' From what I have seen from this energetic, compassionate, talented group of young girls, there is much hope for the future of Johnston County. I feel certain I learned a great deal more from those girls than they learned from me.

A huge thank you to our members and mentors for their dedication to this project. Amazing work, ladies!

Cat Webster  
President Elect

**Upcoming GMM**  
March 15 @  
The Country Club of  
Johnston County OR  
Double Barley Brewery

## SAVE THE DATES!

### BNO 2018

June 1 @ The Farm at 42  
Ticket sales are now online at  
[www.jwsmithfield.com](http://www.jwsmithfield.com)

Help us secure sponsorships  
and auction items now!



### Touch A Truck 2018

Scheduled for  
October 27!



### March Birthdays

Suzanne Brewer	3/1
Adele Rosati-Pate	3/7
Ryann Lowdermilk	3/11
Meredith Fordham	3/15
Whitley Holt	3/22
Kelly Martin	3/22
Julie Hall	3/26
Jessica Davis	3/27
Laura Makey	3/30

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Me Fine NICU Bags

Don't forget to bring your donations for the Me Fine NICU bags to both GMMs on **Thursday, 3/15**. Cash or checks made payable to JWJL will be accepted. Please note, you will receive one out-of-league hour for a \$15 donation or two out-of-league hours for a \$30 donation. Our goal is to fill 50 bags!

### Backpack Buddies

Backpack Buddies is on the [Calendar](#) for 3/28, 4/25, and 5/30 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for one out of league hour. Email [skatieyoungblood@gmail.com](mailto:skatieyoungblood@gmail.com) to sign up.

### Miracle League

Miracle League is on the [Calendar](#) for 4/14, 4/28, 5/12, and 6/2 from 8:30-11 a.m. for 2.5 out-of-league hours. Please email [austinyansom@gmail.com](mailto:austinyansom@gmail.com) to sign up.

### Touch A Truck

The Touch A Truck committee is looking for volunteers that would like to help plan this year's event. They are in need of 10 additional people to sit on this year's committee. You will get 4 in-league hours for the 2018-2019 league year for being on the TAT committee. If you have questions and/or are interested in being on the TAT committee, please email Dana Peterson at [danachristman@gmail.com](mailto:danachristman@gmail.com).



Join The Junior Women's League of Smithfield on **March 24 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at the Country Club of Johnston County for Brunch with the Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt! [Register online now!](#)



There are still volunteer spaces available for this event.