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Divas have their day for charity

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COVINGTON - Northern Kentucky's divas will descend upon the Ascent at Roebling's Bridge on Thursday for the Humanitarian League's Diva Day, a fundraiser to benefit the Kenton County Animal Shelter and Casa Court Appointed Special Advocates.

"This is a special day for ladies in the tri-state to improve their health and their looks," said Jan Malley, the Humanitarian League's Founder and education coordinator for the Little Red School House. "Makeup tips, manicures, massages, along with bone density and blood pressure tests are just a few of the many vendors that will be making all the ladies feel like divas."

Malley estimated 350 women will attend the event.

The Humanitarian League is a group whose mission is to help both neglected and abused children and animals, said Malley. She said choosing the event's beneficiaries took some research.

"These are charities no one else has ever bothered to help," she said. "They are the underdogs in the tri-state that do without. We research the local charities to find out which ones are in desperate need and they receive our funding."

Malley said that the league finds it hard to set a fundraising goal.

"Because we pick charities to help that are not on anyone's radar it takes a lot of time and effort to educate people about their neediness," said Malley. "Therefore, we do not set a monetary goal. But, we have worked hard and should be in the \$60,000 range."

The economy has put a particular strain on the Kenton County Animal Shelter, according to Malley.

"All charities need extra help because of the recession," she said. "People are turning in animals at the shelter because they can't afford eating and vet bills."

Another project that the Humanitarian League contributes to is an anti-bullying program.

"The anti-bully program is a curriculum currently geared to children 5-8 years of age. We visit the schools and share the video, do role playing and do worksheets to learn how to deal with a bully," she said.

Diva Day will include models showing designer clothes from Saks Fifth Avenue.

"The models will strut down the runway walking adorable pets in need of homes from the Kenton County Animal Shelter," said Malley.

Jewelry will be on display and available for purchase and a faux fur coat worn in the film *Sex in the City* will be raffled.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person, which includes lunch from the Grandview Tavern and wines from Cork and Bottle. For tickets, call 859-384-1840.