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CONTACT:

KATHY BARENBRUGGE RECEIVES TALBOTS RISING STAR AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) Recognizes New Member for Exceptional Leadership Potential in the Dayton Community

Dayton, OH – [DATE] – Junior League of Dayton, Ohio member, Kathy Barenbrugge, is one of two recipients of The Association of Junior Leagues International’s “Rising Star” Award, sponsored by Talbots. The award celebrates two Junior League members whose early years as a Junior League member demonstrate significant promise consistent with the vision and values of The Junior League Mission. Barenbrugge received the award during the 87th AJLI Annual Conference in Atlanta.

“Through her actions, Kathy exemplifies the words of Anne Frank, who wrote ‘How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world,’” said Betsy Thompson, Talbots Director of Corporate Communications and Community Relations. “Her dedication to make a meaningful difference is evident in her League work and in example she sets for women volunteers everywhere. We are thrilled to present her with this year’s Talbots Rising Star Award.”

Barenbrugge’s leadership abilities were evident from the beginning of her membership and she was clearly motivated to make a difference by getting involved with several projects in the community. For the past three years, Barenbrugge and her family have been preparing up to 200 sack lunches per month for the residents of St. Vincent DePaul, a Miami Valley homeless shelter. As the need of the shelter increased, she not only accepted the responsibility of providing these meals year-round (her initial commitment was six months out of the year), but also recognized the need to find a larger group of volunteers to address this issue. She turned this need into a Junior League Done-In-A-Day (DIAD) project, where Junior League members and their children assemble sack lunches for the shelter and eventually connected this project with the *ServiceNation* initiative.

“Kathy has shown impressive dedication and commitment to The Junior League Mission during her years of membership,” said Debbie Brown Robinson, President of The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. “Her leadership potential is evident in her willingness to meet community needs and truly live the Junior League vision of building better communities.”

Barenbrugge’s Junior League career started in 2005 and has included several leadership positions. Next year she will step up to the Community Vice President role on the Executive Board.

“The significant contributions that Kathy Barrenbrugge has made to The Junior League and to her community embody The Junior League’s commitment to building the potential of women,” said Sara Faust, President of the Junior League of Dayton. “We are very proud that one of our own is being honored with this prestigious new award given within our Association to an individual member.”

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1901 by New Yorker, Mary Harriman, the Junior Leagues are charitable nonprofit organizations of women committed to voluntarism, developing the potential of its members and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Today, The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) is comprised of more than 160,000 women in 293 Junior Leagues throughout Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States. Together, they constitute one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world. For more information please visit www.ajli.org.

ABOUT TALBOTS

Established in 1947 with a single store in Hingham, Mass., Talbots is the headquarters for grown-up, classic style. The Company's extensive private label assortment offers head-to-toe wardrobe options across four different size ranges, including Misses, Petites, Woman's and Woman's Petites. Talbots currently operates over 1,100 stores throughout the U.S. Canada and the U.K. Online shopping is located at www.talbots.com.

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