



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
PHILADELPHIA

HOTLINE

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc.

WINTER
2019



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear JLP Members,

I hope you had an enjoyable summer. The 2018-2019 JLP year is in full swing and I know all the committees are working hard.

I am happy to report that, over the summer, we completed the renovation of the Thrift Shop. Not only do the renovations look fantastic but the Shop was able to remain open throughout the construction. Special thanks to **Jen Travaglini**, **Crystal Dawson-Blanco**,

Edna Haines, the entire Thrift Shop Staff, and the Thrift Shop Committee for making this happen. On November 3, we welcomed shoppers to experience the renovated store with a Grand Re-opening celebration.

The New Member Committee hosted a wonderful New Member Kick-off on September 23. **Welcome to our 114 New Members.** Thank you to **Rose Cuozzo** and **Jen Bravo** and the entire New Member Committee for a wonderful series of recruitment events and an informative and fun Kick-off.

We had over 150 JLP members attend our first General Membership Meeting (GMM) of the League year. As our featured speaker, we heard from the President and CEO of Methodist Services, Anne Rice-Burgess. Methodist Services was one of our Centennial Grant recipients and was awarded \$30,000 for improvements to their Heritage Farm. At the GMM, Ms. Rice-Burgess spoke about the work that Methodist Services and Heritage Farm are doing in the Philadelphia community.

We are also excited to launch the **Little Black Dress Initiative** starting the week of March 10, 2019. During this week, participating members will commit to wearing the same black dress for five days to increase awareness of food insecurity in the greater Philadelphia area. As part of this initiative, we will be raising funds for a specific project in line with our Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™ focus area. The JLP Board of Directors will identify the specific project to be funded in the coming months. All JLP members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Stay tuned for more information on how to get involved!

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the JLP has signed on to become an **Allied Partner of Vision 2020**. Vision 2020 was founded in 2009 by Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. Sustainer, Lynn Yeakel. The Association of Junior Leagues International also has signed on to be an Allied Partner of Vision 2020. As explained on the Vision 2020 website, "Vision 2020 is a national coalition of organizations and individuals working to achieve economic, political and social equality for women. Vision 2020 is a nonpartisan convener, catalyst and rallying point for both women and men who are committed to gender equality. In that role,

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Vision 2020 will lead Women 100, the national centennial commemoration of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, granting women the right to vote, which will take place in Philadelphia in 2020."

Our theme for this League year is #UNSTOPPABLE. Regardless of whether you are a New, Active, or Sustaining member and whether you are serving on a membership, community, fundraising, or internal committee, we are all contributing

great value and this is an exciting time to be a JLP member. Let's continue to build on this momentum and remember to use the #unstoppable hashtag when posting about JLP activities on social media. Thank you for your time and service to the JLP. Together, we are the Junior League of Philadelphia; we are #unstoppable!



Meredith Nissen
President, 2018-2019



New Member Program Kick-Off



2018-2019

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2018-2019

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Hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Sunday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

HOTLINE DEADLINES

Winter Issue: January 2019

Please contact *Hotline* Editor Maria Mancuso with questions or comments.

The *Hotline* is eager to accept your articles and story suggestions. Please feel free to contact us with your articles and proposals to make this newsletter better. To publish the *Hotline* in a timely manner, articles are to be submitted via email at hotline@jphiladelphia.org. Each article must have a byline and a headline. Remember *Hotline* also accepts advertising: \$25 for classified ads, \$200 for 1/2 page ads (4" x 5"), \$300 for 1/2 page (7.5" x 5") and \$525 for full page ads (7.5" x 10"). Discounts are available for recurring ads.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN: PREPARES FOR 2018-2019

The *Kids in the Kitchen* Committee has been very busy the last few months preparing the fall programming, which began the week of October 8, 2018. Eight schools will host the Kids in the Kitchen program, reaching over 300 kids. The Community Partners for the semester include Methodist Services, the Village, and After School All Stars. The curriculum includes six weeks worth of activities and recipes that the kids will make during their after school program. Each week there is a different theme for the recipes and activities.

The program's objectives are to educate about measuring and portion control, discuss the benefits and pitfalls of different food groups, introduce healthy food options and combinations, get kids involved and excited about cooking, and empower youth to make healthy lifestyle choices.

The weekly rundown of the curriculum includes:

Week 1: Measuring Basics and My Plate
Week 2: Nutrition Labels and Serving Sizes



Participants toast kicking off the beginning of each 6-week session

Week 3: Fruits and Vegetables
Week 4: Powerful Proteins
Week 5: Go for Good Fat
Week 6: Breakfast Matters and Snack Attack

At the kick-off of the program, all the kids received a blue apron with a Kids in the Kitchen logo, which they can use during the program and keep for themselves! One new aspect of the

program this year is that all schools will have hot plates, which allows for more recipe options.

The committee is also getting ready to plan a pop-up children's event later in the fall where we will work with Greener Partners to provide a day of healthy foods and fun to the kids in the Philadelphia area.

THRIFT SHOP REMODEL IS COMPLETE!

By: Jesy Brackett

The Junior League Thrift Shop renovations are complete! The public has given rave reviews about the remodel and revised store layout according to Store Manager, Jen Travaglini. The improvements include a modern color palette, new flooring,

paint, and updated dressing rooms. The new design allows for an improved shopping experience with additional wall space for merchandise, as well as upgraded store displays for featured items. But, we didn't just stop at the inside. New outdoor signage and lighting also help the Shop be more easily seen and recognized.

Ahead of our public Grand Reopening, we kicked off the year with a Member Shopping Party. Our active and sustaining members shopped till they dropped spending almost \$800 during

the evening. The evening was capped off with Linda Chase winning a stunning blue Lupo handbag in our raffle.

JLP member quota donations will continue to be received in the basement of headquarters. As a friendly reminder, we will no longer accept upholstered items for donation, including stuffed animals, pillows, and plush linens. If you have an upcoming Thrift Shop shift, please be aware there are exciting opportunities for volunteers to host VIP flash sales with live Facebook feeds from the shop. Look for upcoming member opportunities to help decorate our new shop for the holidays.



New thrift shop signage

JLP AND CCV TEAM UP FOR SECOND ANNUAL WELLNESS EXPO

By: Lauren Woehr

The Empowering You Health Fair Committee is pleased to have assisted in organizing the “Worthy and Wise” Wellness Expo at the Community Center at Visitation (CCV) for the second year in a row. On Monday, October 1, over 100 participants from the local community arrived for a morning full of



Attendee receiving health information

health education and healthy activities. Located in Kensington, where over 80 percent of residents live below the poverty line, CCV serves JLP's target demographic. Building upon last year's momentum, this event was a huge success!

A DJ kept the event fun and upbeat as participants met with doctors and residents from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). In addition to providing Ask-A-Doctor consultation services, PCOM performed approximately 50 blood pressure screenings, and CCV provided nearly the same number of blood sugar screenings. Twenty-five flu shots were given free of charge by Walgreens, and Richard Ost, R.Ph., was on hand to provide Ask-A-Pharmacist services. Attendees also had the opportunity to consult with two different mental health specialists: Chances, which specializes in drug and alcohol recovery



JLP member at registration

service for women and children, and Greater Philadelphia Health Action, which handles mental health and drug addiction.

Keystone First was on hand to counsel about health insurance coverage, and Mercy Life provided information on health care for seniors. The Public Health Management Corporation also helped people get access to health services, such as where to go for free

mammograms and Hepatitis C testing. The cooking demo and samples by vegan chef Joshua Black were a big hit, as were the raffle prizes, including a FitBit, separate at-home packages for healthy cooking and exercise, a blood pressure monitor, a Nutribullet, and gift cards. Healthy snacks and bags of toiletry items were also provided for every attendee.

Subsequent wellness events were held at CCV on Mondays in October, with each focusing on a different, specific health initiative.



Blood Pressure check

October 8	Nutrition, diabetes, and heart health
October 15	Women's health
October 22	Mental and spiritual Health
October 29	Dental and hearing screenings (Committee member Dr. Christine Bakun provided dental screenings!)

CCV's organizers and leaders have expressed their appreciation for JLP's involvement with this year's events and their hope that our organizations will continue together with this worthwhile expo in future years.

BIG OR SMALL,

THE ANNUAL FUND NEEDS THEM ALL!

AN INTERVIEW WITH ERIN BUSHNELL, CO-CHAIR OF THE ANNUAL FUND

Q: Why should JLP members donate to the Annual Fund? Aren't their dues enough?

A: The short answer is no. A portion of the dues paid to the Junior League of Philadelphia go to The Associate of Junior Leagues International, Inc. The JLP only receives 75 percent of dues.

Q: Ok, but what about the JLP Thrift Shop and Focus Fundraising? I heard they raise a lot of money.

A: Our fundraisers do raise a lot of money! Last year, the net raised by the Thrift Shop was \$227,000 and Focus Fundraising brought in another \$10,100. However, that only covers a portion of our budget. We need the Annual Fund to cover the difference.

Q: How does JLP use the money raised from the Annual Fund?

A: The Annual Fund is unrestricted, which means that the money can be used for any line item in the JLP budget. So, in short, it goes to supporting everything we do! It allows us to keep the lights on, pay staff salaries, fund the Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™, and invest in member training opportunities like the Philadelphia Women's Conference and AJLI's Organizational Development Institute.

Q: Are JLP members expected to give a certain dollar amount?

A: No! All donations are appreciated and no amount is too small (or too big), although we do have tiers to recognize different donation levels. Members receive one Ways & Means credit for each \$35 donation.

Beginning this year, we're recognizing our donors who have given for the past three years or more by creating the "1912 Society." Donors that consistently contribute help us to better plan our budget each year.

Q: Are Non-Members allowed to donate?

A: Absolutely! Friends and family can support your volunteer efforts with the JLP by donating to the Annual Fund. Also, if your company matches charitable contributions, you can designate it to the JLP!

Q: Great! How does someone donate?

A: Donations can be made on the JLP website using a credit card or by sending a check to Headquarters.

Q: Is there a deadline?

A: The deadline is the end of the JLP fiscal year, but if you want to take advantage of the 2018 tax deduction, donate by December 31.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TASK FORCE

By: Ja'Netta Kennedy

The Junior League of Philadelphia is proud to announce the formation of our Diversity and Inclusion Task Force! The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) has established a commitment to diversity and inclusion, by welcoming all women who value our mission. AJLI is committed to inclusive environments of individuals, organizations and communities. JLP understands the importance of this commitment to diversity and inclusion, and has joined other Leagues throughout the country in creating a Diversity & Inclusion Task Force. The

goal of our Task Force is to assess JLP's current commitment to diversity and inclusion, by administering a board and membership-wide survey designed by AJLI. The Task Force will analyze survey results and propose recommendations to the Board for future diversity and inclusion strategic planning. The Task Force will use best practices as outlined in a D&I toolkit developed by AJLI. In addition to the toolkit, the Task Force will meet with a D&I expert in November for diversity and inclusion training. The Task Force is chaired by Porsha Addison and MB Horvath.

GET THAT MISSION CREDIT DONE WITH THE LADIES OF THE DIAD COMMITTEE!

The DIAD Committee is off to a great start with our community partners! With Philabundance, we have already inspected and sorted over 7,500 pounds of corn this season. With MANNA, we prepared 950 meals in one session alone. Sign up and join us in the community today!

Done In A Day at South Philadelphia High School



SUSTAINER CHAIR'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Sustainers,

Happy Autumn! We are off to a wonderful start as we settle into our new routines. With the beginning of our Sustainer calendar of activities, it has been great to reconnect with old friends and to meet new friends.

Recently, I spoke at the New Members kick-off event. As I prepared my Sustainer welcoming speech, I thought about my Junior League experience and our mission statement. I shared with our new members that as Junior League members they will have the opportunity to impact our city, make a difference in the lives of women and children and, I believe most importantly, give themselves a gift: the experience of becoming a trained

volunteer. As trained volunteers, we have the knowledge and skills to make a difference. We are approaching the season of being thankful for our families, our friends, and our resources. Our training is a gift that we continually share with our community. At the kick-off I shared this quote, "The broadest and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to do, because you want to, in a cause you consider good."

Thank you for all your time, effort, encouragement, and kindness to make the Junior League of Philadelphia a thriving and successful volunteer organization. Collectively, we, as Sustainers, have donated thousands of hours of time to make our community a better place. Thank you for sharing your gifts of volunteering. Know that the friendships you have made through your Junior League journey are cherished gifts.

As Sustainers, we now support the Actives as they continue the JLP mission and work in the community. Our collaboration with the Actives is truly an outstanding partnership that blends so many different talents and experiences. We have the opportunity to share with them the gift of volunteering.

I hope you find the time in the coming months to attend Sustainer events. Many fun activities are planned. I look forward to seeing Sustainers at many of these amazing activities that you all have worked so hard to organize.

Wishing everyone a healthy and peaceful holiday season!

Warmly,

Annamarie Geppert Hellebusch
Sustainer Leadership Council Chair
2018-2019

BOOKMARKS NEWS

By: Beth Ramsey

The Sustainer book club, Bookmarks, has a fun and active year planned, with an extra special event scheduled for our May meeting! On May 16, 2019, we will be discussing the newly published book *Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America*, by Catherine Kerrison, PhD. At that meeting, Dr. Kerrison, an associate professor of history at Villanova University, will be speaking to us about her book. The event promises to be a very interesting evening, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Our book selections and meeting dates for the upcoming year are: *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane: A Novel*, by Lisa See on September 20; *When Breath Becomes Air*, by Paul Kalanithi on October 18; *The Guns of August* by Barbara Tuchman on November 15 (to commemorate the centennial of the WWI Armistice); *The Last Castle: The Epic Story of Love, Loss, and American Royalty in the Nation's Largest Home*, by Denise Keirnan on

January 17; *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee on February 21; *Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith and Love*, by Dava Sobel on March 21; and *Love and Ruin*, by Paula McLain on April 25. To round out the year in May, our final meeting will be a delicious and festive dinner of salads at a member's home where we will discuss *Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin*, by Jill Lepore.

Bookmarks is open to any interested member of the Junior League of Philadelphia, and we welcome new participants. The group began in 1991, which makes this is our 27th year! The group reads one book a month, and meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. to discuss the selection.

We read a wide variety of genres throughout the year, including at least one biography, one work of nonfiction, one classic, and one historical novel. One member serves as hostess each month, and another member volunteers to serve as the book discussion leader. At our May meeting, all members bring suggestions of books that they would like to read during the following year. In June, we discuss each prospective book and vote for which ones we would like to read in the next year.



JLP SUSTAINERS GET IT DONE IN A DAY AT RIVERBEND

By: Lauren Homel and Carli Younce

On September 30, JLP Sustainers joined forces with Riverbend Environmental Education Center for the first Sustainer Done in a Day Committee event of the 2018-2019 League year. Riverbend is renovating a circa 1860s farmhouse on their property in order to transform the building into usable space for educational events and professional development trainings. House restoration efforts to date have been dedicated to the interior, so the JLP DIAD volunteers focused their attention on the exterior grounds. JLP volunteers weeded, raked, shoveled, moved stones, and replanted native plants to beautify the outside of the farmhouse, providing much needed "curb appeal." At the conclusion of the service project, the Sustainer volunteers saw a major aesthetic improvement to the farmhouse's front yard. Riverbend was truly thankful for the JLP's hard work, and the center's patrons and staff will enjoy the improved landscape. Keep an eye out for future DIAD opportunities with the Sustainers!

[SELF] NOMINATE EARLY AND OFTEN!

By: Susan Corney Van Allen

While we have only begun the 2018-2019 year, Sustainers need to start thinking about which leadership roles they want to perform in 2019-2020. The Sustainer Nominating Committee is responsible for slating most Sustainer leadership roles. Nominating is not required, but is happy to assist if specifically asked, with slating Affinity Group leadership (i.e. garden clubs, bridge clubs, cooking clubs), and the Nominating Committee has job descriptions available for all Sustainer leadership roles. Please contact a committee member if you are interested in learning more about a certain position or positions, or want to see any of the job descriptions.

Updated Sustainer nominating forms (self nominating, nominating another) are available and online in the Forms section of the Member Only side of the JLP website. Forms may be completed online or downloaded and submitted via email or US mail.

The 2018-2019 Nominating Committee is comprised of the following members:

Susan Van Allen, Chair
Nancy Scarlato, Chair-Elect
Kara Goodchild
Marcy Illich
Melanie LeBoeuf
Adrienne Amey Stretch
Alexia Wells

SUSTAINER AFTERNOON BRIDGE

By: Bonnie Hamm

The Sustainer Afternoon Bridge affinity group is a group of intermediate-level players familiar with many of the currently used conversations. Please note this is not the former "Brush Up" Bridge Group.

Games are played at members' homes on a rotating basis between 12:45 p.m. and

3:30 p.m. on the first Monday and third Thursday of each month throughout the year.

Please contact either of the co-chairs Bonnie Hamm or Barb Minsker, if you are interested in playing or learning more about the group.

THE LARKS BEGIN THEIR NEW SEASON OF SONG

By: Jill Franks

On September 8, the Larks kicked off their new season in style when they gathered for lunch and dinner at the beautiful Ocean City home of Margy and Frank Sansone. Focused and excited for the coming League year, they anticipate a busy fall and winter season of rehearsing and performing.

Under the excellent leadership of Director Lyndsey Holmes, rehearsal time at Dunwoody Village goes by quickly, with many songs to review and new ones, like "Autumn Leaves" and "Won't You Come Home, Bill Bailey," to perfect.

Along with trouping to assisted and independent living facilities and nursing homes, the Larks' upcoming schedule also includes performances

for the Radnor Historical Society on December 9, the West Chester Chapter of PEO on December 11, and the JLP Cooking Klatch and Christmas Tea hosted by Laura Gellrich on December 13. Also that week, on December 10, the Larks will join the Garden Club to create Christmas arrangements that they will then distribute to patients of the Golden Living Center in Rosemont, where they will be trouping on December 19. "Wrapping up" the holiday season on December 19 will be the Larks' Christmas Luncheon at Merion Cricket Club.

If you are interested in singing either second soprano or first alto and would like to attend a rehearsal, please contact Jill Franks



"The Larks concluded their past trouping season in June with a luncheon at the home of Jill Franks" Pictured left to right are Director Lyndsey Holmes, Meredith Earley, Jill Franks, Gail Parker, Jill Ten Broeck, Margy Sansone, Anne Markle, Suzanne VanderVeer, Shirley Messina, Carolyn Hoyer, Suzanne Landen. Present but not in the photograph was Joyce Cafiero.



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MEMBER MILESTONES

Michele Thackrah was promoted to Partner with Archer & Buchanan Architecture in West Chester, PA

Samantha Roberts accepted a position as a SEO Account Manager at Publicis Health Media

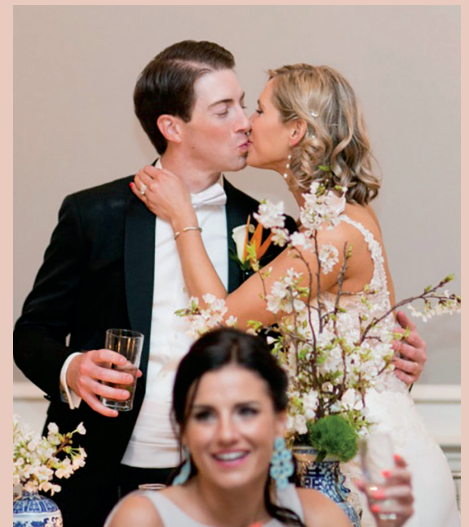
Celebrating a fabulous member milestone?

**New job • Birth of a baby
Wedding celebration
Awards**

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Megan Morrell was married in June 2018 to Jim Rockafellow in Harpswell, Maine at Live Well Farm. They live in Fairmount with their Corgi, Wendy.



Erika Siegfried got married in April 2018 to Cory Siegfried at French Creek Golf Club. Their wedding theme was tropical whimsy. They live in Haverford with their little King Charles, Casey. She also Created her own boutique marketing firm, Erika Siegfried Creative Marketing & PR, offering publicity and marketing services for visual artists, studios, and creatives. She is serving nine clients in her first month of business!